

THE HAMLET HERALD



'Outstanding learning, within a glittering curriculum, where everyone matters'

ISSUE 21 | 23rd February 2024

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HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

You may be aware of a significant amount of media interest around the use of mobile phones in schools this week. Schools have been provided with new guidance intended to stop the use of mobile phones during the core school day, with the Government saying the move was part of a plan to 'minimise disruption and improve behaviour in classrooms'.

At Dulwich Hamlet, we already adhere to the plan and as such, no lesson is ever disrupted due to the use of mobile technology. We will be working with our family of Trust schools to consider this guidance in more detail over the coming weeks, and following this, implement any arising next steps. We will of course keep you updated.

Separate to this, I was made aware by one of our parents of a rapidly growing parent-led grassroots movement called 'Smartphone Free Childhood'. This is an issue that several of you have spoken to me about, passionately, and as such, I thought it would be particularly timely to share this information. Schools are in a very difficult position, as ultimately it is up to parents and carers to decide what they feel is right for their child and individual circumstances. More often than not, schools do end up getting involved, especially when things go wrong – which unfortunately they do from time to time. What we can do is signpost, providing you with support and information to help you as a family make informed choices and decisions. As such, please find details of this organisation on the next page.

We will pick this topic up again very soon.

DOODLEVISION

The top three classes with the highest % in 'the green zone' this week are:

First place (12 points):	5A	48%
Second place (11 points):	3EF	41%
Third place (10 points):	3KS	41%



TTRS winner this week is... All of Y3!

Our Y3 received their TTRS passwords this week. Please support your child to logon to become a TTRS Rock Star!!!

KEY DATES

Monday 26th February

DHJS/DVIS celebrating 45 years of our special lollipop lady: Alice Hayes

Parent & Carer Café: ABRSM Music Exams, 8:45-9:30, Burbage Y3/4 author visit: Clare Vulliamy

Tuesday 27th February

Y6 visit to Jamyang London Buddhist Centre **POSTPONED**

Wednesday 28th February

4G class assembly, 9:10am, Turney Hall, grown-ups welcome

Friday 1st March

National Secondary Offer Day

PTA UPDATE

We are very pleased to announce that Vona O (5B) has joined the committee as **PTA Secretary**.

We are starting to plan for the disco and summer fair and we want to make these as inclusive as possible so that all children feel comfortable and able to attend.

We would love to have input from SEN parents and carers. So if you would be interested in being a **SEN Parent representative** or just to provide some feedback, please contact dulwichhamletpta@gmail.com for a chat.

We are looking forward to this evening's **Quiz Night** which sold out very quickly – thank you to all those who purchased tickets and we hope you have fun! More on this next week.

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS

Topaz Water	Ruby Fire	Garnet Earth	Sapphire Air
102	129	100	129

ALICE: 45 YEARS ON THE CROSSING!!!

Our fantastic Lollipop Lady, Alice, will have completed 45 years of service next Monday, 26th February. Dulwich Hamlet and Dulwich Village C of E Infants' School are coming together to mark this exceptional achievement.

We will be presenting Alice with some gifts from both of our schools on behalf of the children and staff at 8:35am on Monday morning, making a real fuss of her!

As well as this, DVIS have kindly set-up an online collection on behalf of our joint parent communities. If you would like to contribute to this, please follow the link below:

<https://pay.collectiv.com/alice-hayes-45-years-on-the-crossing-98545>

(This is top secret btw!)



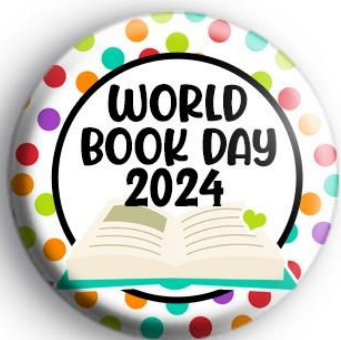
WORLD BOOK DAY

We are really looking forward to sharing in one of our favourite subjects: 'All things books', very soon!

Please see our separate letter with full details, emailed out to you all today, but we wanted to draw your attention to one specific bit:

On Friday 8th March, we are inviting all Hamleteers (and staff members) to come to school either in their pyjamas, or dressed as their favourite bedtime story character. We wanted to give you plenty of notice.

