



DRUMBEAT SCHOOL

Newsletter — Autumn Term 2

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a long term but with lots happening. As you can see from all our classes they have been busy with their new curriculums and the exciting build up to Christmas.

The beautiful new designed grotto was the hard work of Roger and Angela and was amazing. We fondly remember Lesley at this time of year who was an integral part of the Christmas grotto team.

Well done to the football team and to Vincenzo for all his charity events especially the food bank.

Thank you all my fantastic staff or all their hard work this term and to our lovely children who are joyous day in and day out.

I wish you all and your family a very happy Christmas with lots of precious family time.

Marie Neave
Executive Headteacher

Dates for the Diary....

Friday, 17 December

Last day of term

School will close at 1pm on this day

Tuesday, 4 January &

Wednesday, 5 January

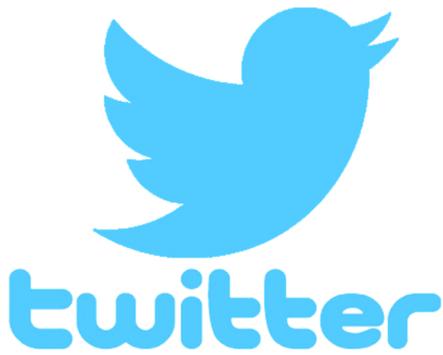
INSET days

Pupils will not attend school on these days

Thursday, 6 January

Pupils back at school





Drumbeat's Twitter News

We are excited to announce that our Twitter Page is back up and running. We will be using this space to share special projects, highlights of the children's learning and school announcements. Please follow us on **@DrumbeatASD** for all things Drumbeat.



BBC

Children in Need

Drumbeat raised an impressive

£226.09

for Children in Need.

Thank you for all your contributions!



Outgrown old school uniforms?

Don't know what to do with it?

DONATE IT!

If you have any school uniforms that your children no longer use, please consider donating them to the school. These uniforms will be donated back to the Drumbeat community.

Brockley football team update:

This autumn the Brockley football teams have been training twice a week, once with instructor Adam and once with the Millwall Community Trust coaches organised by the lovely Vincenzo.

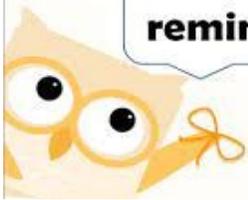
The A & B team have been trying so hard in every training session and tournament for which their efforts have now all paid off, as they have since been triumphant at the South London Special league, not once, but TWICE, with our A team winning the overall tournament and bagging themselves two gold medals and one silver. In the last two games the A team have scored a whopping 22 goals while Jonathan our A team goalkeeper allowed ZERO goals in! But it's not all about sporting prowess and the A team even gave away their gold medals to the B team as they felt they had tried so hard to not have a medal themselves, a very kind sporting gesture by our A team.

It has been a huge team effort by all the students, they have all done fantastically well and shown great resilience, focus, teamwork, sharing, determination and friendship throughout. A special shout out to Bradley who was player of the tournament for his great goalkeeping skills!



**NO PARKING
DO NOT BLOCK
DRIVEWAY**

Please be mindful when parking outside the school and ensure that local residents' drives are not blocked and bus entrances are kept clear.



**Just a
reminder...**

School Uniform

Please name all your children's clothing as it is difficult to locate lost clothing without some form of identification.

Our school uniform consists of black trousers/skirt, plain white polo shirt and purple sweatshirt. If you would like to order uniform please visit www.myclothing.com and put the school name in the box, this will then take you to our page. The address is also on the school website under 'for parents'.

Whitehall Clothiers in Lewisham also has a limited stock of our uniform. They are at 244a Lewisham High Street, London, SE13 6JU (Tel: 0208 852 8967 or www.whitehallclothiers.co.uk)

For swimming your child will need to bring a towel and swimsuit or costume. They will also need shorts and a T-shirt for P.E. lessons. These may be left at school, in a clearly marked bag.

In the 6th Form students can choose to wear their own clothes to school. In practice we find the vast majority of students choose this option and do not wear the Drumbeat school uniform.

Art Work at Drumbeat Downham



Thank you to Roger and his team for our lovely Christmas display in Reception and the fantastic Jungle Grotto.





News from Pathway 1 EYFS News



We have had an amazing first term in EYFS and have really enjoyed being a part of Drumbeat school. The last few weeks we have been completing lot of Christmas activities including making snow globes, gingerbread men, handprint wreaths and melted snowmen biscuits. We all really enjoyed our Christmas Trip to Crayzee Barn soft play.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and we looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year.



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Crocodile Class

What a great term! The children have been exploring and learning through play, as well as learning new stories and joining in with our topic 'celebrations'. We have also been cooking, exploring food, learning about number and shape and enjoying Christmas activities. They have all been superstars and we are so impressed with the progress they have made!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!





Giraffe Class

Well, it's been a busy, fun and happy half term! We have continued to learn about celebrations and the world around us. We have been on local walks and observed seasonal change. And, of course, we have been developing our maths and English skills.



After Christmas our topic will be 'We all go travelling by' and we will be learning about transport and journeys.

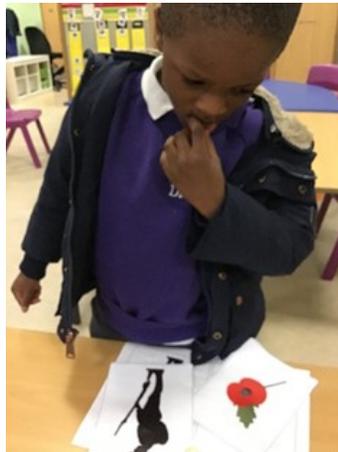
Have a lovely break, Happy Christmas to those who celebrate it, and Happy New Year to you all!

Tiger Class



What a great first term. The children have been learning through play, engaging with adult led sessions and enjoying exploring our topic: 'celebrations'. We have also been cooking, began a new intervention called 'write dance' and enjoying Christmas activities. We are very proud at how much progress has been made. They are all superstars!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!



Turtle Class



Turtle Class have explored lots of new activities this term and are all showing great progress! The children have been exploring sensory activities, working on their communication skills, and learning new stories about our topic 'weather'. We have also been looking at Maths and English through sensory play and AA activities.

We have also enjoyed looking at different Christmas activities, and we wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



This half term we have been busy engaging in range of learning activities and experiences. We took part in Christmas themed activities and games such as Bingo, Christmas art and decorating biscuits. We have really enjoyed making decorations and dressing the schools' Christmas tree. For learning outside of the classroom we have attended the local supermarket and was able handle and exchange money to purchase ingredients for cooking. We had a lot of fun sliding, climbing and playing when we attended the Crayzee Barn soft play in Sidcup.



We are all so sad to be saying goodbye to Oscar. He is leaving to become a Policeman. Wishing you the very best in your new job! Oscar is loved by all the children and staff in Zebra Class and will be so missed!



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It has been a fun filled term and we are looking forward to the Spring Term. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Love from, Zebra Class



Flamingo Class

It has been another busy but fantastic half term in Flamingo Class and the children have continued to work hard and make excellent progress.



In literacy, we have been working on our communication and interaction with peers. It is lovely to hear the children speaking and/or using sign much more frequently and confidently to express themselves. We have also seen the beginnings of some lovely friendships in Flamingo Class and they have all shown fantastic turn-taking skills when playing our favourite game 'Pop up pirate'.



In maths, we have been developing our number recognition and learning our colours. The children all really enjoyed a colour Attention Autism where we carried out the Skittles experiment. Why not try this at home? All you need is a packet of skittles, a plate and some water and then some patience why you wait for the colours to run.



We have now learnt the first 5 sounds of the read, write inc. phonics programme and will continue to revise and practice these sounds next term. They are – m, a, s, d, t.



The children are really engaging with their phonics lessons and beginning to recall and say their sounds. It would be great if you could continue to practice with them at home over the holidays. If you want to discuss how best to support your child with phonics, please do not hesitate to get in touch where I will be happy to discuss this with you J

Flamingo Class have been getting into the festive spirit with lots of arts and crafts, Christmas themed Attention Autism, and Christmas themed cooking lessons.

They all looked amazing in their festive jumpers on Christmas Jumper Day last Friday so thank you for participating.



As part of our RE curriculum, the children visited the Church where we were treated to a sensory, interactive version of the nativity story. The children all listened beautifully and participated well. I was very proud of them all.

