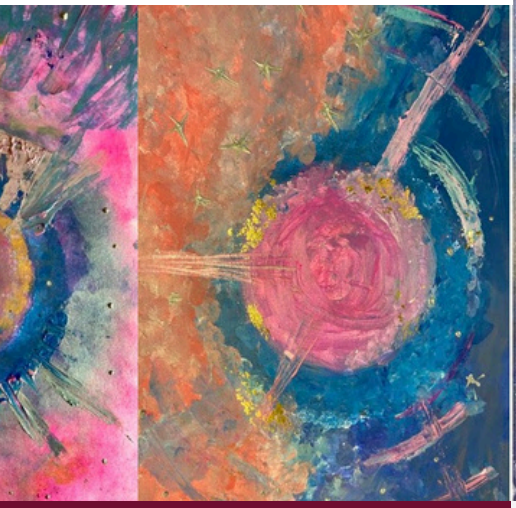
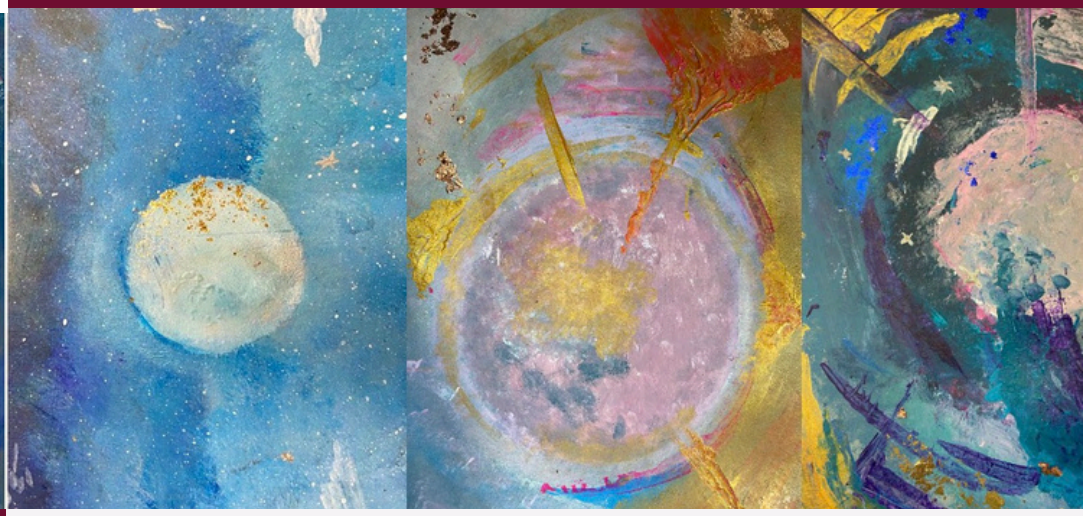
DALMAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER





TERM 2 KEY DATES

INDIVIDUAL & SIBLING PHOTOS
Friday 13th November

FOD WINTER FAIR
Saturday 28th November 2026
- *12:00-3:00pm*

WINTER PERFORMANCES
Wednesday 9th December
- *9.30am – Years 1 & 2*
- *2:00pm – Years 3 & 4*
- *5:00pm – Years 5 & 6*

Thursday 10th December
- *9:30am – Reception*
- *2:00pm – Years 5 & 6*
- *2:45pm – Nursery Singalong*
- *5:00pm – Years 3 & 4*

Friday 11th December
- *9:30am – Reception*
- *2:00pm – Years 1 & 2*

END OF TERM
Thursday 17th December
- *1:00pm*

A Wonderful Start

to the year at Dalmain

What a fantastic start to the academic year it has been! It has been a real joy to welcome our families, both new and returning, back to Dalmain for a half term filled with energy, curiosity, creativity and opportunity.

From residential adventures that build independence and resilience, to our welcome event for new families, visits from Spirit of the Wild, inspiring art, music and sport, and weekly learning in our wonderful wildlife garden, our children have already experienced so much. With trips across London bringing learning to life beyond the classroom, it has been a brilliant reminder of what makes Dalmain special: an education that reaches far beyond the academic, building knowledge, confidence, creativity and the skills children need to flourish.

Behind this exciting start is a clear and ambitious focus on the quality of education we provide.

Our fantastic new Luminary Literacy writing and oracy approach is already having exceptional impact, while our growing early years provision is laying strong foundations through purposeful play, rich language, physical development and discovery. We are equally excited about our new school meals provision, which is bringing food education, practical skills and a love of learning together in a very tangible way.

We believe that great schools never stand still. We actively welcome feedback and use it to reflect, refine and continually improve what we offer our children and families. We were therefore particularly pleased that our most recent external visit recognised the very strong quality of education across the school, the significant positive changes taking place and the improvement in pupils' engagement, learning behaviours and outcomes. This recognition is encouraging, and we know that our continued progress depends on maintaining our ambition, working together and always asking how we can do even better.

Above all, Dalmain is a community built on strong foundations, high aspirations and the belief that every child deserves an exceptional start. We want our children to leave us not only with the knowledge and skills they need for the next stage of their education, but with the confidence to embrace new challenges, the curiosity to keep asking questions and the belief that they can make a difference in the world.

Thank you to our families and staff for the warmth, enthusiasm and commitment you bring to our school. It has been a wonderful first half term, and there is so much more to look forward to.

Wishing you all a happy, safe and restful Half Term!

Best wishes, Ms Eisele - Headteacher

LOOK OUT FOR US IN FAMILIES MAGAZINE



What the parents say....

Families chats with parents of children at Dalmain Primary School in SE23

Inclusive. Warm. Vibrant. Inspiring. Caring. Creative. Ambitious. Supportive. Fun. Adjectives used by parents to describe the school - a school with a sense of community and kindness.

Stephen, whose daughter is in Reception reflects that the breadth of opportunity at Dalmain sits alongside *'a very strong sense of community.'* Sophia, who has a daughter in Year 3 adds that the school feels like an *'extended family'* for her children. *'They are cared about and cared for'* adds Vicky, mother of Zach in Year 4.

Zach's additional learning and medical needs require daily adjustments at school so he feels included and cared for. The first few years at Dalmain were extremely tough for him. *'He was a highly dysregulated little boy and we had some incredibly stressful and traumatic times'* says Vicky. *'But now he's like a different person as a result of working with the school and being allowed the time and headspace needed to calm and re-set himself.'* With Zach's new sense of safety comes a much calmer mind and body and *'he is willing and engaged in learning.'*

Jen, whose son is in Year 5 reports having *'experienced the most extraordinary kindness at Dalmain - the sort that really takes your breath away - from the leadership team to the playworkers. The SENDCo has moved mountains with astonishing care, determination and professional excellence to ensure our child's needs have been met.'*

Dalmain's special Early Years Nursery really ensures smooth transition to Reception. Sophia's daughter was completely familiar with the whole school by the time she started Reception. *'She didn't even blink about the move, it was completely seamless'* she reports. Meanwhile, Stephen believes the focus on play, curiosity, independence and relationships in Nursery gave his daughter a really strong foundation, developing her confidence as well as the skills needed for school.

