The Patten Pages

The William Patten Newsletter for Parents and Children

Issue 272 **Friday 23rd October 2026**

Dear Parents,

It has been a very busy fortnight heading towards half term, with lots going on across the school.

6M have been at Kench Hill this week for their Year 6 residential and have had a lovely time. They have thoroughly enjoyed all the activities and, as always, represented the school brilliantly. Kench Hill has been seeking reaccreditation for Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC), and the inspectors commented on how well behaved, respectful and engaged our children were throughout the week. I was delighted to hear this feedback, although not at all surprised! We are very proud of them all. 6A are now looking forward to their turn when we return after half term.

Year 5 braved the rain for their trip to the National Gallery, where they enjoyed seeing Monet's paintings and learning more about Impressionism. Such a treat to see these wonderful works of art in person! We are looking forward to seeing their own impressionist works inspired by their visit.

We also held our very first Year 3 Stone Age Day, which was a wonderful experience for the children. They immersed themselves in Stone Age life, trying their hands at flint knapping, cave painting, making fire and creating Stone Age jewellery. A huge thank you to Asima and Bethan for all their creativity and hard work in putting together such a special day, and to Nina from Hackney Outdoors, who worked with the children throughout the day.

Year 3 have also hosted the first of our bake sales last week, with the usual long queues and lots of delicious treats! These are a regular feature of our PTFA fundraising calendar, with each year group taking a turn to hold a bake sale during the year. The year group that raises the most money will win a prize at the end, so we'll have to wait and see who is victorious! Thank you to everyone who baked, donated and came along to support. All money raised will go towards resources and activities for the children.

Our Eco Teams have been out and about too. The EYFS and KS1 Eco Team visited Camley Street Natural Park, while our KS2 team visited Walthamstow Wetlands. Both groups enjoyed pond dipping and exploring different natural habitats. They discovered all sorts of creatures, including newts and some more unusual finds such as crayfish, and came back full of ideas about what we could do to improve our own school environment. Thank you to Wendy and Sian R for taking the children and making these visits possible.

As the weather becomes more unsettled, please make sure the children come to school with a coat, preferably a waterproof one. We will continue to send them outside for fresh air and a chance to run around whenever we can, even if it's raining lightly.

I hope you all have a lovely, restful half-term break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 2nd November.

Best wishes

Karen

Claudia Comments



Claudia Jones was a journalist and civil rights activist. She had a newspaper column called Claudia Comments where she highlighted things that were important to her and her community. We pay homage to her with events and achievements that are important to the William Patten community.

William Patten children did very well in the **Matchgirls Memorial** poetry competition last year. The winners attended a special prizegiving at the Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives in July, where they heard from some of the matchgirls' descendants, received their prizes and recited their poems.

"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."

The winners now have their wonderful poems published on the Matchgirls Memorial website. To read their work please visit:

https://www.matchgirls1888.org/2026-schools-poetry-competition

Sumayyah: 'The Marvellous Matchgirls'

Marloe: 'The Matchgirls' Spark'

Nina: 'The Strike that Changed the World'

Arya: 'The Matchstick Girls'

Grace: 'In 1888, a long time ago'

Beatrix: 'The Strike'

Meet and Greet for new parents - Friday 6th November at 9.15am

New parents will have the opportunity to meet the PTFA, EDI committee and Yeter, who leads the Turkish speaking parent group. Karen will also be in attendance to answer any questions you may have. Coffee and pastries will be provided. We look forward to meeting as many new parents as possible. Please come along if you can.

Update from the PTFA

Hi WP parents,

Just a change of date from the PTFA regarding the upcoming AGM. We have moved the date to 23rd November at 7.30pm (zoom details to come).

There are several PTFA roles up for re-election this year as many of the current members have been involved since COVID. We are looking for some new parents to help. The PTFA is a parent/carer volunteer initiative, please email expressions of interest to williampattenptfa@gmail.com.

The Kid's Movie Night on 13th November will be TOY STORY 5! Doors open at 5.30pm and the movie will commence at 6pm. Children need to be supervised by their parents at all times, it is NOT a drop off.

Prizes for best dressed will be given out on the night, with popcorn and candy available on the evening.

Eventbrite ticketing will be sent out the first week back after half term.

The Parent Quiz Night will take place on 20th November. Please organize a table amongst your social groups and email williampattenptfa@gmail.com with your tables (£60 per table of 6 entry fee). It's always a lot of fun.

Finally the Winter Fair will be held on 5th December. Pencil it into your diaries now! It's one of the best events of the year.

Have a great half term break! We'll see you all back in school on Monday 2nd.

Thank you,

William Patten PTFA

6M hugely enjoyed their **residential trip** to Kench Hill in Kent this week, they had a fabulous time! A big thank you to the WP staff team (Craig P, Wendy and Cem) and the staff at the centre for ensuring that the children had some amazing new experiences. The children now have some lovely memories of a very special week! After half term it is the turn of 6A. We know they will have lots of fun!
















































Visit our website www.williampatten.hackney.sch.uk

Our **Eco team** members in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 started their week with a fantastic visit to **Camley Street Natural Park** in St Pancras! The children had a wonderful time pond dipping, hunting for minibeasts, spotting different trees and plants, and enjoying lunch together. We were lucky enough to see a toad, lots of spiders and even found a crayfish when we were pond dipping. They demonstrated great behaviour throughout the visit and represented our school brilliantly. We are so proud of our young Eco team and their enthusiasm for exploring and learning about the natural world! . Thank you as well to our helpers on the day, we are very grateful that you could all come too! 🐛🌳🦆💚🌿























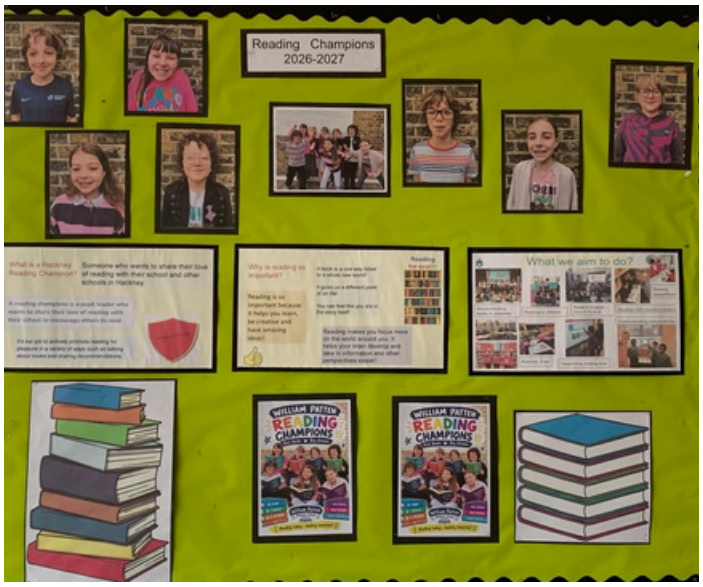


Year 1 retelling the story of **Little Red Riding Hood** for their experience day in English.

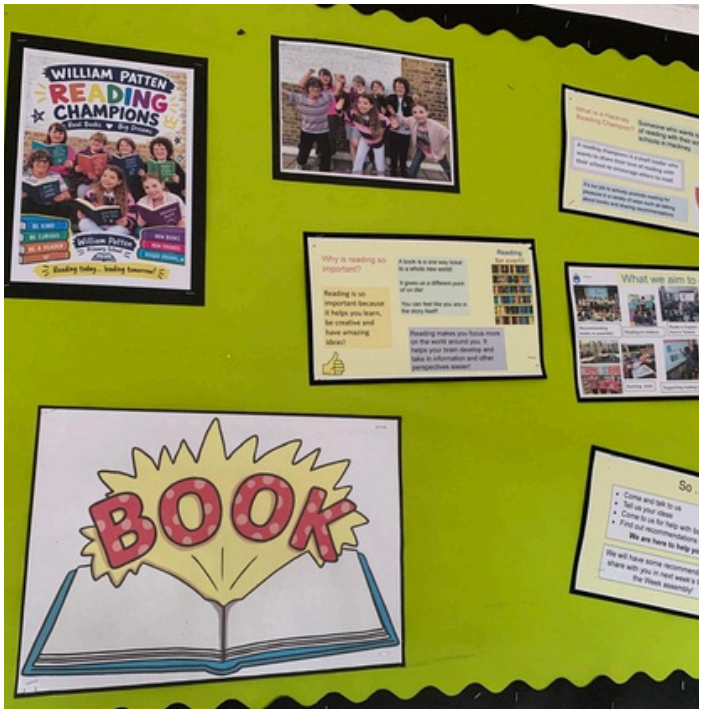




WP Reading champions had their inaugural meeting and the display is up! It is now all official and the children are ready for their new roles!







The **Reading Champions** visited **Hackney Town Hall** last Wednesday. They took part in their first meeting with Reading Champions from other Hackney schools. There were lots of discussions on what makes a good Reading Champion. They also met local author Eric Huang (who has previously visited William Patten!) who told us how he became an author.











Last week, both **Reception classes** went on a trip to **Abney Park Cemetery!** The purpose of the trip was to use their senses to investigate their environment; what they could see, hear, smell and touch. We saw tall trees, heard the birds chirping, touched the crunching leaves and smelt the woodland around us. The children were so well behaved and worked very sensibly in their groups. A big thank you to the parent volunteers who helped on the trip. Well done Reception!









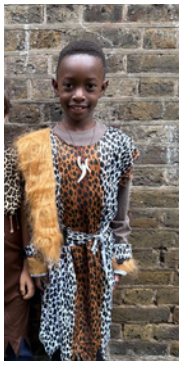


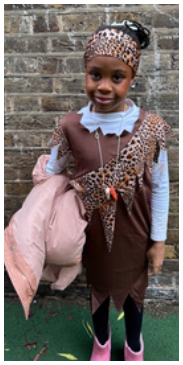






Year 3 travelled back in time for an unforgettable **Stone Age Day!** We became Stone Age hunters, artists and toolmakers as we discovered what life was really like thousands of years ago. We had a go at flint knapping, carefully shaping soap to create tools, and learned how Stone Age people made fire. We then became prehistoric artists, creating amazing cave and rock paintings using natural paints that we made ourselves from berries and turmeric! The excitement continued when we ventured out of the shelter of our caves, for a thrilling woolly mammoth hunt! Finally, we travelled forward in time to the Bronze Age, where we designed and created our very own golden coins. 3A and 3B certainly showed that they would have made excellent Stone Age settlers!




















Our **KS2 Eco Team** had a fantastic visit to **Walthamstow Wetlands** yesterday, exploring different habitats and discovering the amazing wildlife living there. The children went pond dipping to investigate the tiny creatures living in the water and enjoyed bug hunting, where they found lots of snails, spiders and even a newt!

















Year 1 on a **geographical field trip** in their local area, posting a letter with the postcode on the way.









Letter posted to **1S** and received by **1M** - learning about post codes in Geography.



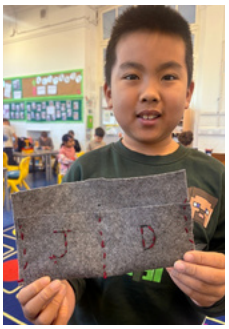


This week in **Year 4**, we have been **learning how to sew!** We practised lots of new stitches, including the running stitch and the crossover stitch. We used our new skills and creativity to make some very awesome wallets. We are so proud of our fantastic sewing and all the hard work everyone has put in!

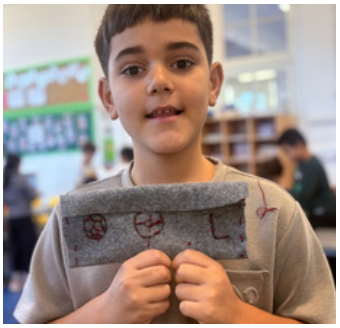
















Year 5 enjoyed a wonderful visit to the **National Gallery,** where they saw paintings by Monet and other Impressionist artists. Seeing these works up close was a special opportunity to bring our art learning to life and gather inspiration for our own Monet-inspired London paintings. We look forward to putting that inspiration onto paper!























This week in **Nursery**, the children began exploring **loose parts construction play**. They were excited to experiment with a range of different materials and resources, using their creativity and imagination to make their own models, including farms, shapes, pictures and campsites. This is a project that will continue to develop and extend throughout the year, with new materials being introduced and the children's own ideas helping to shape the resources available to them. Well done, Nursery! It was a delight to see such wonderful creativity, imagination and brilliant ideas from everyone this week!











Huge congratulations to the **Year 5 and 6 girls' football team**, who recently beat off fierce competition to become Hackney 7 a side champions! They will now represent Hackney in the London wide competition. They represented WP brilliantly, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and excellent football skills. Well done! A big well done too to the boys' team, who reached the quarter-finals and came fifth out of 20 teams. Huge thanks as always to the **best football coach in the world** @bramble.brian, a coach like no other, and to the parents who accompanied the children on the trip. 🏆🙌🏽🙌🏽🙌🏽🏆





Town planning in operation in **Year 1** - exploring OS maps and designing their own town.







Year 2 enjoyed their experience day, **building dens** as part of their work on writing instructions. Focusing on using lots of bossy verbs!!









