

# The Patten Pages

The William Patten Newsletter for Parents and Children

Issue 239

Friday 31st January 2025

Dear parents,

We have had a busy start to the term and you will see looking through this packed edition of the PP what we have been up to.

We are delighted to see that the scaffolding is slowly being removed. After meeting with the contractors this week, the anticipated end date for the works is half term. We cannot wait to see the building in its entirety and for our youngest children and their families they have not known WP without its plastic wrapper! We are looking forward to looking out the windows and seeing the sky! I have said to the children we might have to have a party when it's all gone!

We have sent a number of letters recently about attendance. We have had an increasing number of families asking for time off school to go on holiday. In the week before the Christmas holiday and the first week back we had a number of children who did not come in to, or return to school and we knew that the family was away, as we had been informed via an email. This is not following school policy for absence requests and those absences have been classed as unauthorised.

The impact of these absences is that our overall attendance level is currently 94%, which is very low. The expected level of attendance is 96% or above and we have always achieved that, so this is incredibly disappointing. What is more concerning is the impact on the children and their progress and relationships with friends. Schools have 13 weeks of holiday a year and I would ask that families take their own holidays during that time.

All absences need to be requested in advance, using the absence request form that is available on the website or in the office and if there is an exceptional circumstance, the absence will be authorised. All other requests will not, including

those where we have been told that the family is away. I am confident that we can work together to improve our overall attendance level and achieve the target that we set each year of 96% or above.

Finally, Charlotte has decided to leave William Patten. She would like to say a heartfelt thank you to the staff she has worked with over the years and that she will miss all the families and children she has had the pleasure of meeting and teaching. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Charlotte for her contribution to the school and wish her the best for the future.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Karen

## Dates for your diary

3 <sup>rd</sup>	National Storytelling Week Author Tola Okogwu visiting KS2
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Children's Mental Health Week
3 <sup>rd</sup>	LGBT+ History Month
4 <sup>th</sup>	5C visiting St Anne's Care Home
6 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
6 <sup>th</sup>	Y5 Personal Best (+ 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb)
6 <sup>th</sup>	Author Joseph Coelho visiting KS1
7 <sup>th</sup>	4C class assembly
11 <sup>th</sup>	Big Art Day
12 <sup>th</sup>	Y3 Come Dine With Us
13 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 trip to Abney Park (morning)
13 <sup>th</sup>	Football final at Queensbridge (boys)
14 <sup>th</sup>	4A class assembly
14 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for half term

Hi Parents and Carers,  
Hopefully everyone is settled back into school and looking forward to spring and summer, it isn't far away. **The PTFA** has now agreed the social calendar dates for the rest of the school year. So please put all these dates in your calendar and make a big effort to attend and also to offer assistance.

### **WP PTFA events**

#### **6th March:**

**World Famous WP quiz night at school**

#### **25th April:**

**Movie night for children at school from 5.30 pm (food offered for a small price)**

#### **16th May:**

**Auction Night with fantastic prizes. This is one of our major fundraising events**

#### **12th July:**

#### **Summer Fair**

We are looking to make these events as social and as fun as possible, please help by spreading the word, attending and more importantly offering assistance, no matter how much time you can offer. The after school cake sales have been fantastic, thank you to each year group for rotating the responsibility of this. They have been a massive hit with the children. Thank you to Anne for organising this.

A quick mention, the WP Parent Football team kicked off their first game last week and won 2-1 against Betty Layward with our own PTFA legend kicking the winning goal! Thank you to Paul for organising this. Paul raised a good amount of money for the school from this match and we will provide dates of the next matches against other local schools. If you would like to join please email the PTFA ([williampattenPTFA@gmail.com](mailto:williampattenPTFA@gmail.com)) to sign up. Paul and team will organise some larger football events from spring so keep an eye out for those too.

