

# The Patten Pages

The William Patten Newsletter for Parents and Children

Issue 255

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the latest edition of Patten Pages. It has been an incredibly busy two weeks at school, which I seem to say every week!

We have enjoyed a wonderful start to our class assemblies, with 6S, 5CP and 6H sharing their learning with their families. It has been lovely to welcome parents into school and to see the children perform with such confidence, enthusiasm and pride. A huge thank you to the children for their hard work and to the staff team for supporting them so brilliantly in the lead up to and on the day.

Last week, we celebrated Big Art Day, focusing on the achievements and creativity of Black artists including Rachel Jones, Yinka Shonibare and Lois Mailou Jones. Each year group explored the work of a chosen artist and created artwork inspired by their style. These fantastic pieces are now displayed throughout the school and look absolutely fabulous. Our focus on Black artists forms part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring that our curriculum reflects a broad range of perspectives and experiences.

We were also very pleased to welcome a number of teachers from across Hackney and other boroughs who visited to observe a Maths work group session led by Craig, working with 5CG. The children were an absolute credit to WP; I was extremely proud of not only their excellent behaviour, but also their engagement, participation and confident use of mathematical language and concepts. Our visitors were very impressed!

Wendy and the Eco Team led the first Eco Emporium refill session of the term, which was popular. The next one will take place at the Winter Fair, which is very exciting.

Please start saving your 500ml bottles now so you can stock up.

It has also been wonderful to see so many classes learning outside the classroom. Year 2 enjoyed a local walk as part of their topic work. Year 6 have begun their transition project with the TfL Citizenship Programme, and Year 5 had an exciting visit to the British Museum, enriching their history learning.

Together with Dimensions London Carnival Arts Organisation, Hackney Music Service (HMS) hosted a Hackney Steel Pan Celebration Event with both primary and secondary school steel bands taking part and we

were very proud to see our Year 6 steel pan group perform at the Bridge Academy. They played beautifully and were excellent ambassadors for WP. Well done everyone!

The EDI Committee held the second of their Cultural Connect Coffee Mornings last week with a focus on hidden disabilities, including diabetes. This was following on from our very successful World Diabetes Day on 14<sup>th</sup> November, when it looked like we had a school uniform as so many children were wearing blue! We raised over £371.32 for Diabetes UK. Thank you for your generosity.

As the weather grows colder, please ensure that children come to school with warm clothing for playtime and lunchtime. Labelling coats, jumpers and hats will help us return any lost items quickly and easily. Have a lovely weekend and we hope to see you next Saturday at the Winter Fair!

Best wishes

Karen

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We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of the importance of **regular school attendance**. While our overall attendance figure has remained steady, it is not currently meeting the high standards we set for ourselves. In previous years, our attendance was consistently around 96.5% or above, and we are keen to return to those strong pre-pandemic levels. As many of you will be aware, the way attendance is being measured nationally is changing, and it continues to be a significant focus for the Department for Education. We are receiving many absence requests for time off for birthdays and holidays and during last Friday's Headteacher's Award assembly, I had eight certificates ready to present, but sadly those children were not in school to receive them. This is just one example of the valuable opportunities children miss when they are absent.

We are working hard to support all our families with attendance, and we ask that parents ensure their children are in school daily and avoid taking them out unless absolutely necessary. Returning to our previous high levels of attendance will require a collective effort by everyone.

Thank you for your support.

## BIG ART DAY 2025

For Big Art Day this year, **Nursery** have been learning about the artwork and life of **Yinka Shonibare**. The children explored examples of his work, focusing on the colours and shapes they could see, discussing how the artwork made them feel, and thinking about how he might have created it. They then worked carefully to create their own artwork in the style of his pieces. Beautiful work, Nursery.



**Reception** studied the work of artist **Yinka Shonibare**, looking specifically at their sculpture work. Using this as their inspiration they made their own wire, dancing sculptures.



**Year 1** children studied the work of **Alma Woodsey Thomas** and worked in her style of painting, using all the colours of the rainbow.



**Year 2** children studied the work of **Rachel Jones** and created their own artwork in her unique, abstract style.



**Year 3** children studied the work of **Lois Mailou Jones** and used her style of pattern, and incorporated mask designs to create their own artwork inspired by her.



**Year 4** children studied the work of **Kehinde Wiley** and painted self portraits before mounting them on background designs inspired by nature and fabric design.



**Year 5** children studied **Jean Michelle Basquiat** and produced artwork using key features from his work, including crowns and skulls.



**Year 6** children studied the artist **Aubrey Williams**, and produced artwork in his style, whilst listening to the same classical music, for their inspiration, that he did.



The infamous and very popular **Year 4 Roman Day**. The children look forward to it so much and always remember it, often mentioning it as a highlight of their time at WP. Feasts, shield making, battles and lots of fun today in the top hall and beyond! Fabulous costumes too!





The **Winter Fair** will be taking place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December. It is always a fun event and a wonderful way to raise funds for the school whilst celebrating the festive season. This year we are planning some delicious food, mulled wine and mince pies, festive games and of course a chance for the children to meet and have their photo taken with Father Christmas. As you know these events are only possible with parents and carers volunteering. If you can spare some time, please sign up to help at <https://volunteersignup.org/FTF8H>. There is a full list of stalls that need assistance. Any questions please contact the PTFA at [williampattenptfa@gmail.com](mailto:williampattenptfa@gmail.com)



**Send your child to school in their most festive jumper on Wednesday 3rd December**

On this day we are asking for donations of wrapped bottles of alcoholic/non-alcoholic drinks or wrapped candy for the tombola event at the Winter Fair. Please label your wrapped item as "adult" or "child" so we know who the prize is appropriate for.



A huge well done our **Year 6 steel pan club** who performed at Bridge Academy. Participating in the [@hackneymusicservice](https://www.instagram.com/hackneymusicservice) Steel Pan festival, they played beautifully and were excellent ambassadors for WP. Lovely to see Year 7 ex WP steel pan children there too! Thank you HMS for such a fabulous opportunity.



**Oscar** in Y6 (and a member of the Eco team) has appeared in today's edition of **The Week Junior!** He worked very hard to make an amazing village with plastic bottles/packaging destined for the recycling bin. Well done Oscar, it looks incredible!

**Over to you**

Oscar's village.

**My upcycled village**

Name: Oscar

“I am in the school eco-team and I love junk modelling. I wanted to make a village with the plastic bottles and packaging that we put in the recycling bin. I have made lots of different houses for the village. I cleaned and dried the bottles and removed the stickers, then painted them or covered them in clay or paper. I tried to make each one different. Some of my favourites are the floor cleaner bottle house, the lighthouse with a soy sauce bottle for the beacon, the doghouse made from a Nutella container, the igloo house from a salad container and I also like the bottle top windows. I used some left-over clay to make vines with flowers, window boxes and a garden. It's easy to make things from plastic bottles and packaging, so don't throw them away. Try and upcycle them into something new.”

An eco-warrior.

**CHARITY OF THE WEEK** **GET INVOLVED**

A very big congratulations to **6S** for their **class assembly**. The first of the year and they set a very high standard. Super speaking out, confident delivery and it was lovely to hear everything you have been doing so far in Year 6, including the fabulous Kench Hill residential. Thank you for your message of hope. A very big thank you also to Sofia and Danny for all their hard work too, supporting the children to get ready for the assembly. Everyone made it look easy! A very big thank you to all parents who were able to join us, it was lovely to see you!



**Year 5** enjoyed a fantastic visit to the **British Museum** in London as part of our Ancient Egypt history topic. The children explored a wide range of fascinating artefacts and took part in an engaging presentation, “Daily Life in Ancient Egypt”, which helped bring the ancient world to life. They discovered how people in ancient Egypt lived, worked, and played — and were full of thoughtful questions and curiosity throughout.

The **Reading Champions** were very happy with the delivery of new books. They worked hard preparing for their assemblies to KS1 and KS2, where they outlined their aims as Reading Champions for the year ahead.





We are pleased to announce that **William Patten has achieved the Primary Geography Quality Mark award** for its provision in the subject this year. The school has demonstrated that it meets the criteria of the award framework, and the assessors provided the following feedback: *'Congratulations to William Patten Primary School on achieving the Primary Geography Quality Mark. The school has a clear and well-articulated statement of intent, which underpins a broad and inclusive geography curriculum which reflects both the school's rich cultural diversity and its urban location. The curriculum is coherently planned with progressive knowledge and skills mapped from EYFS to Year 6, supported by knowledge organisers and vocabulary mats for each unit. This ensures pupils revisit and build upon previous learning while making links between different topics and geographical concepts.*

