



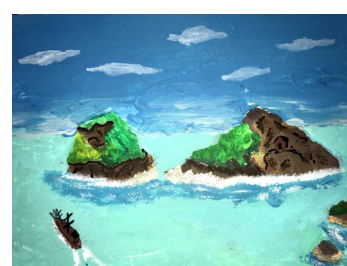
Newsletter—October 2020

Headteacher's report

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our Term 1 Newsletter and to a celebration of the hard work we have been doing in school despite the challenges of the current situation. Inside, you will find a report from each class describing the wonderful progress our children have been making and a selection of photos to give you a flavour of what has been taking place within the walls of Dalmain since September. It has been an absolute privilege to have seen the children's growth and development, not only academically but socially and morally too, and we are exceptionally proud of every pupil for how they have adapted to 'the new normal'. These are extraordinary times but the resilience, energy and love of learning continues to make this school the extremely special place that it is.

Of course, none of this term would have been possible without the exceptional efforts of our entire staff team. They have worked tirelessly to keep our children safe while ensuring that pupils make accelerated progress after such a long period away from school. But every day brings a new challenge to each individual. The efforts of school staff are not always recognised but they are at the 'coal face' every single day, and face the monumental challenge of adapting to continually changing guidelines and expectations, providing remote learning alongside daily teaching on top of worry for their own safety, their loved ones and the community they serve. Their dedication and commitment to this school cannot be underestimated, and I would like to extend a sincere thank you to them all for being the exceptional team that they are.



As I communicated in my letter of 13th October, we have been busy getting prepared in case of a school closure and we are determined to be prepared for every eventuality. In the event of a closure, we will be using Microsoft Teams as our learning platform and hope that you all will have been able to access your child's account by now after we switched our weekly homework to being online via Teams. While there is a lot in the news at the moment about a potential short-term lockdown, we have not been in receipt of any information indicating that primary schools would close, although there is a possibility of this given the ever changing nature of this pandemic. In the event of a whole school or individual bubble closing, we will be providing online learning through a mixture of videos and activities, and we would ask that you familiarise yourselves with Microsoft Teams to enable a smooth and swift transition to this should we need to use it. All lessons will follow the school's curriculum and we will continue to guide children through their learning with regular written teacher feedback in line with our school's Feedback Policy. If you have any questions or need any help accessing your child's Teams account, please contact the School Office on admin@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

We are extremely sad to say goodbye to our wonderful Nursery Nurse, Mrs Golding, who will be retiring at the end of this term. While we were prepared for this retirement announcement, we are still extremely sad to see her leave the school. We recognise just how lucky we have all been to work with such an exceptional practitioner, someone who has demonstrated relentless passion and commitment for the children and families of this school, and given an extraordinary amount to our entire school community throughout her many years of service. Mrs Golding has worked at Dalmain Primary School for over 23 years, during which she has taught so many of our children and provided them the very best start to their educational careers whilst inspiring a love of learning in all who have had the good fortune to work with her. Mrs Golding's breadth of knowledge around early child development is second to none, and she has always gone above and beyond to ensure that all children reach their full potential. Mrs Golding will be sorely missed but we thank her for everything that she has done for Dalmain, and sincerely wish her the very best for a happy and enjoyable retirement.

A huge thank you to all parents, carers and families for your support during this extremely challenging term—we really cannot tell you how much this has helped and we are so appreciative of your patience during this time. And of course a HUGE well done to our wonderful pupils—you have all been wonderful and we can't wait to see you again! We wish you a safe, restful and relaxing holiday, and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 2nd November.

Best wishes, Ms Eisele



Cashless payments: from September 2020 Dalmain 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.

Nursery—Turtle Class



“Don’t Smile until Christmas” is usually the advice given to new teachers at the start of the Autumn term, however, we have managed to keep on smiling despite the challenges of our new normality. During this term we have focused particularly on developing and enhancing the Specific areas of learning in the Early Years curriculum. These three areas, namely the Personal, Social and Emotional, Physical and Communication and Language underpins every child’s learning journey. We hope that you are beginning to see glimpses of their learning at home, and welcome your feedback. So far we are pleasantly surprised at how well the children are adjusting and, apart from some minor wobbles and the usual toilet mishaps, they are doing exceptionally well.

The children are also adapting to the frequent hand washing, and health and safety routines with relative ease. Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation as we review and revise our procedures accordingly. You have been marvellous! Finally, a gentle reminder to label all items of clothing, lunch boxes and bags to help us locate any lost items. Thank you all so much for being on this journey with us, we cannot do it without your support.



Here are some comments from the children, regarding their Nursery experience so far.

