



Newsletter—March 2020

Headteacher's report

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our end of term newsletter, a slightly different one than originally planned but still packed full of the amazing learning opportunities that took place before 20th March. We hope that this will lift everyone's spirits and remind us all of the incredible learning that takes place at Dalmain. We will be back, and the exceptional learning will continue!

One of the highlights of this half term has to be the **Climate Emergency exhibition** that took place on 12th and 13th March. After months of preparations, we were able to marvel at the progress made across the school, to appreciate the different techniques used and to have our breath taken away by the phenomenal standards of work produced by our young artists. A huge thank you and well done to Mr Roberts for leading this inspirational and hugely moving project, and to Miss Robinson, the staff & Premises Teams, and a number of parents for their support in getting everything ready for the final exhibition. What a triumph!

We also have to say a huge thank you to the school's incredible team of staff who went above and beyond to prepare for the **school closure** at incredibly short notice, and who have continued to either provide essential care for the children in school or to work diligently at home. Despite the turbulence of the days running up to 20th March, the staff showed immense resilience, patience and empathy, and maintained the utmost professionalism and care for our children and families when they were also experiencing the emotions, worry and illnesses that so many of us have felt. Across all departments, their commitment to Dalmain and the



wider community cannot be praised highly enough. Thank you to the staff Team – you are extraordinary!

On page 7 there is some information about next term's **home learning**—please take the time to read about the weekly learning topics that will be in place next term.

Website Updates

We created a new section of the school's website to centralise all of the updates for parents and carers – this can be found under News & Dates / Coronavirus Updates. We will continue to send out any letters via ParentMail but please do also

check here for weekly updates such as our Well-being Wednesday posts. Each Wednesday, we will post new resources that can be used to support families to come together when faced with unexpected challenges and stresses, such as being asked to self-isolate, and to develop an understanding of the emotional impact of a situation such as this. Everyone will be feeling the extreme stress of these unprecedented circumstances and we hope that the school can provide remote support for the whole family. Please keep checking the website for regular updates.

Just in case anyone feels they need extra support in these difficult times, there are some **useful numbers** on page 13.

We did not have the chance to select our **Writing Laureates** for this half term before the school closed but I know that there was a plethora of incredible writing work across the school that pupils and staff were exceptionally proud of. While working at home, we hope that the children will continue to utilise the skills they have learned so far this year and to apply a range of high-quality vocabulary to their project based work.

Finally, we hope that all the parents and carers, pupils and staff have a safe, happy and healthy Easter holiday. Please keep focusing on the positive steps that we can take to play our part, in whatever way this is, and to keep looking after our own well-being in these times of unease. The Dalmain Community is incredible and we are here for each other throughout this experience. Take care and I very much hope to see you all soon!

Best wishes,
Ms Eisele, Headteacher

Cashless payments: from September 2020 Dalmain will become a cashless school. To make it easier for parents and carers to make payments, as well as ParentMail and PayPoint we can now also accept card payments. We are more than happy to support parents and carers as we transition to being cashless – please speak to a member of the Office Team.

Year 3/4 Active Literacy FitFest

By Aurelia & Sohan, Jemison class

As we left school we still had no clue what we had let ourselves in for ... all we knew was it was going to combine Sport and English and be fun!

As we walked into Prendergast Ladywell sports hall we were excited to see what was in store. Around the hall there was a lot of sports equipment and activities set up, there were also lots of words and letters on the floor. After a warm up, we were put in groups and sent to different activities. We had to use our sports skills to get over benches and through hoops, and our English skills to quickly find and spell words.

My favourite activity was the Homophone hunt, where we had to look at a picture and choose the correct spelling. Each spelling gave us a new location to go to in the hall, so we had to be careful to get it right or we would go to the wrong place!!

Another of our favourite activities was the Simile hunt; we had to do so much running in this game. We were put into



four teams and got ready for battle! There was a hoop in the middle filled with lots of words, which had similar meanings, one at a time we ran to the middle and picked a word. Then our next team

member had to find a word with a similar meaning. This was only round one! Afterwards other teams were able to steal our similes; this was really frantic and exciting.

It was a busy afternoon; we definitely had fun and practised our English skills. We were shattered when we got back to school but would love to do it all again.

