



## Thought of the Week

*Live now, believe me, wait not till tomorrow; Gather the roses of life today. - Pierre de Ronsard*

## A Message from our Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to kick off a **brand new school year at DKH** and welcome our children and school community back. The classrooms have been buzzing with excitement and it has been great to see our pupils back with bright smiles, eager for learning. I am pleased to report that children (and staff) have settled into their new classrooms with remarkable ease and that children are enthusiastic about their learning and already willing to embrace new challenges.

Thank you to parents and carers who attended the **Coffee Morning** last week. Ms Nichols shared information about how the school looks after the wellbeing of children and how parents and carers can support this at home. Thank you to the **Friends of DKH** who provided refreshments. Our next Coffee Morning will take place in the Spring Term and will discuss the role of a SENCO and how a SENCO support teaching and learning.

I am thrilled to share with you that DKH has received the **Gold Arts Mark award**. This award is a recognition and celebration of our commitment to arts and cultural education for all of our children and young people. A huge thank you to **Ms Kelly-Roberts**, our Arts Lead, who has worked tirelessly to develop our Arts Curriculum and creativity across the school.

Children in Years 1-6 now finish the school day at 3:30pm. **Parents are kindly reminded to please collect their children promptly at 3:30pm.**

DKH offers a **Wake and Shake Club** in the mornings from 7:45 to 9:00am as well as a **Mixed Age Sports Club** in the afternoons from 3:30 – 5:30pm. More details can be found on our website, [here](#). Please also keep an eye on our [DKH News Blog](#) which will feature news from around the school. This week you can see fun with maths in **Beech Class**.

Thank you to parents and carers who attended our **Meet the Teacher sessions**. If you were not able to attend, you can find the presentations [HERE](#).

Cold and flu season is approaching and your child's annual **flu vaccine** is now due. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for more information. The flu vaccine will be administered on the **23<sup>rd</sup> of November**.

Wishing our school community a happy weekend.

**Barbara Ghezzi**

## A Letter from Our Chair of Governors

Dear School Community,

On behalf of the Governing Body of the River Hill Federation I hope you and the students had a good summer break.

In the summer term, I was elected as Chair of the Governing Body, replacing Dr Mary Henley who has served as Chairperson since the Federation began. Many thanks to Mary for her hard-work and dedication. In addition to my role, Julia LePla has been elected vice Chair of Governors.

The process to transfer into Nexus Education Schools Trust has been ongoing over the summer. We are hopeful that this process will soon be complete and both Dog Kennel Hill and Rotherhithe Primary Schools will become NEST schools. The process has taken longer than anticipated, but the Governing Body is confident the transfer provides the best support to both our schools going forward.

Julia and I are both looking forward to working with the school leadership, staff, students and community to continue to see both school's flourish and have a successful academic year.

Take care,

**Liam Wardley**

Chair of Governors  
River Hill Federation

## National Jeans for Genes Day

On **Friday, 16th September** we would like all children and staff to wear jeans and denim in support of Jeans for Genes Day. This is the day to wear double, even triple denim! Children and staff are asked to bring in a **£1 donation** for Jeans for Genes. The Jeans for Genes campaign raises awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with genetic disorder, such as sickle cell, and raises money to fund projects that make a difference to the lives of those affected.



## Welcome

Please join me in welcoming **Marvette Maye, Katie Lucas** and **Elizabeth Bowers** to Dog Kennel Hill Primary.

Ms Maye joins us from within the federation and will be working across Reception to Year 6 as a higher level teaching assistant. Miss Lucas will be working in Year 3 as a teaching assistant and Ms Bowers will be working as a teacher, 2 days per week, as part of the Year 4 team.





## Dates for the Diary



18.09.23	SLUG Gardening Club begins
21.09.23	Year 6 Transition Meeting
21.09.23	Year 4 Theatre Trip
22.09.23	Jeans for Genes Day
25.09.23	Cycle to School Week
02.10.23	Black History Month Begins
04.10.23	Year 3 Trip to London Transport Museum
05.10.23	School Council Elections
10.10.23	World Mental Health Day #HelloYellow
20.10.23	Year 6 Fix-a-Bike workshop
23.10.23 – 27.10.23	Half Term
02.11.23	Year 4 start swimming
06.11.23	Nursery Parents Evening
07.11.23	Parents Evening
08.11.23	Parents Evening
13.11.23	Anti-Bullying Week Begins
20.11.23	British Maths Week Begins
21.11.23	Year 6 Junior Citizenship Scheme Trip
23.11.23	Flu Vaccinations

## Attendance

Caterpillar	97.89%	Rowan	97.64%
Willow	93.06%	Hazel	95.88%
Elder	98.72%	Elm	86.97%
Beech	99.21%	Maple	96.18%

## 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!

<b>Nursery</b>	All of <b>Nursery</b> AND their families for their bravery as our children start school for the first time!
<b>Reception</b>	All of <b>Reception Class</b> for settling so well into their new learning environment. You have all worked hard to follow new routines and make new friends!
<b>Willow</b>	<b>Shyanna</b> , for our value of ambition - trying really hard with her letter formation. <b>Mayowa</b> , for trying his best with his learning and always listening to adults. Well Done Mayowa!
<b>Elder</b>	<b>Egra</b> , for fantastic concentration in music and clapping back complicated rhythms. <b>Erdi</b> , for a fantastic effort with all his work since starting in Year2 – keep it up! I am so impressed.
<b>Beech</b>	<b>Mohamed S</b> , for trying his best in all lessons - showing great ambition for growth! <b>Aiya</b> , for her confidence in playing the times table game <i>Hit the Button</i> .
<b>Rowan</b>	<b>Lenny</b> , for making a great start in his writing. <b>Shamira</b> , for number line work and helping her friend calculate the answers on a number line too!
<b>Hazel</b>	<b>Omar</b> , For using very ambitious vocabulary in his writing. <b>Kaychanel</b> , for starting the academic year with a positive mindset
<b>Maple</b>	<b>Aaron</b> , for having high expectations of himself as this is reflected in his work this week. <b>Caroline</b> , for a detailed recount of how the Triangular Trade system operated.
<b>Elm</b>	<b>Charles</b> , for sharing his fantastic story written over the summer holidays. <b>Sahaila</b> , for challenging herself in maths sessions and for always staying on task.