On the same day, between 8:45-9am, we are inviting grown-ups to come into school for a mini family reading session, where you can share a book(s) with your child. PJs are completely optional!



COMIC RELIEF

DHJS will be doing '*something funny for money*'! Comic Relief is back on Friday 15th March and we will be fundraising whilst doing something entertaining. We're already preparing things behind the scenes ready to make us all laugh. Full details of how we will spend the day will follow; our fundraising has already begun. You can donate to Comic Relief via our JustGiving page using this link: <http://tinyurl.com/mrd33x3n>

- **£10** could pay for a much-needed respite session for an isolated young carer in the UK
- **£50** could provide toiletry packs for 10 people sleeping rough in the UK, offering dignity and the basics needed to stay clean
- **£150** could help provide families with winter warm kits, containing energy top up cards, blankets, food supplies and slow cookers

Any amount donated will go towards supporting communities locally, across the UK and around the World. Thank you.



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

'Because childhood is too short to spend on a smartphone.'

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>



PUPIL VOICE IN ACTION!

The school council began the second half of term in style by hosting a VIP - our local MP for Dulwich and West Norwood - Helen Hayes.

Back in November, we celebrated UK Parliament week by running a series of petitions on four critical issues picked by the School Council. All four were environmental issues. All four garnered over one hundred votes but the overall winner was the issue of Fishing By-Catch. Following the campaign, the school council came together to write letters to Helen Hayes on this issue. We were delighted (and a bit surprised) when Helen asked if she could visit.

And on Monday we got to meet her. The school council explained the process, presented their posters and shared the petition signatures. They grilled the Member of Parliament with a range of questions. She explained that being an MP was "The best job I can imagine" and explained her understanding of the issue in depth - she had clearly done her homework. Jordan wanted to know what a Labour Government would do. The Labour MP explained what a manifesto is and promised that the environment will play a big part in her parties' soon to be published document. The school council wanted to know what they could do as children, without the vote, and Helen spoke to them about raising awareness and explained that writing to her was exactly how to get democratic change.



Helen talked the group through some of the key issues such as who exactly has the power to make changes to the law and what a good law looks like.

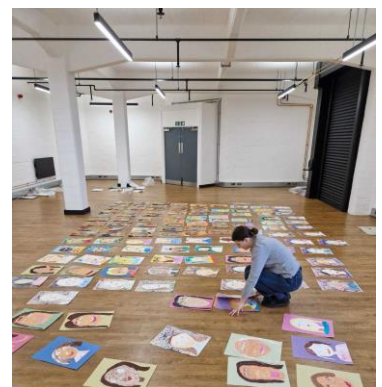
Probably the most exciting thing was to find out this isn't the end of our journey: Helen is keen to help the school council present their petition to the House of Commons. We might be able to watch it on Parliament TV or even go in person.

In the meantime, the school council will be exploring ways to continue to raise awareness and organising a whole school assembly on the topic so watch this space!

MOTHER'S DAY PORTRAIT COMPETITION: HOT OFF THE PRESS...

Wow!

This was the response we got from the Dulwich Traders regarding our competition entries. There were over 500 hundred entries from schools in and around the Dulwich area. The judge, a local artist, Edie Medley was blown away by the passion and creativity in all the portraits. Thank you very much to all the Hamlet artists, your artwork was fantastic! Some of our artwork will be displayed in Tomlinsons, the rest will be returned to us on Monday 26th February. All artwork will be returned in time for Mother's Day, Sunday 10th March.



2024

新春快乐



The Chinese New Year & Lantern Festival Celebration

Limited spaces! Book now by scanning the QR code.



Scan Me

Celebrate the Year of the Dragon with WenLin Chinese School

Traditional games, Yuánxiāo (元宵) Sticky Rice Dumpling making, captivating lion dancing, engaging lantern riddles, goodie stall and many more.

Venue 1: Belleville Primary School SW11 6PR

11:15 am - 3 pm, Saturday 24th February (Lion Dancing @ 11:30am)

Venue 2: Dulwich Villiage C of E Infants School SE21 7AL

9:15 am - 12 pm, Saturday 24th February (Lion Dancing @ 9:30am)



WenLin
Chinese School

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