

# The Patten Pages

The William Patten Newsletter for Parents and Children

Issue 212

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Dear parents,

We have come to the end of the academic year 2022 - 23 and at this time we always reflect on the year that has passed and we often need to say goodbye to those who are moving on.

We had two special assemblies on Tuesday this week, to say goodbye to members of the staff team who are leaving us this year: Eric, 5E's teacher who is undertaking a Master's degree, Ollie, a TA in Year 1, who is also undertaking a Master's degree, Frankie, a TA in Year 2, who is starting teacher training, Alec, an ex WP pupil and current TA in Year 3 who is exploring new career options and Yasmin, another ex WP pupil, who is starting university in September. We would like to say a huge thank you to them all, as we wish them much success and joy in their future.

We have said goodbye to a number of families too and although there is sadness in all the farewells, it is balanced with excitement and happiness as people start new lives and begin new adventures. All will remain part of the WP family and we look forward to hearing about their news and everyone is always welcome to visit; we always say, once part of WP, always a part of WP. Although we may start new paths, WP plays such an important part in the local community and has a very strong pull. It is always joyful to welcome back ex pupils, whether it be ex WP children spending the day with their friends, whilst they are visiting London, ex WP pupils at secondary school coming back to volunteer, or even ex pupils who as adults are bringing their own children to start at WP, which was the case in the current Reception and in the Reception class to-be too!

There is much going on in the world and often the news is negative, but coming to work every day at WP is a joy and privilege. Our children are just lovely, they take delight in simple pleasures, they find solutions to problems and are creative, independent and have such a strong sense of what is right and fair. Our children are honest, funny, generous, kind and an inspiration. Their awareness of current issues and what could be done or should be done always impresses me.

Throughout the year, the children have been able to enjoy so many wonderful learning opportunities, all made possible by the dedication, imagination and creativity of the staff team. Some highlights!

- Nursery have toured the world, travelling to Uganda, Turkey, India, Spain, New Zealand and Australia and thoroughly enjoyed making chocolate and banana fritters for Fairtrade Friday!
- Our Reception classes went on an Autumn walk in Abney cemetery and they performed beautifully at the Round Chapel. They were thrilled with the visit from Safari Pete!
- Year 1 went to the Garden Classroom and created stunning pictures in the style of Van Gogh
- Year 2 went to St. Pauls and looked out on the views across London and they made delicious pizzas at the Garden Classroom
- Year 3 visited the Museum of London and thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Ridley Road market as part of BHM.
- Year 4 once again enjoyed Roman Day and creating their own menu for the Spanish Pop Up café, as well as completing the British Museum Treasure Hunt.
- Year 5 overcame any fear of heights with trips to St. Augustine's Tower and Tower Bridge, where they designed and constructed their own bridges and gazed down at the Thames!

- Year 6 had the best time at Kench Hill and thoroughly enjoyed the trip to the Leaside Trust Boat Club and Hackney School of Food.

The whole school has also enjoyed taking part in a range of events and projects including Black History Month, celebrating Windrush day, World Book Day, Red Nose day, Refugee Week, Big Art Day celebrating LGBT+ artists, Hispanic day, International Women's day where we remembered the actions and impact of the Match girls, the wonderful STEM Week with the fabulous Family Challenge, our Eid celebration with so much delicious food and of course the fabulous King's Coronation celebration with the most fantastic array of Eco Crowns on display. Such wonderful events that bring the entire school community together and are thoroughly enjoyed by all..

We have had great success in gymnastics where our team came first in the Key steps Gymnastics team competition, Leo in Year 6 represented Hackney at the London Youth Games, our musicians and dancers performed brilliantly at the Round Chapel and our football teams have played very well and been excellent ambassadors for WP. A number of children have won prizes in competitions across the borough and beyond, with Ellie's artwork being chosen for inclusion Hackney's Mental Health Support Team brochure, Year 4 coming joint third in the Matchgirls Memorial poetry competition, Year 5 and 6 winning first prize in the same competition and we had a number of winning entries in the Hackney's RE calendar competition too! Well done to everyone!

