



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

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Dear Parents and Guardians

I would like to start this newsletter by thanking everyone for all their support last week. With Global Be Well Day fast approaching at times I felt we may have been over ambitious! However, Miss Brewster, as our well-being lead, ensured that everyone enjoyed carefully planned lessons and activities centring around making changes to improve well-being for all. Chris Jansen, our CEO, commented that, 'It's a way for us, together, to improve our understanding of perhaps one of the biggest issues facing children and young people today: their overall well-being – both mental and physical. But this is about much more than a day; it marks the beginning of Cognita's long-term commitment to leading further work in this area.'

I could not agree more that our focus on well-being must continue in all that we do and be central to decisions made for children in our care. Personally, I would like to thank all of you that took time to join in with the fun and help raise the profile of this very important aspect of our lives.

Since then, we have had a very successful visit from Mr David Baldwin our Director of Education. During his visit he observed lessons, reviewed pupil progress and interviewed a variety of children with a particular focus on the quality of verbal and written feedback. This was a very beneficial visit and as a result the staff will continue to reflect on their practice to ensure all children make progress.

Finally, I would like to thank Rodean School who kindly welcomed myself and Miss Brewster this week. We had a very informative and enjoyable lunch with Mr Blond, the Headmaster, and Diana Banham their Director of Admissions which was followed by a tour and informal question and answer time with current Year 7 and 8. If anyone is interested in Rodean as a destination school we look forward to discussing it further with you in our upcoming destination school meetings.

Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Mrs Carroll  
Headteacher

## HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

- Year 6T - Jasmine J & Serena M
- Year 6W - Harry M & Freya K
- Year 5S - Ireoluwa A & Toluwani B
- Year 5B - Jessica W & Lila W
- Year 4 - Zariah E & Georgina W
- Year 3 - Mia G & Deniz G
- Year 2 - Kayhan S & Mikey W
- Year 1G - Chaela M & Joshua O
- Year 1N - Haoran W & Conor K
- Rec Holmes - Ariel E & Elisha B
- Rec Stubbs - Maggie W & Yaqub B



### HOUSE POINTS:

- 1st - Beech - 460
- 2nd - Chestnut - 400
- 3rd - Oak - 326
- 4th - Elm - 283

### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:

- Year 6T - 95.7%
- Year 6W - 93.8%
- Year 5S - 100%
- Year 5B - 98.8%
- Year 4 - 85.8%
- Year 3 - 97.8%
- Year 2 - 96.7%
- Year 1G - 89.2%
- Year 1N - 94.7%



# Year Group Highlights

## YEAR 4

In Year 4, we have been very busy in Science learning all about animals, including humans. We have completed an experiment about our teeth and put eggshells, to replicate our teeth, in different liquids and observed the impact over 3 weeks. First, we made predictions about what might happen and then we made conclusions 3 weeks later to see whether our predictions were correct. We have also been learning about the digestive system, we have found out the names of the different parts and their basic functions. In lessons, we have also labelled and illustrated the digestive system on A3 paper in groups and used this to write a recount of the journey of food. These recounts have been fantastic and have shown the children's current knowledge. We are really excited and looking forward to our trip to the Science Museum next week, which will also further develop our understanding and knowledge.



## RECEPTION

This week Reception have continued to focus on their topic 'All about me'. We have been learning about our 5 senses. The children have enjoyed going on a senses walk around the school field and using their senses to explore what they could see, hear and feel. The children recorded what they found by drawing and writing. The children have used their sense of taste and smell to try some new fruits and vegetables, some of these got a thumbs up and others a thumbs down.

The children have also used their senses in the classroom by painting with smelly paint, playing with chocolate playdough, finding objects that are hard and soft, exploring the instruments and trying new foods.