“I like to play in the home corner, I like to make smoothies.” Nathaniel “I like to play in the hospital to help the sick.” Liv “I like to play in the book corner. The one I like best is when I was on holiday, on a big massive plane called a jumbo jet.” Roxanne

Reception—Bee Class

This half term in Bee Class, we have enjoyed settling in to the environment and making new friends. We have explored learning and playing inside and outside the classroom and have used a variety of resources. As starting a new school can be challenging we have encouraged the children to talk about their own feelings and how to manage these with the help of our friend the Colour



Monster. The children have produced some lovely drawings, paintings and writing which can be seen in our corridor along with a huge confused Colour Monster that they helped to paint together. We also helped the Colour Monster to order numbers from 1 to 10.

We have also enjoyed reading the story Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak. We acted out parts of the story pretending to be Wild Things and wrote lists and party invitations in preparation for our Wild Rumpus Party. The children made crowns and enjoyed dancing, eating and playing with their friends. We have even received a letter from a Wild Thing called Sam who had lost his friends. We then made our own missing posters to help Sam to find his friends.



Reception—Hedgehog Class

The children in Hedgehog cClass have settled into school quickly and have been busy getting to know the class environment, new resources, outside areas and each other. We have discussed the school rules and how we can ‘fill each other’s buckets’ with kindness.

As starting a new school or a new class can be challenging, we have spent time talking about our emotions using ‘The Colour Monster’ story during circle time and discussed what makes us happy, sad, confused and angry. We created our own colour monsters and wrote what they might say. The children even created a huge confused Colour monster in the style of the artist, Jackson Pollock.

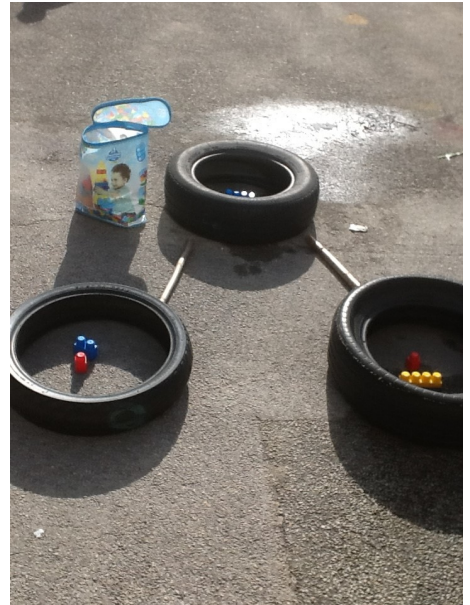
A ‘Wild Thing’ from the story ‘Where the Wild Things Are’ visited Hedgehog class. The children were excited to see footprints and other clues he had left. As well as leaving these clues, we also had a special delivery and received a letter from one of the ‘Wild Things’. He wanted our help to find his lost friends so the children made posters to help find them. Some children made maps and telescopes to help us find the lost Wild things.



Year 1–Drill Class

Drill Class have settled in very well to Year 1. We have had lots of fun getting to know our new classroom and outdoor space, and have made lots of new friends along the way. We had a very dramatic Week 2, when Naughty Bus caused some disruption to our classroom! We were very busy writing letters to Ms Eisele to explain what had happened, and writing WANTED posters to go around the school... just in case it happened in another classroom! Our new book is about a naughty baby who loves to paint called Cave Baby.

We have really enjoyed going to the Wildlife Garden this term to look at the wonders of nature and thinking about what we can find out using our 5 senses. We are getting very good at drawing and using part-whole models, and some of us even made a big part-whole model outside!



Isla: 'I love learning phonics. I also like going to the Wildlife Garden because there is loads of nature and I love nature.'

Logan: 'I liked making bread in RE because I like cooking at home. I like playing with my friends on the playground.'

Joanie: 'I love learning about Cave Baby. My favourite character is the hare. I like drawing with my friends.'



Year 1–Fossa Class

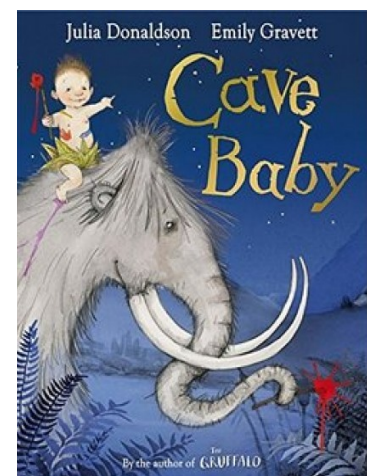
Fossa Class have been very busy this half-term. Our core books, Naughty Bus and Cave Baby, provided us with lots of opportunity for drama, creative writing and art, especially when the Naughty Bus paid the children at school a visit! We have been enjoying the Wildlife Garden when learning about our senses in Science, as well



