



Walthamstow Primary Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Enrichment Report 2016-2017

At Walthamstow Primary Academy. We believe that we are all active citizens of change and that we can all make a difference!

In this Enrichment Report, you can see the things we are learning about being contributing members of our local community, about being British Citizens, and about being citizens of the world!

This was a fun-filled year for all the children and families who attend Walthamstow Primary Academy. We would like to take this opportunity to share some of the exciting moments we have had the privilege to share with your children this year.

The children have enjoyed lots of exciting trips, which have all supported our curriculum. We have welcomed some very special visitors to our school for assemblies and workshops to enrich learning.

The school has been involved in important fundraising events to raise money for some very special charities. The charities you chose to support this year were: Great Ormond Street Hospital, Crest and UNICEF.

Our hard working P.T.A, has put on some wonderful events to raise much needed funds for our school, any money raised will go towards extra equipment/treats for all the children. We have also received some very generous donations from local businesses, for example, Ford and Morrisons.



September

September saw the beginning of a new selection of after school clubs for Year 1.

We had our first ever cookery club. The children enjoyed making a variety of foods and were eager to discover which healthy recipes they were going to make next.



October

In October 2016, Darwin Class (Reception) enjoyed trips to The Emmanuel Community Church and Sri Karpaga Vinayagar Temple. These trips supported their Religious Education studies for this term.

October also saw the start of regular visits to the Grow Wild Centre in Lloyd Park. The children love visiting the Grow Wild centre, as they have the opportunity to get muddy, explore, and learn about the outside habitat of insects and mini beasts.



November

In November 2016, Newton Class also visited the Sri Karpaga Vinayagar Temple to support their Religious Education Studies, whilst Darwin Class visited the Grow Wild Centre in Lloyd Park for the first time.



We are very proud to represent so many cultures and religions here at Walthamstow Primary Academy and we endeavour to engage in the religious celebrations with our families. In November, we celebrated Diwali by making some colourful art work and holding a special assembly to share what we had learnt in our Religious Education lessons.

We are also very proud to be British and ensure we celebrate our British values, not forgetting those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. On Remembrance Day, we all wore something red.



November

Children dressed up in something spotty to raise money for Children in Need.



Year 1 learnt about the painter Monet and produced some of their own fantastic art work in his styles, which they shared in an assembly for parents and carers.



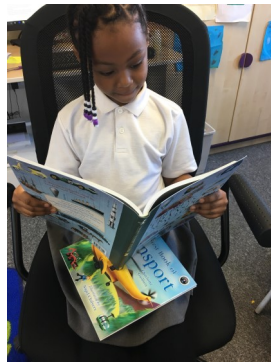
December

In December 2016, we received a very generous donation of £250 from a local business, Ford. This money was soon spent on all types of books about transport.

We bought some transport colouring books, fiction and non-fiction books.

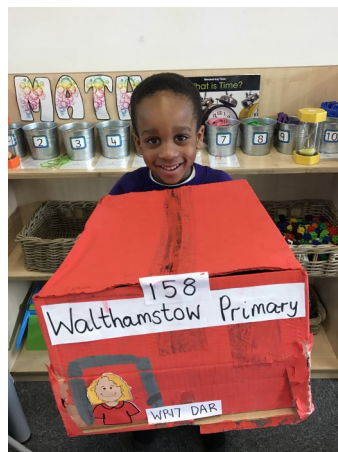
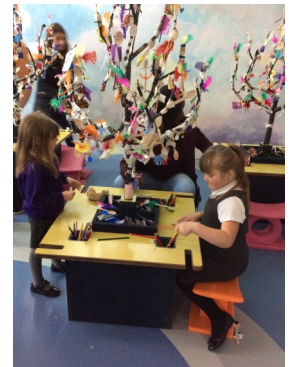
These books have been gratefully received by the children and the teachers to enhance their transport topics and they will be used for many more years to come.

Thank you, Ford, for your support!