#### **Thank you to the staff team**

I know that you will join me in thanking the entire team - teachers, teaching assistants, administrative staff, kitchen staff, cleaning staff, site team and Place2be staff, for their amazing work this year. Whatever I ask of the staff team, I know that I can rely on everyone to do their best and more to ensure that we continue to offer wonderful opportunities to the children to inspire and encourage a love of learning. The staff team is a key reason why WP is such a special school. They have incredibly high expectations of themselves and the children and of course they love WP! I know how fortunate I am to work with this amazing group of people and this is my opportunity to say thank you to each and every one of them. I hope they are all able to have a very well deserved rest over the summer.

#### **Thank you to parents**

I would like to thank all our parents for working with us and your support of the school. Your words of thanks, appreciation, encouragement and constructive feedback has been so helpful, as the former makes us smile and feel valued, while the latter allows us to reflect and adapt and improve provision. This is always helpful, as we continue to strive to be the best that we can be, just like we expect of our children. The relationship between our families and school is a real strength at WP and another key reason why our school is very special.. Thank you to those who have highlighted events and opportunities for our children, all hugely appreciated as it adds to our core offer and thank you to those who have been able to come out on trips with us (we couldn't do it without you) and of course everyone who has been involved in the PTFA and supported the pub quizzes, auctions and fairs!

#### **Goodbye Year 6**

To our Year 6 children who are about to leave us for their next phase of education. They are a super group of children, with a great sense of fun and acute sense of fairness and

understanding of equality. They have also worked incredibly hard and achieved excellent outcomes in the national tests too. They are brilliant and we will miss them very much. Their secondary schools and future friends will be very fortunate to know them. We wish them much happiness and joy in Year 7 and beyond. No invitation is needed to come back and say hello as they will always be part of the WP family. Going by the conversations at the pizza party yesterday, I suspect we will see many of you again (and possibly in paid employment!), which will be lovely!

For some families, their time at WP has come to an end, and I would like to extend my sincere thanks and good wishes to you all. Some families I have known for a very long time (18 years for a current Year 6 family!) and it will be strange not to see you in the playground, but I hope to see you again, maybe at the fairs, which are always popular for a drop in and catch up! Or I might see you around Stokey.

We look forward to seeing all the children back to school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Wishing everyone a fabulous summer holiday.

Best wishes

Karen



### Alec

Thank you. It has been such a pleasure to welcome Alec, as an ex WP pupil, back albeit in a completely different capacity to when he left! Working as 1:1 Teaching Assistant with children in Year 3, 5 and 6 and as a general TA in Year 3, he has shown flexibility, patience and kindness in his different roles in KS2. He has made a significant difference to the children he has worked with. Those individual children now demonstrate much more confidence, they are engaged with their learning and most importantly, they are so much more independent. The opportunities he has provided, his recognition and promotion of their own skills and talents will stay with those children and have been a crucial part of developing their ability to see the world beyond school. For those who are in upper KS2, they will take those skills into secondary and this will support their transition into Year 7. For the younger children, they are better equipped to move into the next year group. We would like to thank Alec for his patience, kindness, honesty, perception, ideas and feedback. It has been lovely working with Alec and we wish him every happiness in his new adventure. Please keep in touch and let us know how you are getting on! We will miss you!

### Yasmin

Thank you. Yasmin has worked with us as a Teaching Assistant in Year 3 and Year 6 for the past year and is now heading off to university! The stars were aligned when her mum told us that Yasmin was going to start her course in 2023 and we said we had a TA vacancy. One application

and an interview later and she was part of the team. Another ex WP pupil, it has been a joy to have her back, even for this short amount of time! Yasmin fitted in so quickly, it was as if she had been here for so much longer! Showing such maturity in her role and consistently demonstrating calmness, kindness and patience, she has supported the children she has worked with and the adults too. As part of the lunchtime crew, she has ensured that the children have played well and had fun, but she has also been there to listen, resolve minor issues and be an excellent role model for all our children, from the youngest to the oldest. We would like to thank Yasmin for her positivity, energy, and all round joyfulness. We wish her every happiness at university and every success (but she has an exemplary work ethic, so we know she will do incredibly well) Yasmin, we will miss you, please keep in touch and let us know how you get on with uni life!