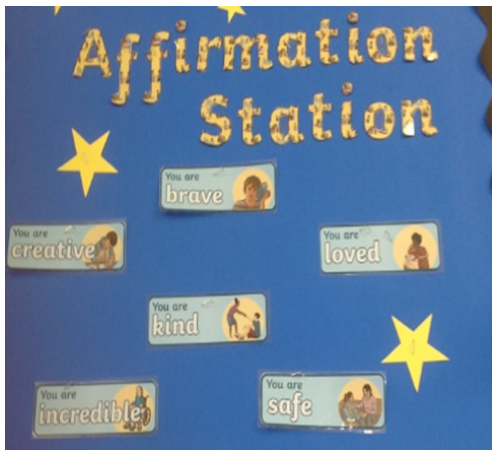
as when discussing the beauty of the world and nature in R.E. We learnt about part-whole models in Maths, which lots of the children then made their own versions of in the classroom and outdoors, and practised measuring length, weight and height. We have been creating different animal dances in indoor PE, and practising our ball skills in the PEN. Here are some of the children's highlights:

Finley: 'I enjoyed making Cave Baby Puppets of the big brown bear. I also liked doing phonics. There was a lot to learn about Naughty Bus like he smashed a plate. I loved doing Science with my five senses.'

Lilia: 'I enjoyed doing puppet shows and drawing and reading books. I made bread to learn about the Harvest Festival. I enjoyed doing music with Miss Jackson. I loved doing painting with Mr Roberts.'



Year 2—Lynx Class



We have had a fantastic start back at school in Lynx Class, Year 2.

Here are some quotes from members of Lynx class about the things they have done this term.

“I was a little bit nervous to come back to school but when I saw my friends and my new teacher I was really excited to have a new teacher and do lots of new learning” Enes.

“This term, we discovered that Goldilocks was a very curious little girl and she left three bowls of delicious porridge in our classroom. Goldilocks felt very bad and left us a letter asking us to help her say sorry to the three bears. I really enjoyed it because I enjoy writing fairytales”. Muriel

“In History, we learnt about three significant individuals who discovered

things by accident. They were; Mary Anning, Lonnie Johnson and Alexander Fleming. Lonnie Johnson was my favorite because he invented the really cool toys such as the Super Soaker which I really really want.” Nina

“We had a great time making our own porridge as a class and eating it. My porridge had bananas, cocoa, raspberry and honey. It was scrumptious.” Jasper.

“Every morning this term, Mr Alasow made us do positive affirmations, so we don't give up. My favourite affirmation is: I have a great thinking brain. It is my favourite affirmation because I always remember it when things are difficult.” Olive



Year 2—Narwhal Class



We have had a great start back at school in Narwhal Class, Year 2.

“I was so excited to come back to school that I put my school clothes on my bed the night before so I could put them on straight away when I woke up the next day!” Ayaan

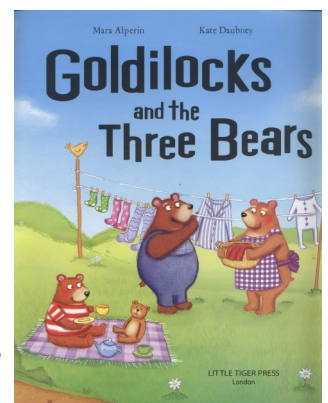
“This term, Goldilocks came to visit us and she left three bowls of porridge near the window. Two were full and one was completely empty. We discovered that Goldilocks had left us a letter asking us to help her say sorry to little

bear so we wrote our own letters for her. We also imagined that we were Goldilocks and we wrote her diary.” Rosie

“We had a pretty fun day making our own porridge and eating it!” Ayaan



“We have also been learning about significant people like Mary Anning who helped us learn about fossils and dinosaurs. We even made our own fossils.” Rosie



Year 3—Wrasse Class



Our brilliant topic in Wrasse was Hidden Treasures. For English, we read a book without words called Flotsam. We pretended that the words were washed away by the ocean. It was fun and interesting because we had to re-make the story ourselves using our imaginations. We described the amazing pictures using prepositional phrases. We have also used these to write about the strange pictures in the book, The Mysteries of Harris Burdick.



In History we have been learning all about the River Thames, starting with what mudlarks (like Charlie) have found lying on the river bank. These objects tell us about the history of London since the Romans invaded. We made a class artwork based on a picture called Monster Soup, Commonly Called Thames Water. We each invented a tiny monster that (people thought) lived in the Thames during The Great Stink of 1851. In another lesson, we did some drama and a diary entry about the London Frost Fairs – when the Thames froze over in winter. We have also learned about the role of the Thames in the Atlantic slave trade.

For Teaching of Reading, we have read Unfortunately, the Milk, where the dad goes out to get some milk for the children and ends up on lots of adventures with Professor Steg, a woman dinosaur. We did a lot of activities, including looking at characters and predicting what would happen in the story.

In Maths, we have been learning about 3-digit numbers. We have compared, ordered and added 3-digit numbers. We worked in groups and individually, using different resources such as Numicon and beads. We enjoyed finding the missing numbers in equations. Maths is creative!