*The curriculum design draws effectively on the school's local context, enabling pupils to begin with their immediate environment and gradually expand their understanding to contrasting locations and global issues. Case studies, such as the UK compared with Uganda or Spain, are chosen to provide both physical and human geography perspectives, as well as to connect with pupils' own experiences and backgrounds. Lessons are enriched with practical activities, digital technology such as Google Earth, field visits, and cross-curricular links to subjects including MFL, history, art and literacy.*

*Teachers use questioning...to promote higher-order thinking and encourage pupils to think critically about places, processes and patterns. The school's enrichment programme supports geography through events such as Refugee Week, International Women's Day and Hispanic Week, all of which embed geographical learning in broader cultural contexts. Pupil voice is valued, with opportunities for learners to express their views on local and global issues, and staff confidence is supported through shared planning resources, professional learning updates and subject leader guidance.*

*Fieldwork opportunities are evident in every Key Stage, from local area mapping and surveys in Key Stage 1 to more complex enquiries in Key Stage 2... The use of 'My Learning' summaries at the end of each unit provides an opportunity to consolidate understanding, correct misconceptions and record progress. Displays, shared resources and visible celebration of geography around*

*the school help to raise the profile of the subject and engage the wider community.'*

A big well done to all who have supported, and continue to support, the geography curriculum, including those who have accompanied classes on fieldtrips outside the school! Thank you also to Marion, who leads humanities across the school, and who collated the substantial evidence base and made the application in celebration of the school's achievements and commitment to this curriculum area.

Parent Opportunity			What are the potential benefits of joining a focus group?		
<p>Could you share your wisdom as a SEND parent to help mold an exciting new Family Coach initiative?</p>  <p>The Family Coach Service is looking to develop a role for <b>Parent Co-facilitators</b></p> <p>Parents have fed back that they would like the opportunity to <b>learn more about coaching</b> and have the opportunity to <b>practice these skills</b></p> <p>We recognise you as experts and would like to <b>work together to develop the role</b> of Parent Co-facilitator.</p>			<p>Helping to shape a new community initiative</p> <p>Community connection with other parents of SEND children</p> <p>Opportunity to use your strengths in a different way</p>		
<p><b>We will hold three focus groups for you to share your ideas on:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What the role of parent co-facilitators should be</li> <li>What training should include</li> <li>What commitment to the role would be realistic</li> </ul>			<p><b>What are the potential benefits of becoming a parent co-facilitator?</b></p> <p>Receive training on coaching skills and psychological safety</p> <p>Developing your communication and listening skills</p> <p>Opportunities to practice your coaching skills</p>		
<p><b>Focus Group 1</b></p> <p>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of January 10:10-45 am</p> <p>Hackney Service Center</p>	<p><b>Focus Group 2</b></p> <p>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of January 6-6:45 pm</p> <p>Online</p>	<p><b>Focus Group 3</b></p> <p>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> of January 12:12-45 pm</p> <p>Hackney Service Center.</p>	<p>Opportunities to reflect on your coaching practice</p> <p>Building on existing strengths and expertise and/or knowledge</p> <p>Learning skills that might compliment your parenting</p>		
<p>To sign up please email: <a href="mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk">familycoach@hackney.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Hackney</b></p>			<p>*this is not a paid role and will run on the goodwill of volunteers*</p> <p>To sign up please email: <a href="mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk">familycoach@hackney.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Hackney</b></p>		

The **Family Coach Service** are hoping to recruit some parent co-facilitator volunteers to join us in delivery of parent empowerment groups and wellbeing walks. For this we are recruiting parents for a focus group to help us create and shape the role. This is possibly an opportunity for parents to:

- Connect with other parents of SEND children in the community
- Help shape a new Family Coach initiative
- Contribute to the development of the role which could lead to:
- Further training opportunities for parents of children with SEND covering -
  - Improved communication and listening skills
  - In depth exploration of coaching models and how to have coaching conversations-
  - Foundational knowledge in psychological safety
  - How to be a reflective practitioner
  - Building on existing strengths and expertise/ knowledge