Year 3/4 Football Festival

By Eli, Yousafzai class, & Dylan, Kahlo class

On 27th February we played in a football tournament with five other schools; it was at the Jubilee Ground in Catford.

We played each team once hoping that we would have a win and get three points; if we drew, we would get one point, and there were no points for a loss. We were very nervous as for some of us it was our first time playing for Dalmain.

In the first match, we beat Perrymount 6-0, after that we were feeling very happy and our nerves had gone. Game two we played Fairlawn and we won again, this time 3-0. Next, we played St

Mary's and continued our winning streak; the final score was 3-1.

We had one last match to play - it was the decider. We were top of the table but Rathfern was close behind us, there were only 2 points between us. To make it more exciting our next match was against Rathfern! We needed a draw or a win to be the overall champions.

Rathfern scored early in the match and were leading the game 1-0, however in the last minutes Robbie was outside the area with an open goal and scored! This made the final score 1-1 and Dalmain were crowned the Champions!

We really enjoyed our afternoon and can't wait to play another competition.



Lewisham Live Dance

By George & Lacey, Weiwei class



On the evening of 4th March, Year 5 pupils danced to a packed house at the impeccable and incredible Catford Broadway Theatre.

It was an astounding day. We had been building up to it for weeks, practising and

'EXTINCTION' with different parts of our body.

On the morning of the big show, we got to rehearse on the stage. When we walked in and saw the theatre everyone shrieked in delight, and when we first stepped

practising with our dance teacher, Wendy from Trinity Laban. The theme of our dance was the climate emergency, and we showed this by gathering (and melting) as an iceberg. We also spelt out the word

onto the stage, we felt like professional dancers and we realised we would have to dance in front of a big audience.

Then the big night arrived. We went to the backstage dressing rooms. We felt important. It was great to actually enter a professional dressing room.

And then it was time. We went out and danced our hearts out. The sound of the applause felt like it was the loudest cheer of the night!

It was an amazing and memorable experience, and one we'll remember for the rest of our lives.

Year 6 Junior Citizen Event

By Thunberg Class

On Thursday 12th March, Year 6 pupils took part in a Junior Citizenship Event at Lee Green Fire station.

The event is run every year and through interactive sessions aims to provide important messages about personal safety.

Throughout the morning, we moved around various workshops (drug awareness, internet safety, TFL and road safety) at the fire station and we learned about how to keep ourselves safe in different situations, such as: knowing



what to do if you had a fire in your house and how to wait safely for a bus or tube. The fire brigade taught us the phrase, "Go out, stay out and call the fire brigade out." We also learned that you shouldn't go or walk off with people you don't know.

It was a great event, and all the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and have learned vital skills that will help keep safe in the future.

Inclusive multiskills

By Jaydon, Mary, Carlton, Renee, & Daniela

On Wednesday 12th February, a group of us went to Sydenham Girls School for a multiports festival. We took a bus and went into the school. It was huge! There were lots of children from different schools. Graham was the Sports Leader and there were also Year 10 girls from the school there to help us.

As we arrived early, we had time to play with the equipment before it started. Graham blew his whistle and we were sorted into teams. Each team had 10 minutes on each piece of equipment; hockey, wheelchair basketball, netball, beanbag in a hoop, stacking cups, boccia and curling. We all had a great time and headed back to school.



Climate Emergency Art Exhibition

By Katia, Thunberg class

Over the Spring Term Dalmain have been doing an art project based on climate change. The art work children created varied from making sculptures to painting. All year groups took part in the Climate Crisis art and we all very much enjoyed it. My favourite part was a planet made by year 6, it was a world with hands in acrylic paint and recycled cardboard with hands prints from year 6 symbolising how we all need to work together. we practiced lots of skills we learned in Autumn including painting with pallet knives and sculpting.



By Louis, Thunberg class

Since January, the children of Dalmain have been doing art based on the current climate crisis. Every single year group took part from Nursery to Year 6. The topics varied from 'There is no Planet B' to 'Extinction' looking at animals who's homes are being destroyed. Before we started we researched and learned about the importance of reversing global warming, this led us onto the work we produced for the exhibition. Students deeply enjoyed taking part and Year 6 enjoyed creating cardboard worlds. We learned lots of new skills including construction and sculpture techniques, experimenting with layers of materials and using and mixing with the pallet knives. A particular favourite of mine was a sculpture of an elephant from year 4.