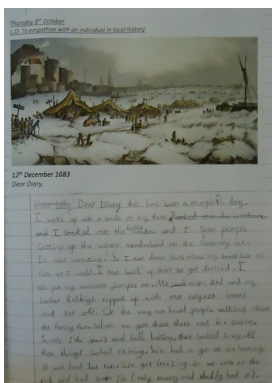
We have really enjoyed using the Wildlife Garden as part of Computing this year. We chose parts of the garden to photograph and then edit on iPads. We have also enjoyed drawing London landscapes in Art as part of our learning about the Thames.

Year 3—Saola Class

This half term our topic has been Hidden Treasures.

As part of our History topic, we studied the history of the River Thames. Did you know that there have been several London Bridges? We also learnt about the Frost Fairs and we got to visit one. We saw an elephant parading along the frozen Thames, played skittles, visited markets and did some bull baiting. It was very exciting.

In English we have studied two books, Flotsam and The Mysteries of Harris Burdick. Flotsam was all about a boy who finds a washed up camera at the beach. When he gets the film developed, he discovers the most magnificent hidden under water adventures. We had to write the words for the story as the sea had washed them away. The Mysteries of Harris Burdick is a book filled with images and short descriptions. We've visited different places in the book such as a peculiar street in Venice, a house on Maple Street and Archie Smith's bedroom. The weirdest place we visited was the mysterious house on Maple Street. We created the street in our classroom and had eerie music playing. We then wrote descriptions of what we could see as we walked towards the house and how we felt.



In Maths, we have been learning and consolidating our place value knowledge. We've used lots of resources to support us to visually see numbers and their value. We've also used part, part whole models, number lines and completed missing number problems. We are now beginning to look at addition and subtraction and using our place value knowledge to help us with this.

In Art, we've been looking at London landmarks with Mr. Roberts. We've drawn and sketched some extraordinary pictures of some of these treasures which can be found in London. We also did some art work for Flotsam. We've been enjoying developing our art skills.

Year 4–Tapir Class

This term our topic has been all about Invention and Innovation. In Writing, we have learnt about a story named FARThER. This story is about a father who is intoxicated by his dreams of flying. So much so that he chooses to invent his own flying machine made from wings and other mechanisms. We then innovated our own stories and wrote about other inventions such as a submarine or a flying broomstick!

In Maths, we have been learning about place value and place holders. We've even started learning about

numbers up to 10,000!



In science we have been learning about circuits and how to disconnect and reconnect them. We also have been learning about different types of switches and how they work. We even got to build our own circuits! This helped us a lot in DT because we have been learning how to make an electric game by using circuits.

In teaching of reading we have been learning about the invention of planes and how they were used in World War 1 & 2. The book is called The Story of Flight. Here are some facts from the book: In 1910, the French actress Raymonde De Laroche was the first woman in the world to gain a pilot's license. In 1912, the carpenter Emory Malick became the first African American to gain a pilot's license. That was a quick summary of what we've read, which is also a skill that we've been practising in lessons.

Year 4–Vaquita Class

Writing – FARThER story

In our writing lessons, we have discovered a new book called FARThER. This book is about a relationship between a father, whose dream was to fly, and his son. We adored the story and it inspired us to then create our own versions. We are extremely proud of our efforts in the lesson. We hope you like our corridor display.

Computing

We had our first computing lesson, and we loved every bit of it!

In our lesson with Mr. Ayo, we learnt how to use the program Office Teams 365. We are looking forward to getting online homework, which will be very fun. Before we logged on to the program, it was important that we learnt about online safety.



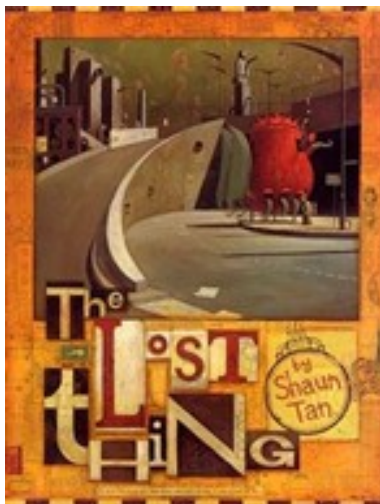
Other Learning

We have also been learning about mountains in geography and we even have tables named after mountains in the classroom. We became mountains in groups and reenacted how mountains formed. In Religious education, we have been learning about Sikhism, a religion that has 10 gurus, which intrigued us, we learnt about the first guru, Guru Nanak.

Year 5—Albatross Class

We're really enjoying being back at school for Year 5 after the long months of lockdown, and it's great that we can see our friends again.

Have you ever heard of the Lost Thing? It's a book about a boy who makes friends with a curious, fun-loving object. This term, we have created our own Lost Things, and have written amazing adventure stories about our creations. We loved having the freedom to create our own, magical world. In Art with Mr Roberts, we added detail and three-dimensional backgrounds to bring our creations further to life. We turned our stories into books which are now displayed in the corridor. We'd love to show them to our families, but we can't at the moment so here is a picture of them!