Penguin Class

Penguin Class have been enjoying carrying out Christmas Celebrations. We met Santa, had a great Christmas Dinner, visited the local church to listen to the Nativity Story and sing some songs. We have also been carrying out lots of Christmas activities.

We wish you a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Seahorse Class



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We went to the rainforest to visit Santa! It was so much fun!

Merry Christmas from Seahorse class! We hope you have a very lovely Christmas break!





Panda Class

Literacy

In literacy we have been developing our writing skills by practicing our fine motor skills and identifying the features required for writing a sentence. We have worked on using finger spaces and descriptive words. We have used lots of describing words in relation to our work on 'The Gruffalo.' The children enjoyed making their own Gruffalo's using playdough. More recently the children enjoyed reading about 'The kitchen disco' and 'Dear Santa'.

Maths

In maths, we have been developing our number recognition. We have used cooking skills to measure and follow instructions and worked on identifying size. The children have been working hard and enjoyed practical and sensory lessons to support their learning.



Panda Class have used music to practice making loud and quiet sounds, as well as understanding fast and slow actions. They have practiced turn taking and communication skills throughout their different lessons this term.



Christmas

Panda Class have been getting into the festive spirit with Christmas themed

Attention Autism, and Christmas themed cooking lessons. They have enjoyed their Christmas activities and we had some beautiful Christmas jumpers last week! Thank you for participating.

Next term...

Please continue to regularly check your child's contact book for updates and letters. We may even put small pieces of art or topic work in there too!

Have a beautiful Christmas from everyone here in Panda class!

Leopard Class



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Leopard Class have used music to practice making loud and quiet sounds, as well as understanding fast and slow actions. They have practiced turn taking and communication skills throughout their different lessons this term.



In maths, we have been developing our number recognition. We have used cooking skills to measure and follow instructions and worked on identifying size. The children have been working hard and enjoyed practical and sensory lessons to support their learning.



Leopard Class have been getting into the festive spirit with Christmas themed Attention Autism, and Christmas themed cooking lessons. They have enjoyed their Christmas activities and we had some beautiful Christmas jumpers last week! Thank you for participating.



Lions Class



Lion Class have been very busy this past term. We have been on lots of trips and had lots of fun learning about dinosaurs. We created our own fossils and became palaeontologists and matched fossils to dinosaurs. We went to see the dinosaur statues at Crystal Palace and then used clay to sculpt out our hybrid dinosaurs. We also helped give back to the community by helping plant daffodil bulbs in Forster Park with Pippa from the Park's Team.

I also discovered I have a brilliant story teller in Lion Class who read *Stick Man* to some children from Reception and Key Stage One. He received a huge round of applause when he finished reading!

I hope you all have a restful festive break and come back ready for another great term in January.



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Lancelot Class

Hello from Lancelot class! We have worked hard this term and had lots of fun! The students enjoyed taking part in a music workshop run by some visiting artists. We also loved all the Pudsey bear activities and preparing healthy snacks in class. Happy Holidays from everyone in Lancelot class! Wishing you all the best in the new year!



Camelot Class

Camelot class have been getting ready for the festive season by putting up and decorating the Christmas tree, making decorations to go on the tree and making Xmas cards for family and friends. In addition, there was a visit to see the big man himself in our very own Drumbeat Santa's grotto.

Everyone in Camelot class would like to wish you all a very "Merry Christmas" and a very "Prosperous, Healthy and Safe New year"



Merlin Class

Merlin class have had fun learning all about Christmas. We have decorated the classroom and made some lovely Christmas wreathes.



