

# Tis the season!

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter 2022.

Sadly, Queen Elizabeth II passed away on 8th September after 70 years of service to the United Kingdom. She was the longest ruling monarch in British history. Which monarch's record did she surpass and by how many years? The Queen's passing was at the start of the school year and that week our staff walked past the lovely floral tributes including some Paddington Bears in Green Park to Buckingham Palace to pay their respects. Some of you may have been lucky enough to have taken part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations earlier this year. Charles III is now our King and his coronation will take place in May next year.

It has been an exciting start to this academic year, we had 4 amazing teachers join the school team; Claire, Catherine, Sarah and Sinéad. Together they bring a grand total of 70 years' teaching experience, skills and knowledge. The same number of years as the Queen's reign. Can you work out the year? MCMLII. How wonderful is it, that now you can look forward to the opportunity of learning and collaborating on subjects such as art, food technology, PSHE and English.

This year the school was fortunate enough to have tea on Armistice Day with uniformed officers who were part of the Remembrance service at St Thomas' Hospital. It was a very special occasion. In the photo on the right, I am standing next to Billy Kelly, the Head of the Armed Forces programme at Guys and St Thomas' Trust.

Did you know 70 years ago in December 1952 there was a great smog that covered London for 5 days? In our science lessons there has been a focus on climate change and the impact it has on our planet. Have you heard of "The Paris Agreement"?

Scan this QR code to find out more:



Remembrance Day at Evelina Hospital School

The Paris Agreement was reached in December 2017 at COP2. It states that climate change is a global emergency that goes beyond national borders and that it is an issue that requires international cooperation and coordinated solutions.

We all have a part to play in making a change. Have you thought about your carbon footprint and how to reduce it? Scan this QR code to find out more:



Here are 2 easy ways to reduce your carbon footprint: 1. Turn off lights, TVs and computers when they are not required. 2. Recycle everything you can.

Can you play chess? Are you interested in learning? Do you want to improve your game? We now have weekly chess lessons on Wednesday mornings with Omar from Chess in Schools and Communities (CSC). Come and join us!

It's that wonderful time of year again with Christmas just around the corner. If you were a child in 1952 you may have been gifted a toy called a view finder as a present which I think is equivalent to a virtual reality headset today.

Season's Greetings

— Anne Hamilton, Headteacher



# English

We kicked off the new academic year with our resident storyteller, Phil, visiting us in the classrooms and on ward. How exciting!

Phil also illustrated and recorded several nursery rhymes, including Little Miss Muffet, for the school's YouTube channel. Scan the QR code below to listen!



Live illustrations of Little Miss Muffet by storyteller Phil

On Thursday 6th October, we celebrated National Poetry Day in the classrooms and on ward. We composed lots of different genres of poetry.

The primary pupils focused on a Kenning poem related to themselves while secondary pupils wrote acrostic poems about the environment.

Perhaps you'd like to try writing one of these poems yourself! Find out more about each type of poem below and get inspired by the pupils' work!

## Kenning Poem

A Kenning poem is a special type of poem that describes an object or a creature without ever using its name, a bit like a riddle. Each line in a Kenning poem has only two words, these words are joined using a hyphen.

## Acrostic poem

An acrostic poem is a poem in which certain letters of each line spells out a word, name, or phrase when read vertically. Most often, it's the first letter of each line that spells out the word, but they can be placed anywhere on the line.

## Me! by a pupil, aged 10

Middle-sister,  
dog-walker,  
laugh-giver,  
football-kicker,  
golden-hairer,  
freckle-wearer.

When I bounce on the trampoline I shout with glee,  
that was a Kennings all about me!

## Environment

by a pupil, aged 15

Environment our help it seeks

Not to be neglected it shrieks

Victory can only be achieved

If we recycle, reuse, reduce and believe

Repeat this and the environment will be relieved

Organic foods we want to grow

Now this is what we want to do fo' sho'

Maintaining the trees provides us with clean air

Everyone needs to chip in to make it fair

Nonchalant people this is the time to start

Team up together and make this part of our heart.



# Science

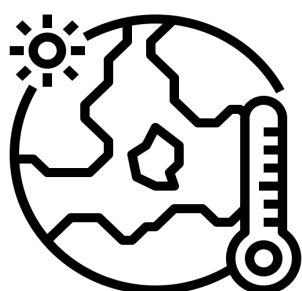


Royal Society Young People's Book Prize - the shortlisted books

The Young People's Book Prize is an annual competition which aims to promote literacy in young people and to inspire them to read about science. It also supports the writing of excellent, accessible STEM books for under-14s.