We've read other books too. We've been to Kensuke's Kingdom and learned about how Kensuke saved Michael (and his dog) when a storm washed them up on his island. We've also seen and heard all about Bonnie and Sylvia's scrapes with the Wolves of Willoughby Chase. Hooooooooowwwll...

In Maths, we have been learning about place value and in particular about tenths and hundredths. It's new, interesting and fun, with real-life challenges that have included hungry ants, sunflowers, long jumps and money. Oh, and we've been practising our times tables, too.

We have done so many other amazing things. We have made parachutes in Science that taught us about the forces of gravity and wind resistance. We've loved brushing up our passing, shooting and goalkeeping skills with Graham in PE (some of us do that at play time too!). We've learned in History about children's lives in Victorian times and during the Second World War. We made a puppet show in RE to illustrate the life of Abraham. And we've loved Laban dance lessons, which allow us to move and express ourselves. All this, and we've been learning about using Microsoft Teams too!

Next term we're learning all about space and our solar system. We'll be reading a book called Hidden Figures, which tells the true story of how four African-American women helped the USA win the Space Race. Sounds like fun!

Year 5—Kakapo Class

This term we have read some wonderful stories such as The Lost Thing, Kensuke's Kingdom and The Wolves of Willoughby Chase. The rich language in these books, captivating plots and characters have inspired us to write truly magical stories, secret chapters, emotional diary entries and formal pieces of writing. To celebrate our hard work, we have published our stories based on The Lost Thing and used the skills we learned in Art to create vibrant and eye-catching covers.

Maths

In Maths, alongside reading mathematical stories like '100 Hungry Ants' and 'Penguin Place Value', we have been mastering decimals. We have solved puzzles, explained our work using diagrams and applied our understanding of decimals to measurement. Every day we have practiced our times tables and we certainly are on our way to developing rapid recall!

Friendship & Wellbeing

Meeting our friends again has been such a joy and it has been great to play, laugh and chat to each other in the playground. We have also focused on values such as kindness, resilience and positive thinking in class each morning. We start our daily discussions with a 'Quote of the day' and after sharing our thoughts we watch a video linked to the quote to help us develop our perspective further. These meetings have helped us to remember how important it is to show compassion, work as a team and to make the right choices.

Not a minute is wasted in Year 5! When we are not engrossed in a book or discussing a new mathematical concept, we are busy creating imaginative and detailed artwork with Mr Roberts, designing parachutes with Mr Clarke or developing our poise and grace with Ms Chloe from Trinity Laban. On Thursdays, we have Music with Ms Jackson and we have also just begun computing lessons with Mr Bamgbaiye and we look forward to developing our keyboard skills. It has been a jam-packed term and we are so looking forward to seeing what the next term holds - bring it on!

<p>MORNING GREETING</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Greet each student in class. Say, "Hi, ___" or "Good morning, ___" Choose a virtual greeting. <p>Wave Thumbs up Peace Sign Air Hug Air High Fives</p>	<p>THINK ABOUT IT</p> <p>Believe in Yourself-3:14</p> <p>Never stop up. Believe in yourself!</p>	<p>SHARE OUT/CIRCLE</p> <p>Never give up. believe in yourself!</p> <p>"Believing in myself is important because..."</p> <p>"Believing in myself can help me grow because..."</p>
<p>QUOTE OF THE DAY</p> <p>Never say "I CAN'T" ALWAYS say, "I'LL TRY"</p>	<p>POLL OF THE DAY</p> <p>Which do you prefer?</p> <p>1 2 </p>	



Year 6—Pangolin Class

We are really enjoying being back at school for Year 6. We have learned all sorts of wonderful and interesting things. We were keen to get back to school after the long months of lockdown and it's great that we can see our friends again – as well as getting back to doing all the different sorts of lessons we couldn't always do at home.

Before creating our newsletter, as a class we thought about our favourite pieces of work so far this term. We then realised that we have been super busy and we have enjoyed all aspects of our learning. During this process of reflection, we created quite a long, extensive list. Therefore, as a class we decided to share our personal favourites with you instead.

In English, we have been reading Shaun Tan's 'The Arrival' and in Teaching of Reading we have been exploring the themes in the poem by Maya Angelou's 'The Caged Bird,' this has all been linked to our Topic on Migration. Whilst, in Maths, we have been learning about place value and power of ten.

Pangolin Class

MY FAVOURITE SUBJECTS THIS TERM ARE ART IDENTITY MAPS AND WRITING THE ARRIVAL DIARY BECAUSE IT LIKE DRAWING AND THE DIARY WAS GOOD BECAUSE I LIKE IT

Harry

Some of my favourite things we have done were Laban, I created dance routines and the Dear 2020 letter because it took so long and it was fun.