Parents speak highly of Dalmain's creative curriculum with Sophia describing the Suzuki violin lessons which her daughter loves as *'unrivalled elsewhere.'* Dalmain offers specialist teaching in music, arts and PE. Rebecca, mother of Coralie in Year 5 thinks the emphasis on creative subjects gives children of all types the opportunity to succeed and feel valued. *'Art and music are such an important part of the school and both my children really loved having specialist teachers'* she says.



Diversity is celebrated at Dalmain and Jen praises the high level of care with which teachers and leadership team handle challenging conversations around diversity issues. *'Misconceptions are quickly and kindly rectified in ways in which everyone feels supported'* she says. *'As a result, it feels as if everyone is part of a team upholding* the highest standards for diversity and inclusion.'

Equally parents applaud the school's focus on sustainability. Dalmain's playground has been transformed into different play zones, with shade and carefully chosen planting. *'How many inner-city schools have their own private nature garden and are growing aubergines and tomatoes outside the dinner hall?'* Rebecca wonders. *'The kids are growing up surrounded by solar panels, heat pumps and rain gardens - imagine the impact that will have on their expectations and decisions as adults!'* she adds. Jen's son has learned about sustainability in literature, cooking and science. *'This morning my son told me we should move closer to school so we could walk there "because that's the right way!"* she tells us.

In Rebecca's words, Bloom Community Kitchen, Dalmain's new school lunch provider represents a radical departure from the mass-produced, low-quality meals served to most school children. *'I couldn't be happier with it'* she says.

Lunches are fresh and nutritious and Sophia's daughter is excited to try the new options. Interestingly, her daughter has *'much improved energy levels and mood'* when picked up from school. *'We feel very lucky. We aren't aware of such nutritious food being offered at other local primary schools. Tofu tacos and healthy banana bread are a standout favourite!'* she says.

Dalmain trains its staff to have a high level of understanding of children's emotional needs. *'The school encourages children to talk about how they feel and to communicate with adults and peers about their emotions and needs. It's also supportive of parents and children in difficult times'* says Rebecca. *'There is a unique understanding of each child's circumstances and needs'* adds Vicky. *'This awareness of the wider picture helps each ch feel seen and heard.'*

What have parents noticed about their children's development at Dalmain? Stephen's daughter has become *'independent, resilient and curious'* and has *'developed her own interests and voice and is becoming a thoughtful confident little person.'* Sophia is delighted that her daughter learnt to read so much faster than she expected and that she loves reading at home.

Jen reports that, given her son's SEN, her progress and development have been *'nothing short of miraculous, thanks to the many people putting so much continuous support in place for him.'* She describes the quality of provision as *'extraordinary.'*

More information at www.dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

@DalmainPrimarySE23



Recipe of the week....

Bloom
- COMMUNITY KITCHEN -

Banana Bread



A simple, delicious banana bread, made with everyday ingredients. Perfect for using up ripe bananas!

Ingredients

- 100ml Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- 90g Sugar
- 2 Eggs
- 140g Self Raising Flour
- 2 Super-ripe Bananas

The riper the bananas, the better!

Method

Heat oven to 180°C / 160°C fan.

1. Line a loaf tin with baking parchment.
2. Mash the bananas in a bowl.
3. Cream the olive oil and sugar together.
4. Beat in the 2 eggs with a little of the flour.
5. Add the remaining flour and the mashed bananas, then mix until combined.
6. Pour the batter into the prepared tin.
7. Bake for around 50 minutes, or until cooked through.
8. Cool in the tin for 10 minutes then transfer to a wire rack.

Check the loaf at 5-minute intervals from around 30–40 minutes, by testing it with a skewer (it should be able to be inserted and removed cleanly), as the time may vary depending on the shape of your loaf tin.

Bon Appétit!

Highlights of the term...

THE MANY LOVELY EMAILS FROM WONDERFUL PARENTS HAPPY THAT THEIR CHILDREN ARE TRYING NEW THINGS.

- **SALAD BAR POPULARITY!**
- **CUCUMBER AND MINT WATER!**
- **MISO SOUP FRENZY!**
- **SEEING KIDS INTERACT WITH THE EDIBLE WALL.**
- **HARVESTING A MASSIVE MARROW WITH YEAR 5 AND SOME COURGETTES WITH YEAR 6 AND BAKING THEM INTO FOCACCIAS.**
- **SEEING PEOPLE SIGNING UP AND USING THE APP WAS A REAL BUZZ! KANPLA, OUR TECH PARTNERS TOLD US THAT WE HAVE THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF PARENT SIGN UPS THAT THEY HAVE EVER SEEN!**
- **SEEING OUR TEAM GROW, IN SIZE, STATURE AND CONFIDENCE AROUND SHARING FOOD IDEAS, PASSION AND DELIVERY OF SERVICE.**
- **THE SITTING OVATION IN ASSEMBLY AND THE LOOKS OF PRIDE ON OUR TEAM'S FACES - HEARING THE EFFECTS THAT THE FOOD IMPROVEMENTS THAT WE HAVE USHERED IN AT SCHOOL ARE HAVING ON THE PUPILS WELLBEING HAS BEEN A CAREER HIGHLIGHT!**





“The food has been really yummy this term! There are lots of different things to try, and I’ve tried foods I didn’t think I would like but actually loved!” – Year 3 child

ECO COUNCIL – TACKLING FOOD WASTE

Our Eco Council recently met with Chef Phil to find out more about food waste at Dalmain. Bloom Kitchen has set an ambitious target of reducing food waste to just 2%, and our Eco Council is keen to help make this happen!

We’ll be talking to classes about the importance of eating what we take and measuring how much food is wasted across the school.

After half term, we’ll also be visiting the Kitchen Garden to explore what we can do with our food waste.

Chef Phil has some exciting plans involving bokashi, a Japanese method of fermenting food waste, which we’re looking forward to learning more about!



2YO NURSERY



It warms my heart to see how wonderfully our 2-year-olds have settled into nursery school life. They come into the class excited, curious and ready to learn (even if a little tearful, initially). They've embraced the daily routines and will tell us if we haven't remembered something "Snack time Mrs Jones?" (Poppy).

