



## Thought of the Week

*Everything is hard before it is easy. ~ Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

## A Message from our Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Since the Christmas holidays, a number of children and staff across the school have tested positive with Covid. Thankfully, the vast majority of our children and staff have not been too unwell. I would like to thank all the staff who have worked hard in their absence, which has meant that we have been able to keep the school fully open.

### Covid Update

As you may be aware, the government guidance on the period of isolation has again changed this week. This means that individuals who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. The day of the test is considered day 0. If your child tests negative on a LFD on days 5 and 6 they can return to school on day 6 (these tests must be done at least 24 hours apart and taken in the morning, to enable your child to come to school.)

### Volunteers

Dog Kennel Hill believes that the involvement of parents and carers in children's education is vital and we encourage active participation in many ways. Some parents come to school to help with specific activities such as reading, and usually work one-to-one or with small groups. Other parents may help when the children are taken on visits outside the school. In whatever way parents and carers offer their time, we are always extremely grateful. If you are interested in becoming a parent volunteer and can provide regular time each week to work with our children, we would be delighted to hear from you. If the school has availability, we will provide you with a **volunteer pack** and organise how your time can best be used to support our children.

Ms Lucas, our office manager, will not be available for the next 8 weeks as she is undertaking scheduled surgery. **We wish her a speedy recovery.** During her absence, Ms Larkin and our school finance manager, Ms Akoth will be in the school office. At times, there may be a supply receptionist. We appreciate your patience.

Wishing our school community a relaxing weekend.

**Barbara Ghezzi**

## Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to **Sarah Butler** who has joined us as part of the Department for Education's **Education Recovery Plan**. The school has received partial funding to provide tuition to identified children. Sarah is working with us, on a supply basis, to deliver **school led tuition**. She is working with children across the school to support catch-up learning.

Sarah is a qualified teacher who recently completed her PGCE and has already developed warm and positive relationships with many of our children. Welcome Sarah!



## News from the Forest

We have had such a fantastic week at forest school! We braved the cold and the mud and had so much fun starting 2022 off with a SPLASH! [Click here to see more!](#)

Year 1 searched for signs of winter in our forest. We found frost and red berries! We couldn't find many creepy crawlies as it's a bit too cold for them at the moment. We had delicious hot chocolate and marshmallows to warm up our hands after our winter adventure. Can you spot any signs of winter on your way home from school?

We made an AMAZING discovery in our pond. We like pond dipping but often don't find many signs of life in our pond - especially at this time of year. BUT on Monday we accidentally caught two smooth newts. We looked at them closely with a magnifying glass before releasing them back into the pond. The two newts raced to jump back into the pond! It was so exciting! [Look here!](#)

If you want to read more about what we have been up to, make sure you follow our adventures on twitter @DkhForest



## Note from the Office

Next week children will receive an **application for government funded free school meals**. Although all children in Southwark receive universal free school meals, children who qualify for government funded free school meals generate additional funds for the school. We appreciate your help in completing and returning the applications, to the class teacher, as soon as possible.



## Are You on Time?

Learning takes place at every point in the day and children's **punctuality** is important. Being on time ensures children do not miss any vital learning and also allows them to settle in to routines and develop **good habits** which will support them in later life.





# DKH Newsletter 21st January 2022



## Dates for the Diary



03.02.22	Beech Class Bikeability
04.02.22	Beech Class Bikeability
07.02.22	Cedar Class Bikeability
08.02.22	Cedar Class Bikeability
08.02.2022	Safer Internet Day
09.02.22	Eucalyptus Class Bikeability
09.02.22	Eucalyptus Class Bikeability
13.01.22	Yoga - EYFS, Y1, Y3/4, SEND
20.01.22	Yoga - EYFS, Y1, Y3/4, SEND
26.01.22	Year 6 Diversity and Inclusion Assembly
27.01.22	Years 4, 5 and 6 Fitmedia Fitness Challenge
14.02.22 – 18.02.22	February Half Term
21.02.22	Children return to school
22.02.22	Year 6 Southwark Junior Citizenship scheme
15. 03.22	Percussion Festival for Samba and African Percussion Ensemble
29.03.22	Year 2 Butterfly Conservation Workshop
01.04.22	Last day of the Spring Term – 2pm finish
04.04.22 – 19.04.22	Easter Break
20.04.22	Children return to school

## Attendance

Cherry	88.9%	Cedar	95.4%
Elder	95.9%	Sycamore	97.7%
Palm	99%	Hazel	98.7%
Beech	97.1%	Elm	94.4%
Eucalyptus	95.4%	Maple	98.3%

## Star of the Week!



We would like to recognise the children who have been great examples of our school values and have shown true commitment to their learning. Well done!

Nursery	<b>Aminah</b> , for looking out for her friends and how showing our school values.
Reception	<b>Hassy</b> , for his fantastic attitude to learning!
Cherry	<b>Kwaku</b> , for trying really hard to apply his phonics sounds when spelling.
Elder	<b>Micah</b> , for amazing multiplication work!
Palm	<b>Dylan</b> , for a fantastic can-do attitude in English and Maths!
Beech	<b>David</b> , for all-round positive behaviour for learning.
Eucalyptus	<b>Lansana</b> , for his fantastic behaviour when transitioning around the school.
Cedar	<b>Elizabeth</b> , for making huge progress in her times tables and Sound Checks on TTRS.
Sycamore	<b>Solomon</b> , for using excellent geographical skills to locate mountain ranges in Europe using an atlas.
Hazel	<b>Muwahib</b> , for always trying her best, trying to always work independently and having a good attitude to learning.
Maple	<b>Nina</b> , for absolutely rocking her arithmetic and being an absolute dream to teach.
Elm	<b>Layan</b> , for outstanding effort and concentration in Maths!

## Charles's Friday Facts

By Charles, Year 3

**Did you know** Cosmonaut Gennady Padalka of Russia has spent more time off Earth than any other person? Padalka has spent a career total of 879 days (nearly 2 and half years) in space. One of the side-effects of this much time in space is a reduction in bone mass of more than 1% per month. Can you work out approximately how much bone mass Gennady Padalka has lost during his time in space?

Use this [LINK](#) to learn more about Cosmonaut Gennady Padalka.



