



MAY 2021 • ISSUE 12

THE GALLIONS GAZETTE

WELCOME TO GALLIONS PRIMARY SCHOOL'S HALF-TERMLY NEWSLETTER



KEY DATES

Wednesday 9th June

'Big Give' campaign to raise money for our Gallions Music Trust with a special concert to be released on Google Classrooms

Wednesday 16th and Tuesday 22nd June

Year 6 Trip to Opera Holland Park

Monday 21st June

Sports Day for EYFS & KS1

Wednesday 30th June

Whole-day INSET - school closed for pupils

Thursday 1st July

Reports go to Parents/Carers

Friday 2nd July

Sports day for Year 3, 4 and 5

Monday 5th July

Year 6 to Fairplay House

Tuesday 6th July

Sports Day for Year 6

A WELCOME FROM THE DEPUTY

BY MS WOOD

Welcome to our Summer 1 edition of the Gallions Gazette. In just a 6 week half-term, there is so much to celebrate!

Over the last few weeks, it has been a pleasure to see the enriched learning opportunities we want for our pupils return. Years 2, 3 and 4 have worked with the Institute of Education on a sculpture project, Y5 had a day visit to Fairplay House and Year 6 had a 1 day adventure with Outward Bound, as well as a live session with Southampton FC.

This edition of the Gazette celebrates the rich curriculum that we offer at Gallions. It is lovely to see children learning outside, creating e-books, publishing stories and investigating plants. The book review has inspired many of the staff to read 'A Glasshouse of Stars' and I have seen quality conversations between pupils and adults reading the same books.

Looking ahead to the next half-term, again we see many of our favourite events return and I am confident that we will have a very positive end to the year for the whole-school community.

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 @GallionsSchool

 info@gallions.newham.sch.uk

 www.gallionsprimaryschool.sch.uk

HIP-HOP CLASS TRAINS WITH SOUTHAMPTON FC!

BY AYMAN, YEAR 6

Gallions Primary School was one of the 16 schools who participated in a special event, hosted by Virgin Media and Southampton. In this event, 11 of the starting players of Southampton performed training drills and the 16 schools got the opportunity to train alongside them. Whilst we were training we had the opportunity to listen to the Manager and Assistant Manager who were explaining how these drills help in real life game situations.

Hip-Hop were the lucky class to participate in this event in year 6, not only that, we had been kindly given free shirts by Southampton - which were worth £40. Thank you Southampton FC and Virgin Media!

Once the lesson started, the hosts kindly introduced themselves to us and brought in the Manager. The first activity we completed was Rock Paper Scissors, and whoever lost the game had to do a little run to the end of the hall and come back, while the partner had to perform a stretch. This was enjoyable and everyone sounded like they were having fun.

Not long after, they showed us a drill where they performed a skill past a mannequin and then had to pass the ball to the person on the other side. As we didn't have mannequins, we had to resort to little cones that we went past, and passed to the other person. Here we learnt the importance of changing direction with a ball.

The hosts brought us back so that we could listen to some of the players. We heard from Theo Walcott and James Ward-Prowse. Unfortunately, I did not get the opportunity to ask Theo Walcott why he celebrated when scoring against Arsenal, however as an Arsenal super fan I was still excited that I got to see an ex Arsenal player!

After the talk, we got to do the final drill where we had to get past a person and try to shoot in the goal. It was really good to see lots of different children volunteer to be the goal-keeper - even some of the girls volunteered! This was probably the best part of the lesson. During the time we were doing this, the hosts put the camera on the footballers, doing the exact same thing as us. It's amazing knowing that I was performing the same drills as professional footballers!

To finish the session, we had an opportunity to go head to head with all the professional players in a keep ups competition. No surprises as to who won!

Thank you Southampton for giving us free shirts and the opportunity to take part in a training session, we really appreciate this. I hope one day I can become a professional footballer and do the same for other children.



WHEN WALES CAME TO US!