Grace

I have enjoyed the Dear Future Me letter because I would enjoy reading them in the end of the year. I also enjoyed the identity map because it was fun.

Ann

Over this term I have enjoyed art and Laban. Art because I have learnt many techniques and Laban because it's been really fun.

Max

I enjoyed painting landscapes in art. My favourite part was using the painting knife because I enjoyed making the paint splash across the page.

Wesley

I enjoyed the civil rights movement. In the experiment the class were divided into three groups. Only one group was treated with respect.

Jack

I liked Publishing our Diary, reading the Parts Project, the Poll of the day and the Identity Map. The Parts Project was fun because of the fight.

James

My favourite topic this term has been place value. I have enjoyed this subject in maths because it was not too hard and was not too easy.

My favourite thing we have done this term are the Parts Project and the diary because I found them fun and interesting.

Tommy

My favourite subject this term is The arrival dear and art and science. I chose the diary because I like writing, I also chose art because I like painting landscapes.

Samuel

I ENJOY THE LABAN AND THE DEAR 2020 WRITE ALSO LOVED NET THEY WERE ALL AMAZING.

Mary

My favourite subject is Maths because it has some skills and it makes me good student solutions.

Shan



Okapi Class

This term I have been able to have fun with various lessons and subjects. I like the encouragement from Mr Roberts to be able to achieve and heights in Art.

Like Art with Mr Roberts because he do landscapes. I enjoy Maths because it's quite hard, something to do. I like Laban as well because we do all different routines.

In Year 6 I have enjoyed Art and drawing our old scenes, writing letters to 2020 and last but not least Laban because I love dance. (Avery)

My favourite part of the year is Laban because I like to do things that are different. I also enjoyed Maths because I like making a lot.

Love

I love school! I used to hate it but now I like it. I like Mr Roberts and writing our 2020 letter.

JULIAN

Something I have enjoyed in Year 6 is Art with Mr Roberts because Art is amazing, we painted landscapes with acrylic paint.

I have enjoyed painting pictures not because I'm doing really well and I liked using a paint knife. I also loved writing my dear 2020 letter and have been understanding.

Year 6 Okapi Class

I enjoyed painting landscapes in Art because I like using colours to make pretty combinations. I also liked reading 'The Arrival' and making identity maps.

Audrey

What we have enjoyed so far this term...

This term I have enjoyed subjects like P.E, Maths, English and so on. My favourite subject would have to be P.E because we really enjoyed doing football and fun enjoying doing hockey.

Joe T

The year in Year 6, I have really enjoyed English. I have really enjoyed English but I like English because we have learned so much as physically. I have enjoyed English because I like writing and I like reading. I have enjoyed English because I like writing and I like reading. I have enjoyed English because I like writing and I like reading.

George

Since the start of Year 6 I loved painting landscapes in Art with Mr Roberts because we were making pretty landscapes, also loved reading 'The Arrival' for our English and the Arrival.

Sophia

Since we've come back I've enjoyed painting landscapes in Art with Mr Roberts and creating our own dance routines in Laban. I like it but not least the drama lesson on 'The Arrival'.

Isaac

So far in Year 6, I have enjoyed painting landscapes with Mr Roberts because I like to be creative with colours, PE with Graham because it makes it fun and being a play leader.

William

So far in Year 6, I have enjoyed painting landscapes in Art with Mr Roberts because I like to be creative with colours, PE with Graham because it makes it fun and being a play leader.

William





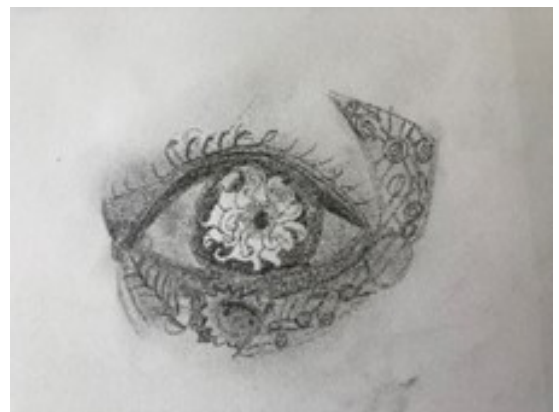
It has been an exciting start to the Autumn term in art lessons at Dalmain! Children in Year 1 classes have been studying the illustrations of Lauren Child and the paintings of Kehinde Wiley to paint and print their own



