

The Patten Pages

The William Patten Newsletter for Parents and Children

Issue 269

Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parents,

What a fantastic WP Summer Fair we had on Saturday! Over £11,000 was raised. Incredible!!

It was a such wonderful day, with a fantastic turnout from our school community and beyond!. There was something for everyone to enjoy, from the ever-popular dunk tank and barbecue to the Talent Show and the EDI Committee stall, which once again proved a hit with its rum punch and mocktails. It was also great to offer a halal barbecue this year! It was lovely to see families spending time together, catching up with friends and enjoying the afternoon. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activities, and it was wonderful to see so many people staying way past the 4pm finish!

A huge thank you goes to Jason, Anne, Rob, Jonathan, Graeme, Jen, Christina and Whitney and their amazing team of volunteers. Their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication made the day such a success. Thank you also to all the parents who helped before the fair and on the day itself. We are incredibly grateful for your support. Special thanks to David for all his help with setting up and clearing away, and to our fantastic office team of Rita, Carole and Jane for their organisation and support throughout.

Finally, thank you to everyone who came along. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces, including former WP pupils and parents, as well as the families who will be joining our Nursery and Reception classes in September. Events like this remind us what a special, supportive community we are fortunate to be part of. This week has also been full of celebrations for Year 6. We began with their Graduation on Monday, where each child received their certificate and 2026 hoodie, courtesy of the PTFA. On Wednesday, the children and their families enjoyed a Pizza Party, rounded off with the eagerly awaited water fight, although we had to finish a little earlier than planned so everyone could head home, grab some snacks and settle down to watch the football! Our Nursery children enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day with a fun water-themed event. A special thank you to our Year 5 pupils, who led the activities with kindness, patience and encouragement. They were excellent role models and made the day extra special for our youngest children.

As we come to the end of another school year, we also take time to thank and say goodbye to colleagues who are moving on. This week we held Leavers' Assemblies to celebrate their contribution to life at WP. We say farewell to two very long-serving members of staff, Maria and Christine, whose dedication and commitment over many years have made a lasting difference to our school. They will both be greatly missed. We also wish Holly and Formoso all the very best as they move on after their year with us. In a relatively short time, they have become valued members of the WP team, and we thank them for everything they have contributed.

Finally, we say goodbye to our agency colleagues Josh, Natalie, Marche, Dilan and Hafizah. Their kindness and care have been greatly appreciated, and they have each played an important part in supporting our children and staff team.

Wishing you all a lovely summer and we look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 7th September.

Best wishes

Karen

Maria

After many years as part of the William Patten community, first as a parent and teacher and then as Assistant Headteacher, Maria will be leaving us at the end of this term. Her contribution to the school has been exceptional, and she leaves with the gratitude and admiration of staff, children and families alike. Maria has played a pivotal role in shaping the school, combining the highest professional standards with extraordinary organisation, efficiency and an unwavering commitment to ensuring every child receives the very best. Her work ethic, attention to detail and ability to find solutions have been remarkable, and she has been someone colleagues, including myself, have relied upon for her expertise, sound judgement and calm approach. She has an exceptional ability to identify potential issues early and resolve them swiftly and effectively, often before others have noticed they are there!

The impact of Maria's leadership can be seen across

the school. She has transformed our Early Years provision, led significant improvements in Read Write Inc. and assessment, and has enabled hundreds of children to become confident, fluent readers. Through this work, she has opened doors for children by not only giving them the essential skill of reading, but also fostering a love of books, confidence in themselves and the opportunity to access the wider world that reading makes possible. Maria's uncompromising commitment to excellence has shaped every aspect of her work. She has consistently set the highest standards for herself and others, always with the single aim of securing the very best outcomes for children. The systems, practices and culture she has established will continue to benefit the school for many years to come.

Above all, Maria has been deeply committed to the children and families of William Patten. She has always balanced exceptionally high expectations with genuine kindness, care and integrity, earning the respect of everyone who has had the privilege of working alongside her.

It is difficult to overstate what Maria's departure will mean for the school. Her energy, expertise, judgement and remarkable efficiency have made an immeasurable difference to William Patten and we will miss her hugely. Returning in September without her here will feel very strange!

However, she is not retiring. Maria is moving into the world of technology and app design, and we know she will be hugely successful there too!

