



Photos from the week

ISA London North Football Finals



Year 1 explorer assembly



Reception enjoying dinosaur stories



Reception enjoy maths outside



Year 2 maths number investigations



Year 2 maths number investigations



ISA London North Football Finals (Under 11 Tournament) League Results

Yesterday, 28 teams competed in the London North finals. There were 4 leagues of 7 teams with the winners and second place qualifying for a place in the quarter-finals.

League A

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| St James Junior 2 | Gateway 0 |
| Grove Independent 1 | Gateway 2 (Jack We, Joe N) |
| Southbank Int A 0 | Gateway 4 (Frank M2, Joe N, Jack We) |
| Swamingnarayan B 0 | Gateway 7 (Frankie M3, Jack We, Zach R, Sam A) |
| Maple Walk 0 | Gateway 3 (Sam A2, Joe N) |
| King Alfred A 1 | Gateway 1 (Frankie M) |



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Mrs La Farge's Blog

I was delighted to see many parents at the Development Review meetings on Wednesday evening. We will, of course, send out to all parents a summary of what was said and a copy of the presentation, which hopefully will bring everyone up to date. I also mentioned that I am hoping to establish a Parent Review Committee and will be sending a letter out about this next week. I also look forward to meeting with parents from Year 4, 5 and 6 on Thursday 22 January at the Internet Safety Meeting. **The meeting will start at 6.30pm.** *This is a change from the published time.*

It feels like we have all settled back into the school routine this week, and the early starts are not such a shock for us all. The pupils have been working hard and are getting into all their new topics for the term. The senior pupils were interested to hear the School Council present the assembly on Monday. They explained their role and the projects and discussions they have been involved in last term. This will help the pupils when selecting their new School Council Reps this term as they will have a good understanding of what is involved. We are also continuing with our work on safer parking and have this week been supported by the police and our Junior Road Safety Officers. Please play your part by making their job easier. [Read more](#)

Early Years Unit

The story we have been focussing on this week is 'Room on the Broom'. During the afternoons the children have enjoyed using the instruments and making noises for the animals and sounds in the story and using loud and quiet voices. Some children have made potions with coloured water and other ingredients, making up rhymes for their magic spell. Theatrical Thursdays brought a fantastic rendition of the book and the children used finger puppets, taking it in turns to speak, using lots of expression. All the children found the confidence to take part.

At home you might like to read the story with your child. They can talk to you about the characters and what happens. If you go on a woodland walk you may like to collect some sticks to build your own broomstick.


Next week's story is Night Monkey Day Monkey.

Reception

This week we have enjoyed listening to the popular story of 'Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs'. We have been really proud of all the Reception children for having a go at retelling the story in their own words, as you will see on our displays in both classrooms. Some beautiful letter formation and sentence structure has been used too, very well done Reception! We have also been outside for some of our maths lessons this week, playing some games, as we have been focussing on ordinal numbers and positioning in the number line. We even used the toy dinosaurs in a running race to see who came first, second, third or fourth.


At home: You might like to focus on counting down from 20 to 0. You could use cuddly toys, cars, dolls and you can encourage your child to write number labels being careful to use correct number formation.

Next week: Reception will be focussing on 'taking away' in both practical and recorded work in numeracy. We will even be hunting for some dinosaur bones too!!

 In French we will concentrate on numbers, colours and animals as well as learning about the custom of '*La galette des Rois*' (Twelfth Night cake).


Year 1

1RR's assembly today was about the explorer Ernest Shackleton. The children found out lots of facts about him for example he was born in 1874 and had 9 brothers and sisters. He tried many times to get to the South Pole and never gave up his dream despite things going wrong. Finally he did make it to the South Pole but his real adventure started on his journey home when his ship became stuck in the ice. The whole class worked together to act out the scenes of Shackleton (Zac C) and his men stuck on an iceberg and their eventual rescue. We all agreed they showed great bravery and determination.

 In French this term Year 1 will discuss fruit and colours and then move on to talk about words for toys and transport.

Year 2

In Year 2 maths this week we did a number investigation into tens and units. The children got into pairs and each pair was given a book with a hundred (or more) pages. They then had to predict how many times the digit "9" would be used. Once predictions had been made each pair worked through their book, noting down any numbers which contained the digit "9" then counted up all the number 9's. In a book with 100 pages there were 20 (99 has two number 9's.) With this information, the children had to predict whether the digit "0" would feature more, less or the same amount of times. Extensive discussion and debate followed but finally, all predictions were made! We then repeated the same process as with the 9's, counting and noting down the number of times the digit 0 featured. In a book with 100 pages there were 11 (100 has two number 0's.) The discussion that followed on from this was WHY? Why from the same amount of numbers were there so many more 9's than 0's. The children realised that 9 featured in the tens digit of a number as well as in the units, while the 0 did not. The children thoroughly enjoyed this investigation!!

 In French this term Year 2 are going to learn numbers, as well as discussing various food and drink preferences (including fruit and colours).

Year 3

This week we have enjoyed reading *The Stained Glass Window* by Penelope Lively. We thought about how desperate the Knight must have felt when he received his orders from the Baron to leave his home and family to go on a Crusade. We thought about the style of writing that the Baron's summons would have used and wrote our own orders. We have learnt a lot about the Crusades and why people from our country were sent on them in the Middle Ages. In Topic we have been learning about how the first castles in England were wooden motte and bailey castles. Later these were replaced by stone keeps and then by concentric castles.

