

Sizzling success!

Hello and welcome,

This term has been full of exciting events and achievements at Evelina Hospital School.

We are delighted to announce that Anne, our headteacher, has been awarded an MBE for her service to education. This is a tremendous honour and a testament to her dedication and hard work. Congratulations, Anne!

Congratulations also go to our two Jack Petchey award winners this term. Both were given the award for their positive approach to learning and their resilience. Decisions are now being made as to how our two winners would like their award money spent in school.

In other news, we had a wonderful Festival of Books. We were so lucky to have authors and illustrators visiting us in school enabling our pupils to have an insight into those jobs, hear books read aloud, and have the opportunities to write and illustrate their own books.

PE is such an integral part of what we offer as a school. Pupils love the opportunity to learn new seated sports such as New Age Kurling and boccia. We had the privilege of a visit from Beth Moulam, a boccia Paralympian, who spoke to us about her journey and experiences. Her story was motivating and highlighted the importance of resilience and determination.

Beth is a public speaker who is an AAC user. AAC stands for augmentative, alternative communication and includes all the ways a person can communicate.

As a staff, we strive to support all our pupils with communication. We now have a weekly staff Makaton club so that we can incorporate signing into our daily communications with pupils.

As the school year comes to a close, we are celebrating with an art exhibition in the atrium, which will be a wonderful showcase of our pupils' creativity and talent. We also have our Sports Week which enables all pupils to participate and be presented with a Sports Week medal! In the meantime, we encourage you to read on and join us in acknowledging the wonderful things we accomplished this term as a school community.



Growth



At Evelina Hospital School, one of the reasons we learn science is to better understand our environment!

We have been learning about hydroponics. This is a method of growing plants without soil, first discovered in 1600 by Jan Van Helmont in Belgium. It is better for the environment because there is no need for herbicides or pesticides, and is increasingly popular. Growing things hydroponically involves placing a seed in a soaked spongy pod and adding nutrients a plant needs to grow healthily.

In 2015, astronauts on board the International Space Station ate the first lettuce grown hydroponically in space!

We also learned about our solar system, and how space is expanding. We explored the planets and their moons using the EDU Explorer and HoloGlobe apps, which provide an immersive Augmented Reality (AR) learning experience.



Have you ever heard about camouflage? Our science expert explained how it occurs in nature. Camouflage can take many forms: some living things are similar in colours or pattern to their habitat; some creatures are able to change colours and textures at will.



Communication

Effective communication is one of the most crucial life skills we can provide for our pupils. Virtually everything we do involves some form of communication or interaction, whether we're learning at school, making friends, or having fun. At Evelina Hospital School, we are dedicated to fostering learning environments that empower pupils to develop their communication skills and express themselves.

Two ways we support our pupils is through the consistent use of two supportive strategies: Makaton and Widgit.



Makaton is a form of signed communication designed to help hearing people with learning or communication difficulties by adding hand signs to spoken English, providing a visual aid to support language development.

We use Makaton to boost our pupils' confidence and to enrich their vocabulary, so they can converse with their peers and the adults who support them.



We are fortunate to have regular visits from Suzanne (right) from Singing Hands, sharing the wonderful world of Makaton signing in a way that makes it fun and engaging for all.

If you are interested in learning some songs and signs using Makaton, scan this QR code to visit the Singing Hands YouTube page.



Widgit is a symbol-based communication tool that uses symbols to support text, making the meaning clearer and easier to understand by providing visual representations of concepts.

We use Widgit to support the teaching and learning taking place in a variety of ways such learning resources, visual timetables and procedures and communication aids.



Interview with Caroline

Caroline is from the Royal Academy of Dance's RADiate programme, a team providing inclusive and engaging dance lessons. Caroline is a regular contributor to the learning opportunities we provide at Evelina Hospital School. Whether one-on-one or in small collaborative groups in the classroom, we have been so pleased to see how pupils light up in Caroline's lessons.

We are very grateful she agreed to an interview, so you can learn a bit more about her too!

Where did you grow up?

In a seaside town near Brighton.

When was your first experience of dancing?

I started dancing at 3 years old, taking part in disco dance competitions, then moving into ballet, tap and jazz dance.

What made you want to be a dance teacher?

Dance has always been my passion, so I wanted to share this with others, so they can in turn experience the joy and creativity it enables and unlocks.

What is your favourite type of dance or music?

I love contemporary dance, but couldn't possibly decide on music - there's an occasion for all types!

Where in the world is your favourite place to be?

I love the south of France, and being at the beach.

Do you have any pets or favourite animals?

No pets, but fun fact: I had a pet chicken when I was younger that lived for over 10 years.

Have you met any famous people?

I met Simon Pegg and David Schwimmer on a film shoot, and I was lucky to meet the wonderful Mary Berry whilst dancing as a fairy!

What would you do if you won the lottery?

Travel the world, spend more time with family, and create a dance legacy; whether that's a charity, a dance school, or an accessible organisation for all.

What is the best thing about working at Evelina Hospital School?