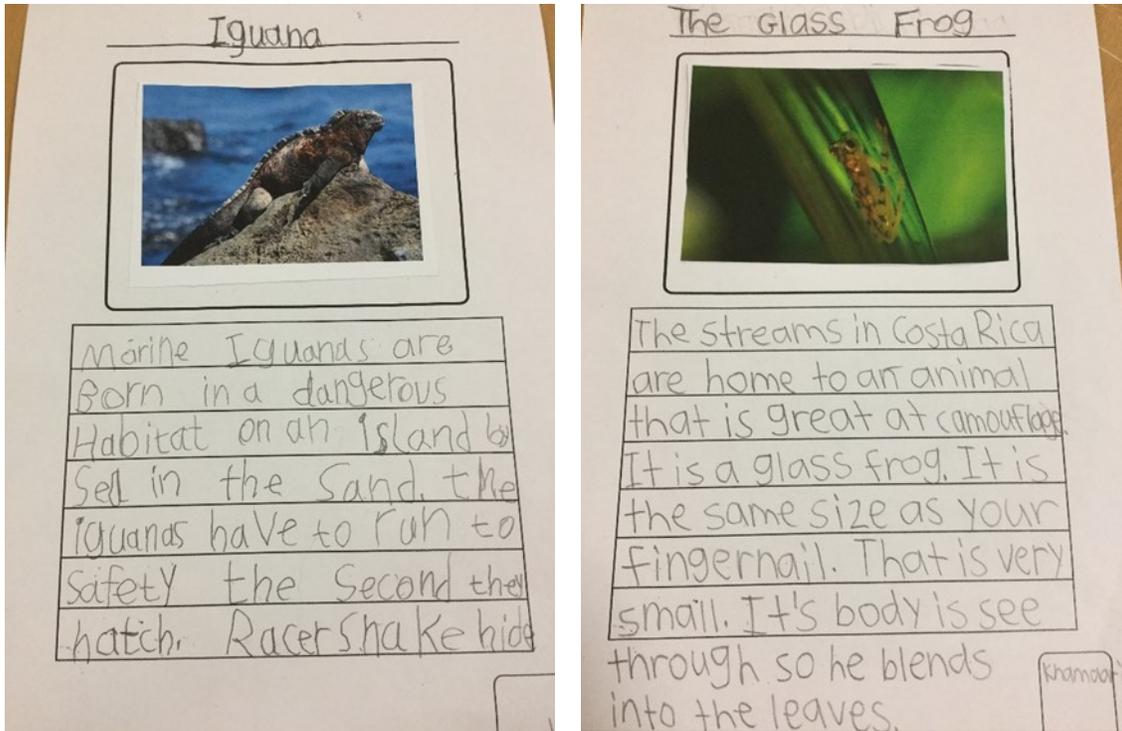
Galahad Class

In Galahad class we have been enjoying Christmas celebrations. We have visited Santa, had a Christmas jumper celebration and class party. We have worked so hard this term so are embracing the chance to make magical Christmas memories together.

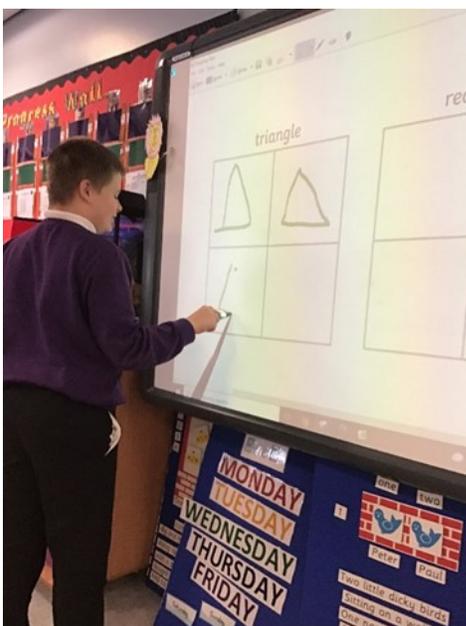


Excalibur Class

Excalibur class have been learning about habitats and living things in our Planet Earth topic. We have carried out independent research through internet searches and watched videos to compile reading facts about some animals in their natural habitats.



We have also worked extremely hard on our English and Maths targets. Learning about 2-D shapes and focusing on number and place value. While in English we have been reading selected books from our library and completing book reviews.



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Now, after all the hard work, it is Christmas time! Pack up the Books, put away the pencils and let's put up the Christmas tree.



Merry Christmas everybody!