Darwin Class visited the Discover Centre in Stratford.

On this trip, the children made up a story to send to another planet to help Hootah the alien.



December

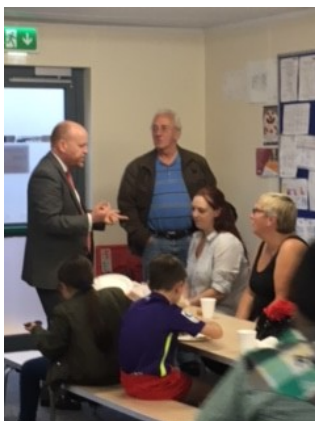
It was a busy month for entertainment at Walthamstow Primary Academy; our Reception and Year 1 children put on a wonderful performance of Christmas Carols, for their families, which was followed by some delicious mince pies.

Staff from Walthamstow Academy, our neighbouring secondary school, entertained us with a pantomime that was enjoyed by all of the children and staff. A big thank you to everyone at Walthamstow Academy for making us feel so welcome.

On the last day of term, we were treated to a fabulous theatre production at Mirth, Marvel and Maud, in Walthamstow where we watched a performance about Grimms’ Fairy Tales.



We held a very successful community supper where we invited Governors, staff, the children and their families along to bring one of their favourite dishes that represented their culture, to share with everyone. It was a lovely evening that made way for making new friends and getting to know other families from Walthamstow Primary Academy.



January

The beginning of a new calendar year started with International Week. During this week, Darwin Class studied Portugal and The Caribbean. The children coloured in flags, researched information using iPads and took part in traditional culture - Portuguese folk dancing, carnival celebrations and cooking up some dumplings. They learnt many facts, such as, the different countries that make up The Caribbean, the capital city of Portugal, and the children even made their own weather forecasts based on different countries. It was a great introduction to the start of a new term!



Newton Class explored Pakistan and Sri Lanka. As one of their activities, they used a green screen app on their iPad to pretend they were at different locations. The children learnt that both Sri Lanka and Pakistan's national sports are cricket. The children had pictures taken with elephants, Adam's Peak and Sigiriya Rock in Sri Lanka!

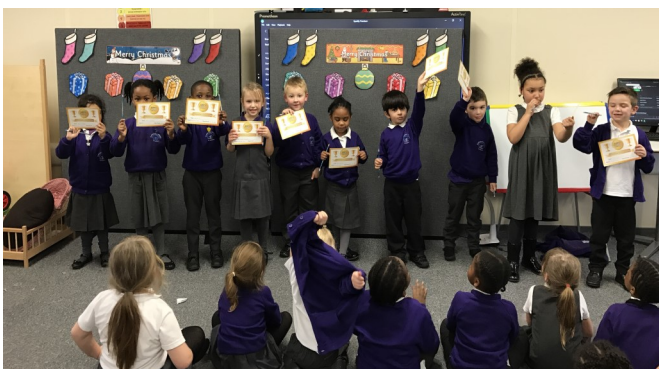


We also welcomed some special visitors to our school to talk to us about water safety and to teach the children about Judaism. Rabbi Wollenberg shared facts and artefacts about the Jewish faith. The children really enjoyed his visit. Thank you, Rabbi Wollenberg!



Canal River Explorers presented a special assembly to Reception and Year 1 where we looked at a picture of a river and identified the possible hazards around it. We learnt that when we are around open water it is important to read and follow the signs that we see. We learnt that we should stay away from the edge, even if we drop something in. We were taught that if we see someone in danger in the water, we have to call

One chilly morning in January, the children discovered some ice and we learnt about how water can change into a solid!



We enjoy celebrating outstanding attendance here at Walthamstow Primary Academy! These children all achieved 100%!