Their progress has been quite amazing - using sand-timers, they've developed positive practices of sharing & turn-taking. "Me go get the timer." (Sid).





They sit beautifully, during our daily circle time sessions – making funny, thoughtful contributions, based on our learning as a class, as well as their lived experiences.

They've enjoyed exploring the whole school and love when 9.30am comes around, as they know we will leave the nursery to go on an adventure "Take baby and buggy?" (Isabella)

We look forward to more fun and engaging learning opportunities in Autumn 2.

NURSERY

3YO





What a wonderful first half term we have had in Iris Nursery! The children have settled in beautifully and are embracing their new routines, making friends, enjoying lunch at school and growing in confidence every day. It is such a huge transition, and we are incredibly proud of how happy and settled they have become.

We have explored some fantastic stories, including The Gruffalo Granny, where mysterious footprints appeared in our classroom, Owl Babies, So Much, We're Going on a Bear Hunt and The Leaf Thief. We have talked about our own families and discovered how every family is special.

Our little investigators have enjoyed exploring Forest School, learning fascinating facts about owls (including discovering that their poo can contain bones!), and creating beautiful owl artwork using paint and collage.

Alongside our stories and investigations, we have enjoyed PE, Cosmic Yoga and lots of exciting activities. It has been a busy, happy and memorable half term, full of curiosity, discovery and wonderful new beginnings!



MAIA

RECEPTION





What a wonderful start to the school year we've had in Maia Class! The children have settled beautifully into Reception, and it has been lovely watching their confidence, independence and friendships blossom.

We began with The First Day at Bug School, exploring our feelings about starting school. Our adventure continued with Where the Wild Things Are, where the children enjoyed designing their own imaginative creatures!

Through Hair Love, we celebrated our differences and explored what makes us unique, with our classroom hair salon proving very popular!



More recently, Mixed inspired exciting colour experiments and discussions about friendship and belonging. We will finish with Anansi the Spider, exploring storytelling and creativity.

In maths, we have been creating repeating patterns, recognising numbers 1–5 and exploring different ways to represent them.

Miss Rochester is incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved and wishes all our Maia families a wonderful half term!



LEARNING THROUGH NATURE

WILDLIFE GARDEN





Our children have loved visiting our special Forest School, exploring the natural environment and connecting with nature.

There has been so much curiosity, excitement and laughter as the children have listened carefully to the sounds around them, searched for the Gruffalo and his Granny, and hunted for mysterious footprints!

We have collected leaves, noticed their differences and sorted them into groups, developing our observation and early maths skills along the way.

The children have enjoyed drawing in the dirt, creating imaginative role-play adventures in dens and, for some, experiencing the excitement of holding a worm for the very first time!



TThere has also been plenty of quiet observation as we try to spot movement in the pond and discover what might be hiding beneath the surface.

It is wonderful to see the children's confidence, curiosity and sheer enjoyment blossom outdoors. We feel incredibly lucky to have such a special environment where our little learners can explore, discover and make magical memories together.

INCLUSION

At Dalmain

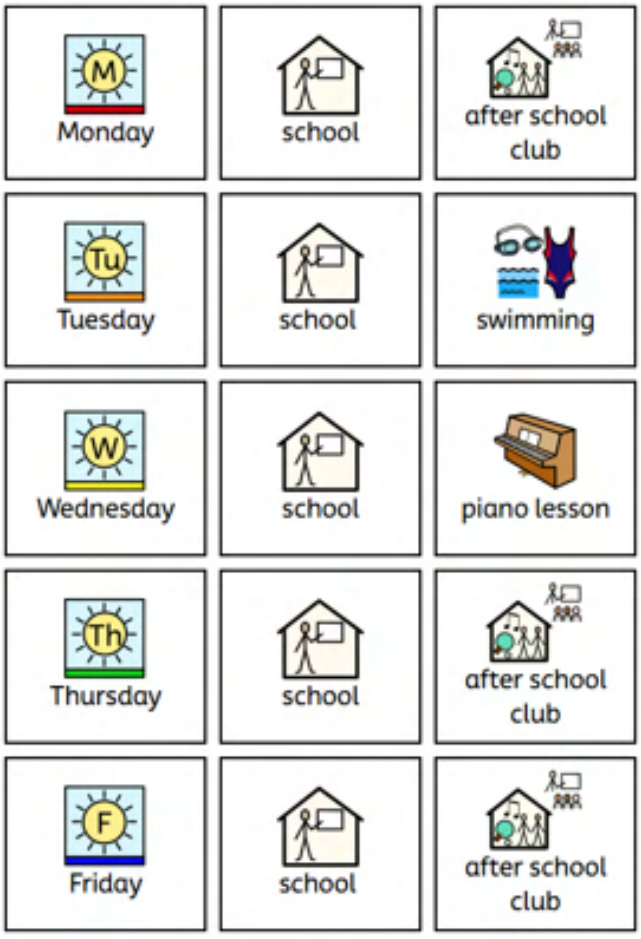
Our Inclusion Team

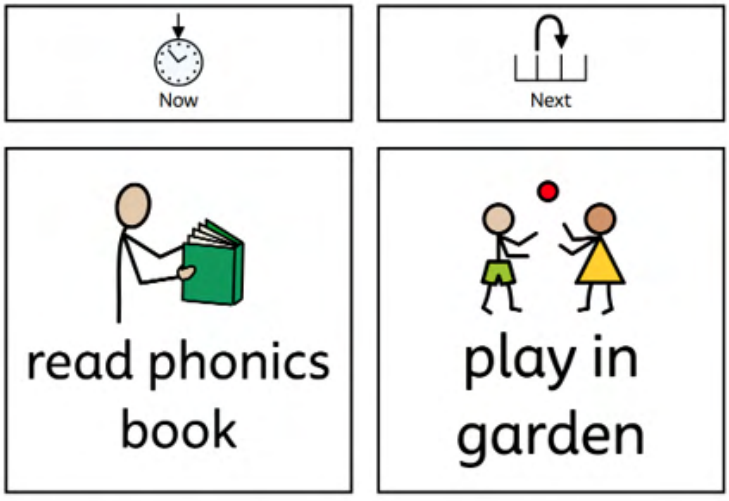
Ms Sewani- Assistant Headteacher & SENCo

Ms Joyce-SENCo (maternity leave)

Ms Wilkinson- Behaviour & Safeguarding Leader

They are always available to offer support to families with any concerns or questions-please get in touch via the School Office or see them in the playground.