Year 5 Extinction Rebellion workshops

By Turing class

After lunch on Friday 6th March, two people from Extinction Rebellion came to speak to our class about the Climate Crisis. The guests were pretty impressed with our understanding of the environment and the dangers of burning fossil fuels and dependence on single-use plastic.

We worked on some team building tasks, which at first we struggled with, but soon

were able to carry out without even uttering a word. Following this, we were shown images of local and national protests.

The DISCObedience protest in Cornwall looked both fun and powerful: a flash mob of dancers, who were concerned about the environment - having just performed at Lewisham Live, we knew exactly what to do! Without

hesitation, we recreated our own 'DISCObedience' protest in the hall. It involved a funeral march for nature, Big Ben's chimes and a call to rise up—it was all very dramatic!

To finish, we were taught some chants that the organisation uses at protests and we left the workshop with raised spirits and motivation to save our planet. Power to the people!

Extinction Rebellion Assembly

By Kamkwamba class

As part of our climate change exhibition, we had a special visitor from 'Extinction Rebellion' come into school to do an assembly.

'Extinction Rebellion' is a global environmental movement which uses nonviolence to make people and the government listen.

We learned that the organisation uses a circled hourglass, known as the extinction symbol, to serve as a warning that time is running out for many



species. We learned about why these animals are endangered and about how we are putting our world at risk. We looked at how we can help and save our world.

Here are some top tips:

- Be a conscious consumer
- Make less Co2
- Raise awareness
- Recycle, reuse and reduce.

School Council trip to Catford

By Lacey, Jude, Aurelia & Tilly, School Councillors

On Friday 28th February, School Council went to Catford Civic Suite. We travelled by bus and other schools joined us at there.

When we arrived, we met a young advisor who gave us a quiz to do, a special pack that included the Lewisham and Deptford crest, and information about Lewisham's greatest treasures. In the lounge area, we took some pictures with the three maces of Lewisham. We then entered the council chamber and we had to debate different scenarios.

We were given a motion, which means topic, for example, "Should teachers also wear school uniform to school?" When we were responding, we had to stand in different parts of the council chamber. You had to stand on the left if you agree, in the middle if you are not certain, and to the right if you disagree. Once we made our decision, the speaker then chose a child from each section to explain why they had decided to stand there. This was interesting because we got to hear different point of views and some children changed their minds when

they heard a different perspective. We learned how important it was to listen and respond.

After that activity, we sat in our school groups. Our next activity was to decide, if we were the council how would we spend a budget of £25,000. We had to come up with top three priorities where the money would be spent. We decided that most of the money should go to housing as most people are homeless, also if children become homeless they will not able to have a happy school life. They will have bad grades and when they get older they will not be able to get a job and pay for a home and they might become homeless as well.

Second on the list was schools. We wanted money to go to schools because schools need resources. If the school does not have enough resources, children will not be able to learn and get a good job.

Our third choice was having more parks. We need more parks for everyone in the community to enjoy with more wildlife and plants.

We had a great time and had lots of fun, especially when we had to speak to the chamber.



This half term's achievements

Alfie M	Taekwondo junior green grade
Arthur J	Jujitsu orange belt
Ben C	Jujitsu yellow belt
Chiana MH	Rainbows Agility badge
Elizabeth F	Tang Soo Do yellow belt
Enes D	Swimming stage 3
Gus BW	Awarded a scholarship by Surrey County Cricket Club on their African Caribbean Engagement Programme
Henry B	Completed his 100th 5km Park Run!
Iden D	Jujitsu orange belt & Ballet Grade 2
Lev A	Swimming stage 3
Miller BD	Jujitsu orange belt
Sam F	Tang Soo Do orange belt
Sharna C	Grace 2 violin with Distinction
Tom B	Completed his 10th 5km Park Run
William M	Swimming 25m badge
Zoe C	Swimming stage 4



Above: construction of our new 'chill out zone' in the playground

Eat Them to Defeat Them

This term we have been taking part in "Eat Them To Defeat Them", a campaign to encourage children to eat more vegetables.