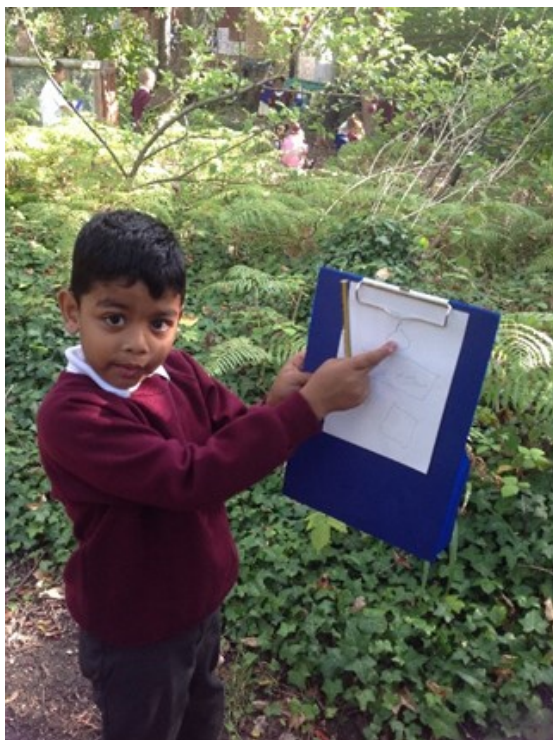
self-portraits in acrylics and watercolours. Year 3 children have been honing their shading techniques, drawing their own London cityscapes in pencil and ink, inspired by the whimsical style of artist Stephen Wiltshire. Shaun Tan's illustrations from his inspirational children's book *The Lost Thing* have captured Year 5's imagination. They have created their own fantastical characters in pencil and learning how to achieve perspective to create the worlds they inhabit! In Year 6, children have been learning different painting techniques with acrylics to recreate dramatic landscapes from

around the world inspired by the colours and patterns created by artists David Hockney, Georgia O'Keefe and Oznat Tzadik.

In DT this term, children in Year 2 have been helping Baby Bear create healthy recipes for porridge. Unfortunately, they had eaten it all before Goldilocks could get her hands on any! Year 4 have been busy building their own circuits to recreate their own versions of the popular children's games 'Operation' and 'Buzz Wire'. Dragon's Den could be beckoning to some of our Year 4 entrepreneurs!



Science



Year 1 have been investigating how they find out about the world around them through their five senses. They have also used those senses to talk about and describe how the wildlife garden is beginning to change appearance as we move into autumn and winter.

Year 2 will also be using the wildlife garden in their learning as they continue in their investigations of different habitats and how different creatures are suited to those different habitats. They have also been thinking about how scientists group animals according to their characteristics and how animals can be identified and named.

Year 3 have been learning about the musculoskeletal system of vertebrates, and how their skeletons, muscles and joints combine to enable such animals - including humans - to move. They have also been looking at the importance of eating the right types and amount of food for nutrition.

Year 4 have been making simple electrical circuits and identifying why incomplete circuits will not work. They have investigated the

effect of simple switches, and learned how to draw circuit diagrams. This knowledge has been applied in DT, where the children have made their own 'Operation' game.

Year 5 have been investigating the forces of gravity, friction, air resistance and water resistance. They experimented with different varieties of parachute to see how these variations affected the speed at which a parachute falls. At the start of term, they conducted a pair of experiments to determine whether Aristotle or Galileo was correct about the speed of falling objects.



Year 6 have been working on understanding the classification system for living things, as invented by Linnaeus. Some lovely artwork was produced

in their plant classification work. They can distinguish between identifying and classifying, and shown understanding of how broad groups such as vertebrates can be separated into smaller groups according to their common characteristics. They have used their knowledge and skills to produce their own classification tree.



Attendance

Our target for this year is 97%

This week's attendance is 96.7%

Year to date is 96.6%



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 email attendance@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

Every lesson counts and not attending school or being late can place your child in unsafe situations or impact on future life choices.

Punctuality ensures that you will arrive to class on time and so will not miss any part of the lesson. Punctuality will also help you to manage your working and personal life. Please can parents ensure that children are on time to school as being late is very disruptive to the teacher, other students and the office.

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)

ABSENCES

Please can you let us know ASAP if your child will not be in school and always BEFORE 9:00am. Please email us via ParentMail under 'Absences' or attendance@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

FLU VACCINATIONS

Your child will NOT receive a flu vaccination on 2nd November if you do not return the form.

If you do NOT want your child to receive it, you still need to sign the form and return it to the School Office.

School meal & Breakfast Club costs – Summer term

BREAKFAST CLUB

Period	No. of days	Total cost
First half term 07/09/20–23/10/20	35	£105
Second half term 02/11/20–18/12/20	35	£105
Whole term 07/09/20–18/12/20	70	£210

SCHOOL MEAL COSTS

Period	No. of days	Total cost
First half term 07/09/20–23/10/20	35	£80.50
Second half term 02/11/20–18/12/20	35	£80.50
Whole term 07/09/20–18/12/20	70	£161

		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
Monday 4 January
Monday 7 June

Music Lessons—Term 2 2020

As per the letter dated Thursday 15th October, instrumental lessons will continue from Week 1 of Term 2 with our Covid safe adjustments in place.