## Charles's Friday Facts *By Charles, Year 5*

**Did you know** that Glasgow's city hall has more marble than the Vatican?

**Did you know** that Glasgow has the third oldest underground railway system in the world?

You can learn more about Glasgow, [HERE](#)

If your child is good with deadlines and would like to contribute to the newsletter, please speak with Barbara Ghezzi, Head of School.



## We love LEARNING

**Maple Class** has been working extremely hard this week and really showing that they are prepared and ready for Year 6!

The children enjoyed learning the basic skills of netball in PE with Mr Ellis.

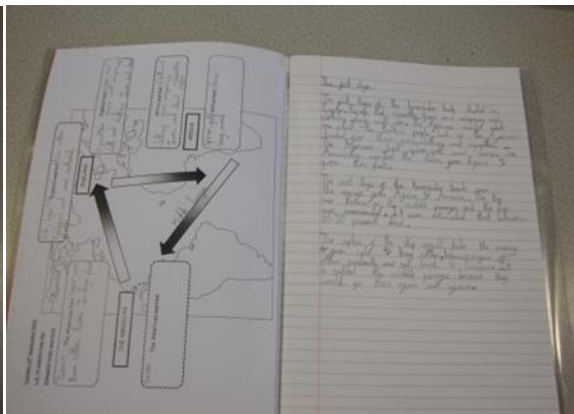
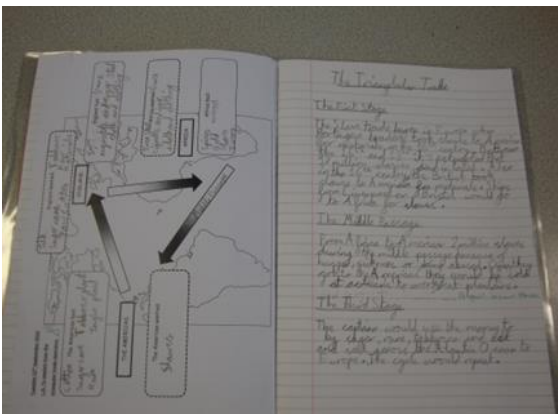


Fostering a love of **reading for pleasure** is important and one of our shared reading sessions encouraged just this, in our school library!

**Reading is Fun!**



In History, Maple Class have been learning about how the Triangular Trade system operated. They watched a video and conducted some research to write their own account of what happened. Come and have a look!



You can learn more about the Triangular Trade system [HERE](#).



## Flu Vaccine

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due. This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

**Your child can receive the flu vaccine at school on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023.** You can read more about the flu vaccine by using these links: [Letter from Southwark](#) and [Protect Against the Flu Flyer](#)

Please use the link below to access the electronic consent form or scan the QR code.

[Link for Electronic Consent Form](#)

Please complete the consent form even if you decide you do NOT want to vaccinate your child against flu this year.



## TGI Mixed Age Sports Club

Starting  
6th September  
2023



Children in Reception to Year 6 can take part in a TGI Mixed Age Sports Club at DKH.

Available Monday to Friday, term time only.

All payments to be made on **ARBOR**.

All payments to be made in **24 hours in advance** of attending the booked club.

*Please note, bookings are non-refundable and cannot be transferred.*

Children should wear trainers and are encouraged to bring a **healthy snack**.

Cost	
1 hour (mixed age sports) 15:30 - 16:30	£5.50
1 hour (games skills) 16:30 - 17:30	£5.50
2 hours (mixed age sports and game skills) 15:30—17:30	£9.50
10 hours Monday to Friday (mixed age sports and games skills) 15:30—17:30	£38.00

## YOUNG MUSICIAN



## GROUP PIANO LESSONS SATURDAYS THURSDAYS

**BOOK YOUR FREE TASTER SATURDAY 16TH SEPT 11.30**

*At the Telegraph Hill Community centre  
Kitto road SE14 5TY*

**Young Musician is a fun group piano lesson for children aged 4 and 5**

**Contact: [nausicaa.ramerino@gmail.com](mailto:nausicaa.ramerino@gmail.com)  
07868-232-868**

## Autumn Term Family Courses

**At The Centre for Wildlife Gardening**  
28 Marsden Road, SE15 4EE  
For Southwark residents / free (refundable booking deposit required)



### Weekly Family Nature Explorers After School Sessions

Tuesday 19th September – 14<sup>th</sup> November  
3.45 till 5pm (no session in the half term week)  
Free family sessions after school. Discovering the wildlife in our nature reserve with fun activities, crafts and games. Suitable for primary age children but you are welcome to bring your little ones too.

### Half Term Bushcraft

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 10am till 3pm  
A two day family workshop helping you to improve your survival skills. It can be booked as a single day or both days. On Monday you will try out shelter building and water filtering and on Tuesday you will be foraging for food and fire lighting. Aimed at primary aged children but you are welcome to bring your older and younger ones too.



### Half Term Tremendous Trees

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 10am till 3pm  
Discover the trees in our wildlife garden, how they benefit wildlife and how to identify them. Games, nature art and fun activities. Suitable for children of any age but particularly primary aged children.



To find out more about these events and book your space please visit [www.wildlondon.org.uk/events](http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/events)





# DKH Newsletter 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