INCLUSION

At Dalmain

Upcoming Events

Lewisham Mental health Support Team (MHST) welcome parents and carers to a coffee morning, being held on the 27th November at 9.15am.

During the coffee morning, you will have the opportunity to meet some of the team, find out more about the service, their early intervention mental health support offer, and how they will work with us at Dalmain. It will also provide you with an opportunity to ask the team any questions you may have.

To confirm your attendance, please e-mail senco@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk We look forward to seeing you!
port your child at home.

VISUAL TIMETABLES

Starting a new school year involves lots of new routines, places and people. Visual timetables can help children feel settled and secure by showing them what is happening, when and where. At Dalmain, we use visual timetables as part of our universal provision to support all children with understanding routines and preparing for transitions.

You can try this at home, too! Use simple pictures, drawings or photos to show the order of daily activities.

Let your child tick off or remove each activity as it is completed. This can help build independence, confidence and a greater understanding of daily routines.

To confirm your attendance, please e-mail:

senco@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing you!

INCLUSION

At Dalmain

NHS
South London and Maudsley
NHS Foundation Trust

Who are Lewisham MHST?

We are working in your child's school to support emotional wellbeing. We work with the whole school community; for example, workshops and coffee mornings for parents and carers, assemblies and pupil voice groups for young people, and training and consultation for staff. We work individually and in groups with parents and carers too (turn the page for more information).

Our focus is on early intervention - noticing and addressing difficulties as soon as possible. Some of the things we help with are:

- Behaviour that challenges
- Friendship difficulties
- Low mood
- Managing emotions
- Dealing with change
- Anxiety

Get in touch

Find out more or make a request for support:

- Speak with your school's Senior Mental Health Lead (usually the SENDCo or Inclusion Lead)
- Email LewishamMHST@slam.nhs.uk
- Call 020 3228 1000 and ask for the MHST
- Go to www.slam.nhs.uk/mhst-home

INCLUSION

At Dalmain

We've requested support, what next?

We look at requests for support as a team and decide what type of support is likely to be helpful. This might be:



Contacting you to arrange an assessment so we can find out more. After the assessment, we will offer an intervention or help you to find support elsewhere.



Working with you and school to find and contact the best service to meet your goals, for example if you're looking for a specialist service that we don't provide.



Giving indirect support by advising and consulting with school staff, helping them to put in place the support your child needs in school.

What are the interventions?

- Our guided self-help interventions are for anxiety or behaviour that challenges, and are based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.
- We work with you - parents and carers - rather than directly with the child. Research tells us that this is more effective as you know your child best!
- We will meet with you for 6-8 sessions, with some 'homework' (reading or activities) between sessions. We run both 1-to-1 and group sessions.
- Our aim is to understand together what's going on for your child and to practice strategies that will help you towards your goals.

HESTIA

RECEPTION



Hestia Class have made a wonderful start to Reception, and I am so proud of how well the children have settled in! It has been lovely to see the children grow in confidence, make new friends and become more independent as they get used to their new classroom and routines. In Literacy, we have been enjoying lots of different stories, and the children have loved bringing them to life through their play.

One of their favourites has been Where the Wild Things Are. This inspired us to take our learning into Forest School, where the children worked together to build dens and create a trap for the wild things. It was lovely to see their imaginations come to life as they shared ideas and worked together with their friends.



The children are also becoming more confident with their writing and are showing lots of enthusiasm during our Literacy activities. We have been practising our pencil grip and control, and it has been wonderful to see how much progress the children are making. They are producing some lovely work, and I look forward to seeing their skills and confidence continue to grow!





PEGASUS

RECEPTION

It has been a lovely start to the term in Reception's Pegasus class! Whether pupils have previously been with us at Dalmain in the nursery or are completely new to the school, these first few weeks have been all about settling in, getting to know one another and becoming familiar with our daily routines. We are so proud of how brilliantly the children have embraced this new chapter!

In Literacy, we read some wonderful stories, including First Day Bug School, Where the Wild Things Are, Hair Love and, most recently, Mixed: A Colourful Story. The children have loved sharing their ideas and bringing their imaginations to life through drawing.





Each morning, we practise writing our names, while in Maths we have been matching and sorting, exploring patterns and beginning to develop our subitising skills.

Our trips to the library and Forest School are always a highlight, and back in the classroom, imaginative play and practical activities give the children endless opportunities to explore, create and learn together.

We look forward to seeing all the wonderful things Pegasus will get up to next!

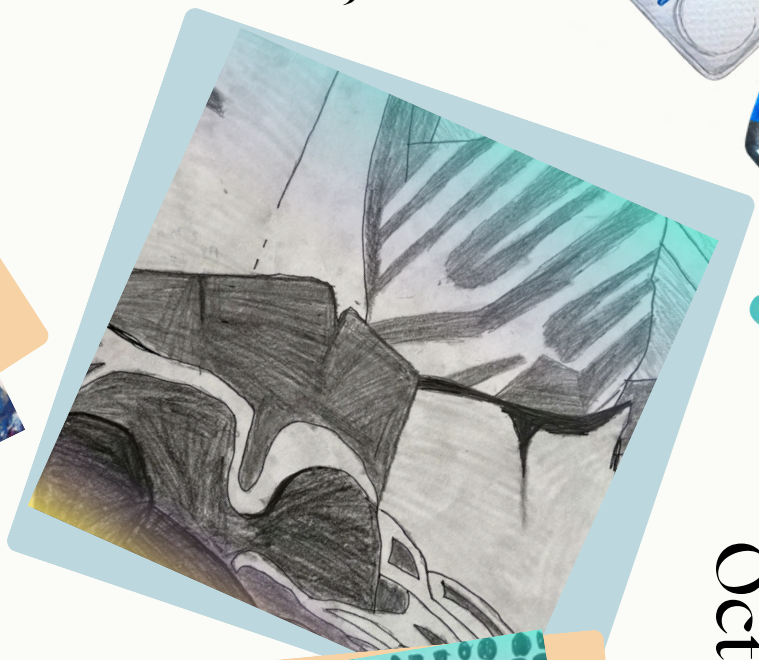
WRAP AROUND CARE
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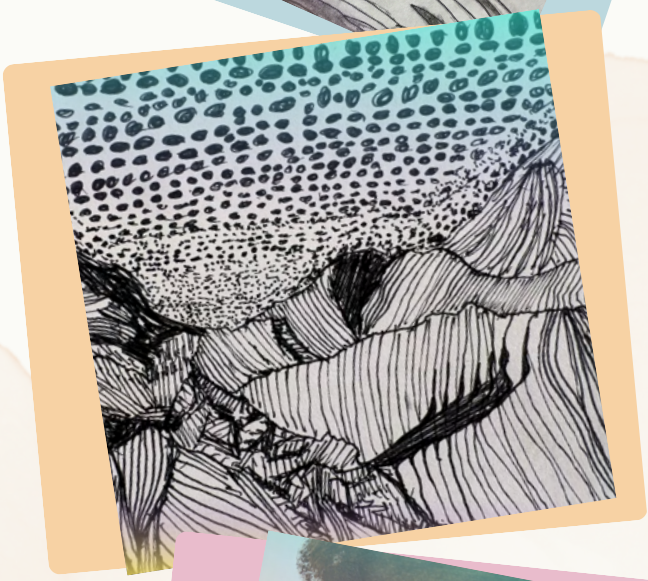
ART @ DALMAIN

Look out for our Enrichment Newsletter - COMING SOON!