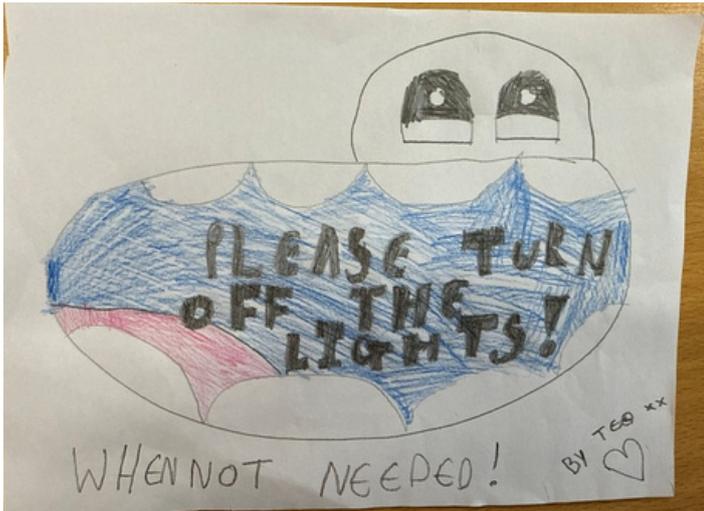
We would love to find parents who would like to participate in the focus groups running on the following dates:

- Friday 16th January (10 - 10.45am) @ Hackney Service Centre
- Wednesday 21st January (6 - 6.45pm) online
- Thursday 29th January (12 - 12.45pm) @ Hackney Service Centre

Parents only have to attend one group and do not have to commit to all 3 focus groups.

## Eco Team Switch off Energy campaign

Next month, the Eco team are setting an energy campaign for classes to switch off lights when classrooms are not in use such as playtimes and lunchtimes. The team have designed posters that are displayed around school, and the team will be regularly checking classes over the month to find out who are the Lightbulb champions for each month. The winners for EYFS, Key Stage 1, lower Key Stage 2 (Y3 and Y4) upper key stage 2 (Year 5 and Y6) will be awarded the Lightbulb award in assemblies at the end of this term. The switch off campaign will then continue into 2026! We wonder who be the first lightbulb champions?



Around this time of year, many people travel to visit family and/or friends. In this Neurodiversity Newsletter we thought that we would highlight train travel, and share some information and resources that might help to make travelling on trains more comfortable and accessible for all. Great Western Railway have recently created a range of resources including a soundbite series, to support better understanding of the sounds you might hear when travelling by train, and virtual tours of stations and their trains. These can be found as playlists in their YouTube channel [here](#). Network Rail has an autism-friendly guide to travelling by train found [here](#), which includes links to other sounds that might be heard when travelling by train. There is also a more general rail industry autism-friendly guide to travelling by train found [here](#).



## Fairness is about meeting needs

Fairness at school doesn't always mean being treated the same. Sometimes, it can be fair for people to get or to do different things than their classmates, because they have different needs.



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH



Illustrations ©Claire Hubbard 2021-22  
Poster ©LEANS project 2022  
<https://www.ed.ac.uk/leaves-research/leans>

A huge well done to **5CP** for a **fantastic assembly** last Friday! The children shared their learning in Spanish with so much confidence, clear delivery and wonderful pronunciation. They told us about the foods they like and don't like, what's healthy and unhealthy, and finished by retelling The Very Hungry Caterpillar in Spanish. A very big thank you to the Year 5 team, Claire, Luisa and Venessa for their support of the children in the lead up to and on the day itself! Thank you to all of the families were able to join us and in particular our very brave volunteers who went up to the front! ¡Bien hecho, 5CP — fantástico trabajo!



Teachers from schools across the borough visited William Patten to observe a **maths lesson in Y5** this week and take part in associated training. The children in Y5 are currently working on multiplication and the visitors saw a lesson in which children were multiplying 2 digit numbers by a 1 digit number by partitioning the tens and ones and combining the partial products. The children worked very hard, and impressed the visitors with their engagement and positive work ethic.

**Understanding partial products and regrouping**

Which of these calculations did Sam use to find the product?  
Explain your reasoning.

$26 \times 7$

**a**  $140 + 42$

**b**  $100 + 40 + 42$

**c**  $150 + 32$

**d**  $100 + 82$

$20 \times 7 + 6 \times 7$

'The answer showing the correct 'partial products' is \_\_\_ because  $20 \times 7$  is \_\_\_ and  $6 \times 7$  is \_\_\_.'

a, b, c or d

All participants were able to identify how the session would inform practice in their own schools, and feedback recognised the benefits of observing lessons and working together as a group during professional development activities, including: 'I was able to see a well taught lesson with great examples.'

### Eco Refill request

We are going to be having a Eco Refill sale at this year's Winter Fair on Saturday 6th Dec. We are looking for 500ml bottles. Please bring any bottles to the school office or pop them into Wendy in Nursery.



