

Spring has sprung!

Hello and welcome to our spring newsletter!

Spring is well and truly springing! The days are getting warmer and longer, and the buds of the beautiful spring flowers like daffodils and tulips are poking their heads up through the ground after a long, cold winter.

This term saw the start of British Summer Time. The clocks went back an hour and we now have an extra hour of daylight in the evening. Do you know where the idea of 'summer time' came from? British Summer Time didn't start in the UK until 1972 when the clocks started changing in March and October every year to give everyone an extra hour of daylight in the evenings in the summer. Most countries in Europe do this as well, although one notable exception is Iceland, because of how far north it is, and the extreme variations in light and darkness through the year. Did you know that in Iceland, the sun doesn't set on multiple days between May and July, when there is 24 hours of daylight?

Talking of spring, have you had a chance to look at our display on the third floor in the atrium? Can you spot any of the spring flowers and creatures that our pupils have made? We have gorgeous daffodils and cute little bunnies and ducks and a lot of the learning on display relates to our theme for this half-term 'Growing'. Children have been reading stories about beanstalks and using our hydroponics kit (a way of growing plants without using soil!) to grow herbs and lettuces. Last half-term, our display was filled with a model river, and all of the sights of central London. Our topic for the half-term was London; we are so lucky to be situated in the heart of a wonderful, exciting and diverse city with such a rich history for us to study.

Also on our display you will see pictures and work which show some of the brilliant things that have been going on this term. Our classrooms have been fully open and the school has been buzzing with excitement of all the activities and visitors we've been

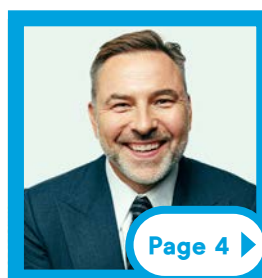
fortunate enough to facilitate. The Evelina Book Festival is always a high point in the year, and this year was no exception. For the first time since early 2020, we were able to welcome back authors onsite and it was really wonderful to see so many children and young people sharing and enjoying books with the people who wrote them. I would like to say a special thank you to all the authors who took time out of their schedules to join us; reading is such an important part of our curriculum and it was so special to celebrate it in this way.

We are so grateful to all the talented visitors who have spent time in our school, enriching our curriculum and offering new experiences to our pupils. I'm not going to spoil the surprises – you'll need to open up the newsletter to read more about what we've been up to and who has been visiting but I will let you know that we've had authors galore, musicians, artists, storytellers, dancers, scientists, a chef, a master lego builder and even a mathsmagician!

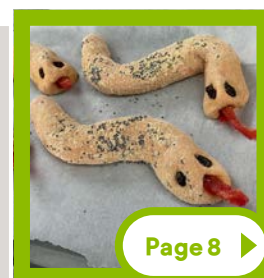
I'd like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to Simone who leaves us to take up a new post in another hospital school. Thank you for inspiring us all with all your ideas for teaching science – even up to the last week you have introduced us to new ways of enabling our pupils to access learning in science. We wish you all the best in your new role.