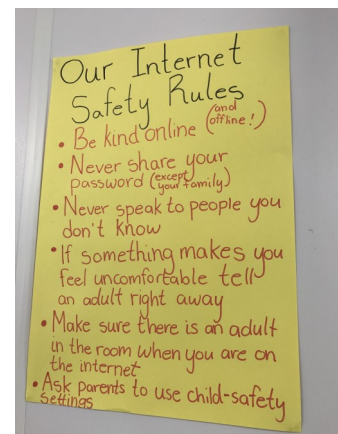
January finished in style with a special 'Chinese New Year' assembly and a week of exploring the story behind this celebration. Newton Class explored the twelve animal representations of each year. They re-enacted the story and developed a short play. They then explored the craft of Chinese paper and created their own red Roosters, which is the animal representation for this year. In Art, the children looked at sculptures and collaboratively created a dragon, and learnt that dragons are a symbol of celebration in the Chinese culture.

February

February didn't disappoint; the weather may have been cold and uninviting, but we welcomed many interesting learning opportunities.

During Internet Safety Week, we encouraged all parents and carers to speak to their children about how to keep safe online. We sent home a Digital Parenting magazine, which had lots of helpful information.

Newton Class enjoyed another trip to Lloyd Park and we were very excited to receive a special delivery of living eggs. Ten eggs were delivered and set up in their incubator to keep warm. When they were ready, much to the delight of the children when they came back to school in the morning, some of the chicks had hatched from their eggs. All of the children had the opportunity to hold a chick. The chicks were re-homed at the end of their stay with us.



Our Internet safety rules.

February



February continued to offer some special visitors and we welcomed the RSPB!

The children learnt about different types of birds and went out to find evidence of minibeasts, plants and trees. We used binoculars and magnifying glasses to hunt for these creatures in our local environment.

Some children took part in a Royal Mail Christmas Stamp design competition. We produced some lovely, colourful designs, but, unfortunately, none were shortlisted.

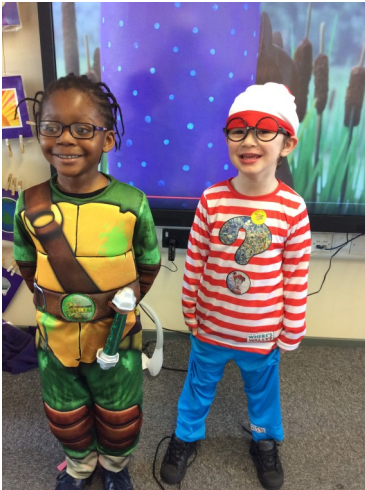
A very busy February ended with decorating some scrumptious pancakes to celebrate Pancake Day.



March

March offered an array of trips, visits, activities and dressing up days.

We started with World Book Day, where all the staff and the children dressed up as their favourite book character. We were surrounded by superheroes and fairy tale characters! We raised £26.00.



When we came back from half term, we received a very precious parcel; some caterpillars for the children to watch transform into beautiful butterflies.



Both classes were taught a very special P.E. lesson by the sports ambassadors from Walthamstow Academy. The children used the facilities and equipment provided by Walthamstow Academy and thoroughly enjoyed a different P.E. Lesson!

Darwin Class visited the London Transport Museum. They were able to explore the Museum, seeing different types of vehicles, old and new. The children had a session with a Museum expert, who took us on a journey through olden day London. They learnt about the first ever London bus, called the Omnibus, which was run by horses! They learnt about all types of buses, including the modern London Buses and the new Route Masters. The children searched the Museum for stamps to show a timeline of all the things they had discovered and then took a journey home on the London Underground. It was great fun and was a valuable addition to our topic on Transport.



March

The students from Leyton Sixth Form College, where our Vice Chair of the Local Governing Body is Principal, invited all our staff and children to watch a performance they had written, arranged and acted in.

Our children said:

'I liked the wolves because they were funny'. 'The pigs were silly'. 'I liked the second part because there was more arguing'. 'I thought it was good because the wolf was really scary'. 'I thought it was really fun'.

'I liked the dancing and the singing'. 'I liked all the characters'. 'I thought the queen was special'. 'I liked the character Queen Moonlight because she had a crown'. 'Really good'. 'Showed us good stuff'. 'Showed us respect'. 'I learnt about different talents'.

And some from the teachers:

'I really enjoyed the way the characters engaged with our children'. 'LSC did an amazing job at aiming the play at our age group'. 'LSC students are lucky to have such fantastic facilities'. 'I felt as if everyone really wanted us to be there and they made us feel so welcome'.



You could be forgiven for thinking that we couldn't possibly handle any more excitement in the spring term, but, you would be wrong!

Once again the children were treated to another visitor; we were delighted to watch a wonderful performance from 'Shaking up Shakespeare'. This performance was thoroughly entertaining and enjoyed by all the children and staff. Our workshop focused on *The Tempest*, the play we were studying in Reception and Year 1 as part of our topic on Shakespeare.



March

We celebrated Red Nose Day in style and, for a donation, the children came to school dressed in something red.

At the end of March we had an Easter Bonnet Parade to celebrate Easter. All the children and their families worked so hard to make amazing Easter Bonnets. We gave out a prize for the best Easter Bonnet in each class.

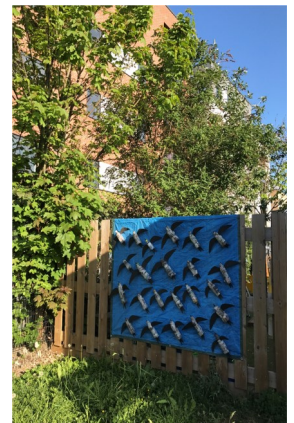


COMIC RELIEF

April

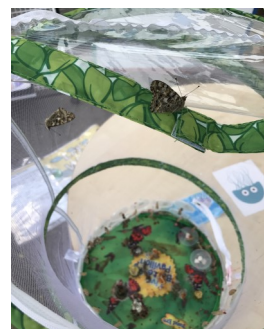
In April, Miss Nunes and Newton Class worked very hard to produce a wonderful piece of art to take part in the '1000 swifts over Walthamstow' art trail.

Walthamstow is getting a wetland - the biggest urban wetland in Europe. Although the land belongs to Thames Water, the wetland has been created with public funds and it is part of our cultural commons. To celebrate the opening of the Wetlands and the new gallery that is being created in the old Engine House, '1000 Swifts over Walthamstow' has been created. Swifts are iconic to the reservoirs, but they are also at risk as they are losing their nesting places in urban development. To be part of the flock, Year 1 made their own beautiful and unique swifts from recycled materials.



April was also the time to say 'bon voyage' to our butterflies.

The children gained so much knowledge about the life cycle of the butterfly and they used the experiment to enhance the Year 1 science topic.



May

In May 2017, during Drama Week we decided to extend an invitation to the students of Leyton Sixth Form College to perform for us again here at Walthamstow Primary Academy. The students and staff all went out of their way to travel here and put on an interactive performance of Little Red Riding Hood for our pupils.



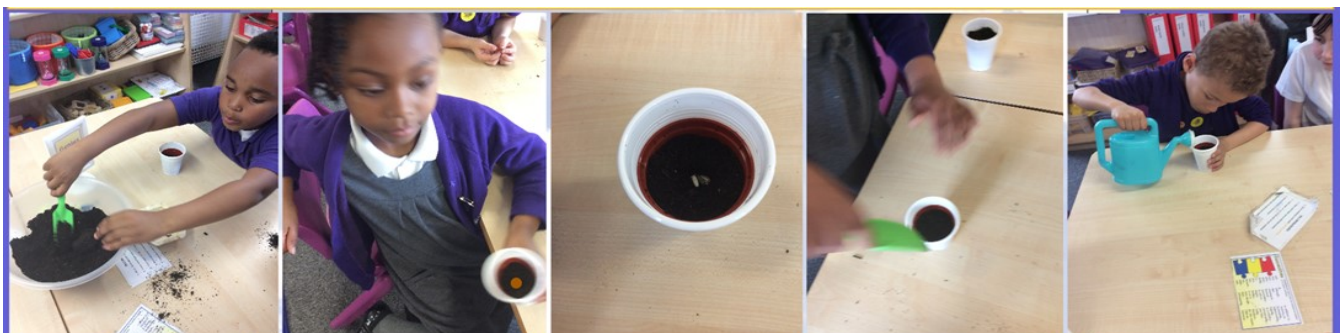
We also had a visit from Reverend Stella Olukanmi from St Andrew's Church. Reverend Stella answered some questions about Christianity and she told us about the Bible and the Last Supper, when Christians believe that Jesus and his friends had a meal of bread and wine. Reverend Stella left us with some resources to use in future Religious Education lessons.



Darwin Class visited the London Sea Life Centre in May as part of their topic 'Under the sea'. The children read a story with Marley the turtle, who then took the children to tea with the underwater animals. They met some sharks, penguins, an octopus and some jelly fish. They had an amazing time!



In Newton Class, the children were studying the lifecycle of sunflowers in June. They planted their own seeds so they could investigate how the plants grow and change. It was a fierce competition to see whose would be the tallest.



May

May finished with a flurry!

To support one of our families we decided to hold a non-uniform day and we invited all the children and their favourite teddy bears to Walthamstow Primary Academy's Teddy Bears, Picnic. The children had a healthy snack and enjoyed some teddy bear stories. This was to raise money for a wonderful charity, Great Ormond Street Hospital. The Carey family hold an annual Fun Run, we wanted to get involved too! Miss de Silva, Ms Perisic and several children went along to support the Carey family. WPA raised a wonderful £84.00, which went towards an outstanding total of £1675 donated to GOSH.



Throughout the year, for a whole day for each half term, we have welcomed a dance, drama and story telling workshop to our school - Big Foot.

The wonderful team at Big Foot have provided the children with the opportunity to express themselves through movement and singing.



We received confirmation of our Healthy Schools London status, and we were presented with a bronze award. Miss Courtney, our Healthy Schools Leader, worked very hard throughout the school to





June

Childcare Solution, our new Breakfast Club and After School childcare provider, joined us in June, providing a safe and secure environment for the children to enjoy a range of activities to enhance their confidence, self-esteem, knowledge and skills.

We welcomed the NSPCC to our school to talk to us about their “Speak out. Stay safe.” programme. This programme ensures children have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse. The programme was delivered in a child-friendly and interactive assembly by their specially trained staff.



We received a wonderful invitation from Waltham Forest music services, to attend a music festival. We watched performances from choirs and ensembles from other local primary schools. We hope in time this visit will inspire some of our students to start learning a musical instrument.

We were fortunate to have our very own World Music concert on site, performed by Yennega Sound. Yennega Sound is an energetic new band from Burkina Faso, they brought the sounds of West Africa to life through songs that incorporated the country’s oral tradition. We were lucky enough to discover the sweet flavour of the musician’s homeland through the harmonies of an African Harp called a Kamele Ngoni (literally meaning ‘a young man’s harp’) and the Djembe (traditional African drums).

Many thanks to Alain, Abdoulaye and Narcisse for bringing their beautiful, melodic sounds of West Africa to WPA.



Darwin class visited the Greenwich Royal Observatory. This trip supported their ‘Space: To Infinity and Beyond’ topic.



We commissioned a boat maker to make us our very own WPA rowing boat for the children to play in next academic year, we thought it would be exciting to hold a ‘Boat naming competition’. We had many wonderful suggestions and our winner, chosen by our Speech and Language Therapist, was “WPA Columbus,” chosen by Kyle B from Newton Class.

July

Newton Class travelled by bus and tube to Westminster, to visit the Houses of Parliament. They were lucky enough to experience the magnificent architecture of this stunning building, whilst being shown around by their very own tour guide. They then attended a workshop about the Great Fire of London.

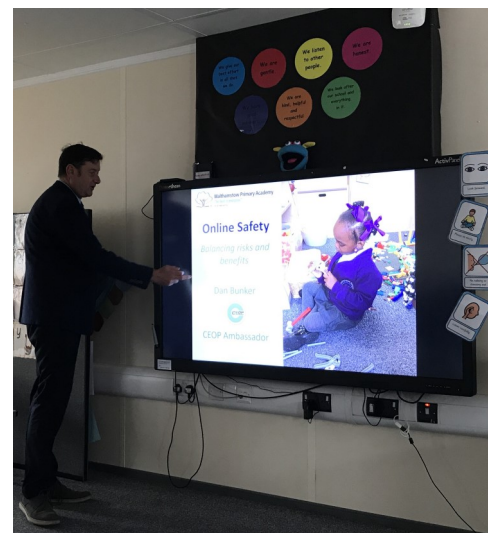


This is our completed boat in the workshop, just waiting to be delivered!

The boat was made by Oarsome Creations



We hosted an E- Safety workshop for our parents, it was run by United Learning's leader of Technology, Dan Bunker. It was well attended and parents learnt a lot about how to keep their children safe online.



July



In addition to Walthamstow Primary Academy taking part in the “1000 swifts over Walthamstow,” some of our pupils had the opportunity to design a jar that could be re-created using household products. These jars will be displayed in the new Wetlands Centre.



Earlier in the year, we entered a draw for special school tickets to attend a session at the World Para Athletics. We were lucky enough to be selected. On 18th July, all the children, staff and parent volunteers, enjoyed an amazing experience at the Queen Elizabeth Park. We watched several races including the Long Jump final and 100m heats. The children had a wonderful day and they all represented WPA beautifully.



This wonderful, fun filled and enriching academic year finished with a race to the finish line! Our Sports Day was on the last day of term on 19th July 2017 at George White Sports Ground. The teams competed in a series of races and were awarded points for first, second, third or fourth place. The points were then tallied up and Phoenix house were the winners. Well done!





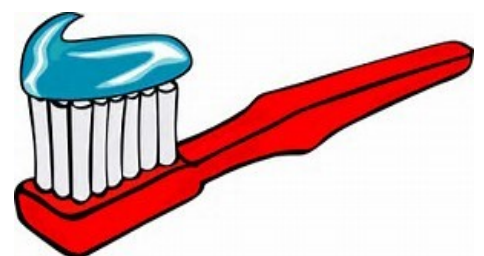
Along with all the activities, trips and workshops we have engaged our families with regular events, such as family reading mornings and coffee mornings. These events give our parents and carers the opportunity to meet up, make new friends and talk to staff about any concerns or worries they may have, either with their child or with their family. We also organised Parent Gym to run parenting workshops at our school.



We further support our families by offering meetings with external healthcare providers, who advise parents and carers about medical concerns.

We have welcomed our school nurse on a regular basis and she is supporting many children and their families with seeking help or accessing further support and advice.

We have welcomed the Oral Health team to our school; they looked at some of our children's teeth and provided a list of local dentists taking new patients. The team came along and talked to all the children about the importance of dental hygiene in an assembly; the feedback we received from parents was very positive.





Our amazing P.T.A. has worked tirelessly this year and they hold regular meetings to discuss any up-coming or past events.

They raise money to support and provide the school with much needed equipment by arranging some wonderful events, which have all been well attended by parents, carers and children.

Some P.T.A. events include:

- Mother's day breakfast , Morrisons provided us with the food and the drink for this event— thank you!
- Christmas fair
- Valentine's cake sale
- Queen's birthday cake sale



We must not forget Hector's involvement here at Walthamstow Primary Academy!

Hector has enjoyed helping some children with their phonics and with learning how to care for animals.



And finally....

Congratulations for 100% attendance for the whole year!