October 2026

MEDUSA

YEAR 1



Well done, Medusa Class, who have continued to settle into Year 1 so wonderfully! The children have returned from the summer holidays full of enthusiasm, excitement and energy, ready to dive into their learning.

Our approach to learning combines continuous provision, which the children are thriving in, with more structured learning opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills.

In Maths, we have been counting in 10s all the way up to and beyond 100! In Phonics, we have begun Phase 5 and are excited to explore some new sounds.





In Science, we have learned a new song about the four seasons and discovered how the weather changes throughout the year.

We have also enjoyed acting out and writing our own stories about how animals move, exploring verbs as action words. The children are incredibly proud of their finished books, which are now proudly displayed in the corridor for everyone to admire!

GAIA

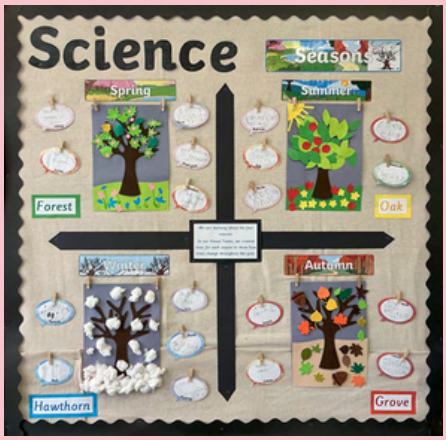
YEAR 1



Gaia Class have settled beautifully into Year 1, adapting to new routines with confidence and ease! We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved already and how enthusiastically they have embraced their learning. We couldn't have asked for a better start to the year.

In English, we have been exploring All the Wonderful Ways to Move and Maisy Goes on Holiday. These texts have inspired us to develop our sentence writing skills and deepen our understanding of nouns, verbs and correct punctuation. We have also put our creativity to the test by writing our own fabulous holiday stories!





In Maths, we have been consolidating our knowledge of numbers to 20 and beyond, practising counting in tens and exploring ordinal numbers.
In History, we have discovered how toys have changed over time.

We were delighted to welcome a visitor from Pollock's Toy Museum, who brought along some fascinating historical toys, including a doll that was over 145 years old! In Science, we have learned about the seasons and explored how weather changes throughout the year.

Well done, Gaia Class, on a brilliant first half term!


FRIENDS
OF DALMAIN
Reminders
DALMAIN
WINTER
FAIR
SATURDAY
28TH
NOVEMBER
12.00-
3.00PM

THE WINTER FAIR

CLASS TEA TOWELS

CHRISTMAS TREES

SUPPORT THE SCHOOL THIS SEASON WITH

Christmas Fundraising

Details will be on the FoD website
https://www.pta-events.com/friendsofdalmain/

FRIENDSOFDALMAIN@GMAIL.COM

ZEUS

YEAR 2



zeus Class have been busy writing parallel stories inspired by King Lion by Emma Yarlett, developing descriptive noun phrases and exploring how to convey emotions. We have now begun writing information texts about gnomes, inspired by The Gnome Book by Loes Riphagen.

In History, we are concluding our Great Fire of London unit with an exciting visit to the London Archives. We have explored why the fire spread, how London changed afterwards and how historians use pictures, writing and artefacts to investigate the past.

In RE, we have enjoyed Hindu stories and explored the significance of mandirs and Diwali, benefiting from Miss Anjali's expertise!

Our Science learning about living things and habitats has prompted enthusiastic contributions from our resident animal experts!

Next half term, we look forward to exploring more local history through the Great Exhibition!







HERA

YEAR 2

Hera Class have made a super positive start to the new academic year! The team have been so impressed by the children's fantastic attitudes towards learning, their enthusiasm for new challenges and the way they have embraced classroom life. It has also been lovely to see such strong friendships developing, with children supporting one another and growing in confidence together.

In Science, Hera Class have been exploring living things and their habitats, asking questions about the natural world and sharing their knowledge and ideas. It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm for our learning! Our RE lessons have taken us into the world of Hinduism, where we have been discovering the significance of mandirs and learning about the festival of Diwali. We have enjoyed exploring different beliefs and traditions and thinking about what makes them special.

In English, we have been developing our skills as writers, using descriptive language to bring characters and settings to life and working hard to make our stories engaging for the reader. History has taken us back to 1666 as we investigate the Great Fire of London.

We have been finding out how the fire spread, what London was like at the time and how the city changed afterwards. Next half term, we look forward to continuing our journey through local history and discovering more about the Great Exhibition!



Welcome to our

ECO COUNCIL PAGE

OUR FIRST TERM!

This term, Key Stage 2 classes have elected their own Eco Councillors, and we have already held our first meeting! We explored the qualities needed to be a great councillor, including being a good listener as well as a confident speaker, sharing ideas and helping others make positive changes.



FOOD WASTE

One of our key themes this year is food waste. We want to explore how we can waste less food, make the most of what we have and encourage everyone in our school community to think about the impact of their choices. Watch this space for updates from our Eco Council!



OUR EARTH PLEDGE

At Dalmain, we have our very own Earth Pledge. It reminds us of the small actions we can all take to look after our planet.

DALMAIN SCHOOL EARTH PLEDGE

Bees, trees and sustainability
We will start and/or participate in initiatives within our schools and the wider community which enhance learning about and the protection of biodiversity

Resources
We will only take and use the resources we need and use these responsibly

Rubbish and recycling
We will try to reduce and re-use resources before recycling them
We will dispose of rubbish appropriately, including recycling, both indoors and outdoors

Healthy children, healthy planet
We commit to weekly meat-free Mondays and screen-free hours
We will try to travel to school by foot, scooter or bike whenever we can

Dalmain Primary School

CLUBS AT DALMAIN

Term 2 - Club Dates

- Wb 2nd Nov
- Wb 9th Nov
- Wb 16th Nov
- Wb 23rd Nov
- Wb 30th Nov



Exceptional learning beyond the classroom...