A shortlisting panel made up of scientists, an actor, a teacher, and children's authors has whittled down dozens of titles to six of the year's most fascinating books. Then it's over to the scrutinising eyes of more than 15,000 young judges, drawn from over 700 schools, science centres, and community groups from across the UK, to read and declare their champion.

This year, Evelina Hospital School is one of the judging schools. Our pupils have been reading and discussing the books pictured in the classrooms and writing reviews on them. There have been some great discussions about the different books. The scores from each of the different reviews will be collated and sent off to the Royal Society – the deadline is 16th January with the winner being announced in March. Will our panel of judges choose the same book as the overall winner?



## Climate Change

COP 27 took place in Egypt this year. At Evelina Hospital School, we carried on with learning about the climate change crisis, how it is affecting our planet and wildlife and explored ways in which we could make a difference. Every pupil who took part in these sessions received a reusable tote bag with a book containing information and ideas on things they can do to make a difference. As Onjali Q. Raúf says in her book *Hope on the Horizon* – “...no one is too small to make a change.”



# Maths and Humanities



Pupils have enjoyed learning maths magic

Our maths curriculum is designed to quickly diagnose maths gaps and tricky areas so that lessons are tailored to enable good learning and progression.

Although this gets results, we have another very important aim, which is to show that maths can be fun and filled with problem-solving, penny-drop moments. Maths games are one of our focus areas but we also enjoy working with a maths YouTuber called Ben Sparks.

Ben introduces “maths magic” where pupils are led through a trick, encouraged to guess how the trick might work and ultimately to master the maths to complete the trick! It has been amazing to see the big smiles on the pupils’ faces and their immediate need to show off their mathematical prowess to peers, parents/carers, nurses, siblings and their classes at their home schools. We also have big smiles on our faces knowing we are helping pupils to love maths.

As part of Black History Month and our Humanities curriculum in the autumn term, Mary Seacole visited us from the Florence Nightingale Museum. She spoke to pupils in the primary classroom and then went on the wards. All the pupils that met her learnt lots about her life and how she nursed soldiers back to health.

Can you find the Mary Seacole statue in the grounds of St Thomas’ Hospital?



The bronze Mary Seacole figure and disc



Mary Seacole visited Evelina Hospital School earlier this term

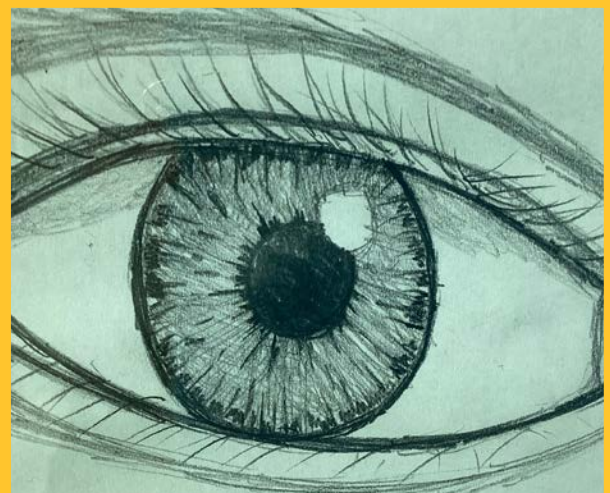


# Art



Pupils have learnt how to draw faces in correct proportion

This term the pupils have been learning about portraits and how to draw faces in correct proportion. They have used guidelines to help support where the different features are located, and have developed shading and pencil drawing skills by focusing in on the very specific features of the eye. Pupils also had fun looking at some famous portrait artists and learning about their specific style of portraiture.



Pupils have developed pencil drawing skills

To link with other learning around Black History Month, pupils in the classrooms and on the wards have studied in depth the lives and work of two artists; Kehinde Wiley and Amy Sherald.

Both of them have unique styles and use colour in really interesting ways. It was interesting to learn about their backgrounds, and for the pupils to create art work in a similar style.



A pupil's artwork in the style of Kehinde Wiley



# Music

City of London Sinfonia were able to visit for an incredible three day programme of music and art during the autumn term. Each morning they performed a livestreamed concert which was attended by the pupils in the classrooms, and other pupils on the wards were able to watch and enjoy the performance at the same time.

The project was titled “Messages from Earth”, and involved pupils listening to the music of the keyboard, trombone and clarinet and drawing along. They thought about the “colour” of the sounds they were hearing and responded accordingly. After the live stream the musicians and the artist visited the different wards to play their instruments, and the pupils engaged with composing songs, rhythms and art work based around the Messages from Earth theme.

On the final afternoon, a further concert and live stream took place where all the music and artwork was shared. All pupils, including those with complex needs, were able to access the learning, and participate fully in the creative activities. A truly amazing few days!