Evil vegetables are plotting to take over the world and our hero children had to march into battle to save humanity from the veg—they had to eat them to defeat them!

In classrooms and in the lunch hall, we have been using learning, play and fun to get children excited about



tasting vegetables. We were amazed by how enthusiastically children took up the challenge!

Starting with carrots in the first week and moving on to peas, sweetcorn and broccoli, children filled in a reward chart and collected stickers each time they ate a vegetable.

Sadly the campaign was interrupted by the school closure, but we hope children are continuing to eat their veg at home!

Jemison class assembly

By Esther & Lina, Jemison Class

This term, our class assembly was about risk taking which is one of our school values. We thought hard about how we could show the school how you need to take a risk in order to achieve our dreams. At first, we weren't sure then we realised that all the people that we look up to and admire in our world have all taken risks throughout their lives. We thought about who we admire and why we admire them. Look at Stormzy, Greta

Thunberg, Serena Williams and Malala Yousafzai. We asked the school what was so special about all these people. We shared their stories and we asked pupils to consider the risks they took, and the impact they have made. We left the school with this message, 'the magic happens outside your comfort zone.'



Kamkwamba class assembly

By Alfie & Alice, Kamkwamba class

We had our class assembly about one of the school values. Can you guess what is from these words? They all mean the same thing but in different languages. Ami (French), Amic (Italian), Amigo (Spanish & Portuguese), Tomdachi (Japanese), Doust (Hindi), Yaar (Urdu), Mik (Albanian), Rafiki (Swahili) and Jingu (Korean). The theme of our assembly was 'Friendship.'

As a class we made a recipe for what characteristics are needed to be a good friend and shared this with the school. We also showed the children photos of staff and



pupils at Dalmain and the beautiful friendships they've made.

We looked at unusual friendships in animals which taught the whole school that everyone can be friends even though they are different because we are all special.

We performed the song 'Count on me' by Bruno Mars covered by our talented class mate Aaliyah and her back up dancers Alice and Akeelah. We then finished by telling everyone to smile at someone new today because a smile is a friendship token.

Spring bulbs competition

Congratulations to the following children who were awarded certificates for growing Spring bulbs:

Gold

Elise H
Hassan S (x2)
Isla J (x2)
Jasper B
Leo B

Musa K (x2)
Nina W
Oliver H
Shasvatha (x2)
Zachary M (x2)

Silver

Freddie F (x2)
Musa K
Robin B
Shasvatha (x4)

Bronze

Naomi S
Oscar B

Congratulations also to the Nursery who were awarded a Gold certificate for their bulbs.



Kahlo class assembly

By Esther & Lucy, Kahlo class

ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE –
TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH

Our class assembly this term was all about collaboration. Collaboration means working as a team together, which is exactly what we did. Mr Gwinnett didn't give us much time to prepare for the assembly but Ms Rose said we did a magnificent job.

We started off by telling the story of the Apollo 13 mission to the moon. Thanks to collaboration, it narrowly avoided being a total disaster. The astronauts had to fly in a damaged ship and work together with ground control and the navy to get back to Earth safely.

We talked about the importance of us all working together to save our world in these troubled times. Together we can make a difference in helping solve climate crisis. In class, we have also been talking about coronavirus and how we



must all look after each other even if it from a distance.

We finished our assembly with a song called Come Together produced by one of Mr Gwinnett's favourite artists called Andy Weatherall who sadly passed away this year.

We wrote some different lyrics to it:

When we work as a class, it helps everyone,

We leave no one behind, we're a fantastic team.

When we work as a school, we're as strong as can be,

United we stand and together we strive.

Come together as one, come together as one.

Please everyone, look after each other and your community. Work together and stay safe.

Home Learning from 20 April onwards

Families will have received a letter about the home learning plans we have put in place for after Easter. We will be sending out a weekly topic and suggested activities for children to complete every week. The plans will be sent to you via ParentMail in addition to being saved on the school's website under Online Learning. Please note that, apart from the platforms such as SumDog that we already use, we will not be setting online learning as we do not have the systems in place to safely enable this.