**PTFA website:** [williampattenptfa.org](http://williampattenptfa.org)

**PTFA Instagram:** [@william\\_patten\\_school\\_ptfa](https://www.instagram.com/william_patten_school_ptfa)

**Email address:** [williampattenPTFA@gmail.com](mailto:williampattenPTFA@gmail.com)

Thank you,

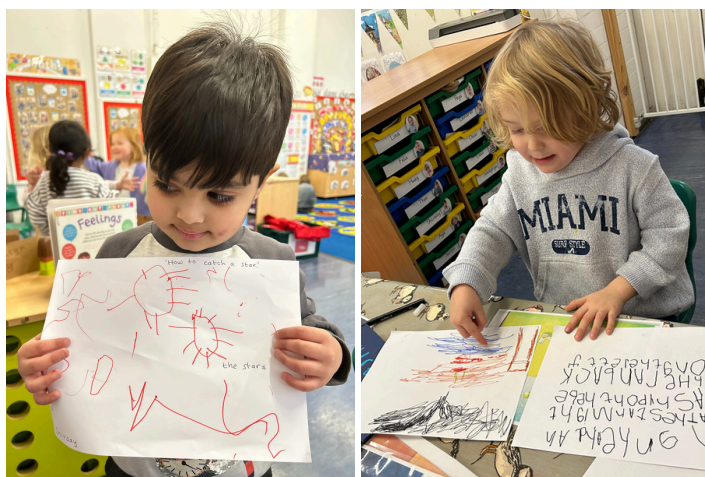
**WP PTFA**

**EYFS** children have had a wonderful start to our topic of '**Authors**', our focus topic for this half-term. Last week our core book was Nick Sharratt's version of 'Goldilocks'. Nursery children explored capacity by filling bowls with different amounts of porridge to indicate if the bowl was empty, nearly empty, half full, nearly full and full. Children also made wonderful bear masks. What fun we had! Reception children worked hard to find number bonds to 5 and then 10, labelled objects in the Three Bears' house, sequenced key events in the story and also wrote wanted posters for Goldilocks. They also explored capacity, using different containers and porridge, and made wonderful bear masks. Busy, busy, busy!





**Nursery** are enjoying our new topic on Authors. We have looked at stories by the author Oliver Jeffers. We have been talking about and drawing the story "**How to catch a star**". The children worked hard to recall what events happened in the story, trying hard to draw the events and then using great words to talk about their favourite part of the story. Two Nursery children then asked to write a page of the book after they had finished their pictures. We were super impressed with their letter formation, their interest in writing and talking about letter sounds as well as their focus and attention to concentrate for an extended period of time. Well done Nursery!



**EYFS** children started **gymnastic lessons** this term and so far we have had two wonderful lessons where children have learnt parts of warm-up routine, how to balance on a bench, how to land safely and how to make a variety of shapes (star, stretch, tuck and pencil) with their bodies. EYFS children have engaged wholeheartedly with these lessons, trying their hardest to make quite challenging shapes and to follow the sequence of movements that they have been shown. Berry, our lovely gymnastics teacher, has been amazed by their behaviour and attitude to learning. Awesome!

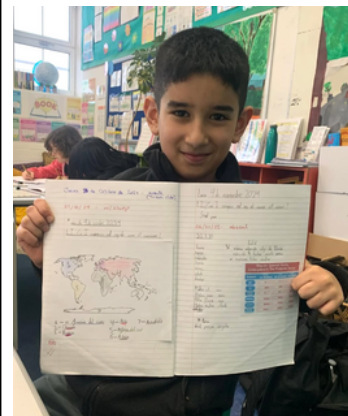




**Year 1** are learning about animals in Science this term. Both classes visited **Hackney City farm** to look at different types of animals. They had a lovely time! Thank you to all the parents that joined us too.



**Language leaders from Clapton Girls' Academy** visited **Y1 and Y6** classes recently. The KS3 students, supported by their Spanish teacher, consolidated the children's previous learning of previous topics. Y8 students worked with Year 1 on: Greetings, numbers, classroom instructions, colours, shapes. The Y9 students delivered a Year 6 lesson on the following content: a weather forecast using the immediate future, using 'está' and 'es' correctly in the context of geographical features, describing a picture using the 3rd person singular and plural in the preterite tense. The language leaders were excellent role models for the William Patten children, and it was wonderful to welcome back former pupil Shanaz. The collaboration with CGA has been underway for some years now, and we are grateful for the ongoing link between our schools.