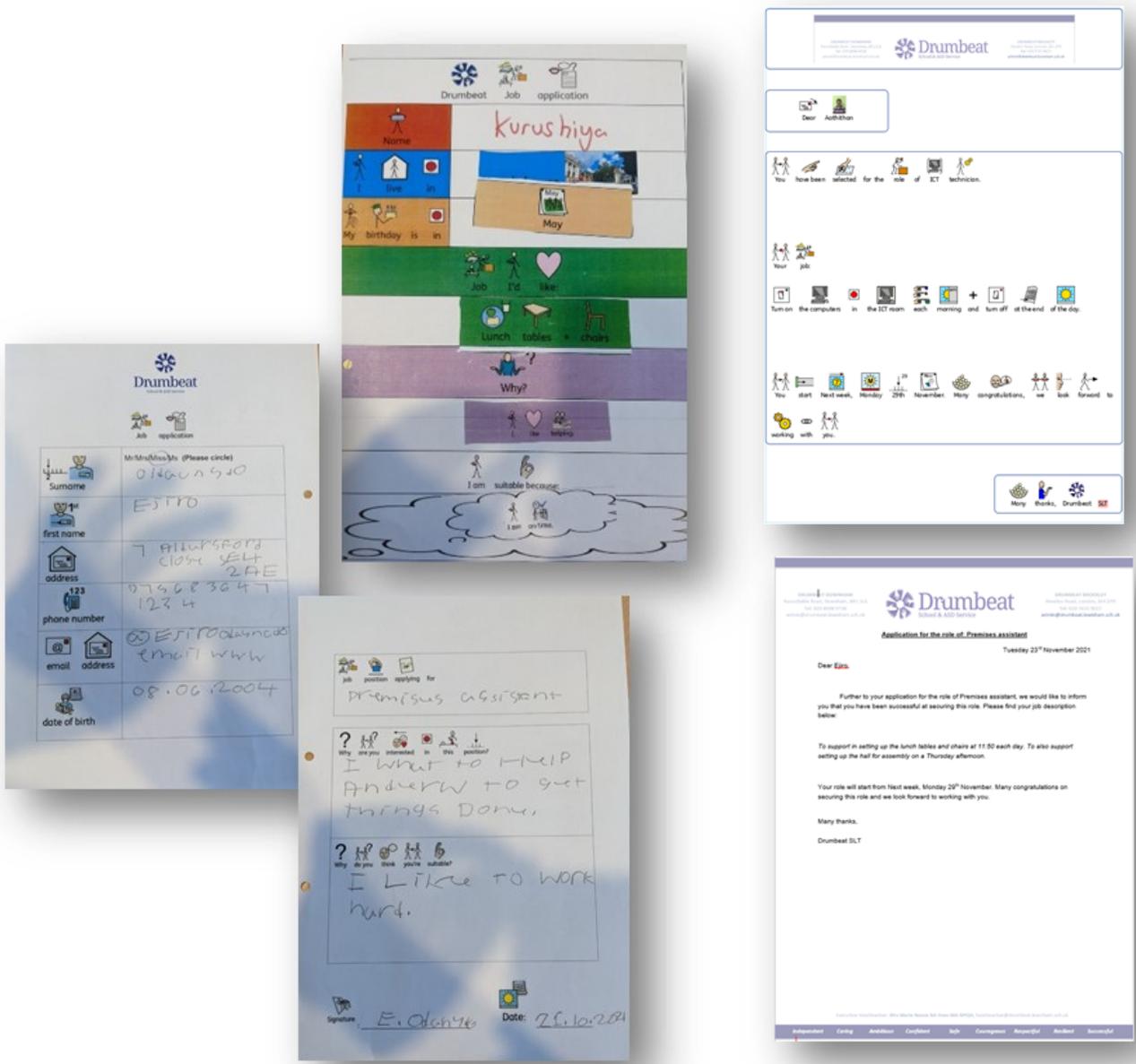
Southwark Independent Travel Training Bus

On the 10th November 15 students from across the Brockley site attended the Southwark independent travel training bus. This is a service provided by Southwark council in collaboration with the MET police and Transport For London. During the trip the students took part in a range of discussions about how to travel safely on the bus and went for a ride on our own private service. They also experienced 2 robberies during the trip! With the chance to discuss what had happened afterwards with police officers and identify how these situations could be avoided. All of the students were impeccably behaved throughout the trip and really engaged with the volunteers who were supporting the session.



Brockley Careers

A number of Key Stage 5 students have been involved in a new in house work experience project at the Brockley site. These students have looked at a range of job adverts and completed application forms to express an interest in the job they would like. The students then took part in a job interview before receiving letters to inform them if they had been successful. The students have responded really well to this project so far and we have a number of students in positions gaining weekly work experience sessions and learning a range of skills from the world of work. This will be a rolling program with new opportunities each term.