Club dates—Term 2 2020

We are starting afterschool football for year group bubbles after half term — please see below for days and times. This club will start from Monday 2nd November. This club will run during the weeks listed. Please make a note of the weeks when clubs are running, and of the weeks when there will be no clubs.

To sign up for afterschool football, please respond to the form sent out on ParentMail.

We are also looking to re-introduce Performing Arts and Dance clubs after half term but we will send a separate letter with further details of this in due course.

We do not plan to run any other clubs at this stage but will continue to review this and re-introduce as soon as we can.

Autumn 2	Time	Mondays	Tuesdays
09/11/20 – 13/11/20	3.30-4.30	Year 1	Year 2
16/11/20 – 20/11/20	4.30-5.30	Year 5	Year 3
23/11/20 – 27/11/20	5.30-6.30	Year 6	Year 4
30/11/20 – 4/12/20			
07/12/20 -11/12/20			

Road Safety

BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN
this winter

5 top tips on how to BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN

- 1** Brightly coloured or fluorescent clothing shows up well in daylight and at dusk when you're heading to and from school.
- 2** If you're out and about when it's dark, wear reflective gear to make sure you can be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing doesn't work after dark!
- 3** Don't forget to accessorise! Even small items such as clip-on reflectors, armbands and stickers on your outfit or school bag are a great way to improve your visibility.
- 4** If you like to cycle, remember that it's the law to have clean and working lights at night (white at the front, red at the back), as well as a rear reflector. It's good to fit spoke reflectors too.
- 5** Of course, 'Being Bright' isn't the only way to stay safer. If you're out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to always use the Green Cross Code.

For more road safety tips, games and videos, visit the Tales of the Road website at www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad

Now that the clocks have gone back and it's getting darker earlier on, it's more important than ever to make sure you can be seen when you're out and about near roads.

There are loads of ways to be seen and stay safer - so check over the page for some top tips!

Be Bright, Be Seen

THINK

Next Saturday night we will be setting the clocks back an hour and summer time ends. Road traffic collisions increase by 20% in the fortnight after the time change. Sadly, some of those collisions will involve child pedestrians and cyclists. Children under-16 are one of the most vulnerable groups of road users.

The latest available government statistics (2015)* show that 58% of children who die or are seriously injured in a road collision are involved in incidents between 3 and 7pm. From next Sunday, much of those will happen in darkness.

Please remind your children of these dangers and see below for a link to some road safety teaching resources for children:

<https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>

Writing Laureate Award

This half term, we have been absolutely astounded by the standard of writing that our pupils have produced. The following children have been chosen to receive our Dalmain Laureate Award for their exceptional progress, use of high-quality vocabulary and application of literary skills across the curriculum. While we can't invite parents and carers in to see their work in the Office area, the children are incredibly proud of their work and we are so impressed to see what they have achieved already this year.

Look out for these future authors!

Reception: Lola & Lily-Rose

Year 1: Freddie & Charlotte

Year 2: Alara & Lyova

Year 3: Jasmine & Mark

Year 4: Georgia-Mae & Cosmo

Year 5: Sam & Isla

Year 6: Jack & Polly

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE!



Virtual Coffee Morning facilitated by Lewisham School Wellbeing Service

All parents and carers are welcome

Online every Thursday and Friday@ 10am to 11pm

We understand that this is a challenging time for parents and carers, so in partnership with the school, Lewisham School Wellbeing Service are facilitating a virtual parent/carer coffee morning.

It is a safe space for you to:

- Hear about the new service and connect with others
- Shareand/or listen to experiences
- Think about challenges during this time
- Discuss ideas



We would also like to hear what support might be helpful to you over the next few months.

Due to the demands of the current situation, where children are at home during the day, we appreciate that you may need to leave the virtual session. Please do feel free to sign-out, return or leave if you need to at any point.

If you would like to attend, please email:

lewishammhst@slam.nhs.uk and someone from the service will be in touch with you.

We look forward to speaking with you.



Provisional dates for your diary

Mon 26 – Fri 30 October

Autumn half term

Mon 2 – Fri 6 November

UK Parliament Week

Friday 6 November 09.00

FoD Coffee Morning

Mon 16 – Fri 20 November

Antibullying Week

Road Safety Week

Friday 27 November

FoD Own Clothes Day

Friday 4 December 09.00

FoD Coffee Morning

No Christmas Fair

No Christmas performances

Tuesday 15 December

Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 16 December

Nursery Santa visit

pm

KS2 Christmas parties TBC

Friday 18 December 15.15

FOD cake sale

Friday 18 December 15.15

Last Day of Term 2

Tuesday 5 January 2021 08.45

Start of Spring term



**Dalmain
School**

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**HAPPY HALF TERM
EVERYONE!**