— Laura Perrett, Deputy Headteacher

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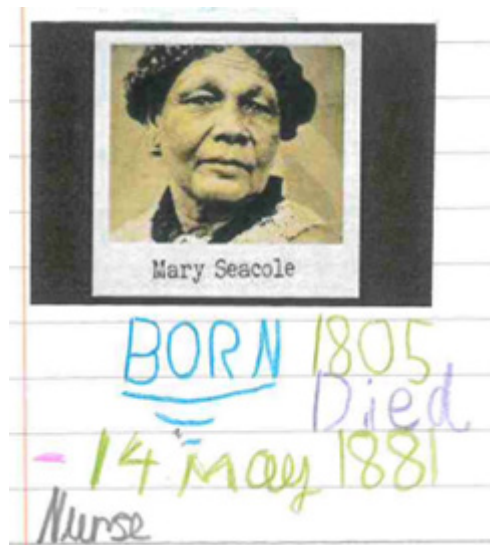
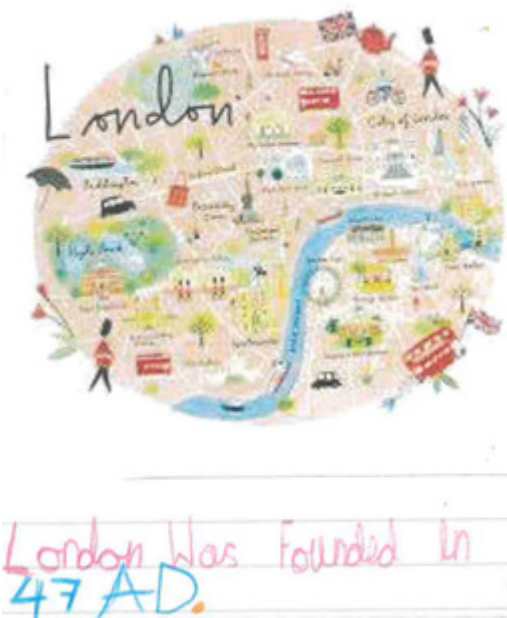
Lively London!

The start of spring term saw us go wild for everything that the bustling capital we live in has to offer. Through our topic 'Lively London', we learnt lots about one of the world's most visited cities. We studied persuasive texts, newspaper articles and non-chronological reports which allowed us to learn vast amounts about the vibrant culture, amazing landmarks and stunning history of the big smoke. See some of the beautiful work below that our pupils created.

Lavish London

London is the capital city of England and is located in the south – east of England.

Approximately over 9 million and counting people live there. Honourable figures such as: Mary Seacole, Florence Nightingale, Samuel Pepys and the present King (Charles III).



This bustling metropolis has an abundance of archaeological and historical sites such as the Mary Seacole statue outside the grounds of St. Thomas hospital. The glistening River Thames stretches from west to east London and daily an array of boats pass through it. The capital offers many world-famous statues and buildings such as the O2, Shard and the London Eye.

Terrific Transport

You can be picked up by either a black cab or one-of-a-kind red busses which move all around the capital. Twelves lines on the tube will help you navigate your way around the city. You can pay by Oyster card, debit card or your phone.

A selection of pupil work on London

Evelina Hospital School Book Festival

Evelina Hospital School went bonkers for books with the Evelina Hospital School Book Festival, a six-week long gala, jam-packed with authors, illustrators, actors and book-related celebrations. We had the privilege of inviting these legends to work with our pupils in the classrooms, the atrium and the wards.

Michael Rosen

On Monday 20th February 2023, Evelina Hospital School had the pleasure of meeting and hosting British children's author, poet, presenter and all-round icon Michael Rosen.

Michael has written over 140 books and worked with us in the classroom and on ward. He recorded lots of his classics which all can be found on our school YouTube channel using the QR code below.



A pupil receives a signed book from Michael Rosen



VISITING AUTHORS

EVELINA HOSPITAL SCHOOL
BOOK FESTIVAL 2023

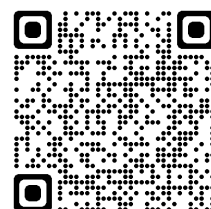
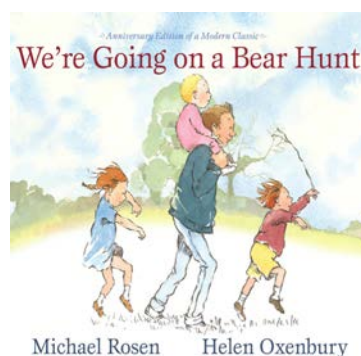
20TH FEBRUARY — 31ST MARCH

 MICHAEL ROSEN 20 FEBRUARY	 JANE PORTER 14 & 21 MARCH
 WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATIONS	 RICHY CHANDLER 3, 10 & 17 MARCH
 TRISH COOKE 6 MARCH	 JEANNE WILLIS 24 MARCH
 DAVID WALLIAMS 13 MARCH	 YOUNG SHAKESPEARE CO. 31 MARCH

Our exciting line-up for Evelina Hospital School's Book Festival 2023!