# Year Group Highlights

## YEAR 6

Over the course of this half term, Class 6W will be taking part in Forest School each Thursday morning. This approach to teaching originated in Scandinavia where children spend most of their time outdoors. It encourages children to take risks in a safe environment and hopes to increase their self-confidence and self-esteem. The first session for 6W happened on a beautiful sunny day (though the weather does not stop forest school!). The children donned their old clothes and set off for base camp to meet Sue Squirrel, the forest school teacher.

After completing their own 'risk assessments' and learning about some tree types, the children decided which activities they wanted to take part in. Rope swings were the favourite this week and several were constructed. These were safety tested and then thoroughly used! Break time took place in base camp with squash and biscuits then it was back to the fun (Sorry - I mean learning!)

What will be on the agenda for next week? Zip lines? Lighting fires?

Just wait and see!



# GLOBAL BE WELL DAY



# Student Achievements

Tate plays football for the Upminster Park Rovers and he scored 7 goals at his most recent match! As a result he has received the man of the match award! Well done Tate!



Dreydon did his stage 1 LAMDA exam in the summer and on Friday he received his results, and he did fantastically well! He got a Distinction for his performance along with some really lovely, encouraging comments. Well done Dreydon!



Daniel A participated in the Epping Open Swimming Gala and achieved a new PB in the 50m Freestyle. He also won medals for the 50m backstroke and 200m breaststroke. Well done Daniel!



Sienna in Year 4 has received her pen licence! Well Done Sienna!



Mia also participated in the Epping Open Swimming Gala and achieved Gold for the 200m IM and Gold for the 200m Backstroke. Well done Mia!



Arjun took part in a 10km sponsored walk in Hyde Park last weekend to raise money for the Mouth Cancer Foundation. He managed to complete the whole walk and in the process raised just under £2,000. Well done Arjun!



## NETBALL HIGH-5

On Wednesday, 7 children from Year 6 took part in the Havering schools High 5 netball tournament. This exciting fixture is netball with a twist as it has different rules to normal netball, for example, only 5 players are allowed on the court at a time and each player needs to play in all positions over the tournament.

The Oakfields team - Rhiannon, Jake, Olivia, Emily, Harry, David and Jasmine - were accompanied by Mrs Carroll to the tournament which was held at Hornchurch High School. On arrival the team started with 4 matches which gave us the opportunity to practice and improve! Our first 2 matches were goalless draws but the next 2 we won 1-0 which meant we made the quarter finals. Consistency prevailed here too and we again won 1-0 sending us through to the semi finals for a tough match against winners for the last 3 years - Parsonage Farm. Sadly our journey ended here although it was a particularly exciting and close match with normal play ending 0-0 forcing 4 minutes of extra time and eventually a sudden death shoot off.

Jake and I are very proud of the whole team for displaying amazing teamwork whether they were on the court or offside (timekeeping / scoring). We think this was a brilliant result for our school coming third overall out of the 20 teams involved and we can't wait for the rest of the netball season!

Olivia  
Sports Captain



### SPORTS DATES



- **Thursday 3rd Oct** - Football trials for Years 5 and 6 boys during lunchtime
- **Thursday 10th Oct** - Football trials for Years 5 and 6 girls during lunchtime
- **Tuesday 15th Oct** - Cross Country at Stubbers - Years 3,4,5 and 6 from 12:00-3.00pm. Teams will be selected next week.

## ***HOMEWORK POLICY***

Dear Parents,

We would like to thank the parents who have informed us that they need some clarity around our homework policy. We always appreciate it when parents contact us directly to speak through their concerns so that we can discuss this and reassure them about the decisions that are made.

Over the last few years, there has been much debate about homework and its impact on primary aged children. As educators we always make decisions based on what is best for our children, staff and parents.

After a discussion with staff and other Cognita colleagues, we reviewed our homework policy (taking into account current educational research and staff well-being). We agreed a shared vision to benefit pupils, staff and parents.

