



January 2020

New York Primary School

Welcome back to school and Happy New Year everyone. Pupils have returned after the Christmas Break ready to learn and excited to start their new curriculum topics. Please read your child's Spring term curriculum leaflet to find out what learning is taking place in their year group. There are some brilliant reading books that pupils are enjoying both in whole class and as individual readers. We read a whole school story in assembly each day and this term we are reading *The Girl Who Walked on Air* by Emma Carroll. The children are really enjoying it. I love to hear them groan when I close the book until the following day as they are so keen to hear more! Thanks to all who supported with the whole school visit to the pantomime at the Theatre Royal. We have received numerous compliments from members of the public and theatre staff about how well our pupils behaved and how well organised we were. Maths For Families is well underway this term - look out for more opportunities to join your child's learning. We have also welcomed other schools to observe our OPAL in action. We would be grateful for donations of small cars, construction items, pans for the mud kitchen and wheelie things. Two weeks to half term and lots to look forward to!

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance is 96% which is slightly below our target of 96.5%.

w/c	Whole School	Winning Class	% (of winning class)
06/01/20	96.9%	5LM, 9BD, 10JM, 12JG	100%
13/01/20	94.5%	3BK	99.2%
20/01/20	96%	6AP	98.9%



Lego League

On Wednesday 29th January, our Lego League team participated in the First Lego League tournament for the very first time! Eight children from Year 5 and Year 6 attended the event and participated in a range of competitive activities that they had been working towards for months. These included programming a Lego robot, delivering a



presentation about a real life problem and carrying out a

teamwork task. The judges were so impressed by the positivity, resilience and innovation shown by our children that our team walked away from the tournament as very well-deserved winners of the "Judge's Choice" award!



Maths for Families

We began our first Maths for Families PLZ group in January where parents from Year 4 and 5 have been invited to join their children in the classroom to explore maths. Mrs Bourne and Joe from NUSTEM have been running the groups and the first one had a real buzz. Families explored maths games and puzzles and worked together to solve them using different strategies. Keep a look out for future family sessions. Don't be afraid to give it a go!



Author Visit

On Friday 23rd January, Years 4, 5 and 6 had the wonderful opportunity to meet the author Lisa Thompson. The children were lucky enough to hear her read her brand new book 'The Boy Who Fooled The World,' and were able to find out about her childhood and what inspired her to become an author.



Year 6 SafetyWorks Trip

On 20th January, Year 6 visited Safetyworks. They participated in 5 different activities simulating real life hazards and how to prevent them. These included Metro

safety, safety in the home, peer pressure and what to do if someone is unresponsive. We were shocked to learn that you can be arrested at just 10 years old and talked about peer pressure and what this might look like in day-to-day scenarios. We then looked inside a real police custody cell and talked about the numbers you call in an emergency. In an emergency always dial 999 - when someone is in danger, a crime is in progress or a suspect is nearby. 101 is the phone number to contact your local police, any time it isn't 999. 101 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.





Dates for your diary



- Tuesday 11th February—Safer Internet Day
- Wednesday 12th February - HoopStarz Workshops
- Thursday 13th February - Valentines Disco
- Friday 14th February - Break up for Half Term
- Monday 24th February - Children return to school
- Thursday 5th March - World Book Day
- Thursday 12th March - Book Look, 9.15 - 11am and 2 - 3pm
- Thursday 19th March - EYFS Mothers' Day Crafts
- Wednesday 1st April - EYFS Easter Welly Waddle
- Wednesday 1st April - EYFS and KSI Easter Assembly
- Friday 3rd April - KS2 Easter Assembly
- Friday 3rd April - Break up for Easter

Attendance and Punctuality

Last term a number of you received letters about your child's punctuality. I am pleased to advise that so far this term there is a noticeable reduction in the number of pupils arriving late for school. Thank you to those who are working to improve punctuality. Being late for school is lost learning and also embarrassing for pupils who arrive late into class. School start time is 8.55 am and all pupils should arrive in school for this time.

Community

There was a significant amount of litter upon the return after Christmas. The council team were prompt to respond but I notice that it has increased again. I have requested additional litter bins along the path, but I do not want bins positioned directly outside school gates due to Health and Safety risks. It is a criminal offence to drop or leave litter, including dog fouling, and I am sure you would agree that we want the area around school to be clean and mess free. The next community meeting will take place during February. We will notify you of the confirmed date.