Michael delights children on ward with lots of signed books



Scan the QR code above to catch up on all of Michael Rosen's recordings on our YouTube channel!

Trish Cooke

On Monday 6th March, author, actor and scriptwriter Trish Cooke came to Evelina Hospital School. She read her international award-winning, modern classic *So Much!* to us. This picture book was the winner of the Kurt Maschler prize, the Smarties Book Prize 0-5 Category and featured in Good Housekeeping's 'Top 50 Books Every Child Should Read'. What a treat!



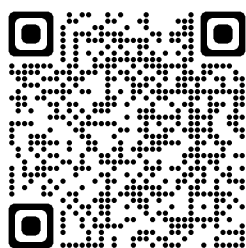
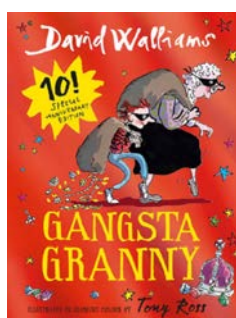
Headteacher Anne Hamilton (left) with author Trish Cooke (right)

David Walliams

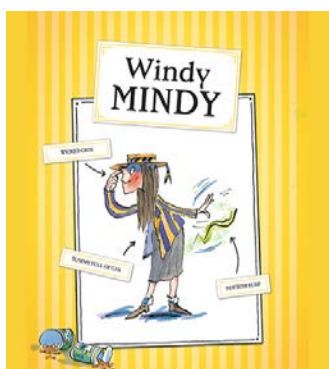
The entertainment and thrills didn't stop there, Monday 13th March saw the arrival of multi-million best-selling author David Walliams. During his time at Evelina Hospital School, David read an extract from his beloved bestseller *Gangsta Granny* and *Windy Mindy* from *The World's Worst Children*. What a feast for our ears!



David Walliams livestreams to children around the wards who could not join us in the classroom



Scan the QR code above to catch up on all of David Walliams' recordings on our YouTube channel!



David Walliams signing many copies of his popular books

Jane Porter

The good times kept rolling as author and illustrator Jane Porter worked with us to make a book all about growing. Over a two-day period, our pupils got to experience live storytelling, draw-alongs, and face-to-face sessions with this legend who has multiple books listed on the Sunday Times 'Best Children's Books of 2022'.



A lovely example of pupil work made with Jane Porter



A pupil enjoys a session with Jane Porter

Rachael Mortimer & Jeanne Willis

Our book festival continued to bring widespread joy for pupils, parents and staff alike. We welcomed Rachael Mortimer, who gave up her free time and read us her alternative fairy tales. We also had a lovely visit from internationally-acclaimed and renowned children's author- Jeanne Willis- who read us some of her classic children's books and made frog and *Bog Baby* models. Completing the Evelina Hospital School Book Festival, was the wonderful Young Shakespeare Company with their performance of *Hamlet*. What a way to end the book festival!



Rachel Mortimer shares her stories including *The Three Billy Goats Fluff*



Jeanne Willis shows us the frog and *Bog Baby* models made with pupils during her visit

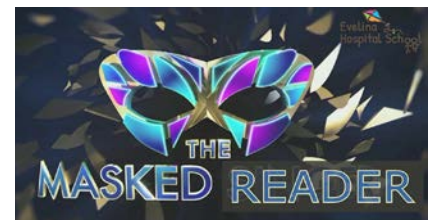
World Book Day

This year was World Book Day's 25th anniversary and the theme was 'You Are A Reader'. At Evelina Hospital School, staff celebrated by dressing up – our theme was 'mixed-up fairy tales'. Can you work out what traditional tales we are from and what the twists are?



Staff celebrating World Book Day

The celebrations didn't stop there- we also created our own very special episode of the Masked Singer but with a twist... The Masked Reader. Scan this QR code to play along and hear a short story read by five members of Evelina Hospital School staff. We have: Sunflower, Unicorn, Football, Monster and Apple. Can you work out who the Masked Readers are? Good Luck!



