



## Head Talk

Over the last couple of weeks Year 2 and Year 3 children in particular have had a wonderful time at school. Year 2 children were treated to a day of immersion in the Great Fire of London. They learnt how to catch rats, weave, make clay pots, sew and they talked about what it was like to live at the time of the Great Fire. The children looked great in their costumes. I would also like to thank the parents that helped the children throughout the day. In contrast Year 3 have visited Pizza Express to experience how Pizza's are made and to talk about the healthy choices we can all make when eating. The children walked to and from the restaurant and they all brought back a pizza of their own that they had made!

Year 5 shared their learning with parents in a lovely assembly on Tuesday this week. It is always such a pleasure to see the children leading these events; keen to talk to everyone about their new knowledge and skills.

Today Year 3 have spent the day as Egyptians. I am sure you will hear a great deal about the day.

Just a quick reminder that we are breaking for half term next Friday, so school will be closed from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Children are back at school on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

Have a brilliant last week at school and a very restful half term when it comes.

## Parking

I would like to remind parents that Hamilton and Constantine Road are resident permit parking only for most of the day. Restrictions are lifted for a short period to allow parents to park to drop off or pick up children at the beginning and end of the day. If you arrive early you will be outside of the restrictions lift and therefore you will be liable for

a parking fine. I always encourage families to travel to school without a car, if possible, as this enables children to build their stamina, have an active life and save fuel costs! I would like to remind parents to park sensitively as both roads are primarily for residents to park. Poor parking may result in enforcement officers and further restrictions in parking around the school.

## Year 2 – Great Fire of London Day

Last Monday, Year 2 had the pleasure of a visit from Master Patrick from History Off The Page. We all dressed as people from 1666 and enjoyed a day full of themed activities. We were welcomed to the streets of London lined with many shops where children were able to have a go at skills such as candle making, weaving and sewing. There was also a leather shop where children made bookmarks, a barber surgeon where illnesses and ailments were taken care of with very interesting instruments and a perfumier where children could make a nosebag to ensure they smelled sweet smells throughout the day (as of course the streets of London were a very smelly place to be). The afternoon was the aftermath of the fire and children were tasked with an archaeological dig to discover items that had survived the fire and consider who they may have belonged to. We all had a thoroughly fantastic day and would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the parents who gave their time to help. We couldn't do it without you!

## Year 3 – Visit to Pizza Express

Over the last two weeks, both Year 3 classes have visited Pizza Express to make delicious pizzas and learn about food from other cultures. All the children enjoyed kneading and shaping the dough. We spooned on the tomato passata and added some tasty mozzarella. We had a great morning and thoroughly enjoyed eating our freshly baked pizzas for lunch.

## Year 6 Tag Rugby Tournament

The Year 6 rugby team battled high-winds and heavy mud in a hugely enjoyable tournament on Mersea Island on Thursday. The children showed excellent teamwork and sportsmanship throughout, keeping their composure in the bitter conditions.

They had no trouble scoring tries in their five closely fought matches, with Kester Waterman and Stanley Whitley scoring four apiece. Preventing their opponents scoring proved trickier and they finished with a record of won one, drawn one and lost three.

The children all enjoyed the experience and showed a great amount of respect throughout: to each other, the opposition and the referees (even in the face of some very questionable knock on decisions).

A huge thanks needs to go to all the parent helpers, without whom our involvement would not have been possible.



## Learning Conference

A letter was sent out to you tonight outlining the new format for Learning Conferences.

Please find attached a copy of the letter for your information.

## Half Term Holiday Orchestra

Colne Valley Youth Orchestra is holding its Holiday Orchestra on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in Lion Walk Church. It is aimed at musicians working at Grades 2 – 5 on their instruments, including clarinet, flute, violin, trumpet etc. It is an enjoyable two days rounded off with a concert on the Tuesday night. Price £35. Please contact [claire.budgen@sky.com](mailto:claire.budgen@sky.com) for further information.

## Class Assemblies

Year 2 have their class assembly on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February starting at 2.30pm.

Year 3 have their class assembly on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February starting at 2.30pm.

Year 4 have their class assembly on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February starting at 2.30pm.

## Philip Morant School

A meeting is being held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March for Year 6 parents with Mr Gibbon and Mr Holder from Philip Morant School at 7pm in Mr O'Loughlin's class room. Please book via parentmail.

## Colchester Royal Grammar School Science Fest 2019

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March Colchester Royal Grammar School will be having a Science Fest. Please see attached for more information.

## PSA Quiz - 'Save the date!'

School quiz fundraiser on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Forms will be coming out soon so start organising your team (a maximum of 6 people).



## Non-Pupil Days 2019-20

The Governors have agreed the Non-Pupil Days for the 2019/20 academic year. They are:

Tuesday 3rd September 2019

Wednesday 4th September 2019

Monday 4th November 2019

Thursday 7th May 2020

Friday 22nd May 2020

## Pupil News

Congratulations to Viru De Costa (1MA/SW) who gained a Distinction in his first LAMDA acting exam.



## Calendar Dates

Spring Term 2019	
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Year 2 – Assembly at 2.30pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Year 3 – Assembly at 2.30pm
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2019	Half Term
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Year 4 – Assembly at 2.30pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Year 6 – Siege of Colchester Guided Walk
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Learning Conference Week - NO CLUBS
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Year 1 – Assembly at 2.30pm
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Foundation trip to Danbury Park
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	Year 3 – Play at 2.00pm
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	Last Day of Term

Summer Term 2019	
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2019	First Day of Term
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May & Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2019	Non-Pupil Days
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2019	Year 5 Play
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2019	Half Term
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Rainbow Class Assembly at 2.30pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Sunshine Class Assembly at 2.30pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	Year 2 Play
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	Year 6 Play in the afternoon
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	Year 6 Play in the evening

### Email Information

If contacting the school via email please use:

[parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk](mailto:parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk)