



Weekly Newsletter



Friday 31st March 2017

Autism Awareness Week

In school this week children in Key Stage 2 had a special assembly about raising awareness and knowledge of autism.

Autism is a life-long condition that is a hidden difference, so it is not possible to see that someone has autism. Autistic people are just as unique as those without the condition. You may sometimes notice behavior differences with autistic children: flapping their hands when excited or anxious, spinning around, high reaction to sensory things such as smell, noise and touch. You may notice they pay particular attention to detail, wanting to follow a set pattern of activities.

You may even notice particular strengths; remembering facts in great detail.

Anxiety is often quite extreme for children with autism. This can lead to behaviours that are often seen as socially unacceptable, maybe throwing things or hitting out when agitated, chewing things, spinning. They may come across as very rude as they are very literal and will say what they think.

Being a parent of a child with autism can be very challenging as they try to manage the differences their child has, especially as many people can show a lack of awareness of the challenges they are dealing with and think their child is just 'naughty'.

What parents would like to say to others about living with autism:

- 1) Not all autism is the same. It is a spectrum. Some children may have learning needs others are very intelligent.

- 2) Autistic children can have a talents and strengths.
- 3) Try to understand that the environment affects children with autism a lot. Some behaviours are signs of anxiety.
- 4) Show some empathy. If my child has some behavior differences don't judge me as a parent.
- 5) My autistic child needs love too.
- 6) As parents we may be terrified at times, really tired but we have to be brave. We are learning all the time too.



We raised a grand total of **£320.63** today towards raising awareness.

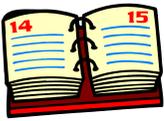
A huge thank you for your generosity.

The Easter Egg draw was conducted and the winning ticket number was 112: Elaine in year 3.

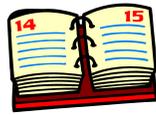
Red Nose Day

The money continued to pour in on Friday 24th and we raised even more money than we thought we had. The final figure raised on that day was **£272.87**.

Thank You again for you generous donations!



Dates for your
DIARY!!!!



SUMMER TERM

Start	Wednesday 19 th April 2017
May Day	1 st May (No School)
Half Term	Monday 29 th May Friday 2 nd June
Finish	Friday 21 st July 2017 2pm

Have a lovely Easter Break. We look forward to seeing you all promptly on Wednesday 19th April.

Thousand book Challenge

Spring cleaning this Easter is the perfect time for sorting out things you no longer need.

We are interested in receiving donations of any good quality books that you no longer use at home. Please bring them into the school office.

Do you have a child with special needs?

Our SEN Teacher, Mylinh Tu is now teaching in Seahorse class. If you have any concerns related to your children please discuss these with your child's class teacher or Lisa Christiansen Head of School who has responsibility for Inclusion.

Thank you to Mylinh for all her hard work with SEN children to date and for now providing high quality teaching in class.

Thought for the week

It is not happy people who are thankful. It is thankful people who are happy!

Year 1 Visit the Bethnal Green Toy Museum

As part of the children's topic on toys this term, the year 1 children visited the Bethnal Green Toy Museum.

They behaved really well and got stuck into a variety of exciting activities. Playing with the sand, playing board games.

They had a thoroughly good time and have produced some brilliant recounts of their visit.

Well done year 1.

After School Clubs

These will continue the first week back as normal with the exception of Computer Club and Artis Club.

New letters will be sent out for children interested in joining these clubs on the Wednesday 19th April so look out if you are interested in these clubs.

Hellos and Goodbyes

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to **Joanna McCoy** today. She is an outstanding teacher who has worked at Rotherhithe for 17 years. She will be missed. We thank her for all her hard work and dedication to our children.

We wish you luck Jo!

We say hello to **Alex** who is now teaching Octopus class. Welcome.

We also say goodbye to Sharron Logan a specialist TA who has supported children who have additional language across the school.

Thank you to all members of staff for your hard work and dedication to making a difference for our children.

Attendance

The classes with the best attendance for this week
KS1: Seahorse Class 98%
KS2: Kingfisher Class 95.9%

Well done and keep up the good work everyone!!