Growing

As the evenings got brighter as spring approached and flowers started blooming, we studied the topic of 'Growing'. Pupils read traditional texts and classics such as *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *Jack and the Beanstalk*. Then, we looked at a re-telling of the latter through the funny and heart-warming story of Raymond Briggs *Jim and the Beanstalk*. Pupils did lots of learning surrounding these texts- look at one of our Year 1 pupil's wonderful work concentrating on sentences using amazing adjectives.

Jack climbed the **tall** beanstalk.

Jack sold the white cow for some **rainbow** beans.

The red hen laid **golden** eggs.

Jack grabbed the **silver** coins.

A year 1 pupil uses adjectives in this lovely poem

Science

This spring has seen lots of different science sessions taking place at Evelina Hospital School.

CSI science workshops

Pupils this term took part in a series of crime scene investigation (CSI) based lessons – looking at how science investigative skills are used by police and other organisations to help solve crimes. We looked at fingerprints, shoeprints, biometrics and blood to help us solve a series of crimes!



A pupil studies fingerprints as part of a CSI lesson



A pupil makes a shoe print using plaster

Royal Society Young People's Book Prize

After spending last term reading, discussing, reviewing and scoring the six books on the shortlist, it was time to collate the scores from our young judges! The scores were carefully checked and added together to give each book an overall score. We voted for *Beetles For Breakfast* as our winner. Our results were then submitted, along with comments from the reviews, to The Royal Society. On 7th March the winner was announced in a ceremony from Carlton House, the Royal Society headquarters in London– the overall winner was *If The World Was A 100 People*.

Check out the school display to see the six shortlisted books, they are all well worth a read!

Healthy Bodies – Samantha the Skeleton

We had a visit from Samantha the Skeleton and her friend Julie from Hands On Science. Julie took Samantha around the wards and into the classrooms to show our pupils how our skeletons work. We discussed the importance of healthy bones and muscles, linking with our PE lessons about healthy living.

Growth – Hydroponics

Once again, pupils learnt about growing plants without soil by using hydroponic kits to grow salad leaves and herbs. We're expecting a bumper crop by Easter!



Samantha the skeleton visits our classroom

Food Tech

We began the new year by making some delicious biscuits in food tech. We made oat cookies the first week back and then ginger biscuits the next week.



Oat cookies being shaped (left) and ginger biscuits (right)

Before half term we also made blueberry muffins and focaccia, plus two recipes using cheese. One was cheese straws and to find out the other one, see if you can unscramble these letters!

h	e	s	e	e	c
c	e	s	n	o	s

The answer can be found at the bottom of this page!

After half term we made muffin pizzas and breadsticks. Can you see what shape they are in?



Tasty breadsticks in a slithery shape

Chef Ashley visited us early in January and reminded us of the 5 different tastes. How many can you think of? (Answers are at the bottom of the page!)

He also reminded us of the 5 different food groups and we made a pasta salad that included 4 of those groups- carbohydrates, vegetables, dairy and fats.



A pupil enjoys making pasta salad with Chef Ashley

Have a look at the eatwell plate and see many food groups you included in your last meal:



Word scramble: cheese scones
The 5 tastes are: umami, sweet, salty, sour and bitter

Answers

Early Years Foundation Stage

The children in the early years have been exploring the theme of 'Journeys'. They have shared a wide range of texts including *The Train Ride*, *The Naughty Bus*, *Whatever Next* and *Astro Girl*. After reading *The Naughty Bus*, the children enjoyed creating their very own London bus!



Children in early years exploring this term's theme of 'Journeys'

The children have been busy learning the British Sign Language signs for *The Wheels On The Bus*. Can you learn the signs too? Scan this QR code to take a look!



Photo credit: BBC CBeebies

The children particularly enjoyed using props to retell the story of *Whatever Next* and they even constructed their own space rocket! They had a great time creating their own space story with Jen, our amazing storyteller.



Children from early years and key stage 1 retelling the story *Whatever Next*

The children have been thinking about how we celebrate special times and they have been finding out more about Chinese New Year. They created their own Chinese dragons, lanterns and blossom paintings.