For Term 5 Week 1, the whole school topic will be Plants and you will have

received the same activities that can be adapted depending on your child's age. From Week 2, pupils will receive their own year group specific plan within the whole school weekly topic which will include a range of subjects including maths and English. There may be slight variations each week, depending on the weekly topic, but we hope that there is something for as many of you as possible to have fun with! Each week, we will include suggestions for activities that you can do alongside your children as well as those that they can complete independently.

Given the uncertain circumstances that some families may be facing at home, we do not expect children to complete all of the work but it would be great if they could complete some work in the exercise books provided so that we can share this together when we return to school. If children would like to show their work to their teacher, we would love to see it. Although this is not compulsory, children can email their work to admin@damain.lewisham.sch.uk as we would be delighted to see what you have been up to at home!

Collecting Mother's Day Treats for Little Village

This term, we have been supporting the charity Little Village and their Mother's Day campaign. We have been collecting donations of toiletry treats that are given as gifts to the mums that Little Village sees. Last year's collection meant that every mum seen during the year by Little Village received a gift. They would love to be able to achieve the same again this year.

Many of the mums Little Village supports don't see themselves as a priority – their money is spent paying for essentials like bills, food and items for their children. So, Little Village always tries to give a gift for mums in the bundles of clothes, toys



and equipment for the babies and children – a treat that's just for them.

If you haven't been able to donate yet, there is still time. Pop your gifts into the tub in reception, which will be there until Friday 18 April. Unopened toiletry, hair and make up treats would all be very welcome, whether that's shower gel, shampoo, body lotion, hand cream or nail varnish – but no candles please!

You can find out more about our local Little Village hub and the work they do by visiting Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/littlevillagesouthwark/> - or their website at <https://littlevillagehq.org>. Thank you for your support!

Year 1 trip to the Albany Theatre

By Miss Rowse

Year 1 went to the Albany theatre in Deptford to see 'The Little Prince'. It was a super performance with impressive special effects and a very clever use of puppetry. Here is what some of the children had to say about it:



'I like the bit at the end where all the trees came back' – Olive M.

'I liked the windy sandstorm' – Bonnie.

'I liked when the engineer got to fly again' – Nina.

'I liked the part when the tree grew' – Ronnie.

Even though the children had to sit still for over an hour then get on a long coach ride home, their behaviour and engagement was fantastic.



Tickets provided through *A Theatre Trip for Every Child, Lewisham*: a new giving scheme to provide a free theatre ticket for every five year old in the Borough of Lewisham. 'Every Child' enables businesses and individuals to give a local child the chance to experience the magic of theatre.

These tickets were provided through L&Q's generous founding sponsorship for the campaign.



Year 3 trip to the Science Museum

By Seren & Leah, Kahlo Class

On 13th February Year 3 went on a trip to the Science Museum in London. We went on a massive coach which was a real treat. Annoyingly, it was a little late so Mr Gwinnett made us do a maths lesson. We were very cross with him!

When we got there, we went straight up to the top of the museum and had lunch. We sat underneath some lovely pictures drawn by Quentin Blake. He is the artist who illustrated most of Roald Dahl's Books. We also got to look at some rather cool inventions: a multitude of mirrors which reflected us in weird ways and a ginormous tube that created echoes.

Before you knew it, it was time to go into the Wonderlab. It was soooooo much fun. There were all kinds of activities – all

linked to different scientific concepts. The highlight was the friction slide. We had to queue for ages but it was worth it. There were electricity, water and light experiments, a mist machine and other exciting rides.

When our time in the Wonderlab was over, we had a walk with our little groups on the ground floor and saw all sorts of machines: planes, rockets, steam engines, cars... Somebody in our class (who shall not be named) managed to drop his packed lunch in a speed boat. Luckily, our teacher was able to get it out.

All too soon, it was time to go back to school but we'd had a great time—and we got to travel back in style in our luxury coach!



Year 3 trip to Creekside



By Walter & Amalia, Kahlo class

As part of our Geography topic this term, Year 3 went to the Creekside Discovery Centre in Deptford. It was a miserable, wet day and we got drenched. Despite this we managed to have an amazing day. We applied lots of the geographical skills we'd learnt in class such as map reading, using compasses and grid references. We used a map and key to get to the mouth of the river. We also looked at

the river at a low and high tide. It was fascinating.