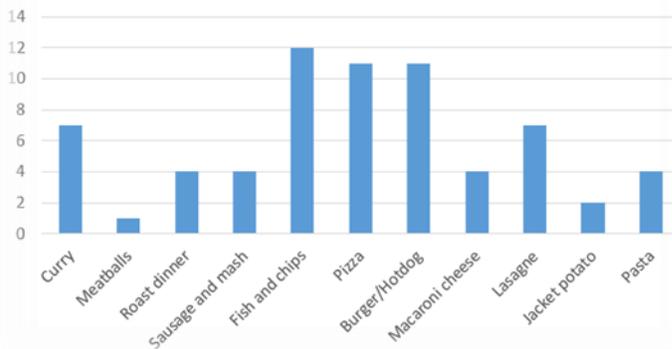


Brockley School Council

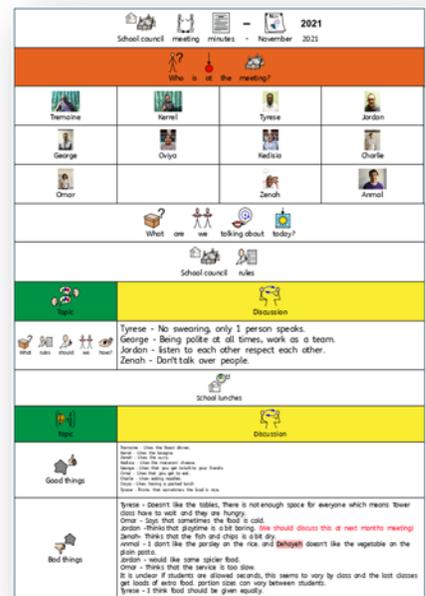
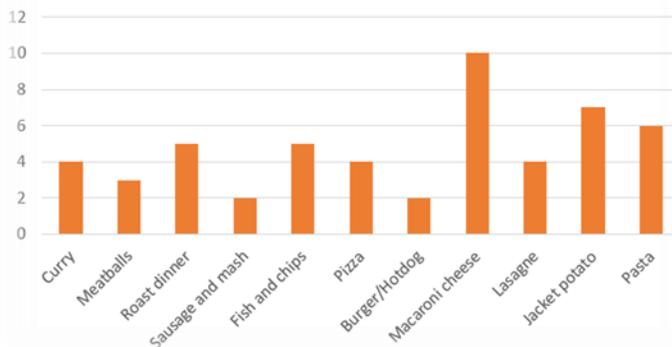
12 students from across the Brockley site have been voted to represent their classes on the school council this year. These students have been meeting on a monthly basis to discuss a range of topics linked to school life and how we can support and engage students across the school. In November the council discussed the school lunches, identifying good and bad points about these and any changes they would like to see. Each of the council members then went back to their class and completed a survey to find out more information from across the school. These results have been collected and shared with the management of the school food provider who will be coming to our next meeting to discuss with the students further! In December the council have discussed break times at Brockley and the activities that are on offer. The members are currently surveying their classes again on this topic for us to discuss in January.



Favourite lunches



Least favourite lunches



Young Mayor of Lewisham

Election week in October 2021 at Drumbeat Brockley

Students from Drumbeat Brockley have been casting their votes in the annual young mayor of Lewisham election. The turnout was 51% the official result announcement is below, which is an amazing 9839 students voting across Lewisham. Drumbeat students got to listen to each candidates manifesto and ask questions at the end of the young mayor presentations. Drumbeat students then got to discuss their views and opinions on each candidate before making an informed decision. Results are as follows:

- Young Mayor for 2021 is Rosanne Campbell from Bonus Pastor Catholic College
- Deputy Young Mayor 2021 is Olivia Mardling from Sydenham School
- 3rd and UK Youth Parliament Member is Ana Rodrigues from Christ the King College
- 4th and UK Youth Parliament Member is Moriah Mensah from Sydenham School
- 5th and London Youth Assembly Member is Sheniz Elmaz-Golding from Christ the King College

We announced the top 5 instead of the top 4 because it was such a close contest, and it is an all-female top five for the first time!



