



### Dates for the diary

**29th Oct - 2nd Nov** Half term

**5th Nov:** INSET Day (school closed to children)

**9th Nov:** 9.30 Y5 class assembly

**9th Nov:** Y3 Cake Sale - 3.30pm

**12th-16th Nov:** Book Week

**14th Nov:** Y1 trip to Discover Centre

**14th Nov:** Governors' Meeting - 6pm

**15th Nov:** Open Morning for prospective parents: 10 am

**15th Nov:** Y5 trip to Chislehurst Caves

**16th Nov:** Character dressing up day for book week

**16th Nov:** 9.30 Y2H class assembly

**19th Nov:** Open Morning for prospective parents: 9.30

**20th Nov:** Y4 to Horniman Museum

**23rd Nov:** 9.30 Y2R class assembly

**30th Nov:** 9.30 Y1 class assembly

**Sat 1st Dec:** Christmas Fair

**5th Dec:** Y6 School Journey Photo Evening - 7pm

**7th Dec:** Y5 Cake Sale - 3.30pm

**12th Dec:** Open Morning for prospective parents: 10 am

**12th Dec:** PTA AGM - 7pm

**17th Dec:** KS1 Christmas show (2.30)

**18th Dec:** KS2 Christmas show (9.30) and EYFS Nativity (2.30)

**24th Dec - 4th Jan (inc):** Christmas Holidays

**7th Jan:** INSET Day (school closed to children)

### Author/Illustrator visit

We have been lucky enough this week to have had a visit from talented author and illustrator Petr Horacek.



As well as reading some of his books to the children, Petr also showed us some of his illustration techniques, visited the Nursery, signed a stack of books and created a



mural with 120 children!

We are really pleased with the finished



mural which is now on display in the main school.

If you didn't see the mural when you visited for the Parent-Teacher meetings then pop in soon to admire our handiwork!



### Ofsted

**Thanks to everyone for their support last week with our Ofsted inspection. As we said in our parentmail last week, we felt it was a fair and positive process and although we can not yet share the final judgement, we were pleased with the initial feedback. We will be sending out the published report as soon as we receive it, hopefully early next half term.**

### Lost learning time

In the last fortnight we have lost 19 hours and 51 minutes in learning time. Let's aim for a MUCH better start to next half term when we return after the holiday please!

These are our lost minutes of learning time this fortnight.

- Reception F: 24 minutes lost
- Reception L: 27 minutes lost
- Year 1: 1 hour 44 minutes lost
- Year 2H: 2 hour 6 minutes lost
- Year 2R: 3 hours 7 minutes lost
- Year 3: 2 hours 16 minutes lost
- Year 4: 2 hours 54 minutes lost
- Year 5: 4 hours 45 minutes lost
- Year 6: 2 hours 8 minutes lost



time counts  
making more time  
for learning

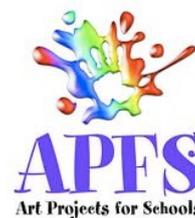
### Charlton Athletic tickets

As you will know from yesterday's parentmail/letter, we have some complimentary tickets for Charlton Athletic's home game against Middlesbrough on Saturday 3rd November. The kick off is 3pm and we still have a few tickets left available from the office on a first come, first served basis.



### Christmas Card Project

Once again we are taking part in the 'Christmas Card Project' where the children design their own Christmas cards in school for families to order and to raise funds for further school projects. The artwork for your child's card will be coming home today and the artwork and order form needs to be returned by Wednesday 7th November at the latest should you wish to order any cards. The finished printed cards are due back in school by the end of November so should be in time for any overseas cards that need to be sent.



### Free pop-in event - Family History Day Sunday 4th November 10 - 6 pm

As 2012 marks the 50th anniversary of independence for Trinidad and Jamaica, this Family History Day will pay tribute to the stories we know, the generations we've learnt from and the heroes and heroines we applaud.

There will be children's arts activities, author readings and debates on family values, preserving our history and choosing our heroes and heroines. National Archives will throw open their treasure trove of old photos of the Caribbean and will run a workshop on tracing Jamaican, African and English family histories.



Why not go along to 'Rich Mix' at 35 - 47 Bethnal Green, E1 6LA or contact [patrice@everygeneration.co.uk](mailto:patrice@everygeneration.co.uk) for more details.

### Help - games etc wanted!

The school is in the process of purchasing resources for children to use during wet play (lego, board games, art resources, etc). We would really appreciate any contributions of old games, construction equipment and so on. This will help the money we're able to spend on these resources to go further.



We are also still looking for any old smartphones/ipod touches that we can use for blogging with the children - thank you in advance!

### Governor News



Governors were involved with the Ofsted inspection last week. As well as reading our evidence file the lead inspector interviewed two governors to see how well we knew the needs and priorities of the school. It was a challenging but positive experience. We will be able to share the Ofsted report with you as soon as it arrives, hopefully just after the end of the half term break.

We hope you've noticed the new format blog, a change which has been coordinated by one of the parent governors (Luke Ashton). We've updated the look and feel, and added new information pages which will replace the old website and are much easier to keep up to date. All feedback would be welcome, so please let Luke know your views - [ashton.luke@gmail.com](mailto:ashton.luke@gmail.com)

It was lovely to meet so many of you at parents evenings this week. Thank you to all those of you (lots of you!) that took the time to fill out our parent questionnaire. Once we have collated all the responses we will share the themes with you.

Thank you too if you have already expressed an interest in standing as parent governor when the vacancies arise in December. If you would like to find out more about what that involves, we have posted some information on the governors page of the new website, which you can find by going onto the Ashmead Blog. We will also be displaying some information on the governors noticeboard during next half-term. Have a lovely break!

**Carolyn Mumby, Chair of Governors.**