Over the past two weeks, **Year 6** have been working hard to **program and design their own toy** in Computing. Last week they successfully programmed the Micro:Bit to act as the controller of their toy, and this week they have been busy creating the toy in which the Micro:Bit will fit. An excellent job all round, well done 6A!











The @william_patten_school_ptfa **Bake Sales** are back, much to everyone's delight! **Year 3** have started this year's campaign and had large queues in the sunshine yesterday. The smiles say it all. All money raised will go towards resources and activities for the children. There is a prize for the year group that raises the most money! Will it be Year 3? We will have to wait and see! A huge thank you to everyone who baked cakes, brought cakes, bought cakes and to the fabulous band of volunteers

























We are so lucky to have **Samara** running the **craft and design club for upper KS2**. Thinking of their own designs before transferring to the Cricut machine has proved very popular. Very stylishly decorated water bottles in the first session and now their own card designs. Can't wait to see what's next!











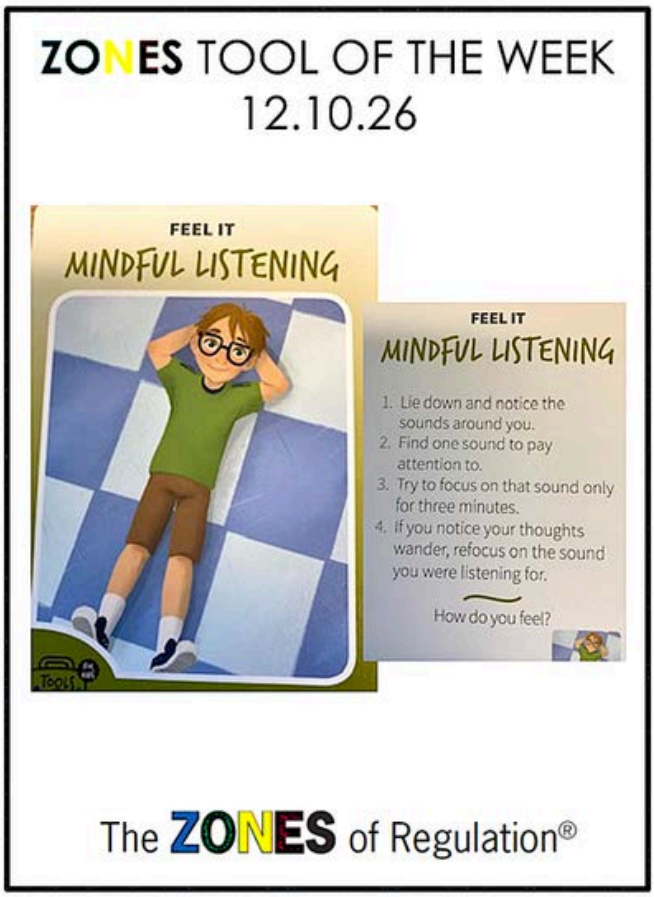






Tool of the Week

Each week we introduce a new Tool of the Week. Posters go up around school and classes practise the new tool and discuss which zone it would be useful for. We will include the new tools in the Patten Pages so you can try them out at home. These are the latest ones:





Neurodiversity Newsletter

The week beginning 5th October was **Dyslexia Awareness Week**. This year's theme was "Dyslexia in real life: at work". This has been a really interesting opportunity where the BDA has heard from many dyslexic adults about the transition between school and work, which can be a very challenging period. Workplaces can be very different from school, and many people shared that the support they had while at school was suddenly gone. The BDA shared new research and a variety of resources for dyslexic adults. Some of the resources included advice for securing reasonable adjustments, using individual strengths at work, and bringing people together to share their experiences and keep the conversation going. It can all be found on the BDA website: https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/



Hackney

Homerton University Hospital NHS

Children's Integrated Speech and Language Therapy Service for Hackney and the City

Makaton for Parents

Beginners Workshop

Dates of course: Wednesdays: January 13th, 20th, 27th and February 3rd 2027

Time: 9.30am-12.30pm Venue: Online

What is Makaton?

Makaton is a language programme which uses gestures and actions alongside speech and symbols or pictures. For many children, Makaton can help support the development of their ability to understand and express themselves. Many people know Makaton from Mr Tumble on CBeebies – 'Something Special'.

What will happen on the course?

On this course, you will learn over 200 signs and symbols and ways in which you can use these at home to help your child. You will also get the chance to meet and share ideas and experiences with other parents.

How long is the course?