A child enjoys recreating a Chinese dragon

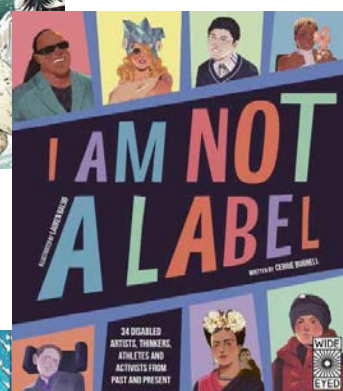
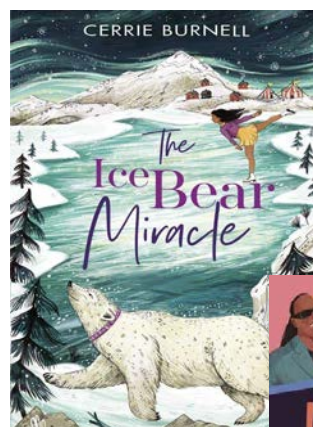


A lovely blossom painting by a child from early years

We were very fortunate to receive a visit from the author and actress Cerrie Burnell. The children really enjoyed listening to her inspirational, diverse and inclusive stories, including *I Am Not a Label* and *Snowflakes*.



Author and actress Cerrie Burnell reads to children on ward





Goia, a visiting teacher, introduces pupils to Capoeira the Brazilian martial art



To celebrate Chinese New Year a pupil participates in a fun and very entertaining lion dance workshop. You can catch up on the workshop by scanning the QR code!



A pupil receives a 'healthy mover' backpack from Evelina Hospital School, including some fun sporty gifts inside to help stay active!



Weekly chess lessons with Omar from the charity Chess in Schools & Communities continue with great success. Omar has also recorded a series of videos to help improve pupils chess tactics - scan the QR code to watch

Computing

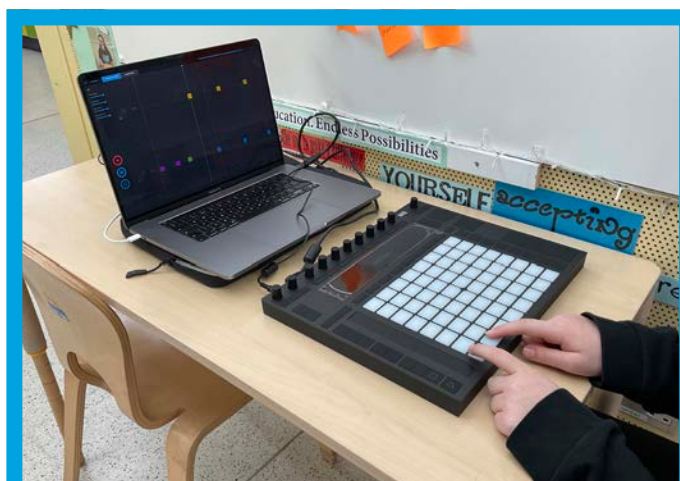


Pupils enjoy building Lego robots

This term, pupils have had many opportunities to engage with technology in some very exciting projects. In our classroom, amazing Lego robots have been built and programmed for different purposes, including Mars rovers and sustainable windmills.

In music technology lessons, pupils have been creating their own songs from scratch in GarageBand, and improving their sense of rhythm by using the Melodics training app to program hip hop beats into a drum machine.

Across the hospital, many pupils have been taking part in the Mayor of London's electrifying new project called Design Future London, in which children are being asked to engage their imaginations in Minecraft by designing and building new edifices that will revolutionise Croydon town centre – the best submissions will become part of the mayor's new plan for the city!



GarageBand and Melodics in use during a music technology lesson



A pupil uses Minecraft to design and build new edifices as part of Design Future London

The Arts

Pupils enjoyed visits from Janine – an artist from the Garden Museum – to teach them about the work of famous London artist Lucian Freud, and show them his plant portraits. They looked closely at some leaves from the Garden Museum garden, and were led through workshops in the classroom and on the ward to make multi-layered mono prints.