BY IEVA, YEAR 6

In Year 6, we had a planned trip to 'Outward Bounds' in Wales, but it could not go ahead. However, we had the amazing opportunity as the people from Outward Bounds came to visit us at school. This particular experience was spectacular and certainly showed us how listening, friendship and socialising is important when we work together.

A part of this event involved many different activities such as putting up a tent and even roasting marshmallows! I can certainly guarantee that this opportunity was delightful and the we were rather lucky to have taken part in this. To add on, we also got to test our memory by trying to remember a building made of lego, yes. I know it may sound childish or even easy but it surely was a more difficult task when you only get to see it once! We all got to work as a team, listen to one another and socialise with each other. These acts may seemed easy, but once we had to actually focus and do an activity such as this one, it sure did turn out to be a challenge.

Another task we had was to learn how to use flint and steel to make a fire. No matter how hard it was, we all cheered each other on until we got there and finally lit a spark. We went around the circle until each and every one of us learnt to do it.

This educational visit was certainly astounding and I'm sure we'd all love to do it again. It was truly an amazing opportunity for the year us!



THE MASKED SINGER!

BY MS IZZY

At Gallions, we are celebrating the the positive impact that the Performing Arts have on well-being. Over the past year we have seen a massive strain on the Performing Arts all over the world, but we will not let it stop us!

To celebrate well-being through the arts, 14 members the Gallions staff have have volunteered to take part in '**The Masked Singer**' across the next term - it's going to be an absolute treat!

Who will be behind the masks? Wait and see ...



YEAR 5 GO BIG AT FAIRPLAY HOUSE!

BY KEYAN, YEAR 5

On the 24th May, 2021, Year 5 went on a trip to Fairplay House from 8am to 5:30pm. Fairplay House is a land of adventures from archery to ziplines.

Students arrived at school very early in the day for the coach which arrived almost an hour before the normal school day. Year 5 slipped into 5 groups, each having 2 high activities out of the high ropes, ziplining and the 3G big swing. When we arrived, the weather was beautiful and sunny.

I was in group 2 and my group had these 3 activities in this order: ziplining (we only got 1 turn each), orienteering (my personal favourite and the high ropes.

Here is a quote from Yahyaa, a member of my group: *"My favourite activity was the high ropes because I like heights and made my own little trend."*

Here is a quote from another member of my group: *"My least favourite was orienteering because it was quite hard and boring"*

If handed an opportunity I would most definitely do this again since I loved the activities. I believe I can speak for everyone that if given the chance they would go there again.



OUR LEARNING IN THE YELLOW WING!

Come and take a look at our favourite pieces of learning this term!

Nursery

This term Nursery have been learning about minibeasts and looking closely at their body parts. We've found real bugs in the garden, looked at photos and videos online, and played with minibeast models. Take a look at the different pieces of art that we have created after looking closely at our creepy crawly friends.



Reception

We have been making Minibeasts using fruits and vegetables in our outdoor Mud Kitchen !

We also generated some interesting questions about minibeasts in Blues Class:

Ayub: "How do flying animals open their wings, like how do they fly? How do wings make you fly?"

Mohammad: "What kind of insect has a dangerous tail?"

Hibah: "I just want to find out how does a spider walk with its legs and feet?"

Samuel: "Why do some mini beasts hang upside down?"



OUR LEARNING IN THE GREEN WING!

Come and take a look at our favourite pieces of learning this term!

Year 1

This term Year 1 have completed a Computing project designing and creating their own e-book! An e-book is like a normal book but created on a computer and can be read on a screen, like a tablet or a phone. We learnt how to login to the computers by ourselves and how to stay safe on the internet. Then we became book illustrators and authors! We took our favourite traditional tales, like the gingerbread man and the three little pigs, and worked as a team to learn one part of the story each. Then, we used an online sketchpad to design a picture for our e-book page. There were so many different tools to learn! We became experts at using the paintbrush and fill tools to create our colourful pictures. At first it was really tricky to use the mouse on the laptop, but we were resilient and didn't give up. It got so much easier the more we practised. **Take a look at one of our amazing finished e-books!**



Amaani - The big bad wolf is blowing the stick house.