Christine

At the end of this term, we will be saying goodbye to Christine after more than 20 years at William Patten. She first became part of the William Patten community as a parent, before becoming a Teaching Assistant. She then went on to complete her teacher training and became a highly valued teacher, working across both KS1 and KS2.

Christine is very much William Patten through and through, having been part of the school in so many different roles over such a long period of time. She has always had exceptionally high standards and high expectations for the children she has taught, and has been unwavering in her commitment to ensuring they make strong progress.

She also led RE during her time at the school, and under her leadership the school achieved much success in the Hackney RE Calendar competition, with a large number of winning entries over the years. She is also known for her consistency and dedication.

Christine has been a committed and hardworking colleague, always willing to support both her year group partner and the wider team. Many of us have worked alongside her for many years, and it is hard to believe how long she has been part of the William Patten community. I remember teaching her son in Year 4 and he is now over 30, which really brings home just how long we have known each other! She leaves with our sincere thanks for everything she has given to the school over the past two decades. Her commitment, professionalism and care for the children have been deeply valued by staff, parents and pupils alike.

On behalf of everyone at William Patten, we wish Christine every happiness and success in the future. She lives locally so we hope to see her around N16 on a regular basis! She will always remain part of the WP family and will be very much missed.

Holly

We would like to say goodbye to Holly, who will be leaving William Patten at the end of this year to return to Norfolk.

Although she has only been with us for a year, it has been a real pleasure to have her as part of the WP team. She has settled in incredibly well and adapted quickly to life at William Patten, bringing calmness, composure and professionalism to all her work with Year 6. She has supported the children brilliantly and helped prepare them well for their transition to secondary school.

She has been consistently positive and efficient, always ensuring that the children receive the support and guidance they need. She has combined high expectations with a strong focus on relationships, helping children to build confidence, resilience and positive friendships.

We are also very grateful for her wider contributions to school life, particularly through her creativity in running Art Club, as well as her support in preparing the children for their Year 6 production. Her enthusiasm and care have been clearly reflected in the experiences she has provided for the children. She will be greatly missed by both colleagues and pupils alike, and we know the children have very much enjoyed working with her this year. Her new school will be very lucky to have her.

We wish her every happiness as she returns to Norfolk, and hope that if she is ever back in London, she will come and visit us at WP!

Message from Karen:

As we reach the end of another busy and successful year, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to our fabulous staff team and families, and to say a fond farewell to our Year 6 children.

Thank You to the Staff Team

I know you will join me in recognising and celebrating the incredible work of our staff team this year. The adults at WP are simply fabulous, and they are one of the key reasons why our school is such a special place. WP is a unique place for many people and it is no surprise that we have staff who have worked here for many years. Even those who are newer to WP quickly recognise its unique character and supportive ethos. Visitors often comment on the warm, welcoming feel as soon as they step through the doors, and it is no wonder our new Reception families are so excited to be joining the WP community in September.

The staff consistently go above and beyond expectations. They work tirelessly to ensure we provide high-quality teaching and enriching opportunities that spark a love of learning, nurture talents, and develop confidence, resilience and emotional intelligence, all the attributes our children need to thrive in the wider world.

The team holds high expectations for themselves and for our children, and this has been reflected in a fantastic year filled with many activities and opportunities. From trips to the Garden Classroom, the Postal Museum, the Tower of London and Kench Hill, to school-wide events such as International Evening, World Book Day, Black History Month celebrations, Red Nose Day, Sports Days, Hispanic Week and our music and fencing/gymnastics showcases, it has been another memorable year.

We have also celebrated a number of exciting new community initiatives, including a parent-led Afro Hair Day assembly, a hugely successful community Iftar gathering, a Big Art Day celebrating Black artists with parents creating art work with the children and monthly Coffee Mornings for Turkish speaking parents. These events have further strengthened our sense of community, and reflected our ongoing commitment to celebrating diversity, creativity and inclusion.

I hope all of our staff enjoy a very well-deserved summer break.

Thank You to Parents

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all our parents for your continued support of the school. We know how precious time is, so thank you for the time you have so generously given, whether that's accompanying classes on trips, making cakes for the

Bake Sales, running clubs, attending workshops and meetings, or organising and helping out at fairs and other PTFA events.