City of London Sinfonia led a 3 day workshop



Concerts were held in the classrooms and also livestreamed



Pupils enjoyed weekly visits from our specialist harp teacher

Scan this QR code to listen to the City of London Sinfonia's performance!



Our enrichment programme involves the weekly visit of our specialist harp teacher, who visits the pupils in the classrooms and one-to-one on the ward. She performs music for them to listen to, and then the pupils learn to pluck the strings, strum using glissando techniques, and to learn specific melodies and chords. Pupils engage fully with lessons, and are able to build on weekly lessons to make great progress.



# PE



Pupils enjoyed learning New Age Kurling and they took part in a mini tournament

During the autumn term, pupils have enjoyed learning new games during PE sessions in the classrooms or on the wards. Capital Kids Cricket and the Royal Academy of Dance continued sessions both at school and on ward.

Boccia and New Age Kurling were popular amongst all pupils. Secondary class pupils also enjoyed games of seated volleyball.

As part of the wellbeing for long term pupils, smart watches were gifted and were well-received.



Seated volleyball session led by Capital Kids Cricket



Pupils loved dance classes this term



# Early Years Foundation Stage

It has been great welcoming the children back into the re-opened classroom this autumn term. The children have enjoyed navigating the classroom and selecting resources and equipment. It has been lovely to see the children extending and elaborating play ideas together.



A pupil enjoys playing with paints in the classroom



A pupil is busy making clay owls

At the beginning of the autumn term we focussed on the topic 'Ourselves'. We found out more about our senses, our families and the people who help us. The children shared a diverse range of books to make connections between their families and other families. They used role play to explore the roles of people who look after us in our community.



Role-playing in the EYFS classroom



# Food Tech

Chef Ashley from Adopt-a-School Trust has led several sessions with us this term and his classes are thoroughly enjoyed by all pupils. In September, pupils on the dialysis ward learnt how to cook Middle Eastern spiced chicken breast, cauliflower, broccoli and pepper kebabs.

On his next visit, Chef Ashley created fresh herb rice salad in baby gem lettuce with pupils in the classroom, on dialysis and on the ward. Have a look at the recipe below - it would be a great one to make at home!



Chef Ashley led several classes this term



Pupils made delicious middle eastern spiced kebabs

Wednesday is Food Tech day in school!

We created delicious carrot biscuits during our first food technology session in school this year. We made sure we added flavour using either cinnamon or ginger. The lesson was livestreamed to enable a student to attend the session remotely! We have also learnt how to make bread. We made bread rolls and pizzas using a bread base. We practised our kneading skills and found out what happened when we left out dough to prove.

## Fresh herb rice salad in baby gem lettuce (serves two)

### Ingredients

30g white rice  
10g diced and boiled sweet potato  
10g cucumbers, seeded and diced  
1/4 red pepper  
1 spring onion, chopped  
1/4 stalk fresh mint, chopped

1/2 stalk flat leaf parsley, chopped  
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice  
1 tablespoon grated lemon rind (zest)  
4 tablespoons olive oil  
1/4 cup parmesan cheese, grated (optional)  
4 leaves baby gem lettuce



### Method

1. Cook the rice and boil the sweet potato and allow both to cool
2. Put the rice in a small bowl
3. Chop up the sweet potato, cucumber, red pepper and spring onion and mix into the rice
4. Rip the mint and parsley and add to your salad
5. Mix through the lemon zest and olive oil
6. Add the cheese
7. Spoon your salad into the lettuce leaves and eat!

# Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

## Dazzling Dentists

It was great to have two dentists visit us this term. They led sessions in the classrooms and on the wards sharing their expertise with us! We were impressed with many pupils' prior knowledge and how they are taking care of their teeth.

See if you can answer the following questions all about oral hygiene (answers are at the bottom of this page – just turn the page to read!)

- a) How many times should you brush your teeth a day?
- b) Do children or adults have more teeth?
- c) What is plaque?



## The Media

In the secondary classroom we have been learning about the role and influence of media on lifestyle. This has involved several really engaging discussions in which pupils have shared their insightful views about fake news and celebrity culture.



You might want to explore this topic too, check out the questions below and discuss with a friend or family member:

Which celebrity would you like to meet?

Why are people interested in the lives of celebrities?

How are our opinions of celebrities and people influenced by news that we hear?

Answers to Dazzling Dentist questions:

- a) Twice a day for about 2 minutes to help keep your teeth and mouth healthy.
- b) The average child has their full set of 20 primary teeth by the age of 3 years. Between the ages of about 6 and 7 years, the primary teeth start to shed and the permanent teeth begin to come through. By the age of about 21 years, the average person has 32 permanent teeth – 16 in the upper jaw and 16 in the lower jaw.
- c) Plaque is a film of bacteria that coats your teeth if you don't brush them properly. It contributes to gum disease and tooth decay so remember to brush!