Yaasir - The big bad wolf is coming said the little pig.



Anayah K - The big bad wolf is blowing the straw house down.



Zuzi - 3 little pigs are leaving their mummy's house.

Year 2

Something strange has been happening! There has been a golden, fierce dragon hiding around different places in our school. They have been hiding: on top of the printer, between the violins and even under Ms Izzy's jumper!

No-one else has spotted the dragon but us, so we have written some informative guides to help you spot one too!

If you find one, please let Reggae and Bhangra class know ASAP!



OUR LEARNING IN THE BLUE WING!

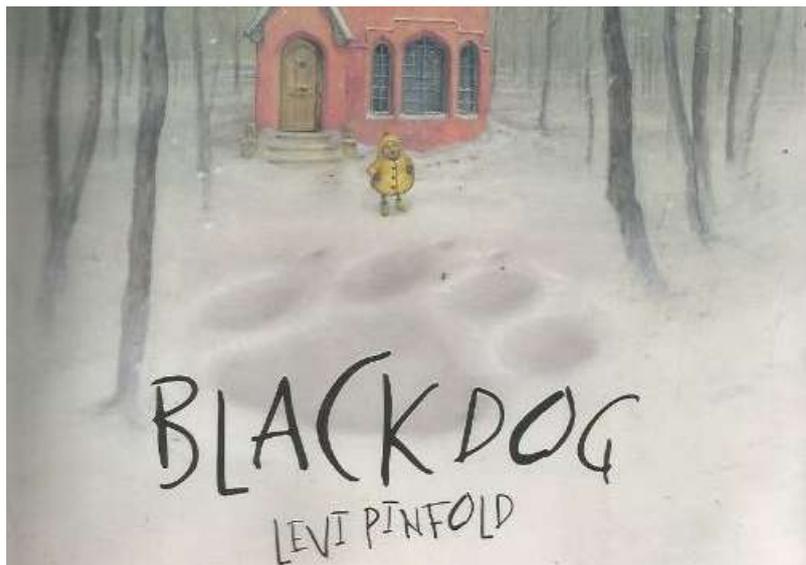
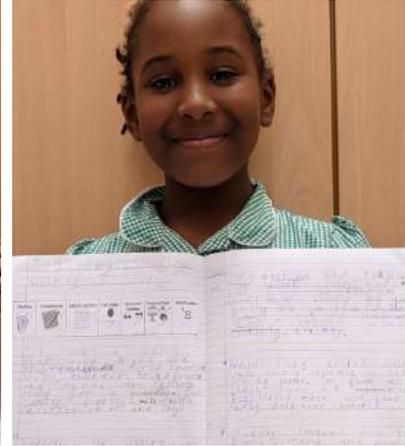
Have a look at our pieces of learning that we enjoyed the most!

Year 3

In English this term, Year 3 have been using the book 'The Black Dog' by Levi Pinfold to help us write our own stories inspired by the book.

As well as learning how to use apostrophes and inverted commas, we focused on editing and redrafting to improve our work.

Leola and Zahra really impressed their teachers by listening to feedback and redrafting their work (just like real authors) multiple times to make it even better. In their books, you can see the amount of edits they have made by looking at the blue pen they have used. I'm sure you can also see how proud of their work they are as well!



Year 4

This term year 4 have been focusing on further developing their understanding of multiplication and division.

Pupils have been using their knowledge of times tables and place value to multiply multiples of 10, leading to the multiplication of 2-digit and 3-digit using bar modelling, partition method, repeated addition, expanded and compact methods. As well as this children have been using counters and dienes to support their visual representations.

Our children will be moving onto division next!

OUR LEARNING IN THE RED WING!