It is just wonderful to be a part of such an amazing team of staff. I love going on the wards and creating moments of freedom for others, who in that moment, forget other things and just experience the joy that dance can bring.

What else would you like to do in your life?

I'd love to run the London Marathon one day!



Festival of Books

All our pupils had an exciting fortnight celebrating our very own Festival of Books! We had six amazing authors and illustrators working with us, reading their books and helping us understand how a book is made and published. Pupils were able to listen to stories as well as designing, editing and publishing their own their own books.



Chitra Soundar is the author of more than 60 books, and we were thrilled to welcome her to read her books and help pupils take part in story telling workshops.



Richy Chandler is a comic book artist and he led workshops with our pupils to help them create comic book strips as well as drawing animals and pets for children who were not well enough to draw themselves.



Jane Porter visited us for two days and worked with our pupils to create 'zines for their own characters. We then used these to create our own story maps for the characters.



Annemarie Anang read her amazing first book called *I am Nefertiti*, all about a girl and her amazing name. She treated us to singing and music as well. Pupils were able to join in with the marimba!



Rachel Mortimer writes twisted fairy tales and other books for children. She worked with pupils reading her new book, *Song for a Princess*, all about how important our words are. Pupils wrote wishes and poems based on her book.



We were glad that Jodie Lancet-Grant came and read everyone her two books, *The Pirate Mums* and *The Marvellous Doctors for Magical Creatures*. You can watch her tell the stories on our YouTube channel by scanning above.

During World Book Day, staff and pupils used the book "My Magic Family" by Lotte Jeffs and illustrated by Sharon Davey as a way of celebrating all the different types of family in the world. Staff at the school dressed up in super hero capes decorated with images and words about the type of family they wanted to celebrate.

Pupils also had the opportunity to decorate a cape or a T-shirt with a family logo or with pictures. A lot of fun was had by everyone.

Later on in the term Sharon Davey paid us a visit and pupils learned about the role of an illustrator and created their own story illustrations and doodle patterns.



Migration Museum

In the summer term, as part of our PSHE and Humanities curriculum, pupils engaged with a project run by the Migration Museum. The project shines a light on the stories and experiences of people who have come to Britain to work in the NHS, through photography and oral histories. Pupils were interested in comparing old and new photos of NHS staff.



The lessons created a space for pupils to talk about their own links to migration, and of their experiences during their time in the hospital. Staff and pupils contributed their stories to form part of the exhibition, and we have incorporated these into our school displays. If you get chance, take a look at our efforts in the atrium, or in the future you could even visit the Migration Museum yourself!

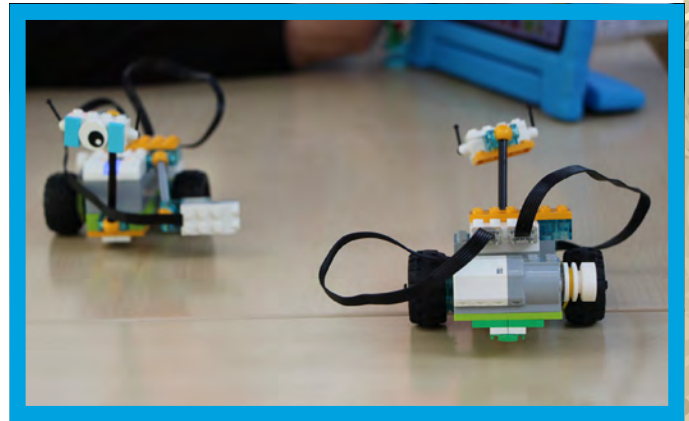
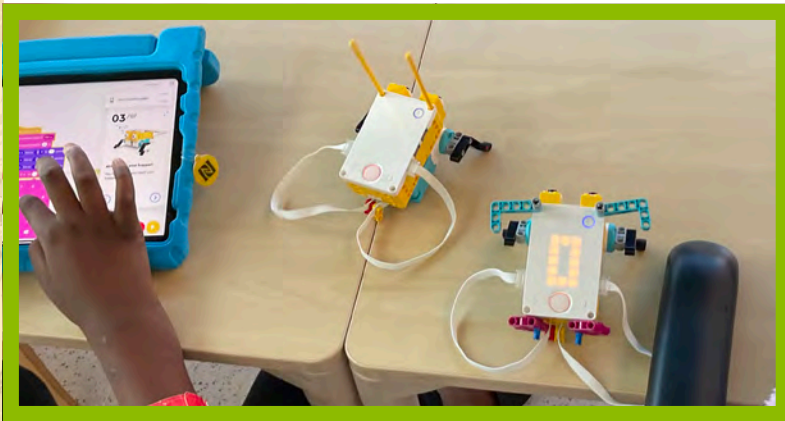


We would all like to say a big thank you to Tia and Cym who delivered the sessions, and hope to welcome them back for future projects.

Lego SPIKE

Bricks, bytes and boundless creativity are colliding in our computing lessons this term, with the launch of our Lego SPIKE Essentials and Lego SPIKE Prime kits, in the classrooms and around the wards. These amazing resources are transforming our computing lessons into a playground of endless possibilities!