### Frankie

Thank you. Frankie is off to complete his teacher training and we are only sorry that we could not facilitate that at WP but his new school will very soon realise what an amazing teacher he is going to be ☐ but they probably already know! Frankie has worked at WP for two years as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant and he has been fabulous. At his interview, we knew he would be an amazing asset to WP and we were right! The personification of calm and relaxed, Frankie manages all situations and roles with his trademark patience and zen like approach. He has made a real difference to the individual children he has worked with, developing their independence, confidence and ensuring that they are happy coming to school and can access learning. As part of the lunchtime crew, Frankie's ability to make everyone feel welcome and inclusive approach meant when he introduced marbles at lunchtime, there was an extremely long queue to play. Frankie, thank you for your flexibility, gentleness, support of children and colleagues and sense of fun. Whatever you have been asked to do, or wherever you have been asked to go, you have done so with grace and positivity, key teacher attributes! Good luck, we will miss you and let us know how you get on!

### Ollie

Thank you. Ollie is going back to university to undertake his Master's, on a potential journey to becoming an Educational Psychologist. Ollie has worked at WP for two years. In that time has worked as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant and as a talented musician, Ollie has also supported our Christmas performances (and encouraged and supported a wider group of children outside school with their musical aspirations). A keen cyclist, he has ensured that we have been able to take part in the monthly Hackney Cycling League, where a number of our children have had great success! Ollie has also been responsible for football at lunchtimes and he supported Brian with the Year 6 football club, Ollie's contributions to the wider life of the school have been very much appreciated and will be very much missed. His never ending patience, good humour, high expectations and promotion of the school's values and ethos has meant he has been a great asset in his many different responsibilities and he has been a super role model for the children. He has supported colleagues across the school with sensitivity and kindness. Ollie, we will miss you and wish you every happiness and much joy with your new career path. Please do keep in touch and let us know how you're getting on.

## Eric

Thank you. Eric has worked at WP for over three years. He is leaving to undertake his Master's degree, which is great news for him, but not so for us :-). He started his teacher training here and has recently completed his ECT. When I first met Eric, I was part of the panel interviewing teachers to-be, and when I saw him, I knew that he had to come to WP. The other Headteacher on the panel thought the same thing and wanted him at their school. Fortunately, I managed to get my own way and the rest, as they say, is history! Eric is a tremendously talented teacher and will be very much missed by the children, staff and parents of WP. Completing his training during the pandemic is testament to his commitment, natural ability and hard work. He is incredibly organised, hugely committed, creative, dedicated and all round amazing. He has very high standards of the children and of himself and he is an exemplary role model for children and adults. Utilising his musical skills and abilities, he enabled WP to take part in the LSO 'Music in the Classroom' project, which was a fantastic achievement, but also a huge responsibility. Thank you, it brought such joy to all those involved and to the audiences too. An innate sense of fairness, commitment to inclusion, great sense of humour and ability to encourage everyone to do their best means he will be an asset to whichever school, authority or company he works for. Eric, wishing you every happiness. Thank you for all that you have done and please do keep in touch. We hope to see you again!

## Year 6 Talent Show

Our wonderfully talented year 6 children put on an incredible show for their parents on Monday (and again for KS2 on Tuesday). They certainly dazzled and amazed their audience. Congratulations to them all! It was a truly memorable show – well done Class of 2023!



**Our very talented Year 6 children wowed their audience:**



**5E visited St. Augustine's Tower**

The tower is all that remains of the old church of St. Augustine, which was built at the end of the thirteenth century, when Hackney was a village separated by fields from the City of London. Great views from the top! A very big thank you to Nancy, who took the class on the trip and to the parents who were able to come with us. Your time and support is very much appreciated.



**Y6 fencing, stage fighting and gladiatorial combat!**

Year 6 took part in a fencing, stage combat and gladiator workshop with our fencing coach Mark. They learned many different forms of combat, and how to put together a performance piece. "It was like self-defence but with swords!" Said Nana (6B). "We learnt so many new skills".



