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Attendance

Well done to all the children in McNish (infants) and Mackesy and Gormley (juniors) for having the best attendance over the last two weeks.

Reception's Autumnal Walk



Our Reception children enjoyed going on a leaf hunt to Heathfield Recreation Ground recently. Inspired by the book *Hedgehogs Don't Live in the City*, they searched for signs of autumn and collected leaves of various shapes, sizes and colours.

Florence in Iris Class said, "It was really fun. We got to bring leaves back to school and made a picture of a tree and a hedgehog."



Year 2 Athletics

Athlete Joshua Grace, who runs one of our athletics clubs in the junior school, has also been coaching Year 2 over the last 10 weeks. They have been learning different drills and techniques for running and throwing.



Ruby from McNish Class said "I've enjoyed learning and doing the different drills. My favourite is the double bounce when you have to clap under each leg as you jog. It has been fun and I was chosen as athlete of the week." Dion in Mahlangu Class also enjoyed the sessions, "It's fun learning new skills, my running has got better and I can run fast."

Visit from Munira Wilson. MP

On Monday, Munira Wilson, MP and former governor of our junior school, spent the morning touring both schools, visiting classes, hosting an assembly with Year 5 and 6 and meeting with our Pupil Voice representatives. Laison, from Pupil Voice, said, "She was nice. Her answers were good and detailed. One question she was asked was 'Who or what inspired you?' She replied that no-one really did, but one of her friends suggested, when she was getting frustrated at something on TV, that she could do something about it and that encouraged her to go into politics."



The SPARK Book Awards

We are excited to announce that the infant and junior schools will once again be taking part in the SPARK! School Book Awards this year. In these awards, the longlists are selected by



teachers, booksellers and librarians, whilst children vote for the winners. Miss de Garston-Webb, Year 2 Raza's class teacher, is one of the panellists for children's picture fiction this year and helped create their longlist. The longlist of 12 books in four different age categories will be revealed over the first twelve days of December, click [here](#) to find out more.

You may recall that back in May 2021 our then Year 1 and 2 children enjoyed a virtual meeting with one of last year's winners, Mokomo Abe, who wrote *Avocado Asks*.

Sports Fixtures

Our sports teams have been busy over the last fortnight. On Monday 22nd November our girls and boys' football teams played Chase Bridge School at home winning both their matches (3-0 girls and 5-2 boys). On Thursday 25th November our three tag rugby teams played away at St Edmund's School, winning two and drawing one (10-4, 4-4 and 6-5). Finally this Monday our two netball teams faced Chase Bridge School away for their first friendly match. While they did not win, the teams played well showing great perseverance and a can do attitude. We would like to thank *Golden Grill* for supplying us with our smart new netball kits.



Year 5 Visit Hampton Court Palace



All our Year 5 classes have now visited Hampton Court Palace. Mia in Murakami reports, *"We took the 111 bus there and when we arrived we went straight to the Great Hall, then the Horn Room and the Great Watching Chamber. After lunch we visited the kitchen where there was a huge fireplace with a burnt wall from the smoke. I liked how the rooms were designed and also the astronomical clock which has zodiac signs, months and time on it. I loved the trip. I've only ever visited outside before, it's the first time I've been inside."*



Year 4 Guitar with Richmond Music Trust

This term Year 4 have been learning guitar with Richmond Music Trust. Their last lesson was an open session to which parents and carers were invited. Anwita said of the whole experience, *"It was exciting because I had not learnt guitar before. It was fun to try out a new thing because when I grow up I want to be a singer and musician and make a band with my friends."* Dhyana added, *"It was nice for Year 4 to have this opportunity. I really enjoyed it, especially learning 'We Will Rock you'. I have signed up for next term to continue learning."*



Visit [Richmond Music Trust](#) if your Year 4 child would like to continue with guitar next term.

Hot School Lunches

Our hot school lunches are proving popular, especially with the colder weather upon us. On Tuesday this week, the PSHE team interviewed some children to get their views. The main meal of the day was spaghetti bolognese served with sweetcorn and cauliflower (pictured). Leland said, *"The spaghetti bolognese was delicious and I loved the soft pasta, it makes my tummy warm inside on cold days."* If your child would like to try a lunch, they simply need to let their teacher know during morning registration.



Dates for your diary

Tuesday **7th December**, 2.25pm (Thistle), 2.45pm (Wiltshire) Christmas Songs and Crafts
Wednesday **8th December** - Year 4 visit St Augustine's Church
Thursday **9th December** - Year 4 Firebird Workshop
Friday **10th December**, 9.30am - Year 1 and 2 Rocksteady End of Term Concert
Friday **10th December**, 2pm - Year 1 Christmas Crafts
Tuesday **14th December**, 9.30am - Years 1 and 2 Church Service at St Augustine's Church (with choir)
Tuesday **14th December**, 12.30pm - Reception Church Service at St Augustine's Church
Tuesday **14th December**, 3.15pm - Choir to perform *Songs by Candlelight* in playground
Wednesday **15th December** - Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day (last orders by 9.30am, 10th December)
Thursday **16th December** - Mufti Day, Christmas parties in the afternoon. **Last day of term**
Friday **17th December** - Promise Sports Multi-Activity Day - contact Mark Bitmead on 07710 658179
Monday **20th** - Friday **24th December** - Sport4Kids Multi-Activity Camp - [click here to book](#)
Tuesday **4th January 2022** - Children return to school after the holidays