The course consists of 4 sessions of 3 hours each. You need to be able to attend all four online sessions. You will receive manuals and a certificate from Makaton Charity, for this accredited Parent Workshop covering Makaton Levels 1 and 2.

Who is the course for?

The course is for parents and carers of children or young people living in Hackney who will benefit from using Makaton to develop their communication. Your child may have additional needs or a communication difficulty and be known to services at the Hackney Ark or Hackney Education.

What do I need to do next?

You will need to contact the Speech and Language Therapy Admin team to tell them you would like to come on this course. **Please call them on 020 7683 4262, or email huh-tr.sltinfo@nhs.net to book your place.** (You may need to leave a message, but leave your name and number and someone will return your call).

Please book your place as soon as possible, as places are limited.

Children's Speech and Language Therapy
SLT Office 6 Orsman Road, N1 5QJ
Telephone 020 7683 4262 • Fax 020 7014 7259 • Email huh-tr.sltinfo@nhs.net

Dates for your diary - November

2nd	Children return to school
2nd	6A Residential trip to Kench Hill
2nd	Year 5 session - Apollo Music Project
4th	Family Coach Parent Empowerment Group
5th	6M 'Beyond the Planets' workshop
6th	Meet and Greet with the PTFA 9.15am
10th	Multiplication meeting (Y4 parents) 9.20am
11th	Family Coach Parent Empowerment Group
13th	Y4 PTFA cake sale 3.30pm
13th	6M class assembly for parents 2.45pm
13th	PTFA Movie NIght for children
16th	Road Safety Week
17th	Anti Bullying performance for Y4-6
18th	6A - Junior Citizenship Scheme
20th	5C class assembly for parents 2.45pm
20th	PTFA social evening for parents
23rd	PTFA Annual General Meeting 7.30pm
23rd	Year 5 session - Apollo Music Project
23rd	Year 6 cycle training
25th	6M - Junior Citizenship Scheme
27th	6A class assembly for parents 2.45pm
30th	Year 6 cycle training



Attendance chart for w/e 16th October

Year group	Attendance
Reception	98.7%
Year5	98.6%
Year4	98.5%
Year6	97.8%
Nursery	97.0%
Year3	96.3%
Year1	96.2%
Year2	95.7%
	Average **97.4%**

Attendance chart for w/e 23rd October

Year group	Attendance
Year6	98.9%
Reception	97.0%
Year5	95.3%
Year4	94.3%
Nursery	94.0%
Year1	93.1%
Year3	92.5%
Year2	89%
	Average **94.3%**

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

Friday 16th October

Nur	Jono and Kitty
RA	Jasper
RH	Max
1M	Alex, Alisha, Cooper, Ozzy, Rudi
1S	David, Leonardo, Scarlett, Amelia, Ellie
2B	Kaia, Miles, Leo, Marley, Noah
2C	Jack, Scarlett, Azad, Rex, Tibet
3A	Joey, Mia, Adam, Mahi, Sebastian
3B	Yousra, Evangeline, Agnes, Finn, Paul
4S	Elia, Taedon, Mabel Blue, Violeta, Paloma
4YC	Sophia, Cedric, Yusuf, Sienna, Lily
5C	Kaouther, Fraser, Ekin, Iris, Deniz
5NS	Coco, Vittoria, Sophia, Owen, Eden
6A	Arthur, Arzu, Jack Q, Kaan, Kimora
6M	Aroz, Sebastian, Anna, Isabella, Aster

Friday 23rd October

Nur	Aiden and Eloise
RA	Victor
RH	Elowen
1M	Jago, Juwayriya, Lina, Tasfiya, Eva
1S	Theo, Callum, Alexander, Reya, Leonardo
2B	Ava, Cece, Sterling, Theo B, Theo L
2C	Ezra S, Wynn, Walter, Azad, Wren
3A	Maleek, Ida, Maizie Belle, Hirokaï, Jessa
3B	Darcey, Pip, Nelson, Ben, Minnie, Kimya
4S	Anita, Nora, Stella, Leonel, Tommaso
4YC	Finlay, Arlo, Nori, Isla, Violet
5C	Ali, Isabelle, Robbie, Bella, Wilfred K
5NS	Aylin, Sophia, Teo, Luqman, Rafe
6A	Suki, Zaina, Jack D, Lucas, Freddie
6M	At Kench Hill



Many happy returns to the children who recently celebrated their special day:
Eva, Naile, Taio, Yahya, Guy, Isla, Fabian, Ana, Bruno, Jago, Oscar, Freddie, Phoenix, Adam, Antonia, Claye and Aria.
Happy birthday everyone!