



Article of the month of:

Every Child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying the same

As you are all aware, we now have a new **Home Learning** page on our website: <https://www.colindale.barnet.sch.uk/>. Every year group has a dedicated page with lots and lots of activities for the children to do at home in all subjects. We have created this page so parents and children have a wider choice of relevant learning tasks, which they can do as and when it suits them best, and for as long as they want. As our *Home Learning Policy* states (which you can find on the *Policies* page of the website) in all year groups a few weekly Home Learning tasks will be set by class teachers: Reading in all year groups; phonics, tricky word and number practice in Reception; spellings from years 1 to 6; multiplication tables years from years 2 to 5; and CGP Homework books (English and Maths) in year 6. The expectation is that the vast majority of Home learning will be taken from the website.



If you have any questions about the Home Learning page or any aspect of Home Learning, please talk to your child's class teacher, who will be very keen to help.

During February, Year 1 had an **open lesson on writing**. There was a fantastic turn out, with just over half of all Year 1 parents attending. The feedback about the lesson was very positive. Having spoken to parents at the end of the session and during consultation evenings, it was clear to see that the session was very informative and helpful. Parents commented on how surprised they were with how much their children could write as well as how well they write. Many parents also said that their children love to do writing at home. The session focussed on writing sentences for accuracy. Pupils were encouraged to say their sentences; count the words; write the sentence and then to check it for a capital letter, finger spaces, spellings and correct punctuation. *Ms Nisha Parmar (Assistant Headteacher)*



### Attendance awards

In February the following classes were awarded the *Colindale Gold Attendance Award* for the highest attendance:

**1PA, 5DM, 2J, 2P and 3B twice—well done!**

**WELL DONE!**



### Important dates coming up

Every Friday—8.30 to 8.50: Everyone Reads.

7th March—World Book Day, Open Maths lessons in Reception, 5T to Natural History Museum.

11th March—Year 6 to London Zoo

11th to 15th March—Science week

20th March—5M to RAF Museum

21st March—5T to RAF Museum

22nd March—5DM to RAF Museum

## Welcome to Colindale Primary School Parent Staff Association

The PSA Committee consists of a group of parents and staff working in partnership with the school to drive forward fundraising initiatives and ensure that all funds raised are used for the benefit of all children.

All parents and staff at Colindale Primary School are automatically members of the PSA. Many help to organise and support events, raising money to provide the school with equipment and facilities to enrich our children's primary school experience.

We held our Annual General Meeting of the year on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. A number of parents and staff attended the meeting and a new PSA Committee was elected.

Our new PSA Committee members are: **Michelle Grossi, (Chair), Emma Hurn, (Vice Chair), Lianne Nuttall, (Secretary), Razia Bachoo, (Treasurer).** Adil Ali, Jane Walsh, Jenni McDonough, Jen Robinson, Jennie Thompson, Joan McCarthy, Malou Sissoko, Sakina Kassam and Wendy Wayland (General Committee Members).

We meet on a regular basis to organise fundraising events that are aimed towards reaching a mutual goal, as voted for by the children. The most recent goal has been fundraising for Playground Equipment.

In 2017/2018, we raised over £5,700 from our Friendship Parties and International Fair. So far in 2018/2019 we have raised £2075 from our first ever Winter Fayre. We are hoping to raise much more this year.

All parents and staff are welcome to join our PSA meetings. Text message invitations will be sent out in advance of the meetings, which usually take place on Tuesdays after school and the dates put on the website calendar.

If you have any fundraising ideas or would like to become an active member of the PSA, please do let us know by contacting the school or sending an email to: [psa@colindale.barnetmail.net](mailto:psa@colindale.barnetmail.net). Or you can join us at our next meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30pm.

We look forward to having more parents join our meetings in future.

*Colindale Primary School PSA.*



**Reception Workshops:** Over the past few weeks, the Reception Nursery Nurses have held information workshops for groups of parents. The parents had the opportunity to find out about the expectations for physical development, literacy and maths in the early years. They participated in lots of activities such as music and movement, making shopping lists, fun reading games and counting and shape games. The parents who attended the workshops found them very helpful and expressed how they felt more confident to support their child's learning at home.



We look forward to welcoming more parents to the workshops this half term. *Emma Hurn (AHT)*

Year 5's new topic this term is **Early Islamic Civilisation**. A topic which is also new to Colindale Primary School. As part of our topic, we visited the Victoria and Albert Museum where they have an entire room showcasing the fascinating history of the Middle East. The children were drawn immediately to the gigantic Islamic patterned carpets which were hung in boxes; patterns we have been looking at and trying to recreate during our art lessons. The children also enjoyed finding out how old the artefacts were. Their knowledge of the timeline and their understanding of "before common era" and "common era", was put to the test when set the challenge of finding the oldest artefact housed in the V&A. The children then chose two artefacts they found most interesting to sketch and record information about, to bring back

to school to research further, during their history lesson. The children were in awe of most of the artefacts and this was increased further by our amazing tour guide who explained more about the artwork, dating back hundreds of years, originating from the Early Islamic Civilisation. Our Year 5s also got to create their own geometric patterns which was great fun! A fantastic trip that has greatly added to our learning around our new and wonderful topic! *Lisa Thompson (5T Teacher)*