At William Patten, we are constantly striving to learn more and gain a deeper understanding of the diversity of our school and are committed to working to ensure that all our pupils, and their families, feel included and accepted in our school community. It is crucial that all families feel a sense of belonging.

The EDI committee plays an integral part in supporting this work and have been responsible for many of our new initiatives, including the Cultural Connect Coffee Mornings. The committee is having a hugely positive impact, not only in ensuring representation, but also in encouraging a broader and more diverse group of parents to attend school events. Thank you.

Thank you, too, for your words of appreciation, encouragement and constructive feedback. These conversations help us reflect, adapt and grow as a school, always striving to be the best we can be. Your feedback is always welcomed, and your kind words remind us how valued we are. The relationship between our families and the school is one of our greatest strengths at WP, and it is what makes our school such a special place. A special thank you to those parents who have shared ideas and highlighted opportunities for our children. These contributions enrich our curriculum and broaden the experiences we can offer. We simply could not do all these wonderful things without your involvement.

Goodbye Year 6

To our wonderful Year 6 children who are preparing to leave us and begin secondary school - as I said at your Graduation Ceremony on Monday, I have especially admired your hard work, your resilience and your ability to bring so much joy and laughter to our school. You are an independent group of young people who have shown individuality and originality throughout your time at WP. You have worked incredibly hard and should be incredibly proud of everything you have accomplished. What stands out most is your wonderful sense of humour and the friendships you have built with one another. You are brilliant, and we will miss you very much. Your new secondary schools and the friends you make there are lucky to be welcoming such determined, confident and engaging young people.

We wish each of you happiness and success in Year 7 and beyond. Please remember, no invitation is ever needed to come back and say hello, once part of WP, always part of WP!

For some families, this marks the end of your journey with us, and I want to offer my sincere thanks and best wishes. It will feel strange not to see you in the playground after so many years, but I hope we see each other again, perhaps at one of our fairs or just out and about in Stokey. Your support for the school and for me personally has meant a great deal. Thank you.

The holidays offer space to pause, recharge and build habits that support wellbeing in the long term. Looking after our mental health is important and the toolkit below contains activities, teaching materials and guidance to help support and boost mental wellbeing over the summer and beyond.

www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources

Wishing everyone a lovely summer and enjoy the time with your families.

Thank you to all the children who entered the **Matchgirls Memorial poetry competition** this year. It was wonderful to see so many of you engage in a significant part of Hackney history. In 1888 workers from the Bryant & May factory went on strike to improve pay and working conditions. Many of the workers were girls in their teens and taking such action was incredibly brave and inspiring. The Matchgirls Memorial charity is dedicated to honouring these women's memories and one of these ways is to retell their story in poetic form. William Patten did very well in the competition and the winners were invited to a prizegiving in Stepney Green where they heard from some of the matchgirls' descendants, received their prizes and recited their poems. We are very proud of them. Thank you to the parents who accompanied us.

Sumayyah (Y4) 'The Marvellous Matchgirls' - 1st prize

Marloe (Y4) 'The Matchgirls' Spark' - 2nd prize

Nina (Y5) 'The Strike that Changed the World' - 1st prize

Arya (Y6) 'The Matchstick Girls' - 1st prize

Grace (Y6) 'In 1888, a long time ago' - 2nd prize

Beatrix (Y6) 'The Strike' - 3rd prize.

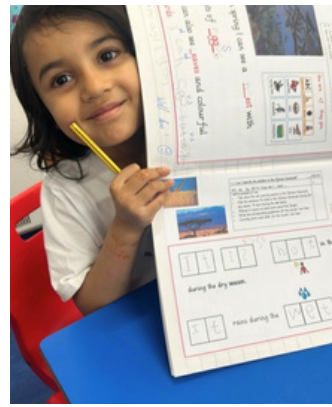


Hispanic Week continued last week and each class visited the **Spanish Activity Fair**. The fair was led by Year 5 and Year 6 classes and each class enjoyed activities specific to their Spanish learning this year. Year 5 and 6 were fantastic leading the activities and supporting the younger children. The classes used their Spanish skills to play games, sing songs, translate comics and have conversations. ¡Muy bien! A big thank you to the parents who volunteered to read a Spanish story to their child's class for Hispanic Week! The children loved having a story read to them in Spanish and using the Spanish language skills to translate. ¡Muchas gracias!



