

DEPTFORD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 13th March 2024



Wow, what a fun few weeks we have had! We've got a jam packed Newsletter for you to enjoy, featuring photographs on International Day and World Book Day, children's views on the Year 6 trip to Matilda and the Digital Leaders' visit to the BETT computing conference. We're looking forward to fundraising for Red Nose Day on Friday, don't forget to come to school in your pyjamas! Photos to follow!

Reminders

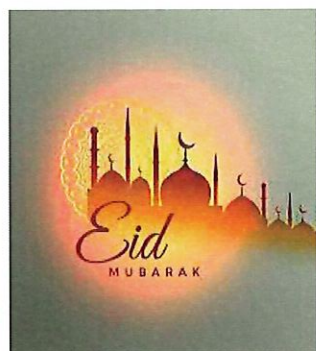
To our Year 6 parents, hopefully you have seen which schools your children will be going to in September. Don't forget to accept your place by the deadline..

For all our families who celebrate

Easter Blessings



For all our families who celebrate



Attendance

We will continue to monitor attendance very carefully and remind you that holidays **should not** be taken during term time.

The best attendance so far this academic year are:

**1st ~ Diamond 2nd ~ Emerald
3rd ~ Garnet**

Term Dates

Thursday 28th March ~ Last day of Spring Term

Friday 29th March ~ Friday 12th April ~ Half Term

Monday 15th April ~ Inset Day

Tuesday 16th April ~ Children return to school

Thursday 2nd May ~ School Closed for Polling

Monday 6th May ~ School Closed for Bank Holiday

Friday 24th May ~ Last day prior to the Half Term Holiday

Monday 27th May ~ Friday 31st May ~ Half Term Holiday

Monday 3rd June ~ Children Return to school

Thursday 25th July ~ Last day of the school year

1 Inset day outstanding

Many around the world celebrated International Women's Day on the 8th March let's take a moment to reflect on all the wonderful women in our lives and all those that have inspired us!



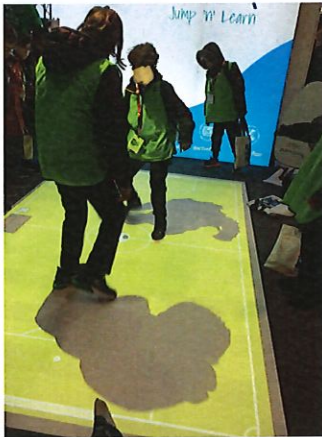
CALLING ALL CHILDREN...

Got something to say or a piece of work you are proud of? Then why not publicise it in the newsletter?

School Trips

Digital Leaders

Mark and Catherine took the digital leaders to the BETT computing conference where they were able to get hands on with new technology. The children enjoyed trying VR headsets



Year 6 Trip to Matilda



At the beginning of February, our Y6 children went to The Cambridge Theatre to see Matilda. As it was their first ever West End theatre visit, it was an unforgettable experience. It was possible because of the incredible generosity of **The Junior League** charity who very kindly funded the entire trip. So, a huge THANK YOU to Melissa and the charity from all of us. Here are some quotes from our Y6 children:

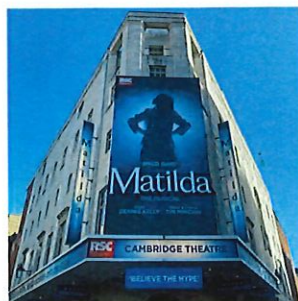
'I am so thrilled and grateful that we could see Matilda because I have never been to a theatre before. It was a wonderful and great opportunity. Thank you.' Jane

'When I walked in the room, I thought that the set was really fancy, as everything was hanging and the decorations were stuck to the wall, everything was moving around. I felt as if I was in a different world.' Elif

'I am overly gleeful that I was able to watch this jaw-dropping show – Matilda the Musical - the plot twists that make the story flow made the experience superb and I am beaming. I love the hidden jokes embedded. The amount of gratitude I have is on an extreme level – thank you so much. This was a delightful experience. I felt mesmerised when the lasers appeared and vanished. Thank you again.' Astera

'When I first saw the stage, I was put in a trance. I have never been to a musical before so this was an enjoyable and wonderful experience.' Ayah

'I felt mesmerised and delighted to see Matilda the Musical. The show was excellent and amazing. As a matter of fact, my favourite part was the green laser when Trunchbull tried to put ALL the kids in the 'chokey'. Thank you so much for your support.' Cheryl



Curriculum News

Our Shooting Stars Group have produced some wonderful work on the Lunar New Year Well done!