Day	Club	Time	Year Group	Location	Teacher	Places available	Price x 10 sessions	Payments
Monday	Gymnastics	8:00 - 8:45	Rec - Yr6	Top Hall	Ballers	20	£80	Direct
	Netball	3:30 – 4:30	3,4,5 & 6	PEN	Ms Allsopp	18	£25	School
	Art Palette	3:30-4:30	R-Y6	Art Room	Ms. Natacha	15	£100	Direct
Tuesday	Karate	8:00 – 8:45	Yellow / orange belts	Top Hall	Sensei Bethany McCloskey	20	£70	Direct
	Football	3:30-4:30	REC	PEN	Ballers	23	£60	Direct
	Football	4:30 – 5:30	1 & 2	PEN	Ballers	23	£60	Direct
Wednesday	Drawing	3:30-4:30	3,4,5 & 6	Art Room	Mr Roberts	25	£25	School
	Dance (Various styles)	3:30-4:30	3, 4,5 & 6	Top Hall	Ballers	17	£70	Direct
	Art Palette	3:30-4:30	R-Y6	Rose Room	Ms. Natacha	15	£100	Direct
	Football	4:30-5.30	3 & 4	PEN	Ballers	20	£60	Direct
	Football	5:30- 6:30	5 & 6	PEN	Ballers	20	£60	Direct
	French	3:30 – 4:30	3 - 6	Maths Room	Ms Iva	12	£80	Direct
Thursday	Karate	8:00-8:45	White & Red Belts	Top Hall	Sensei Bethany McCloskey	20	£70	Direct
	Art Palette	3:30-4:30	R-Y6	Room 15	Ms. Natacha	15	£100	Direct
	Tennis	3:30-4:30	3,4,5 & 6	PEN	Ballers	16	£60	Direct
	Chess	3:30-4:30	3,4,5 & 6	Rose Room	Nela Bešič	22	£100	Direct
Friday	Multi-skills	8:00 – 8:45	3, 4, 5 & 6	PEN	Ballers	20	£0	School
	Chess Club	1:00pm-2:00pm	3,4,5 & 6	Top Hall	CSC Club	20	£25	School
	Cricket	3:30-4:30	4,5,6	Pen	Ballers	20	£50	School
	Dance (Various styles)	3:30 – 4:30	Yr 1 & Y2	Top Hall	Ballers	20	£70	Direct
	Forest School	3:30 – 4:30	2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Wildlife Garden	Secret Adventurers' Club	17	£75	Direct
	French	3:30 – 4:30	Rec – Yr2	Rm4	Ms Iva	12	£80	Direct
	LAMDA	Across the day	Rec – Yr6	Library	Ms Jenny / Storybox Drama Club	Apply directly	Apply directly	Direct

HADES

YEAR 3



Hades Class have had a fantastic start to Year 3!

Everyone has got stuck into learning, across the whole curriculum, from making rainbow dips in our new cooking lessons, to designing our dream school in PSHE.

In Writing, the children have published their first narratives inspired by the book Do You Remember. They spent a long time reflecting on which memories to include and considered how the reader should feel when reading them.

In Maths we have consolidated a lot of our Year 2 learning and are now starting to move onto place value and working with three-digit numbers.

A real highlight of this half term was our trip to the British Museum. After spending the first few weeks of the year learning about prehistoric London, the children were very excited to speak to a real Architect and sort artefacts. The children were very inspired and excited to create our own exhibition in the classroom, where they wrote great descriptions and inferences about the artefacts we have been studying.

Well done Hades Class, what an amazing half term!





POSEIDON

YEAR 3

What a wonderful start to Year 3! The children have settled in beautifully and shown great enthusiasm throughout this half term.

Our young writers published their first Big Write, inspired by Do You Remember? They used descriptive language to describe their special memories in vivid detail. In Maths, we built on our Year 2 knowledge, focusing on number bonds to 100.

We travelled back in time to explore prehistoric London. A highlight of this term was our exciting trip to the British Museum, where the children investigated artefacts. We then created our own classroom exhibitions, displaying the replica artefacts the children had made. In RE, we explored Jewish festivals and traditions.



In Science, we learnt about skeletons, muscles and the importance of a healthy, balanced diet. During PSHE, imaginations ran wild as the children designed their dream schools.

Our cooking lessons have been a real treat! The children learnt how to use knives safely and prepare delicious, nutritious food. Well done, Poseidon Class! I am so proud of all your hard work and effort.



ATTENDANCE REALLY MATTERS

Gearing Up for a Great Year, Together!

At Dalmain, every day counts! Regular attendance helps children build friendships, develop confidence, establish routines and make the most of every learning opportunity.

TARGET: 97%

88.3%
Pupils with attendance of 90% or above

96%
Whole-school attendance so far

+1.5%
UP since last year's 94.5%

Back-to-School Readiness Checklist

Help your child get off to a great start by making sure they are ready for school each day.

- ☐ Establish a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- ☐ Pack school bags, uniform and PE kits the night before.
- ☐ Set an alarm and allow plenty of time for the journey.
- ☐ Aim to arrive at school on time, ready to learn.
- ☐ Book routine medical appointments outside school hours wherever possible.
- ☐ If your child is unwell or something affects attendance, let us know so we can offer support.

ATTENDANCE REALLY MATTERS

DID YOU KNOW?

✦ 97% or above
is our attendance target, in line with Lewisham Local Authority expectations.

✦ Every day matters!
Missing one day every two weeks can add up to around 19 days of missed learning over a school year.

✦ Good attendance builds good habits.
Regular attendance helps children feel settled, confident and connected to classmates.

✦ Small steps make a difference.
Bedtime routines, prepared school bags and alarms can help mornings run smoothly.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS

If mornings are proving difficult, please speak to us—we are here to help.

LET'S MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT—TOGETHER!

ARTEMIS

YEAR 4



Artemis Class have had a fantastic start to Year 4! Our theme, Shaping Britain, has taken us on a journey from remarkable places to inventions and stories, making connections across the curriculum!

In Writing, we have loved reading Constance in Peril, using the story to develop our descriptive writing, acting prowess and storytelling skills. We have brough the story to life by designing our own unique dolls before writing and publishing our own versions, taking our characters on exciting adventures and unexpected calamities!

In Maths, we have revisited column addition and subtraction, before strengthening our understanding of place value. We then applied our mathematical knowledge to real-world practical problems involving measurement and unit conversions.