In drama the children enjoyed developing their miming skills. They particularly enjoyed miming the actions of a famous person arriving on the red carpet at an award ceremony. Great creativity and humour was shown!

At home a visit to Berkhamsted Castle would be an interesting weekend activity. It is a very good example of a motte and bailey castle and, although ruined, gives a good impression of the lay-out of an early Medieval castle.

Next week we will be starting to look at adventure stories. We will be looking at several examples of the genre and the techniques authors use to build up suspense. Your children will be asked to give examples of adventure stories that they have enjoyed reading and give reasons for their answers. It would be very helpful if you could discuss this with them. Thank you.

Year 4

Year 4 have had a busy week with many highlights! We have been continuing our investigations about natural disasters, thinking about flooding and volcanoes. An eruption on the seabed near Tonga has provided thought-provoking discussion as the children watched in awe the tremendous force of water that the eruption produced.



In English, we have looked at features most commonly found in explanation texts, and then used a new iPad app to record and discuss our findings on post-its.

During their investigations in science, looking at different solids and liquids and noting their properties, 4EH really enjoyed mixing custard powder and water together and tried to work out if the mixture was a solid or a liquid. They liked the phrase 'a non-Newtonian liquid' and were amazed to see a clip on youtube showing someone walking on a pool of custard!

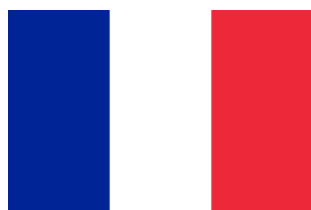
This week please could you help your child to learn division facts for their tables so that they can recall them speedily.

Year 5

Year 5 have been busy designing and advertising their own products. Their challenge was to invent any product that might come in a 500ml plastic bottle. Their ideas ranged from moisturisers (for old wrinkly types!) to shampoos to instant pancake mix to fruit drinks. They have really enjoyed creating their brand and label and are now set to write an advert to seduce the public into purchasing their product. They have discussed the persuasive techniques used by advertisers and now feel well prepared to resist their methods. This means you as parents will never again be asked to buy something that the children have seen on television or in a paper - well, maybe!

In French this term Year 5 will be studying and learning their respective French poems. A candidate from each year group will be chosen to represent Gateway at the annual, regional French Verse Speaking Festival held at St. Mary's School, Gerrard's Cross in March. Year 5 will also be concentrating on French for dates (numbers/days/months) and activities and hobbies.

Year 6



In French this term Year 6 will be studying and learning their respective French poems. A candidate from each year group will be chosen to represent Gateway at the annual, regional French Verse Speaking Festival held at St. Mary's School, Gerrard's Cross in March.

Meanwhile language topics will include: where we live (town/shops/directions) and 'My day at school'. They will also be sending a second letter to their new French pen-pals.

Holiday Care Club Manager Vacancy

Enthusiastic, resourceful and motivated person required to lead and manage a well established and successful holiday care club on school site (school holiday periods only) for pupils aged 3 - 11.

The suitable candidate will hold a relevant NVQ3 (or above) qualification, and ideally have prior experience. A current first aid qualification would be desirable but not essential as training will be provided. The individual will need the ability to plan and engage in activities relevant to the age group of the children and work closely with parents, the school office, and other members of staff

The suitable candidate will benefit from an attractive rate of pay.

Further details, job description and application form are available on our website to download or from Mrs Berni Taylor, email: recruitment@gatewaysch.co.uk or telephone 01494 862407.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon Friday 23 January 2015
Interviews will be held week commencing Monday 26 January 2015.

*Gateway School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. **All offers of employment are subject to references and an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check.***

Holiday Club February Half Term

Holiday Club will be running from Monday 16 - Friday 20 February.

Cost £38.00 per day, £150.00 per week.

10 per cent discount applicable if you sign up before 2 February.

Forms are available from the website or the school office.

From the Office

Diary Dates

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|----------------------------|---|
| Thursday 22 January | Year 2 visit to Mandir; Parents Internet Safety Meeting (Year 4, 5 and 6 parents) 6.30pm-7.30pm |
| Friday 23 January | Year 1 visit to Barnados, Great Missenden |
| Saturday 24 January | ISA National Swimming Gala - London Aquatic Centre; Cross country, Hervines |
| Thursday 29 January | Year 4 visit to Natural History Museum |
| Monday 9 February | Ski trip meeting 6pm-7pm |

Forms

Parents are reminded to return the Acceptable Use Policy signed by both parent and child. If you are unsure if you have returned a form or would like another copy, please contact the school office. Thank you.

Request from Art Department

In preparation for our 'Take One Picture' project the Art Department are in need of a few items. If parents could kindly send in any of the following it would be greatly appreciated:

500g cereal boxes
polystyrene pizza box bases
deep plastic lids from bottles- eg on Flash and other cleaning bottles
Coloured magazines

Urgent - Ski Trip Payment Final Reminder

The final payment for the ski trip is due today. Parents and children are invited to attend an information meeting in the hall on Monday 9 February from 6pm-7pm.

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