

The Patten Pages

The William Patten School newsletter for parents and children

Issue 46

Week beginning 21st January 2013

Yet another busy two weeks with classes out and about at the opera, going to the V and A and the Tate Modern. That's without Year 5 visiting The Institute for International Visual Arts, William Patten hosting a mini chess tournament and of course the snow!

Year 6 go to the opera

Every year the Taylor Family Foundation Schools' Matinees programme gives schools the opportunity to take their pupils to special matinee performances of six of the season's Royal Opera House productions.

This is an incredible opportunity to introduce young people to the world-class ballet and opera produced by the Royal Opera House. The Schools' Matinees are hugely popular and reach over 12,000 school children from across the UK each year.

We were lucky enough to get tickets to see *La Bohème*. Giacomo Puccini's romantic depiction of bohemian Paris, with memorable music and a love story drawn from everyday life, which has captivated audiences round the world, making *La bohème* one of the best-loved of all operas. It was first performed in Covent Garden in 1897 and has had over 500 performances there since.

As well as watching the wonderful opera, the children met Richard, one of the French Horn players, in the interval, who talked about playing in an orchestra.

Attendance chart

Here is the attendance chart for the first two weeks of this term. 2JW hold onto their position at the top of the leaderboard, but still closely followed by 6B!

Reception B	94.2%
Reception S	94.2%
Year 1 C	96.9%
Year 1 E	95.1%
Year 2 C	96.6%
Year 2 J / W	96.9%
Year 3H / I	96.3%
Year 3 J	96.4%
Year 4 M	95.5%
Year 4 T	95.8%
Year 5 C	96%
Year 5 S / R	96.4%
Year 6 B	96.7%
Year 6 C	95.5%

World Book Day

World Book day is on Thursday 7th March. **BUT because that's our Parents Evening, William Patten is celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday 6th March. Who will we see this year?!**

Chess tournament

William Patten are hosting a mini chess tournament for local schools on Sunday 27th January. Our children will play against others from Queensbridge, Jubilee and De Beavoir. As well as practising their skills, they will be in serious training for the Pontins competition!

Let it snow!



We hoped for snow and we got it! The playground was covered on Friday 18th January and on the following Monday and the children had great fun building mini snowmen, snow castles, snow palaces and a first for William Patten – a snow volcano!

BLINK filming in Reception

Aisha Kola (our apprentice working in Reception Bethany) had a great time taking part in a psychological experiment with the BLINK team and Reception B. An activity was carried out to see whether the children would tell the truth when faced with a certain situation!

The activity involved a child being seated in the centre of the room with a hidden surprise behind them and they were told to face forward at all times and to not look back. The surprise was then revealed and then Aisha left the room saying she had forgotten something in the room next door. The children were told not to look round at the surprise while Aisha was out the room. Aisha then joined the BLINK team in the room next door and watched the child on the screen, who was being filmed by 4 hidden cameras.

After a few minutes Aisha went back into the room and asked the child whether they had looked. Many of the children had looked, but replied no! Only one child admitted looking (but with an extremely cheeky grin!!!)

A different activity was carried out on 5 children - they were asked to decorate a chocolate cake with Smarties, but were told that they weren't allowed to eat any of them. Aisha once again left the room and the children helped themselves to the sweets! When Aisha entered the room, she asked them if they'd eaten any, again they replied no !

The experiments have been carried out nationally (and internationally) and the William Patten results yielded the same results. The BLINK team were extremely impressed with the children's behaviour throughout filming and are putting a documentary together to be shown on TV in March so look out for it.

Year 4 visit the V and A

Both Year 4 classes went to the V and A museum on Friday 11th January, to support their work they are doing in class on patterns. The children travelled on the tube to get there, before listening really well to the workshop talks.

Maths - Using and applying websites

We often get asked by parents for information about how to help their child with Maths at home. Children often benefit from applying their Maths knowledge to real life situations. So below are some websites which you can use at home.

- www.studyladder.co.uk/

It is possible to register as a parent and to set or open tasks as appropriate. There are a wide range of clips to support understanding of real life contexts for each maths topic. There are also a wide range of interactive tasks and printable activities that go with each topic. Use of this website is free at the moment as part of a free trial.