Come and take a look at our marvellous learning!

Year 5

In our project lessons, we have been looking at **Living Things**. Here are some quotes from pupils on what they have learnt:

Maleeha: *It was an interesting topic and we learned a lot of new things like that a female frog is bigger than a male.*

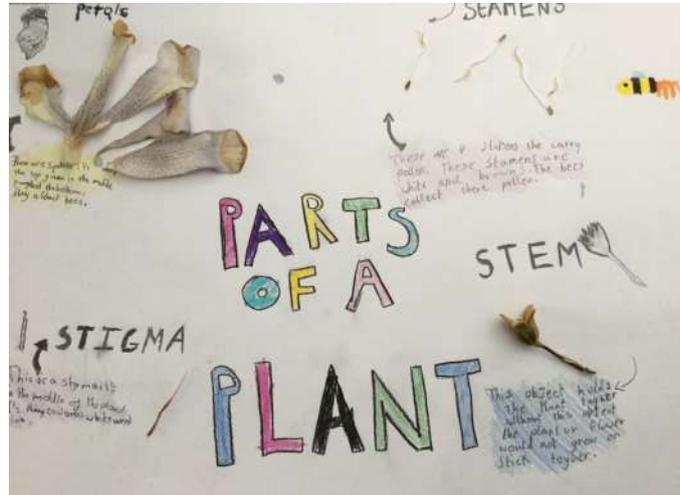
Tanisa: *We learned a lot of new things. I didn't know that plants had male and female parts and that pollen needs to be spread to make new plants. Also some female animals are bigger than male ones.*

Nimon: *My favourite part of the living things project was when we went outside and took pictures of the flower petals, stamen and stigma. Then we made posters showing all of the parts of the flowers and described them.*

Maisie K: *My favourite part of the living things project was when we cut up the fruits and looked at the seeds on the inside. I loved looking at the pomegranate seeds.*

Frankie: *I learned that elephants take almost 2 years to grow a baby!*

Musa: *My favourite part was seeing all the parts of a flower, it looked cool. I could see the male and female parts.*



Year 6

In English, we have been busy writing book reviews about a story called '**A Glasshouse Stars**'. Here is one of our reviews from Asha-Mei.

Book review

'A Glasshouse of Stars' by Shirley Marr

Asha-Mei, age 10



A Glasshouse of Stars by Shirley Marr is a very detailed retelling of the life of a young girl (Meixing Lim) who has migrated from her own country to live with her uncle in a new house, on a new street, in a whole new country. Unfortunately, the first uncle (the uncle they were supposed to live with) died from a heart-attack whilst picking oranges in his glasshouse.

The book goes through the life of Meixing in incredible detail almost as if you were there. It goes through the struggles of establishing a life in a New Land. But the hope of a new life, a better life, soon becomes a battle against racism, overcoming language barriers and bullying. All these battles are told one by one in different situations that Meixing finds herself in.

What did you enjoy ?

I really enjoyed the fact that the story was in 2nd person (as in; you did this, you were happy). I have only ever read one look like this before and I do not remember it very well. This is a heartwarming story that really makes you wish that racism and the likes of that do not exist, as, people who are a different skin tone than you are not something to laugh about. This book is a tragic reminder of prejudice, the hatred and discrimination against immigrants. However, although tragic, this is an important story to be told.

What you didn't enjoy ?

There wasn't much not to like but I think the mystery of the man on the yellow posters could have been solved within the story. Maybe Meixing expands her knowledge of the English language and learns what the poster means so that it was not left a mystery. Other than that, it was an excellent story that deserves billions of stars just like the ones in the glasshouse.

Would you recommend this book ? To whom ?

I would recommend this book to people of all ages but specifically primary school children who do not have that much knowledge about immigrants, diversity and racism. It really helped me to understand about these topics and I think that the whole world should know about this book because it talks about some incredibly important world issues.

I want to thank the author, Shirley Marr, for sharing her story.