International Language Day

A massive thank you to you, our DPPS parents for your dedicated support for International Day on Thursday 22nd February. The children looked stunning!!! Beautiful and colourful cultural outfits representing over 13 countries walked the school corridors in all Key Stages.

The children were bubbling with enthusiasm and excitement, and were loud and proud when sharing their thoughts and aspects of their different cultures in assembly and classrooms. Thanks also to Sidney and the Nourish kitchen staff for our delicious Peri Peri Chicken that made us want second helpings.

The results for our 'Design a Diversity Poster' will be decided next week and the posters from 2 children in each year group will be chosen for recognition in assemblies.

Diversity is embraced at DPPS and it was wonderful to hear how passionate our children felt about the importance of respect, kindness and understanding of each other's heritage and customs.

Thanks again to our DPPS community.... Enjoy the photos. Click on the link to view all the photographs <https://www.deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk/international-day/>



HAVE YOU HEARD?

The World Belongs to Those Who Read!

When your child reads a book **ALoud**, they are opening the door to many opportunities in life. They will perfect not only their language skills but form a basis for improved writing skills. By expanding understanding, practicing fluency and increasing vocabulary our children can successfully go into the wider world with an enormous boost to their self-esteem, that in turn leads to enhanced educational and career prospects for their future.



BUT HOW? Studies show that listening to your child read at home **DAILY**, for between 10-20mins brings great benefits to your child that will quickly show with consistency. Though busy, maybe while preparing a nourishing meal after school that will strengthen your child physically, could you also help them to strengthen themselves mentally by listening to them read aloud? It can be a book ,newspaper or magazine and as the old saying goes... "Practice Makes Perfect".



The children and staff enjoyed a fun filled day, it was wonderful to see so many fantastic costumes.

Please click the link to view more photographs.

<https://www.deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk/world-book-day-2024/>



On Monday, an Attendance and Welfare Officer from Lewisham visited the school to carry out a spot check, noting those pupils arriving late to school.

13 pupils arrived late..... Lewisham & Welfare will be carrying out further spot checks going forward to address lateness.

Being late to school can have a considerable impact over the whole school year. The table below shows how much time can be missed over a year by regularly arriving late for school every day:

5 minutes late every day = 3 days of school lost in a year

10 minutes late every day = 6.5 days of school lost in a year

15 minutes late every day = 10 days of school lost in a year

20 minutes late every day = 13 days of school lost in a year

30 minutes late every day = 19 days of school lost in a year

Arriving late for school results in your child missing out on vital parts of their education. In addition, when pupils come late, it can be disruptive to the rest of the class and your child will have missed important instructions for the lesson.

We hope to see improvements going forward.

In addition, the Government in conjunction with the NHS are running a national campaign, moments matter, attendance counts, which the school is supporting.

We want all children to have the best start in life because we know attending school is vital to a child's wellbeing, development, and attainment as well as impact future career success.

Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation, the greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly.



Well done to Joan Green one of our ex teachers with her book launch. We are very proud of you!