A **very special lunch** to celebrate **Lunar New Year**.  
2025 is The Year of the Snake 🐍

A delicious lunch prepared by Ali and his team was enjoyed by all. A very big thank you to the kitchen team for all their hard work. So many children attempted the chopstick challenge and were very successful! ☺



Last week, **Year 3** embarked on a magnificent **research project about Europe**. They worked as a team to research countries, mountains, rivers, major cities, landmarks and more. Everyone really went above and beyond in their efforts to create fascinating, unique interactive maps. It was a joy to watch the class engage and really grow into this project.





### Year 3 started off the year with a **fabulous cake sale!**

A delicious variety of big cakes, small cakes, fairy cakes, cupcakes and tray bakes, all of which rivalled the Great British Bake Off were on sale. Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute to the cake sale with their time and baking. The cakes looked (and tasted) delicious. Are Year 3 the winners of the cake sale competition? Only time will tell!

The Year 4 PTFA cake sale will take place after school on Friday 28th February. 🍰🧁🍪



Over 60 family members joined us for a delicious lunch this week for the **Year 4 Come Dine with Us**. A huge thank to Ali and his team for all their hard work. Lunch was delicious. Thank you to our guests for coming. It was lovely to see you all and the children were so excited and happy to see you in school!





Such a treat to welcome children's author Eric Huang [@erichuangbooks](#) to WP yesterday. Eric is also a podcaster, lecturer at City University and N16 resident! Eric visited Years 1, 2 and 3 and talked about his life, his adventures and journey to becoming a writer. The children enjoyed hearing about how he studied paleontology at university and then lived in Australia and the US (working for Disney). The staff and children very much enjoyed his presentation and loved his humour and sense of fun. Thank you Eric for bringing such joy to our No Pens Wednesday and Lunar New Year celebrations. You were a big hit! We look forward to seeing you next week when you come back to sign your lovely books. Thank you so much for your kindness and support of the school. It is very much appreciated. Thank you Erica and also Jasmin [@littletigerbooks](#) for helping make this event possible.



**No Pens Wednesday** means no pens! Pens and pencils were collected and removed for the day. You could hear the children's excitement yesterday as they arrived in school to celebrate NPW!



No Pens Wednesday and Lunar New Year celebrations. Across the school, the children thoroughly enjoyed making shadow puppet shows and sharing them with friends.



Enjoying Maths lessons during No Pens Wednesday!





**Year 5** had an exciting trip to **Hackney School of Food**, where they became **chefs for the day**! The children learned about the importance of fresh ingredients and the art of bread-making from scratch. They enthusiastically measured, mixed, kneaded, and shaped their dough, discovering the science behind making it rise. By the end of the session, they proudly baked delicious golden bread rolls to take home. It was a hands-on, fun-filled experience that combined teamwork, learning, and a love for food!



**Year 6** enjoyed their **TfL Citizenship** trip last week. Part of their secondary transition programme, the children learnt about travelling safely on public transport and looking after themselves and keeping each other safe. They were very excited to get their Oyster card holders too!





We were very proud indeed to watch our **Year 6 Steel Pan groups** play at the Hackney Empire on Tuesday evening as part of the [@hackneymusicservice](https://twitter.com/hackneymusicservice) Gala. Such an honour to be invited. Impeccable behaviour from the children throughout, superb playing and hugely supportive towards each other and the other performers. A truly inspiring and uplifting evening. The biggest thanks to [@hackneymusicservice](https://twitter.com/hackneymusicservice) and of course our fabulous and wonderful steel pan tutor Kerry Cumberbatch, who performs magic!