EYFS

What a wonderful year it has been for the children in Nursery, RM and RS! They have embraced exciting new topics, developed a wide range of skills, and grown in confidence, resilience, and curiosity. Along the way, they have built lovely friendships and approached new experiences with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved and have loved watching them grow through laughter, learning, and the enjoyment of RWI. It has been a year full of memorable moments, new discoveries, and achievements to celebrate. We look forward to seeing all they accomplish in the years ahead - either in Reception or in Year 1. William Patten is very fortunate to have such enthusiastic, kind, and capable children in its classrooms. Here are a few photos which celebrate just a few of the memorable events in EYFS this year.



Neurodiversity Newsletter

We hope that everyone has enjoyed the last few weeks of term and is looking forward to a well-earned rest. This has been the first year that the Neurodiversity News has been part of the Patten Pages all year, and it has been really great to share all of the information that we have been able to. For the last ND Newsletter of the academic year, we would like to highlight some voices from WP to share their experiences of **"what it's like to be neurodivergent at William Patten"**. Below are some words and drawings from children who have shared their views. We hope that you enjoy reading them, and hope that you have a lovely summer.

"It's the support that I've had that has helped me to not feel different in a bad way. William Patten has accepted my difference and helped to make it feel positive."

"I enjoy many of the lessons we do. It's a good school for treating each other fairly especially with neurodiversity, because everyone thinks differently."

"At William Patten if you are neurodivergent or you just need a bit of help you can go to one of the most wonderful people on earth ... I don't think I would change one thing about William Patten and how they helped me."

"Easy! As soon as you get the accommodations sorted, it's easy!"

"I understand that being neurodivergent can be difficult to express or tell people, but I've been able to accept it. Adults at William Patten like Caitlin have really helped when I was first trying to understand it. It was hard not to focus entirely on it and WP helped me to understand what's happening in my mind and think of it like a positive thing."

"When you think about it, everyone's mind is different and if you're neurodivergent you are not alone and there are lots of neurodivergent people out there you can meet who can understand you. If you ever feel like no one understands, there are people who do."

What it's like to be ND at WP:



Themes pictured in this drawing include safety, working together, feeling included, support to feel regulated in class, and expressing imagination.

Summer Fair 2026

What a day! What a success! What a fabulous [@william_patten_school_ptfa](https://www.william-patten-school.ptfa.org.uk). So many super things to do and buy! Bouncy Castle, the dunk tank, the talent show, face painting, BBQ, jumble, books, toys, badge making, cake stall, rum punch, mocktails, tombola, the quiet space, WP merch, ice lollies, candy floss and of course the raffle! The biggest thanks to everyone who donated, sorted, set up, served, tidied up, and created such a magical day for our children and families.







3H went on a trip to the **Garden Classroom** at King Henry's Walk Garden. The children took part in a workshop about 'How Plants Grow'. They labelled and described edible plants, dug weeds and inspected the roots, tasted apple and celery and even planted their own pea shoots to take home! Throughout the workshop, the children learnt a fantastic poem to remember the function of each part of a plant. Well done 3H!



Year 6 trip to London Zoo. Part of the annual tradition and supported by [@william_patten_school_ptfa](https://www.william-patten-school.ptfa.org.uk/). A fabulous day out. In the heat, oh to be a penguin!



Huge congratulations to all the **children who performed to a packed house** in the top hall last Wednesday. We had performances from KS1 gymnastics club, Year 3 to 6 gymnastics club, KS1 fencing club, choir, as well as our children who have saxophone, clarinet, brass, keyboard, guitar and violin tuition. So much skill and talent shown by all and we were very proud of their confidence and bravery performing to a large audience. Thank you to the tutors - Elaine, Berry, Mark, Rebekah, Magnus and Alan who have worked incredibly hard and supported the children developing their skills to such a high standard. Thank you to all the families who were able to join us, it was lovely to see you.







Huge thanks again to [@hackneyschooloffood](https://twitter.com/hackneyschooloffood) for a fabulous day out! Making Thai Green Curry this time. 😊 Part of the **Year 6 end of year tradition** and supported by [@william_patten_school_ptfa](https://twitter.com/william_patten_school_ptfa). Thank you. A resounding success!