Pupils make mono prints with help from Janine, an artist from the Garden Museum (right)

During the first part of the spring term pupils have been learning about different artists who have produced fantastic art work of London.

Stephen Wiltshire (below) was born in London in 1980 and even though he is autistic, and didn't speak until he was 9 years old, he has an incredible talent for drawing huge city landscapes from memory. He has been awarded an MBE for his work and it is truly mind-blowing.

The classroom took on a studio feel one afternoon, where everyone tried to draw London landmarks in his intricate style.

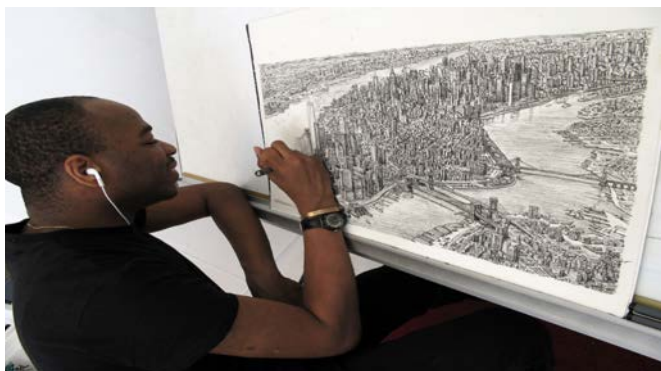


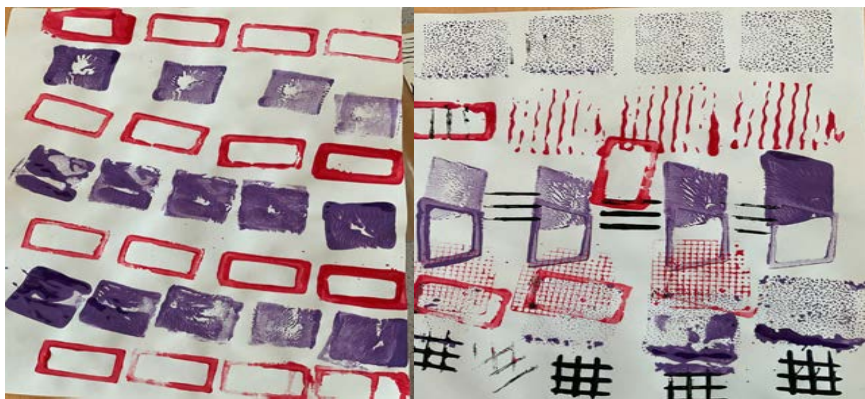
Photo credit: stephenwiltshire.co.uk



A pupil draws London landmarks in the style of Stephen Wiltshire

Julian Opie grew up in Oxford and studied art at Goldsmiths College, University of London. He enjoys making public art projects and some of his installations look like tower blocks and sky scrapers!

The pupils in the classroom investigated his life and works and looked at the shapes and colours that he uses in his work to recreate them using printing blocks.



Pupils use printing blocks to create artwork inspired by Julian Opie



Pupils' artwork inspired by Yoni Alter

Yoni Alter is an Israeli-British artist who visited London in 2006 and loved it so much he decided to stay in London. He works with bold, bright colours and simple shapes to produce vibrant art works of city skylines.

His work is in a minimalism style which means simple massive form; and pupils learned about his work and then re-created their own ones. They used coloured paper and acetate to layer the different buildings from the London skyline.



Yoni Alter with one of his brightly coloured artworks
Photo credit: yoniishappy.com

London Art Quiz

1. Who was born in 1980?
2. Which artist uses bright colours?
3. What does minimalism mean?
4. Someone won an MBE – who was it?
5. Which London buildings can you see in the art work?
6. Who went to Goldsmiths, University of London?

Answers

1. Stephen Wiltshire
2. Yoni Alter
3. Simple massive form
4. Stephen Wiltshire
5. The Shard, London Eye, Big Ben, Tower Bridge, The Gherkin Building, St Paul's Cathedral
6. Julian Opie

Pupils in the classroom and on the wards have been excited to work with our wonderful friends from City of London Sinfonia (CLS). Each week 2 musicians have worked with the pupils to create musical stories. The pupils choose the topics or themes and decide how the music might complement their ideas.