When we got back from our walk we had a workshop and we learnt about the history of Deptford and some of the factories that used to be there such as slaughter houses, Blacksmiths, ship yards and a pottery factory. We looked at some artefacts which had been dumped into

the river from these factories. Around the centre there were lots of artefacts which the workers had found in the river when the tide was low such as mobile phones, mannequins, a motorbike, scooters and shoes.

It taught about how important it is to not pollute and look after our environment!

Club dates—Summer 2020

Clubs will run during the weeks listed. Please would you make a note of the weeks when clubs are running, and of the weeks when there will be no clubs.

*08/05/20 – Bank holiday – these Friday clubs will take place on Friday 24 April instead

** Additional date for dance Summer 2020: TBC

Summer 1 (before half term)	Summer 2 (after half term)
27/04/20 – 01/05/20	08/06/20 – 12/06/20
04/05/20 – 07/05/20 *	15/06/20 – 19/06/20
11/05/20 – 15/05/20	6/07/20 – 10/07/20
18/05/20 – 22/05/20	13/07/20 – 17/07/20

LGBT History Month

By Takumi & Ella, Yousafzai class

LGBT History Month started back in 2014, and like every year it was marked this year in an assembly at Dalmain. Its purpose is to give recognition to the struggle for rights of people who identify as lesbian, gay, bi or trans. These people are starting to get the rights they deserve. In the past, however, you could be arrested or persecuted.

For example, the great scientist Alan Turing was persecuted just for being gay. Turing heroically decoded German messages in the Second World War. If he hadn't done this, the war could have gone on for another two years, costing thousands of lives. Tragically, Turing eventually ate a poisoned apple in order to end his suffering. The logo used by



Apple today is inspired by Turing's story.

In 2012, people protested for the right to be gay or lesbian, and this is how LGBT History Month started. It is a rainbow of different identities. They are all different, but they have all suffered discrimination and all want to celebrate their identity. In our assembly, we watched a clip from the movie Pride. A gay character was told that being gay was 'disgusting' on the street. Can you imagine how you would feel if this happened to you? Sadly, this still happens in some parts of the world, including in this country.

We learned that being LGBT is fine. It's just the way you are. The important thing is how we treat each other.

School meal & Breakfast Club costs—Summer term

BREAKFAST CLUB COSTS

Period	No. of days	Total cost
First half term 21/4/20 – 22/5/20	23	£69
Second half term 2/6/20 – 21/7/20	36	£108
Whole term 21/4/20 – 21/7/20	59	£177

SCHOOL MEAL COSTS

Period	No. of days	Total cost
First half term 21/4/20 – 22/5/20	23	£52.90
Second half term 2/6/20 – 21/7/20	36	£82.80
Whole term 21/4/20 – 21/7/20	59	£135.70

Nursery update

Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday)

We were thrilled and delighted to have Miss Carol assisting us with our annual pancake day celebration in the nursery. The children were very keen to help with the preparation and thoroughly enjoyed their pancakes.



Spring has sprung in our Nursery garden.

During the autumn term the children planted a range of bulbs in our nursery garden. They also came up with some ingenious ways of preventing the squirrels from eating and digging up our bulbs. They carried out daily checks to ensure they were intact and replanted any uprooted bulbs. Our diligence paid off when we were awarded gold certificates for our efforts.



Demolition Team

During the high winds our Wendy house sustained damage and had to be demolished. We all had a smashing time as we broke the house into small fragments. The children would not stop until they were satisfied that all the pieces were swept up and disposed of in our bins: a job well done by all involved. Here are some of their comments:

Rohan: "I have big muscles and I can use a real screw driver."

Hameed: "We are the demolition boys."

Elijah: "We are determined dolphins!"



Scaffolding

We never miss an opportunity to introduce the children to new learning experiences. This month Mrs. Golding took the children out in the playground to watch the scaffolding being erected. They were inspired to erect their own scaffolding around objects and a whole project developed which continued throughout the week.