LIVE BOOKS RE-LAUNCH

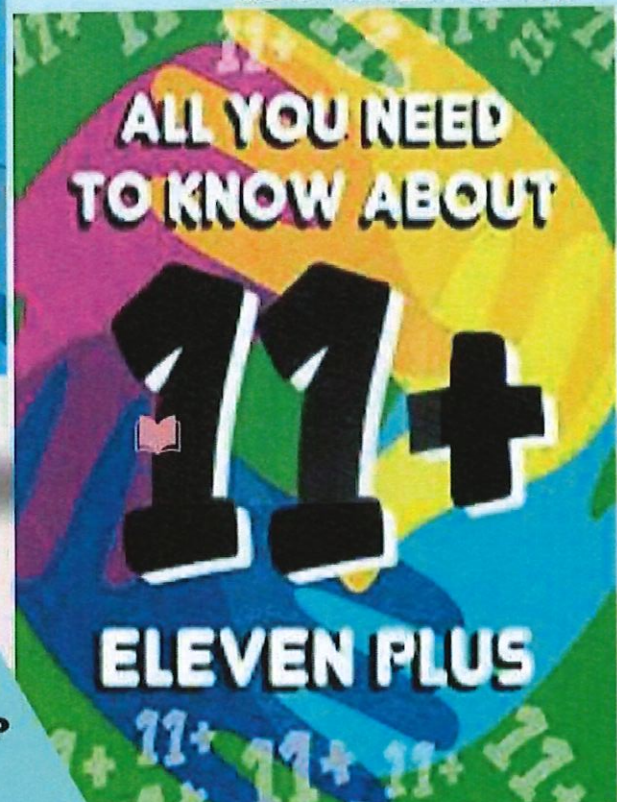
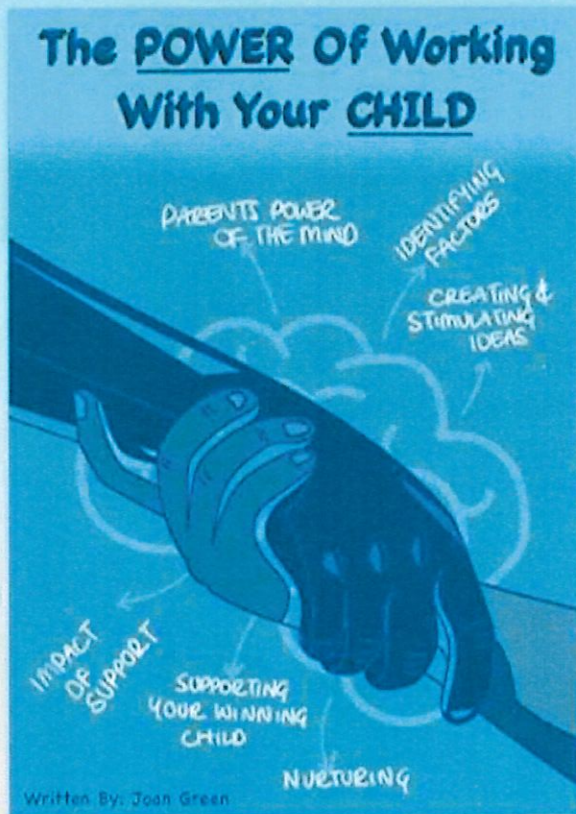
Are you a parent who wants your child/children to succeed?

Date: March 17, 2024
Time: 3:00p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Venue: The Nest Community Building and Library
3 Cygnet Square, Thamesmead
SE2 9FA London



JOAN GREEN

**AMAZON'S BEST SELLING
AUTHOR/EDUCATOR**



Discover your child's/children's special gifts and talents!

**LET US HELP
YOU!**

DEPTFORD LITERATURE FESTIVAL

CHILDREN'S + FAMILIES EVENTS

SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024

Deptford Literature Festival, run by Spread the Word, presents a day of special events for younger members of our community and their families. All children's and family events are free to attend and are BSL interpreted.

All children's events take place at **Deptford Lounge Children's Library**, 9 Giffin Street, London SE8 4RJ. Parents, guardians or carers are asked to stay with their children during these events.

There will be fresh fruit and healthy snacks available for children attending the workshops. Author signings will take place in the Festival Marketplace with books available from our partners Round Table books.

