



## Newsletter 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear parents/carers,

This week I have been blown away by all the acts of kindness and friendship I have seen around the school. The children and staff have been thinking deeply about what they are grateful for and what they hope for the future and this has created such a lovely atmosphere around the school. Here is what we have been up to:

### EYFS News

Nursery have been busy playing number games and doing lots of mark making including our names. We have been making posters, shopping lists, menus, telephone messages, invitations and cards and talking about the marks we have made. We are becoming more independent and can put our coat on by ourselves now and have played lots of games to help us learn how to turn take and talk about our feelings and how others feel. We have loved our shared reading and daily phonics lessons this term and are talking and describing all the sounds that we can hear around us. We've learnt so much this term and have worked very hard. Reception have had a fantastic week of learning. We received some exciting post from Santa and have been very busy replying to him. In maths we have been thinking about Santa's reindeer. We have been solving problems involving sharing their carrots out equally. We needed to make sure it was fair and Rudolph didn't get more than the others! In circle time we talked about the things we are grateful for. The children thought carefully about the idea and all came up with meaningful things they felt lucky to have. Lots of us feel thankful for school, our friends and our families.

### Sharing Good Learning

All of our assemblies are now on the website including good learning assembly. Click on the assembly tab to access the fantastic learning the children are sharing.

- **Year 1:** Year 1 have been learning about Nocturnal Animals this week. They have been focussing on Owls. They created informative fact-files and amazing artwork.
- **Year 2:** Created a magical musical book of amazing facts about different instruments. They included titles, diagrams, labels, headings and cool facts!
- **Year 3:** Year 3 have been learning about farming and crops. Did you know wheat was the first crop to be grown by humans?
- **Year 4:** Have been experimenting with chocolate. They made predictions about whether minstrels, maltesers or buttons would melt the quickest between our fingers. I hope they got to eat their results!!
- **Year 5:** Researched William Morris, a famous Victorian designer. They discovered lots of interesting information about him.
- **Year 6:** This week Year 6 have finished reading Macbeth. They loved the play and really enjoyed making excellent storyboards.

### Special mentions:

**Ruth** would like to give a special mention to **Nusaybah** for persevering with her maths this week, even though she has found it challenging she has never given up! **Keyaan** would like to mention **Amaya** "for playing with me and being kind." **Ilyas** would like to mention **Yusuf and Ayub** "for playing football with me." **Zayn** would like to mention **Zayan** for "being kind to me." **Tamara** would like to mention **Maizah and Reina** "for playing with me." **Zayna** would like to mention **Aaya** for being a good friend. **Ishaq** would like to mention **Matthew and Yamin** for cheering him up. **Johnny** would like to mention **Ihsan** for trying his hardest in music.



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### End of Term

School finishes on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020** school will be closing early on this day the finishing times are as follows:

Year Group	Finish time	Location
Nursery	12.00	Virginia road gate
Reception	1.20	Virginia road gate
Y5 and Y6	1:30	Main gate
Y3 and Y4	1:35	Main gate
Y1 and Y2	1:40	Main gate

### Emails/Weekly Newsletters

Could I ask that you add the following email addresses to your contact list and then hopefully the items that are sent to you will not go into your junk mail.

[admin@virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:admin@virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk)

[vpsyear1class@virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:vpsyear1class@virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk) (example) change the number to your child's year group so [vpsyear6@virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:vpsyear6@virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk) Please call if you have any questions.

### COVID-19 reminders:

If your child or any member of the family has COVID-19 symptoms, the whole household will need to self-isolate for 14 days (or until a test is booked and comes back negative). **If children are sent home to isolate please do not bring them out you could potentially be fined £1000.**

### Attendance and Punctuality Table

Year Group	Number of pupils late	Ranking	Attendance	Ranking
Reception	3	2 <sup>nd</sup>	97.96%	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Year 1	5	3 <sup>rd</sup>	94.67%	6 <sup>th</sup>
Year 2	2	1 <sup>st</sup>	94.14%	7 <sup>th</sup>
Year 3	21	7 <sup>th</sup>	97.33%	5 <sup>th</sup>
Year 4	11	4 <sup>th</sup>	98.59%	1 <sup>st</sup>
Year 5	19	6 <sup>th</sup>	97.67%	4 <sup>th</sup>
Year 6	12	5 <sup>th</sup>	98.57%	2 <sup>nd</sup>

**Well done reception and 4, I am very proud of your attendance! Year 3 to Year 6 you now need to improve your punctuality! I would just like to remind you that in accordance with the Tower Hamlets Penalty Notice Scheme you will be fined if your child is late 20 or more times in a term.**

It is really important that children and parents come to school and pick up at the correct times to avoid over-crowding and excessive queueing. The timings for pick up and drop off for each year group are on the website and remember to wait on the other side of the road until your child's year group allocated time, and then queue along the wall in a physically distant manner. Please remember to keep the front of the gates clear at all times. Many thanks for your continued patience and collaboration.



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### Forthcoming events

#### Dates for the rest of this Year

21 <sup>st</sup> December to 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021	End of Term	School Closed
4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Start of Term	School OPEN
15 <sup>th</sup> February to 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Half Term	School Closed
29 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Inset Day	School Closed
30 <sup>th</sup> March to 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	End of Term	School Closed
3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021	Bank Holiday	School Closed
6 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	GLA Elections	School Closed
31 <sup>st</sup> May to 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Half term	School Closed
19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Occasional days	School Closed
23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2021	Inset Day	School Closed

**Best wishes, Barbara Lo Giudice, head teacher**