Pupils have enjoyed creating colourful contraptions of all shapes and sizes, with a broad variety of features and uses. Take a look at just a few of the incredible machines that we've been building!



What makes these kits different from your average box of Lego?

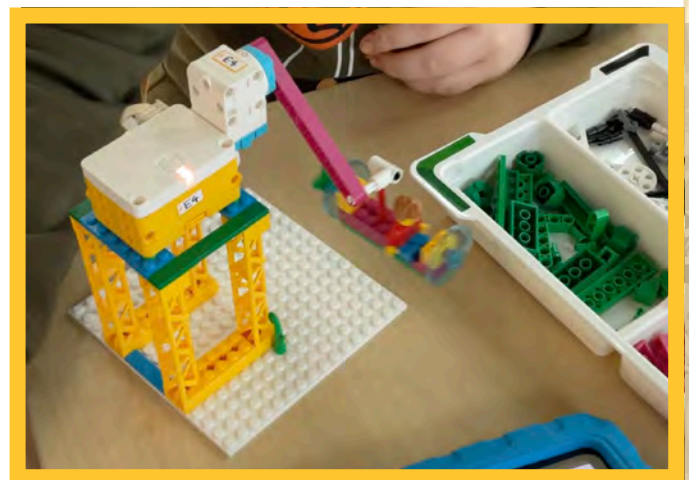
Lego SPIKE provides pupils with a blend of classic Lego bricks souped up with motors, sensors, and a digital brain that can be programmed faster than you can say "You built a robot?!" These kits are designed to make learning to code, and the basic principles of engineering, fun and approachable for pupils of all ages and abilities.

How do pupils at Evelina Hospital School use Lego SPIKE?

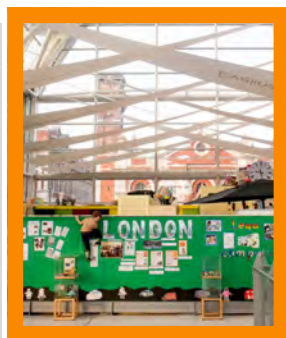
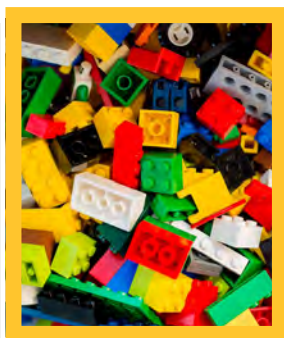
Our lessons are specially designed to promote curiosity, exploration, tinkering and imagination. Pupils are often given an open-ended objective, where there are many ways to build a solution. Pupils can work independently or part of a small group, but pupils must always explain their reasoning, and describe the choices they are making.

What kinds of things can we create with Lego SPIKE?

From amusement park rides like merry-go-rounds and pinball machines, to Mars rovers and environmentally conscious tools like rubbish collectors, the sky (or your imagination) is truly the limit!



School information



School values

- We value beauty: Beauty is a quality that runs through our work
- We value childhood: Childhood is unique and precious
- We value time: We make good use of time
- We value social justice: All children have the right to be educated and to be heard

Admissions

All young people aged 3-19 who are in-patients of Evelina London Children's Hospital are welcome to register with our school.

We also welcome 2-year-olds (the term after their second birthday) on a part-time supported basis.

The school works together with the ward teams to decide day-by-day whether children and young people on the wards are well enough to participate in sessions. These usually last between 20 and 45 minutes, depending on the age of the child and how well they feel. Parents are welcome to contact the school by phoning the office.

Children are dual-registered, so their home school can register an attendance mark if they come to school here!

Siblings

We consider enquiries about siblings on a case-by-case basis, in exceptional circumstances only. Enquiry forms are available from school reception.

EVELINA HOSPITAL SCHOOL

Level 3 Beach

Evelina London Children's Hospital

Westminster Bridge Road

London SE1 7EH

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 **Email:** office@evelina.southwark.sch.uk

 **Twitter:** @EvelinaSchool

 **Instagram:** @EvelinaHospitalSchool

 **YouTube:** @evelinahospitalschool7909

Teaching times

Morning: 10am – 12pm

Afternoon: 1.30pm – 3.30pm (3pm on Mondays)

Our classrooms are now open on Level 3 (Atrium) and we continue to teach on the wards.

Classroom and Ward teaching

We teach in three classrooms (Early Years, Primary and Secondary), and we teach on the wards where appropriate.

When with us, pupils work on a variety of creative activities, including English, mathematics, computing and art, as well as being supported to complete work sent by their home school when provided.

Feedback

Your feedback and views on our school are really important to us and help us to improve our offer to pupils in the future. Scan these codes below, depending if you are a pupil, or a parent/carer of a pupil. It should take between 10-15 minutes to complete.



Pupil
survey



Parent/
carer
survey



Headteacher: Anne Hamilton, MBE

Deputy Headteacher: Laura Perrett

Senior Teacher: Claire Bond

evelina.southwark.sch.uk