Here are some of the pupils' compositions:

A DANGEROUS GAME OF MONOPOLY

By Sun and Moon Class and CLS Musicians

Snake and Hippo were playing Monopoly

Roll the dice, Roll the dice (guiro scrapes)

Spiderman crawled under the table

Listening for a robber, Listening for a robber
(guiro scrapes)

MUSICAL INTERLUDE – gets faster and more sinister

Free jam percussion instruments

Speaker 1 – The robber crept from behind the bush

Speaker 2 – He sneaked in to snatch the money

DRUMMER solo

Spiderman shoots out his web

Piaow/piaow/piaow x2 (Spiderman hand gestures)

Captures the robber and puts him in prison

Catches the robber, catches the robber (guiro scrapes)

Snake and Hippo are playing Monopoly

Roll the dice, Roll the dice (guiro scrapes)

THE TOAST MONSTER

By a pupil and CLS Musicians

CHORUS – I am the Toast Monster

Yum, Yum in my tum (Repeat)

Verse 1 – Spread all the butter on x2

Yum Yum yummmity yum

CHORUS

Verse 2 – Crumbs on me jumper now x2

Falling, falling on my lap

CHORUS

Verse 3 – Where's all the toast gone now?
X2

It is in my tum!

CHORUS



A

B

C



City of London Sinfonia engage pupils in their exciting sessions in the classrooms and on ward

Can you name the instruments being played here by members of CLS? Answers are on the right!

Answers: A - Harp B - Viola C - Clarinet

Humanities and R.E.

Continuing the theme of 'Lively London', all our geography and history work has been based on finding out about the city. We created a great picture map, found out about different landmarks and even made our own Big Ben! Early years foundation stage children made a London bus as their topic was transport.



Big Ben made by our pupils stands proudly outside our school entrance



Children from early years made these London icons for our display

RE

Suzette, from the chaplaincy team, visited the classroom and spoke to us about hope in relation to the Easter story. Pupils enjoyed making Easter themed decorations with her.



Suzette from the chaplaincy team (right) visits our classroom to talk about the Easter story

Personal, Social & Health Education

This term we have been learning about family during our PSHE lessons on the ward and in class. Pupils have enjoyed creating family trees sharing their own and comparing and contrasting to others.

Pupils have learned about how all families are different and all families are special. Some great books on this topic are *Families, Families Families* by Suzanne and Max Lang and *A family, is a family is a family* by Sara O'Leary and Qin Leng.



Some great books about family were shared with pupils

Online Safety

It was Safer Internet Day on the 7th of February so pupils have had opportunities to talk about how much time we spend online, what we use the internet for and engage in activities around the topic. Activities included spotting red flags, making a chatterbox with online safety rules and identifying who they can talk to if anything makes them feel uncomfortable online.

To find out more, scan the QR code to watch this video and use the following questions for discussion:



1. Name three things the children in the video like to do on the internet.
2. Name two online issues faced by the children in the video.
3. Why was being online important to the children?
4. How did the internet help the children during lockdown?
5. In your opinion, what are the best and worst things about spending time online?
6. Name one of the ways the children in the video would like the internet to change.



Thank you so much!

Thank you Michael Rosen, David Walliams, Trish Cooke, Jane Porter, Jeanne Willis, Rachael Mortimer, Richy Chandler and the Young Shakespeare Company who all helped make our book festival this year a huge success! Thank you also to Jen Lunn at Read for Good, our creative writer Linden McMahon and Verity, our harpist from the Conservatoire.

Thank you to all the wonderful musicians from City of London Sinfonia who have worked with us this term, including Gail, Waffy, Abi, Matt, Olivia and Mandy. Thank you to Janine from the Garden Museum for leading art workshops with us.

Thank you to Omar from Chess in Schools and Communities for continuing your insightful chess sessions 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 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; Caroline Forrest and RADiate Dance; Sheba from Caribbean dance, Goia from Capoeira and of course 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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