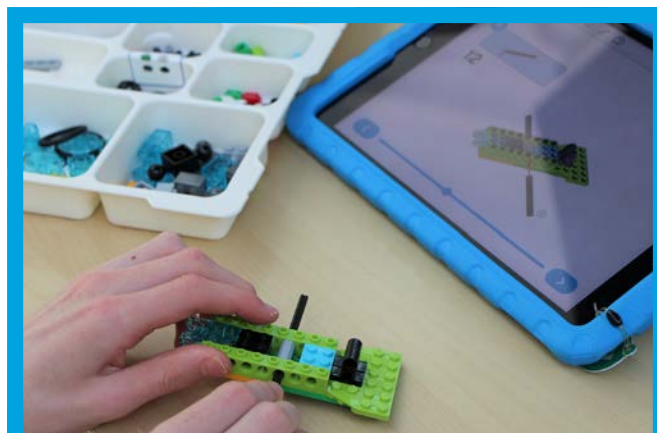


# Computing and RE

This half term, pupils have been building their very own videogames in codeSpark! The app allows pupils from primary to secondary to get stuck in and create games of many different kinds, including platformer games (like Super Mario), adventure games (like Zelda) or story games with dialogue!



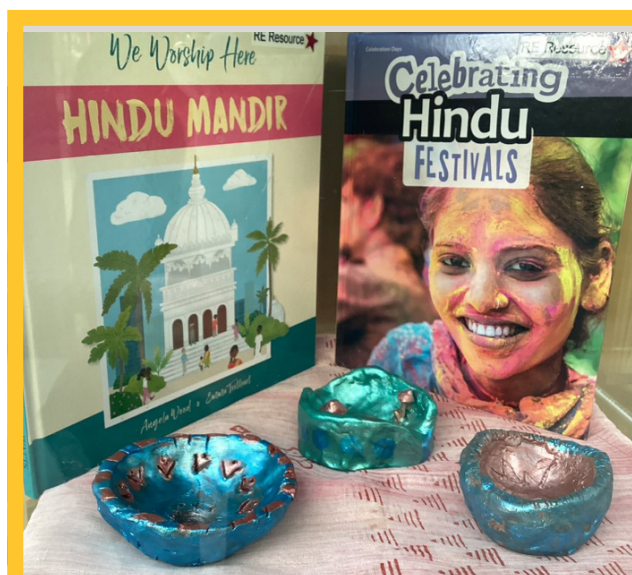
Using codeSpark! pupils learnt to build their own videogames



Pupils could build their own robot with Lego WeDo

To extend programming to the real world, pupils have also been exploring how to build robots with personality using Lego WeDo. These special intelligent bricks can respond to programs that pupils create on an iPad, and can make the Lego move, sense the world and even speak!

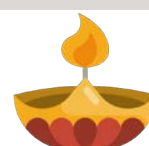
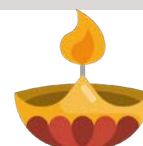
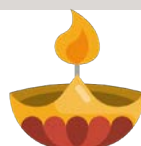
We have been learning about Diwali this term in RE, as well as other special times which use the symbol of light such as Hanukkah, Advent and Christmas. Enjoy looking at the photos of our beautiful clay diya lamps which are on display outside school.



Pupils enjoyed making these beautiful clay diya lamps



This term we learnt about Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights



# Thank you so much!

Thank you to Richy Chandler for his amazing comic strip workshops, helping the pupils to draw cartoon animals and comic strips so brilliantly.

Thank you to the wonderful City of London Sinfonia team; Waffie, Raph, Lauren and Fi who provided pupils with three days of art and music, everyone loved the sights and sounds around the wards and on the atrium.

Thank you to Ruth and Marion who taught us more about the Great Fire of London and to Cassandra from the Florence Nightingale Museum for your visit this term.

Thank you Nathalie, our volunteer, for your dedication to your work with us. You make such a difference to both us and the young people with the high quality of your teaching provision!

Thank you to Jen Lunn at ReadforGood and our creative writer Linden McMahon for your continued support.



Headteacher Anne with Ray and Denise, celebrating 33 years of Capital Kids Cricket

Thank you Ashley Marsh at the Royal Academy of Culinary Arts: Adopt-a-School Trust; Ray Tudor and Denise O'Neill at Capital Kids Cricket; Ed Miles at First Line Support; Phil McDermott at Frog-in-a-Pan; Kirsty and RADiate Dance; and Verity and Mairéad from the Conservatoire.

And of course, thank you to all the Evelina Hospital School staff, governors and volunteers and to all the Evelina London Children's Hospital and GSTT staff.

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