The **Eco Warriors** thoroughly enjoyed their first trip out together to take part in the **RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch**. Wrapped up in warm winter coats the gang headed up to a chilly Clissold Park with Laura and some very talented bird spotting parents to tally and count the different species they encountered. Before the trip, the group gathered to predict what bird would be the most popular, the team chose pigeons and magpies. Over the course of the trip the Eco Warriors managed to spot 60 plus pigeons, and we discussed changing the name from Clissold Park to pigeon paradise! What was really wonderful were the flocks of parakeets that came to say hello too, the children were so excited to spot them flying overhead and on nearby branches. Thank you to all the parent helpers for coming with us and making it such an enjoyable trip. And of course, a huge thank you to the Eco Warriors for their energy and enthusiasm throughout the whole experience! Some RSPB certificates will be coming their way very soon.

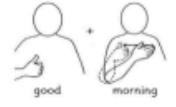











## Our new Language of the Month is French!

We have many French speaking children at William Patten and Helen was joined by Darcey 1H, Hirokaï 1H, Soan 2C, Stella 2YN, Sophia 3L, Marcelo 4C, Ciro-Mael 4A and Hamza 5I in the virtual whole school assembly to introduce French as the new Language of the Month. During the assembly, all of the classes learnt many facts about France such as: France is the largest country in Europe and the capital city of France is Paris. France shares borders with eight countries: Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Italy, Monaco, Andorra and Spain (which is the longest border). France is well known for its stunning landmarks and attractions such as the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, Sacre Coeur Cathedral and the Loire castles. The official language of France is French and the population of France is 68 million people (11 million people live in Paris). It is a country made up of cities, mountains, countryside and beach towns. It can be very warm in the summer, up to about 40C, and cold in the winter. Interestingly, there are French territories in other parts of the world like in South America, the Caribbean and also French territory islands in the Atlantic and Indian oceans. France is very famous for its food! It is known for delicious baguette, pastries, crepe, stews and cheeses. French bakeries are called patisseries where you would be able to buy yummy bread, pastries and cakes. France is also very well known for its art and fashion; some famous French artists include Monet and Matisse and Paris is known as the fashion capital of the world. France is also known for a very famous sporting event: Tour de France! For three weeks in July every year the world's best cyclists compete in a bike cycling race and they cycle for 2,235 miles (don't worry, they do stop cycling to eat and sleep). French is a romance language and it is not only spoken in France but it is also the official language in 29 other countries such as Belgium, Luxembourg, Canada, Switzerland and some countries in Africa. French uses the Roman alphabet like English but our letters and sounds are pronounced differently and some of the letters in the French language have accents é, è, ç. Many words in the English language come from French like: theatre, cream, cinema, energy, balloon and many more.

## Why don't you have a go at using the French greetings and phrases at home!

<b>Good morning</b>	<b>Bonjour</b>	
<b>Good afternoon</b>	<b>Bon après-midi</b>	
<b>Hello</b>	<b>Salut</b>	
<b>Goodbye</b>	<b>Au revoir</b>	
<b>School dinners</b>	<b>Repas scolaire</b>	
<b>Packed lunch</b>	<b>Déjeuner à emporter</b>	
<b>Please</b>	<b>S'il vous plaît</b>	
<b>Thank you</b>	<b>Merci</b>	

The **mud kitchen** is now officially open for business at lunchtimes! It brought out the **inner bakers in Year 1**, as they enjoyed making 'pies and muffins' so nicely together.





**Congratulations to the latest children to receive an EYFS Super Achievers award or a HT award certificate. Well done everyone!**  
Friday 10th January

Nurs	Lena and Aya
Rec A	Ezra MP
Rec S	Tibet
1H	Umar, Elijah, Sequoia, Hirokaï, Maya
1M	Ida, Shanelle, Navraj, Finn
2C	Filip, Martha, Mira, Zamari, Teddy
2YN	Yaqub, Hana, Winston, Leonel, Mabel Blue
3L	Coco, Federico, Hunter, Casper, Poppy
3M	Margot, Jeremiah, Eva, Sara, Lily
4A	Blake, Ida, Zaynah, Aster, Ayan
4C	Suki, Poppy, Lucas, Clara, Alfie
5C	Sufyan, Dash, Rafael, Fatima, Niccolo
5I	Keon, Lea, Ebi, Juliet, Ronan
6B	Destiny, Sunny, Ares, Aidan, Aras
6S	Aalish, August, Serafina, Imogen

Friday 17th January

Nurs	Ilyas and Ethan
Rec A	Gus
Rec S	Thor
1H	Hugh, Isla, Nelson, Agnes, Jessa
1M	Bruno, Leo, Anna, Ruojie, Paul
2C	Rafael, Misher, Martha, Malachi, Nori
2YN	Remi, Noah, Zakia, Aster, Paloma
3L	Julia, Matilda, Vittoria, Owen, Felix
3M	Simay, Mayus, Leul, Isabelle
4A	Ada, Frida, Kiaan, Ellen, Lorcan
4C	Jack D, Nia, Kaan, Bobby, Georgina
5C	Kerim, Alaa, Klara, Phoebe, Ava
5I	Ada, Masal, Oscar, Lily, Galla
6B	Thierry, Zora, Sadie, Amy, Dylan
6S	Tazio, Aminah, Sawyer, Romy, Sota

Friday 24th January

Nurs	Huey and Theo
Rec A	Emil
Rec S	Aiden
1H	Zoe, Ruairi, Billie, Liyat, Oscar
1M	Corinne, Romilly, Minnie, Maizie, Shanelle
2C	Arlo, Violet, Cedric, Mira, Sienna
2YN	Joey, Elia, Stella, Buray, Arlo
3L	Noah, Thiago, Frankie, Sophia, Martha
3M	Simay, Margot, Lily, Sebastian, Wilfred M
4A	Aroz, Jae, Flora, Sebastian, Eloise
4C	Marcelo, Zaina, Dante, Arthur, Lucas
5C	Shaneeya, Arya, Theo C, Anas, Sufyan
5I	Theodore, Arlo, Belle, Nisa, Daisy
6B	Sumayyah, Morgan, Calum, Arlo, Wolfie
6S	Eliana, Yusuf, Munira, Lysander, Asya

Friday 31st January

Nurs	Edith and Louie
Rec A	Ava
Rec S	Mio
1H	Wilder, Mia, Eki, Yousra, Opi
1M	Israh, Hugh, Ivy, Mahi, Ren
2C	Cedric, Zoe, Iris, Rai, Rozh
2YN	Violeta, Leo S, Leo L, Tommaso, Aela
3L	Eden, Teo, Luqman, Aarav, Yahya
3M	Eva, Eesa, Robbie, Ekin
4A	Felix, Anna, Mason, Khush, Dante
4C	Suhayb, Jamie, Huxley, Alicja, Honor
5C	Huxley, Nevaeh, David, Arden, Patrick
5I	Ollie, Matiu, Tommy, Margot, Hamza
6B	Bay, Betty, Leo, Alisa, Bram
6S	Barin, Isa, Falcon, Maria, Alba

Congratulations to **Ihssan's class** who are top of the **attendance chart** this time with 96.7%.

Well done **5I!**

RA	91%	RS	95.2%
1H	95.5%	1M	95.6%
2C	96.4%	2YN	94.9%
3L	95.4%	3M	96.1%
4A	94.9%	4C	95.3%
5C	94.9%	<b>5I</b>	<b>96.7%</b>
6B	95.3%	6S	94.6%



Many happy returns to the children who recently celebrated their birthday since the last Patten Pages: **Lea, Jack, Theo, Zadie, Alfie, Joey, Ayan, Yaqub, Evan, Aarav, Ellen, Ozzy, Enrico, Misher, Betty, Eddy, Huey, Elliott, Arianna, Ezra, Nora, Huseyin, Ephod, Darcey, Alisa, Romy, Asya, Marina, Aalia, Aylin, Federico, Anna, Margot, Phuong, Hamza, Deniz, Victoria and Zora.** We hope you enjoyed your special day.