Wimbledon Class

Wimbledon class have been creating a lot of Christmas artwork and cooking festive food. The students made mince pies and Christmas biscuits and designed their own Christmas cards, trees and wreaths. They also had a lovely time singing and dancing to Christmas songs. Wimbledon class have been continuing with weekly travel training, going for walks and to the park in the local area.

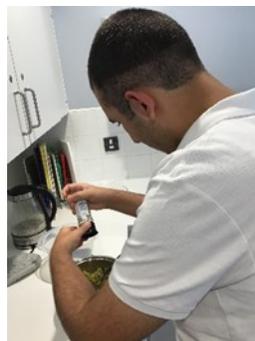


Olympic Class

Olympic Class have been gardening, planting strawberry plants and mowing the grass.



We have been cooking healthy options and improving our independence.



Black History Month

We have used our colourful semantics to help us identify what people are famous for with increasing levels of detail and options



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We visited the statue of Olaudah Equiano in Telegraph Hill Lower Park on Wednesday 20th October.



Olympic Class voted for Lewisham's Young Mayor on 20th October 2021.



We made mince pies and have been learning to take selfies in ICT.



Wishing you all very happy holidays.

Shard Class

Shard Class have been very busy this term. The class have been making their own lunches and have enjoyed sitting down to eat them together. The boys planned out their meals and even made the desserts too! We have been hard at work tidying up and preparing the school garden for planting next year. Eight of the boys in Shard Class are in the Drumbeat School football team and have played in the South London League tournament, which we have won twice! Well done Shard Class for all your hard work this term!



Tower Class

All the students have continued to work really hard this term and have met some really interesting challenges, including developing their use of the gym for maintaining physical fitness, raising their awareness of unhealthy habits, such as alcohol and smoking and putting a modern twist on a scene from a Shakespeare play (The Merchant of Venice). This work tied in well with their work on personal relationships.



Four of our students completed a very successful work experience placement at Lewisham College, where they worked in a busy café on campus, serving drinks and snacks all week.



The class have continued to enjoy singing sessions and in October, performed a short concert of songs, in the hall, which included Walking on Sunshine, Lovely Day and a French song, Sur Le Pont D'Avignon.



Clipper Class

As ever, the students had a fun and action-packed half-term. The highlights included:



Trip to Greenwich with Vincenzo



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Decorating the tree



Christmas singalong with Tim



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And a trip to the 'Christmas by the River' Christmas Market



Merry Christmas from Clipper Class!

Meridian Class

Meridian class have had a really great term and they have all worked really hard learning about different life skill based topics, such as healthy eating, understanding relationships and personal hygiene.

In the build up to Christmas, we have all been very excited and have got involved in decorating the Christmas tree, making Christmas cards and singing along to Christmas music. I hope you all have a great break and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year!



SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES — 2021/22

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Autumn Term 1 **Wednesday 1 September – INSET day**
Thursday 2 September – Students first day of term
Friday 1 October – INSET day
Friday 22 October - Last day of term

Half Term Holiday Monday 25 October – Friday 29 October

Autumn Term 2 **Monday 1 November – First day of term**
Friday 17 December – Last day of term*

Christmas Holiday Monday 20 December – Monday 3 January

SPRING TERM 2022

Spring Term 1 **Tuesday 4 January & Wednesday 5 January—INSET days**
Thursday 6 January — Students first day of term
Friday 11 February – Last day of term

Half Term Holiday Monday 14 February – Friday 18 February

Spring Term 2 **Monday 21 February – First day of term**
Friday 1 April – Last day of term*

Easter Holiday Monday 4 April – Monday 18 April
(Easter weekend 15-18 April)

SUMMER TERM 2022

Summer Term 1 **Tuesday 19 April – First day of term**
Thursday 16 May — Students last day of term
(May Day Bank Holiday will be taken on 2 May)

Half Term Holiday Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June
(Spring Bank Holiday will be taken on 2nd June and
Platinum Jubilee will be taken on 3rd June)

Summer Term 2 **Monday 6 June – First day of term**
Friday 22 July – Last day of term*

INSET days = Staff Training days. Pupils do not attend school on these days.

**School will close at 1pm on the last day of the full term.*