In Science, we have been investigating electricity and how electrical circuits work. Then we applied this knowledge, alongside our Teaching of Reading text 'How Does a Lighthouse Work' with Mr Roberts in Art, designing and making our own working lighthouse models, which look incredible!

Well done to Artemis Class for a fabulous first term!



APOLLO

YEAR 4





Apollo class have made a brilliant start to Year 4. A highlight was our two intensive weeks of swimming lessons at Forest Hill Pools. The children all worked so hard each day and made incredible progress, showing growing confidence in the water.



Another highlight was our Science work on electrical circuits. It was brilliant to see the class work collaboratively to build their circuits each week, investigating switches, exploring the factors that affect the brightness of bulbs and electrical safety. The children really embraced this hands-on learning and problem solving.

Finally, the children published their first extended piece of writing of the year; their own adventure stories based on our class text Constance in Peril. I was impressed by the creativity and humour they brought to their stories, and look forward to seeing the class continue to develop as writers across the school year.

2026-27

KEY INFORMATION

Remember to FOLLOW US!

#dalmain primaryse23

Which school email to use???

General school email:

admin@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

Attendance:

attendance@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

Finance, curriculum clubs, instrumental lessons, trips, medicines or allergies:

office@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk



Their story is only just beginning...

Dalmain's LAUREATES

Since the start of term, we have been astounded by the quality of writing our pupils have produced. The children receiving our Dalmain Laureate Award have demonstrated exceptional progress, a rich and ambitious vocabulary, and the confidence to apply their literary skills across the curriculum. Their achievements reflect not only their growing mastery of writing, but also their creativity, perseverance and pride in their work. We are incredibly proud of them and look forward to seeing their writing celebrated on display across the school.



RECEPTION

AUTUMN
LUNA
BENJAMIN

YEAR 1

AMALIA
ISABELLA

YEAR 2

MAYA
SARA

YEAR 3

JAMES H
AMOS

YEAR 4

LUCA
OTTOLINE

YEAR 5

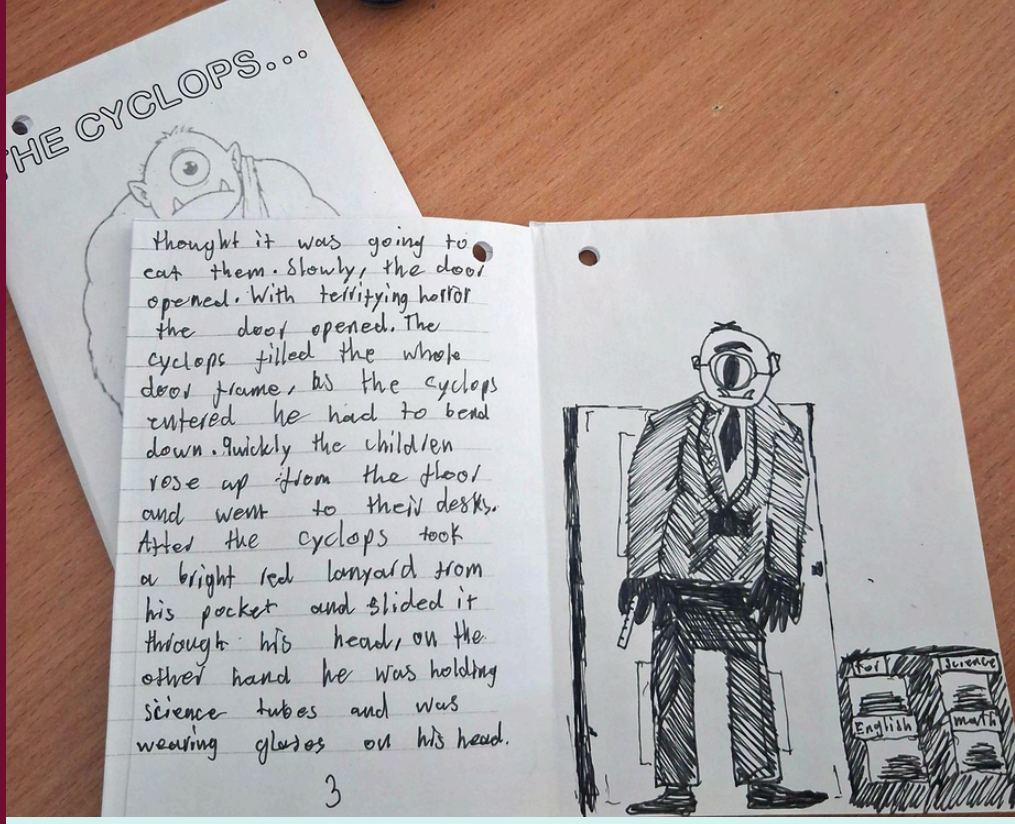
ESME
INDIGO

YEAR 6

HELENA
AJ

AURA

YEAR 5



What a busy and exciting start to the year for Aura Class! We have thrown ourselves into our learning, enjoying practical investigations, creative writing and opportunities to learn beyond the classroom on our residential trip. We have approached new challenges with enthusiasm and curiosity, making the most of the many exciting experiences Year 5 has to offer.

In English, we immersed ourselves in The Dragon, from Good Bits by Kes Gray. After a very special visit from our very own teacher dragon, we took inspiration from the story to create our own exciting tales, each featuring a surprising twist at the end.

In Maths, we have revisited and extended our understanding of tenths and hundredths, exploring fractions and decimals. We have particularly enjoyed tackling mathematical challenges and developing our problem-solving skills through NRICH games.



In Science, we have investigated mixtures and explored how sieving, filtering and evaporation can separate different substances. We have also explored solutions and dissolving, considering how temperature affects the time taken for substances to dissolve.

In PSHE, we have been setting personal goals and exploring what it means to be a responsible citizen. We have discussed our rights and responsibilities, as well as the importance of understanding rewards and consequences.

It has been a wonderful start to Year 5, and we look forward to sharing more of our learning and achievements as the term continues.





ATHENA

YEAR 5

This term has been full of exciting learning experiences and new adventures! One of our highlights was attending our residential, where we enjoyed spending time together and building our independence and teamwork skills.



In English, we have been busy writing imaginative stories about a mysterious creature that destroys parts of our school, only to discover that it is actually a new teacher! We are now beginning our new book, Amazing Islands.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of tenths, hundredths, rounding and decimals. Science has seen us investigating materials and exploring practical methods such as filtering and sieving.

In RE, we have been learning about Judaism and how Jewish people prepare for worship, while in Reading, we have been diving into poetry and exploring its structure. We have also enjoyed hockey in PE, creating landscapes in Art, making focaccia in Cooking, and starting an exciting new dance programme with Trinity Laban. What a busy term!