There are a range of online using and applying games and appropriate problem solving activities available through the links below -

- <http://nrich.maths.org/frontpage>
- <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=29>
- <http://www.channel4learning.com/sites/puzzlemaths/>
- <http://primarytopics.co.uk/maths/uanda/uanda.htm>
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/teachers/keystage_2/topics/maths_using.shtml

Additional resources you may find useful:

- http://numeracy.cumbriagridforlearning.org.uk/index.php?category_id=90
- <http://www.gisburn-road.lancsngfl.ac.uk/media/45952/30%20maths%20problem%20solving%20starters.pdf>
- <http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/maths/mathsD1.htm>

Year 5 visit a Peter Clarke exhibition

Year 5 had the wonderful opportunity to visit the Institute of International Visual Arts (Iniva) in Shoreditch, to begin a three-week project about printmaking. They looked at the work of South African artist and poet Peter Clarke, focusing on his graphic prints made from woodcuts.

With the gallery closed to the public on Mondays, the Education Curator, Teresa gave both classes a private tour of the *Wind Blowing on the Cape Flats* exhibition where the children, equipped with pads, paper and pencils took notes and sketches of their favoured works of art. The children then returned to the workshop to continue sketching their own ideas based on their interests and daily life, all inspired by Clarke's unique style.

The children are now looking forward to the next few weeks where their artist-instructor, Ursula will visit them to continue their work creating limited edition prints based on their designs. Using the Linocut technique of printmaking, the children will carve their designs into small sheets of lino, ink them using a brayer and then impress them onto paper...expect a display of their efforts in school in the not too distant future!



"In the Wind," linocut (1961), by Peter Clarke

Year 6 "2moro project"

Peer facilitators from the "2moro" project visited Year 6 on Tuesday 15th January. The children played a variety of team games based on co-operation, working as a team and being able to follow instructions. The children participated very well and the visitors were very impressed with the children's behaviour.

Year 1 visit the Tate Modern

Both Year 1 classes went to the Tate Modern on Wednesday. They travelled on the bus and saw St. Pauls before crossing the Millennium bridge to reach the Tate. The children toured the gallery looking at sculptures and deciding what each sculpture was made from. The children discovered that sculptures can be made from many different materials including wood, metal, clay, paper and even Christmas trees!

Back in school the children talked about their favourite sculptures – they then wrote about them and some were nominated in Good Deeds assembly for their super writing about the sculptures.

NFER pre tests

All Year 6 pupils will have to take a new Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar test this year, as part of the KS2 SATs.

The NFER (National Foundation for Educational Research) has been commissioned by the DfE, to trial the new materials for the assessment of high attaining pupils working at level 6 at the end of Keystage 2.

As a high achieving school, William Patten has been selected to take part in the trial.

A representative from the NFER will come to school in April to administer two grammar, punctuation and spelling tests to a group of Year 6 children. This means we have the opportunity to experience the new type of test for the first time before anyone else!

Language of the Month

Latin

hello	salve [sal-way]
welcome	ave [away]
school dinners	cena ludi [kay-na loo-dee]
pack lunch	meum prandium [may-um pran-dee-um]
please	si tibi placet [pla-ket]
thank you	tibi gratias ago
morning	ante meridiem (am)
afternoon	post meridiem (pm)
Goodbye	vale [wa-lay]

Spring term diary dates

Thursday 7 th February	Whole school Chinese New Year assembly
Monday 18 th February	Half term
Monday 25 th February	Back to school
Wednesday 6 th March	William Patten celebrates World Book Day
Thursday 7 th March	Parents Evening 5.00 – 7.30pm
Thursday 14 th March	Parents Evening 4.00- 6.30pm
Friday 15 th March	William Patten celebrates Comic Relief Red Nose Day!
Wednesday 20 th March	KS 2 Maths meeting for parents
Thursday 21 st March	KS 2 Maths meeting for parents
Friday 22 nd March	KS 2 Maths meeting for parents

Staff profile ~ Helen Uprichard (Year 6 Teaching assistant)

What is your favourite memory from school ?

Playing cops and robbers in the playground with my friends.

What do you like about William Patten ?

I like that every day is different at William Patten, I get to see students of year 6 progress and learn which is very rewarding. Seeing the kids perform in their assemblies is also great fun.

Where did you work before you came to William Patten ?

At a fashion and lifestyle PR company in Shoreditch.

What music do you like ?

I like all types of music but particularly Motown and Soul.

Favourite food ?

My Grandma's homemade Irish stew.

Favourite colour?

Pink

Hobbies ?

I like to read, a lot. I'm currently working my way through the British classics.

Favourite TV programme ?

The Great British Bake off. I tried (and sometimes succeeded) to re-create the cakes at home!

Favourite book as a child and why?

The Faraway Tree. I loved all of the characters and read it every night before bed.

Tell us a joke!

What do you get when a dinosaur scores a goal?

A dino-score!