We had a fun water themed **Nursery Sports Day** in the sunshine. Children took part in five different water-based activities that included catch the water balloon, water chase, fill up the bucket, parachute games with water balloons and wet sponge target throw. We would like to thank all our Year 5 helpers who ran the activities and had as much fun as Nursery! Also, a huge thank you for all the parents who came to support and join in the fun too! Well done, Nursery. We are super proud, you showed great sportsmanship cheering on your friends too!



A wonderful **KS2 Sports' Day** at Clissold Park. A very big thank you to the parents who accompanied the classes and joined us for the day. Thank you to Craig P for organising all of the activities and to the children for their energy and enthusiasm!



The **School Council** received certificates in this week's Word of the Week assembly in recognition of all their work this year. The theme of the assembly was 'Moving on'. The children also learnt about Nelson Mandela in recognition of **Nelson Mandela Day** on 18th July.



Children in Y6 investigating and exploring the properties of **cube numbers**, in preparation for secondary school.



4A enjoying some ice lollies as a reward for winning a **spelling competition** they've been working on this past term!



We were delighted to welcome [@rhuardean](#) to WP last week. He came to read from his book 'The Loudest Whispers', a collection of **illustrated poems exploring the many wonders and worries of childhood**. Years 4 and 5 thoroughly enjoyed listening to a selection of the poems, covering such topics as early mornings, family walks, the first days of school, dinner-times, losing football matches, the chaos of siblings, staying safe online and bedtime reluctance! The books are beautifully illustrated by Charlotte Workman. Such a treat for a Monday morning and so lovely to welcome him back and so lovely to listen to a real life poet! Thank you very much for your time - we very much enjoyed your visit!



Year 6 thoroughly enjoying their **Combat Day** with Mark from Little Musketeers. Part of the annual end of term traditions for Year 6 and supported by [@william_patten_school_ptfa](#).





Attendance Matters



Attendance chart for w/e 10th July

Year group	Attendance
Year3	98.2%
Year2	96.5%
Year4	96.4%
Year5	96.2%
Year1	95.9%
Nursery	93.5%
Reception	93.2%
Year6	92.5%
	Average 95.5%

Attendance chart for w/e 16th July

Year group	Attendance
Year5	98.3%
Reception	97.5%
Year2	96.6%
Year4	95.8%
Nursery	95.7%
Year3	94.4%
Year1	93.2%
Year6	92.1%
	Average 95.4%

Congratulations to the children who recently received an EYFS Super Achievers award or a HT award certificate. Well done everyone!

Friday 10th July

Nurs	Leire
RM	Teddy
RS	Zaida
1A	Adelaide, Nimrit, Grace, Aiden, Jagraj
1M	Sterling, Raeheem, Mehmet, Leo, Shifa, Thorsteinn, Cece
2YN	Bruno, Evangeline, Zayn, Kimya, Ren
4A	Mayus, Eesa, Wilfred K, Leul, Kaouther
4B	Ronnie, Noah, Marloe, Sumayyah, Yahya
5CG	Felix, Evan, Rafe, Ellen, Ciro-Mael
6H	Hamza, Ebe, Nisa, Lea, Tommy
6S	Aalia, Klara, Amayah, Niccolo, Ellora



Many happy returns to the children who celebrated their special day since the last Patten Pages or those who will celebrate before the end of August: Evelyn, Nova, Buray, Sequoia, Nimrit, Eloise, Lily, Aoife, Eki, Isabelle, Areal, Ada, Millie, Shanelle, Shifa, Baran, Marcelo, Finlay, Alice, Noah, Zakia, Gene, Thiago, Zaynah, Vittoria, Amaya, Ava, Jack, Felix, Ellie, Leo, Feadan, Suhayb, Kiaan, Mahi, Opi, Ezgi, Navraj, Nour, Rafe, Paul, Dante, Louis, Evangeline, Sebastian, Tommaso, Violet, Honey, Zayn, Hugh, Khaleem, Tasfiya, Arthur, Rafael, Nahom, Kai, Hana, Joe, Ruoxin, Luca, Cody, Ethan, Bee, Casper, Gurleen, Zamari, Cedric, Elias, Thorsteinn and Hope. Happy birthday everyone!