## Water themed Sports Day

Nursery Sports Day enjoyed their Sports Day on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July! Water themed of course and great fun had by everyone. Thank you to our super Year 5 helpers and ex-WP pupil Keira, who is volunteering with us, for helping to make the day such fun 😊. A very big thank you to our parent helpers, it was lovely to see you!



## Environmental Cause Assembly!

We spent a long time creating our slide show which included: what's happening now in the world, facts and figures, tips on how to help the planet, plastic pollution and melting ice caps. We wanted to spread awareness across the school and presented to KS2 classes in a special assembly. It was nerve-wracking but exciting at the same time. The audience were respectful, polite, listened very carefully and shared what they had learned at the end. My (Una) dad even came to watch! **Leia and Una (Year 5)**



## Year 6 visited Hackney School of Food

Year 6 enjoyed their trip to [@hackneyschooloffood](https://www.hackneyschooloffood.com) last week. Thank you to HSoF staff for such a great day. The children made their own pizza and beetroot brownies, using produce from the garden. Excellent listening and following instructions, great teamwork and careful measuring and mixing!





### Personal Best Final

A group of Year 3 students made their way to Hackney Marshes last week to take part in the huge sporting event, Personal Best. We took part in a range of different activities including the daunting relay race which was in front of a huge crowd! Not only did William Patten perform exceptionally well but they also behaved in a wonderfully positive, mature and happy spirit! Well done and thank you to everyone involved!





### Outstanding performances!

Our fantastic Year 1 and 2 Hip Hop club performing for families. Such energy and enthusiasm! You were awesome!!



The amazing KS2 Hip Hop club! Such complex routines performed so brilliantly! Huge thanks to Jas from [@calypsogymnasticsclub](https://www.instagram.com/calypsogymnasticsclub), our dance teacher, for all your hard work.



Year 3 and 4 Gymnastics club performing for families. You were fantastic. I was mightily impressed with your teamwork and coordination! Well done.



The very talented and very strong KS2 Gymnastics club. You were amazing. Such coordination and great timing! Excellent! A huge thank you to Rochelle and Berry from [@calypsogymnasticsclub](https://www.instagram.com/calypsogymnasticsclub) for all their hard work with all our gymnasts. We are very fortunate to have them, and Jas, as part of Team WP!



A very big well done to our wonderful KS1 Gymnastics club. You were amazing. Such super balancing and fantastic teamwork! You even had a member of your team missing, but you showed such professionalism.



Do not try this at home unless you are a member of the KS2 Cheerleading squad! Awe inspiring stunts + trust + teamwork + hard work = magic! Well done everyone!



**Well done Clement and Violet!**

You may have seen that Clement in Year 6 recently had his hair cut. Clement decided he wanted to grow his hair out so that it would be long enough for him to donate to the Little Princess Trust when he had it cut. Well done Clement, what a kind act!



A huge thank you to Violet (4C) for contacting Beauty Banks - a Hackney-based charity supporting children and families. Violet set us up as a collection point, so thoughtful Violet! Thank you to everyone who donated to this very worthy cause.



## Nursery topic this week is India

This week in Nursery, we are learning about India. We have enjoyed learning about places in India as well as animals that live there like Cobras, Asiatic lions and Bengal tigers. We have been learning about religion and celebrations that take place in India and enjoyed making Rangoli patterns as well as making Divas. We then painted our Divas.



In Nursery, Hawa created henna mehndi hand painting on the back of children's hands as part of our week learning about culture, food and life in India. After our designs were drawn, the children were very patient whilst waiting for the henna to dry and were very excited to see the designs as they washed the henna

off. Thank you so much Hawa!



## Roof Garden Update

The William Patten roof garden is flourishing following recent hot and sunny weather. Our photos show - A healthy array of dwarf sunflowers grown from the seeds planted by the EYFS classes. Currently been appreciated by the bees too!



Pumpkin plants in the Y1 bed, grown from seeds started in the classrooms. The flowers are starting to open, so we'll expect to see pumpkins on our return in September.



Leeks, grown from seed by year 3 initially, growing in the Year 2 beds. Although the bulbs planted by Y2 didn't grow in the beds, they grew well in the surrounding beds and are providing a beautiful backdrop.