AUTHOR VISIT

Graham Whitlock



VISITING DALMAIN!

"I am delighted to be visiting Dalmain Primary School to meet pupils and bring to life the incredible history of the Crystal Palace, the world's first theme park. I love sharing how heritage inspired me to write The Crystal Palace Chronicles and Adventures of Young H. G. Wells.

I look forward to firing their imaginations and hearing ideas for what they would put inside their own Crystal Palace if it rose again tomorrow..."

GRAHAM WHITLOCK,
AUTHOR,
www.grahamwhitlock.com

DATE

20TH November!!

AUTHOR VISIT Graham Whitlock

AUTHOR VISIT TO DALMAIN

Can a teenage time traveller save Victorian London… and himself?
Step back in time to The Crystal Palace, the world's first theme park.

"A fantastic time-travel adventure."
Waterstones
★★★★★

Graham Whitlock, author of *The Crystal Palace Chronicles* and *Adventures of Young H. G. Wells*, is delighted to be visiting on Friday 20 November.

After school, he will be signing and selling his thrilling adventures—perfect for independent and adventurous readers in Years 5 and 6.

Special Dalmain Price: £8 per book (usually £8.99). Includes FREE bookmark + poster.
OR get the full 7-book collection for £54 (usually £62.93), including a beautiful gold foil map.

Full 7-book collection with gold foil map = £54

The Crystal Palace Chronicles = £8 per book

Book I Star of Nimrod Book • Book II Palace of Shadows

Book III Palace of Flames • Book IV Palace Above the Clouds

Adventures of Young H. G. Wells – Bertie & The Invisible Menace = £8

Adventures of Young H. G. Wells – Bertie & The War Among the Stars = £8

Adventures of Young H. G. Wells – Bertie & The War Among the Stars = £8

How to order: purchase at the stall (cash & card), or to **pre-order** simply email info@grahamwhitlock.com with child's name • class • books required • name for dedication (can be paid for via PayPal or BACS)

"Graham Whitlock is a wonderful storyteller"
Suzy K Quinn, New York Times best-selling author

"A middle-grade adventure that is full of mystery, fun, friendship and family – I loved this!"

"Recommended for anyone who enjoys reading Harry Potter with a splash of Famous Five."

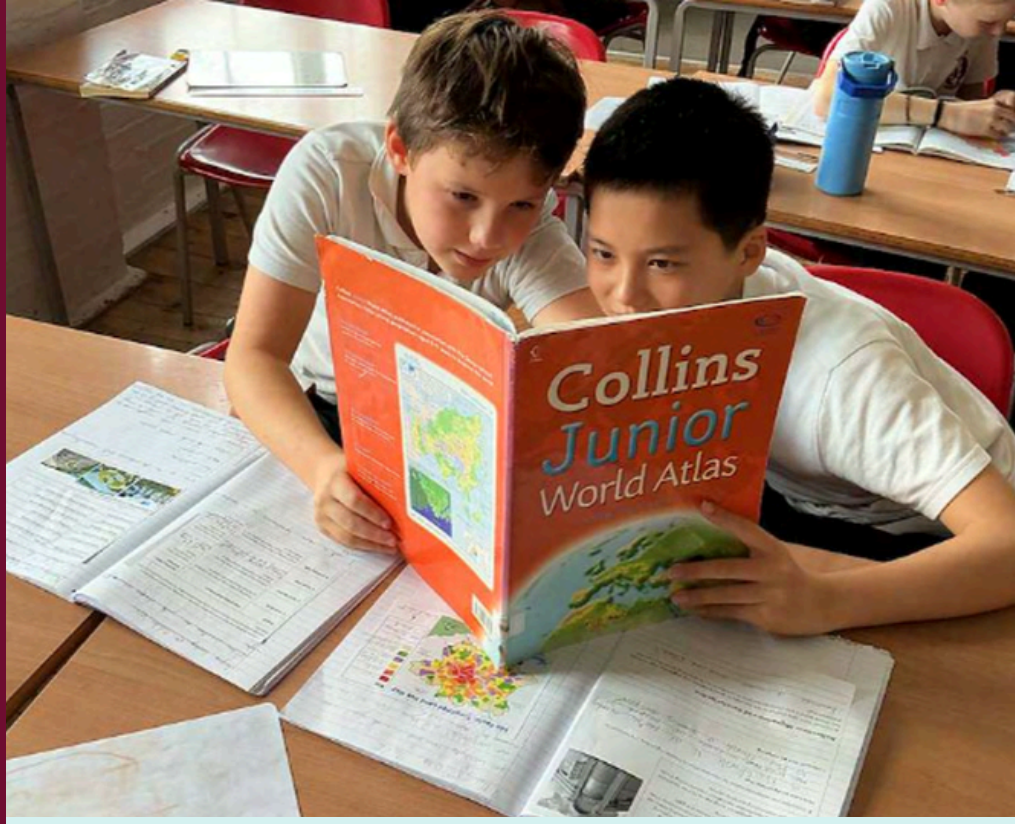
"Had me and my son laughing and rapidly turning each page – we fell in love with this book."

www.grahamwhitlock.com



NYX

YEAR 6



Year 6 have had a fantastic time exploring the world of science and geography! In science, we have been classifying animals, plants and microorganisms, discovering what makes each group unique.



We've also been getting hands-on and creative by building models to explore invertebrates. From tiny creatures to incredible adaptations, we've learnt that you don't need a backbone to be fascinating! Take a look at our fantastic models in the pictures.



In geography, we have been investigating megacities and the challenges they face, including pollution, traffic and overcrowding.

We have also explored how sustainable cities, such as Singapore, are tackling these issues through innovative ideas and greener living. We've had some brilliant discussions about how cities can become cleaner, healthier and better places to live.

ACHILLES

YEAR 6



It has been a fantastic start to Achilles' final year of primary school! Although we are only in the first term, the children have already shown great progress, hard work and resilience.

These skills have been put to the test during our cooking sessions with Chef Phil, where we have been developing our knife skills and learning the bridge and claw techniques to make sure we keep all our fingers!





In computing, we have begun exploring 3D design software, creating a whole host of exciting objects and designs while developing our digital skills.

Most excitingly, we have been using our hand-drawn sketches to guide us as we bring our architectural designs to life on screen as part of our architecture project. We have loved seeing our ideas take shape in three dimensions!

We are so excited for the year ahead. Have a wonderful half-term break!

Big Thanks

To all within our community for your support and dedication to our wonderful children. It's been a brilliant start to the new academic year!



HAPPY HALF TERM!