Our homework this year:

- Reading – At least 4 times a week
- Spelling – Practice daily at home
- Times tables – Practice daily at home. This is very important for our children in Year 3 and 4 as there will be a times table test at the end of Year 4.
- Maths – Mathletics once a week. This is online because our assessments are all online and many chosen destination schools now have an online element to their entrance exams.
- English – Once a week. This can be handwritten or typed (depending on success criteria) and will be linked to their learning that will or to introduce a new topic.

Any additional homework on top of this is down to individual teachers but they are not expected to provide any more homework than the above.

Last year, teachers were asked to provide weekly science homework whereas this year we have put it into a half term holiday. This is the only difference to the homework policy that was in place last year.

## ***UNIFORM***



With the current weather conditions could all children please ensure they are arriving to school with full school uniform including; jumpers, cardigans and school outdoor coats.



TO ALL PARENTS

PLEASE NOTE ALL CHILDREN WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR THE NEW TARTAN FOR THE WINTER TERM, MONDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

ALL PRE ORDERS ARE NOW READY FOR COLLECTION

WE WILL HAVE A SMALL SELECTION AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER (CARD PAYMENTS NOW ACCEPTED)

ADDITIONALLY ORDERS CAN BE PURCHASED ONLINE AND COLLECTED FRIDAY

[WWW.BESPOKESCHOOLWEAR.CO.UK](http://WWW.BESPOKESCHOOLWEAR.CO.UK)

WINTER COATS, HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES, BASE LAYERS AND THE NEW TRACKSUIT WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE

THE SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP WILL CLOSE FOR WINTER FROM FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER (FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER BEING THE LAST DAY)

## WELL DONE TO OUR MATHLETICS STARS



This week we celebrated National Poetry Day 2019 and the theme this year is 'truth'. Year groups 1-6 started by listening to poems linked to this theme.

Over the forthcoming weeks, key stage 1 and 2 class teachers will plan lessons to prepare the children to create their own poems linked to the theme of 'truth'. Year groups 1-6 will be entered into the National Poetry Day, Havering competition and the winning poems will be displayed in all Havering Libraries.

This is an exciting project, which will allow the children to be creative!

Please see future newsletters for updates.

Miss Gowing  
Head of English



# Upcoming Events

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### OCTOBER

- MONDAY 7TH - Destination School Meetings (Year 5)
- WEDNESDAY 9TH - Destination School Meetings (Year 5)
- TUESDAY 8TH - Year 4 Science Museum
- MONDAY 14TH - 11+ results posted out
- TUESDAY 15TH - 11+ results available online/Parents Evening Kindergarten-Year 6 4-7pm
- WEDNESDAY 16TH - Year 6 Shakespeare Globe Theatre
- THURSDAY 17TH - Parents Evening Kindergarten-Year 6 4-7pm
- FRIDAY 18TH - Last Day
- MONDAY 21ST - FRIDAY 1ST - HALF TERM HOLIDAY

### NOVEMBER

- MONDAY 4TH - Children Back
- TUESDAY 5TH - Year 1 Coffee Morning 9am
- WEDNESDAY 6TH - Year 2 Coffee Morning 9am/Year 1 Museum of Childhood 8-3pm
- THURSDAY 7TH - PTA Meeting 7:45pm
- 11TH - 15TH - Anti-Bullying Week
- TUESDAY 12TH - Year 4 Coffee Morning 9am/PTA Meeting 7:45pm
- WEDNESDAY 13TH - Year 5 Coffee Morning 9am
- THURSDAY 14TH - Year 6 Coffee Morning 9am
- 18TH - 24TH - Road Safety Week
- TUESDAY 19TH - Year 3 Coffee Morning 9am **(REVISED)**/Flu Immunisation Rec - Yr 6
- FRIDAY 22ND - School Disco
- WEDNESDAY 20TH - Stay and Play Kindergarten 9-9:45am
- THURSDAY 21ST - Stay and Play Reception 9-9:45am

## RECENT SOCIAL MEDIA POST



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and Facebook



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ssori.School