Lettuce in the Y3 beds, which have been providing salad for at least the last 4 weeks! We hope to take leaf cuttings one more time, before they bolt!



A mixture of cucumber plants, grown from seed in the year 4 classes and some promising courgette plants, donated to the school by Alex's Mum (Y5) - thank you Vicki!



Some very promising green tomatoes in the Y5 beds, which we're hoping will turn red for us to enjoy. Assorted peppers in the year 6 beds, to be added to the salad on the three final days of school.



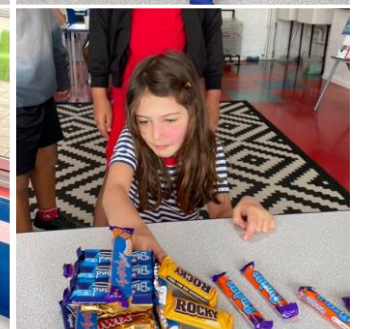
Also in the greenhouse are the rest of the pepper plants grown by Y6 and some experimentally grown-from-seed melons, which we're hoping to be able to eat in the Autumn (with watering help from caretaker David, and assistant John).



**Well done everyone, for another successful crop!**

## Karen's Headteacher Tea Parties

Congratulations and well done to the groups of children who came to the last Headteacher's Tea Parties of the year. They should be very proud of having achieved the magic five nominations! Thank you for working hard, for your thoughtfulness and consideration towards others. You are always determined to do your best! We are proud of you.



NSPCC

## uncomfortable conversations

Supporting Muslim families to help keep children safe by making uncomfortable conversations feel comfortable

This guide is also available in Arabic, Bengali and Urdu.



For children, it's usually their parents and carers who are there to nurture and guide them. They look to them to have the answers and to give them advice when they need it. Whether it's talking about puberty, relationships, boundaries or something else, there can be some topics that might feel hard for parents to address with their child. It's OK to feel uncomfortable at first about having these conversations.

The support and advice in this leaflet, will help parents feel more prepared, confident and comfortable speaking to their child about a range of topics. Talking regularly with children about their feelings and experiences can really help keep them safe. This guide will help to build trust so they can approach their parents for support if they have a problem or if they want to share something.

**Click link for full leaflet:**

[https://approachableparenting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/ENGLISH-final-version-Uncomfortable-conversations-leaflet\\_ONLINE\\_KM\\_AW2.pdf](https://approachableparenting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/ENGLISH-final-version-Uncomfortable-conversations-leaflet_ONLINE_KM_AW2.pdf)

# ★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to those children who recently celebrated their special day or who will celebrate before the end of July: Aoife, Venla, Munira, Haleema, Falcon, Isabelle, Areal, Ellis, Jonathan, August, Ada, Millie, Shanelle, Orhan, Marcelo, Lily, Alice, Gene, Elliott, Noah, Zakia, Thiago, Vittoria, Ava, Jack, Tiarah, Leo, Feadan, Suhayb, Aarya, Kiaan, Zaynah, Ezgi and Navraj. Happy birthday to you all!

### **PTFA Lottery**

Congratulations to the winners of the William Patten Lottery for the last draws before school holidays! Please collect your winnings from the school office.

#### **Feb 2023**

1st – Matthew Duffy  
2nd – Rachael Curtis  
3rd – Nandi Simpson

#### **Mar 2023**

1st – Matthew Duffy  
2nd – Daniel Crawford  
3rd – Alastair McLellan

#### **Apr 2023**

1st – Julian Winship  
2nd – Barbara Roucayrol  
3rd – Jo Evans

#### **May 2023**

1st Thushan Liyanage  
2nd Daniel Crawford  
3rd Laura Roberts

#### **June 23**

1st Jess Levick  
2nd Kevin Ward  
3rd Christina Petzny

#### **July 23**

1st Jenna Fansa  
2nd Lazar & Choi Youngsook  
3rd Matthew Duffy

### **Finally:**

We would like to wish our families a lovely summer holiday and look forward to seeing everybody back at school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September, with the exception of our lovely Year 6 children who are moving onto secondary school! We wish them all the best at their new school and look forward to them coming back to visit us.