NEVER SHOW A T-REX A BOOK! with **RASHMI SIRDESHPANDE**

Time: 10am-10.45am | Age recommendation: 3-5 years

Access: **BSL**

Get ready for some dino fun in this imaginative, interactive event which uses a magical WHAT IF as a launchpad for stories. What if a T-Rex learns how to read? What if a stegosaurus falls in love with MATHS and CODING and builds a rocket to go up into space? What if a diplodocus learns to draw and becomes an ART SENSATION? What mischief would they get up to? Find out in this celebration of learning, reading, STEAM, and art!



Photo: Charlotte Knee Photography

SUIT UP! STEP UP! **IT'S TIME TO BECOME A HERO** with **ALEX FALASE-KOYA**

Time: 11.30am-12.15pm | Age recommendation: 6-8 years

Access: **BSL**

Join author of the *Marv* series Alex Falase-Koya for a super-powered, super-fun introduction to Marv - the kindest superhero in town. Hear about Alex's own favourite superheroes and his favourite books growing up before helping Alex design a brand new supersuit for your own hero.



HISTORY through MYSTERY: **STORIES of BLACK LONDON with J T WILLIAMS**

Time: 1pm-2pm | Age recommendation: 9-11 years

Access: **BSL**

Create a character to star at the centre of your very own mystery story with J T Williams, author of *The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries*, drawing on true stories for inspiration. What secrets of past lives does Deptford hold? Who were the Sons - and surely Daughters - of Africa? Travel back in time to the dark and dangerous streets of Georgian London. Delve into the past and discover the fascinating figures who fought for freedom, from sailors to shopkeepers, rebellious writers to runaways.



More info + book: deptfordlitfest.com

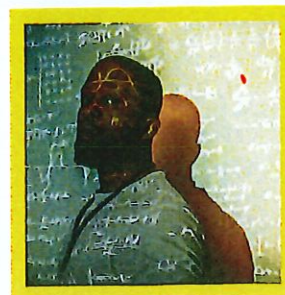
STORY ALGORITHMS 101 WORKSHOP with FEMI FADUGBA

Time: 4pm-5pm | Location: Room 1, Deptford Lounge

Age recommendation: 11-15 years | Access: **BSL**

Turn your creativity and life experiences into your very own story in a workshop with YA author Femi Fadugba, where you'll get inspiration from Femi's short story 'Algorithm'.

Femi's debut science-fiction novel, and soon-to-be Netflix feature starring Daniel Kaluuya, *The Upper World* follows two teenagers based in Peckham, London. The story explores themes of love, violence and time travel physics as the pair are thrown into a mind-bending and life-threatening race against the clock.



ALSO...

THE WILD ONES with BERNADETTE RUSSELL

Time: 11am-12pm | Location: Brookmill Park

Age recommendation: Adults of all ages + children 7+

Access: **BSL**; accessible toilet, tarmac paths, bench seating

Join Deptford storyteller and author Bernadette Russell in beautiful Brookmill Park, for a morning of tales from the wild side of SE8, starring foxes, magpies, river spirits and other, stranger, mythical beings. You may discover the secrets of the faraway creatures that lurk in the mysterious River Ravensbourne... plus make a charm to take home to bring you luck and good fortune for the coming Spring!



COMMUNITY BOOK SWAP + WORKSHOPS with THE RAINBOW EXCHANGE

Drop into the book swap and trade your old books for new reads, without spending a penny. You can bring up to five books to swap (must be in good condition or better!) and "shop" the titles other people have brought in using your swap tokens.

Take part in two family friendly **workshops**:

12pm-1pm: Climate Storytelling workshop with Connor S Hardy

2pm-3pm: Black-Out Poetry workshop with short-form poet Sierra Hope

Time: Book swap: 11am-3pm

Workshops: 12pm-1pm + 2pm-3pm

Location: Café, The Albany

Age recommendation for workshops: 10+

Access: **BSL**; accessible toilet; lift



Festival Online: get creative with J T Williams' Festival At Home activities for children and listen to Femi Fadugba talk about his work on the Festival Podcast - both available on the Festival website.

More info + book: deptfordlitfest.com