World Book Day

Our children have developed a passion for books, and stories are an integral part of our day. World Book Day created an opportunity for them to dress as their favourite characters and share their books with the class.



Writing Week

Our dramatic introduction to our focus book, the Promise, did not quite go according to plan. We had hoped that the children would notice that all the displays and work surfaces were covered in dark paper and all staff were wearing dark coloured clothing. We assumed that this would trigger their curiosity, resulting in a barrage of questions, but this was not the case. ... I can only conclude that the fact that neither the children nor the parents noticed anything different is a testament to our usually cheerful and vibrant environment.

All was not lost though: the first reading of the story evoked strong comments and the children had an understanding of the underlying themes and messages within the book. Here are some of their comments:

Frankie: "It made me feel bad, that picture"

Fred: "Stealing is sad. It means you go to people's house and take things that don't belong to you."

Kamai: "He's trying to snatch the bag. She doesn't let go, she said, let go!"

We had lengthy discussions about the importance of sharing and being part of a community. We are pleased that our children continue to be curious and eager to have new experiences.

Well done Marley class!

SUMMER TERM DATES 2019-2020

2020	Summer Term		
		Tuesday 21 April	Friday 22 May
1 day closure for May Bank Holiday on Friday 8 May 2020			
	Half term	Monday 25 May	Friday 29 May
		Tuesday 2 June	Tuesday 21 July

INSET – Teacher Training Days

Monday 20 April

Monday 1 June

CONFIRMED TERM DATES 2020-2021

		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY
2020	Autumn Term		
		Monday 7 September	Friday 23 October
	Half term	Monday 26 October	Friday 30 October
		Monday 2 November	Friday 18 December
2021	Spring Term		
		Tuesday 5 January	Friday 12 February
	Half Term	Monday 15 February	Friday 19 February
		Monday 22 February	Wednesday 31 March
2021	Summer Term	Easter Holidays	
		Monday 19 April	Friday 28 May
1 day closure for May Bank Holiday on Monday 3 May 2021			
	Half term	Monday 31 May	Friday 4 June
		Tuesday 8 June	Friday 23 July

INSET – Teacher Training Days

Wednesday 2 September, Thursday 3 September, Friday 4 September

Monday 4 January

Monday 7 June

Attendance

By Miss Kirsten, Attendance Officer

Our target for this year is 97%

Year to date (to 20/03/20): **95.45%**

Spring term attendance (to 20/03/20): **93.7%**

Spring 1 (to 14 February 2020): **96.58%**

Spring 2 (to 20 March 2020): **89.35%**

Because the school has had to close temporarily as a result of Covid-19, our attendance is understandably low this term, as lots of children were self-isolating before the school was officially closed. However if we look at where we were at the end of Spring 1 in February it is clear that we were almost on target! I

am sure that once we are all happily back in school and into our usual routines, we will all make our best effort not just to meet our target but improve on it.

Well done to **Kamkwamba Class** who have the highest attendance this year so far with **98.17%**

A special congratulations to **Hawking Class** who have the best punctuality in the school so far this year, with only 42 minutes of lateness since September.

Once we all return to school, we will continue to monitor absence and punctuality very closely, and we hope that parents and carers will work with us to

continue to improve our attendance rates.

If you have any questions about attendance or punctuality please speak to me or a member of the school office team.

Here's a little bit of good news and something for us all to be proud of: last year, the London Borough of Lewisham was better than National, London and Inner London (our benchmark) in **all areas of attendance and persistent absence!** We came second only to Hackney... so let's aim to beat Hackney in next year's figures and come first!

USEFUL NUMBERS:

Childline: 0800 1111

Samaritans: 116 123

Domestic Violence Hotline: 0808 2000 247

Mind: 0300 123 3393

Age UK: 0800 169 6565

La Leche League: 0345 1202918 (for mums struggling to get formula milk)

World Book Day

By Rawda & Kyla, Rapinoe class



Every year in March, World Book Day is celebrated all across the world. On the 5th March everybody came together to celebrate how much we love stories.

This year a person from each class was chosen to stand up in assembly and tell everybody about their favourite book and explain their choice - they were awarded a prize.

We spent time in class listening to everybody's presentations which was really enjoyable.

The wonders of World Book Day are that you can share things about your book, and you have the opportunity to dress up as a character. This inspires people to be anything they desire.

Later in the day, we heard the Drop Everything and Read tannoy which was a great surprise!

Writing Week

On the week beginning Monday 16th March, it was Dalmain School's Writing Week! This year, the book we were focusing on was called 'The Promise' written by Nicola Davies. It tells the tale of a young girl living in a mean, old city until one day she makes a discovery (a bag of acorns) that changes her life and the lives of others for generations to come.

The story is inspired by the belief that a relationship with nature is essential to all human beings. This is a topic very close to our hearts here at Dalmain School.

We started the week with an assembly with a special visitor. She was a time traveller who had travelled back from the year 2120! She told us about her friend, the old oak tree and how a child in our school would find an acorn in August and plant it which would then become tree!

We also had some exciting workshops on Monday and Tuesday where we were able to explore the book further using drama and props. This helped us to create some fantastic writing based on the book.





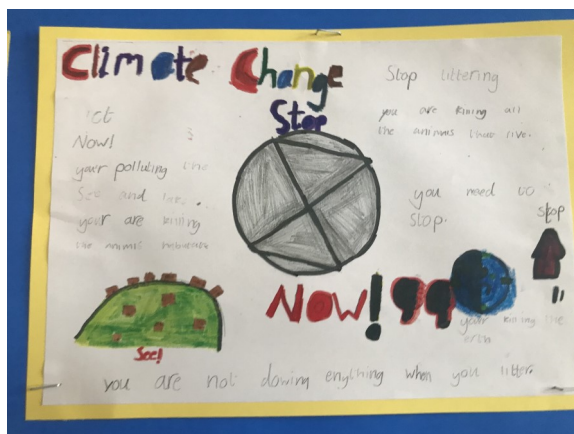
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Geography competition winners

By Ms Udoyen



In addition to the amazing Climate Emergency art exhibition, Dalmain pupils were asked to create a piece that would also highlight a climate geography word.

We had so many amazing pieces, from poems, posters, songs and raps. And this was all whittled down to 4 winners. The winners were Thea (Hawking), Lakeland (Rowling), Shasvatha and Kyla. (Rapinoe)

Well done to all the children that created work and entered the competition; this was a very difficult decision to make. I am so proud of the amazing effort that all children demonstrated.

Provisional dates for your diary

Please note that we will not be able to confirm any of these dates until we know when pupils will be returning to school.

Friday 3 April	15.15	Break up for Easter holiday
Monday 20 April		INSET Day – children not in school
Tuesday 21 April	08.45	Start of Summer term
Friday 8 May		VE Day Bank Holiday
Mon 11 – Thurs 14 May		Year 6 SATs Week
Monday 18 May		Year 4 plastics & recycling workshops
Mon 18–Fri 22 May		Walk to School Week
Weds 20 May		Year 5 Metropolitan Police workshops
Tuesday 19 May		Y5/6 kwik cricket
Thursday 21 May		Year 5/6 Mini Orange tennis tournament
Friday 22 May	15.00	FoD Cake Sale
Mon 25 – Fri 29 May		Summer half term
Monday 1 June		INSET day – children not in school
Thursday 4 June		Y3/4 mini Red tennis tournament
		Y3/6 to Bright Sparks concert
Friday 12 June		FoD Own Clothes Day
Monday 15 June	13.00	Y3/4 kwik cricket festival
Wednesday 17 June	10.00	Reception Welcome Morning
Thursday 18 June		Play street event
Saturday 20 June		FoD Summer Fair
Mon 22 – Fri 26 June		Year 4 Naturesbase camping trip
Friday 3 July		Sports Day
Monday 6 July	15.30	FoD AGM
Tuesday 7 July	09.15	Ensemble performances
	10.15	Music Concert (soloists & small groups)
	14.15	Open Afternoon & report collection
Thursday 9 July	16.00	Year 1/2 6-a-side football festival
Tuesday 14 July	19.00	Year 6 Leavers' performance
Friday 17 July		Nursery end of year party
Tuesday 21 July	15.15	Break up for summer holiday



**HAPPY EASTER
EVERYONE!**