### Volunteers needed

We are also looking for any adults that would be able to help out at our Eco Refill stall at the Winter Fair. Please email Wendy via [admin@williampatten.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:admin@williampatten.hackney.sch.uk) or drop by Nursery to speak to Wendy.

**Year 2** had their **fire safety workshop** with the fire brigade about how to keep safe during a possible fire and what to look out for. The workshop leader mentioned it's important to learn your home address just in case if ever you need to call 999 for an emergency.



**Year 1** made a Venn diagram using hula hoops this week to explore the **properties of materials in science**. They also investigated a range of different materials for a Lego house roof to protect their Lego man from a downpour before writing up their findings.



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

**Friday 21st November**

Nurs	Amelia
RJ	Jayden
RS	Emika
1A	Honey, Felix, Joe, Rex, Wren
1M	Sterling, Ava, Mehmet, Marley, Etienne
2C	Ali, Zoe, Nelson, Eki, Oscar
2YN	Romilly, Louis, Zayn, Saifa, Minnie
3B	Noah, Finlay, Nori, Teddy, Sophia
3H	Aela, Yaqub, Aster, Stella, Alice
4A	Fraser, Lily, Joseph, Eva, Sebastian
4B	Hulya, Coco, Khaleem, Luqman, Vittoria
5CG	Leni, Rafe, Kiaan, Amaya, Isabelle
5CP	Poppy, Suhayb, Kaan, Elijah, Nina
6H	Keon, Arabella, Ebi, Daisy, Grace
6S	Kerim, Lochie, Alaa, Rafael, Ellora

**Friday 28th November**

Nurs	Annabelle
RJ	Freddie
RS	Umar
1A	Zayn, Daniel, Wynn, Azad, Aiden
1M	Alaia, Oscar, Raeheem, Shifa, Thorsteinn, Daria
2C	Sequoia, Wilder, Isla, Agnes, Marina
2YN	Navraj, Aoife, Ida, Anna, Pip
3B	Misher, Rafael, Martha, Violet, Yusuf
3H	Noah, Winston, Paloma, Leonel, Rocky
4A	Nahom, Odhran, Hector, Egzi, Wilfred M
4B	Aylin, Khaleem, Noah, Nancy, Sophia
5CG	Frida, Zaynah, Max, Mason, Ellen
5CP	Arzu, Alicja, Mila, Huxley, Arthur
6H	Millie, Ronan, Lily, Matiu, Belle
6S	Sufyan, Theo, Arden, Fatima, Niccolo



**Happy birthday to the children who celebrated their special day since the last Patten Pages: Margot, Robbie, Leo, Leni, Ruben, Marley, Dante, Honor, Theo, Ciro-Mael, Georgina, Elise, Maya, Finn, Nina and Ivy. We hope you enjoyed your special day!**

## Dates for your diary.

Please add the following dates to your diary: events and trips taking place at school throughout December.

3rd	Christmas Jumper Day
4th	EYFS Superhero Day
6th	Winter Fair 12pm - 4pm
8th	Computer Science Week
9th	EYFS Christmas show 11.00am
9th	Y6 Macbeth workshops
10th	Y1 & Y2 Christmas show 11.00am (Y1 parents). 2.00pm (Y2 parents)
10th	Christmas lunch
11th	Y2 trip to Nanak Darbar Gurdwara
11th	Y3 & Y4 Christmas show 11.00am (Y3 parents). 2.00pm (Y4 parents)
12th	Y5 & Y6 Christmas show 11.00am (Y5 parents). 2.00pm (Y6 parents)
12th	Y1 trip to St Matthias Church
15th	Last week of clubs
16th	Google Meet calls with partner school in Madrid (all classes)
17th	Class parties
18th	Toy Day
18th	Break up at 1.30pm



### Attendance chart for w/e 21st November

Year groups	Attendance last week
Year3	98.5%
Year5	97.0%
Year1	96.1%
Year4	95.9%
Year6	95.6%
Year2	94.7%
Nursery	94.4%
Reception	92.8%
	Average <b>95.7%</b>

### Attendance chart for w/e 28th November

Year group	Attendance this week
Year3	99.2%
Year5	97.8%
Year2	97.0%
Year4	94.2%
Reception	93.5%
Year1	93.4%
Year6	93.0%
Nursery	87.1%
	Average <b>95.2%</b>