

KEWLIFE

The News Letter of Kew Green Preparatory School

DO YOU LIKE YOUR NEW SCHOOL?

What a great start to the new school year! All the Reception children arrived looking very grown up in their brand new uniforms. There were plenty of smiles and a few tears, mainly from the parents! There's so much to learn when you start school and our children have been busy from day one working on their letters and numbers inside and outside the classroom. They've been performing, dancing, growing, building and painting. The children are beginning to get to know their way around school and becoming more familiar with their teachers. By day two the children had found out that the man who looks like 'Grandad Dave' is in fact Mr. Peck their Headmaster! They have become very fond of 'Mr. Dance' aka Roy the dance teacher, as well as 'Superman Sam' aka Sam the caretaker. They have all settled in so well which was very evident at the Harvest Festival where they demonstrated such good behaviour and gutsy singing. We can't believe that it has only been 6 weeks. We also hope that new parents have found their feet and made new friends. It certainly seemed that way at the New Parents Drinks and the Summer Swing at the beginning of September. The photos below speak a thousand words. *Miss MacDonald and Miss Seymour*

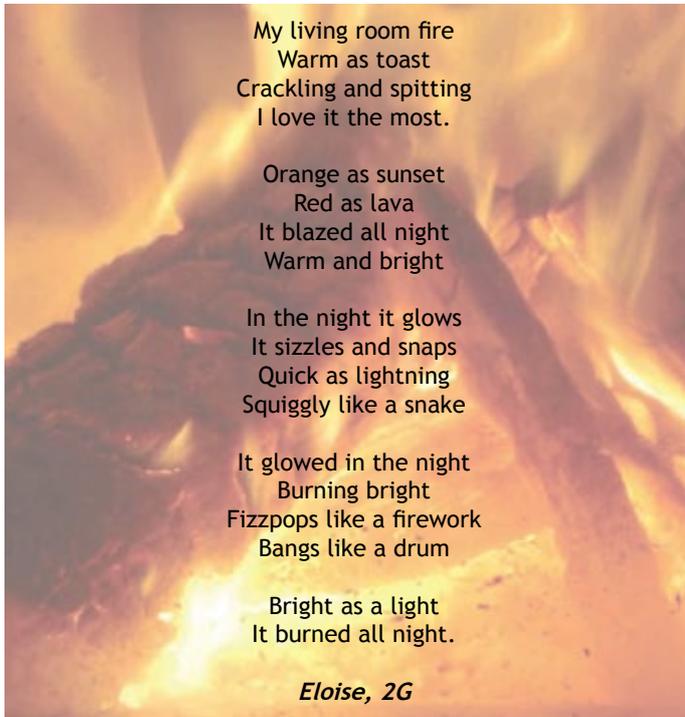


"I was happy and I drew and I played 'It' at playing with Ian and Rupert. Miss MacDonald likes everyone and my best lunch at school that Larry has made is spaghetti but you have to turn the fork around to keep it on before you put it in your mouth. I have learned a French song for saying 'Hello' and I have painted a rainbow in art with Miss Ivory. The best thing I've done at school is having lunch and having a little dance and fun playing Musical Statues with Mr Roy... and we went on a school trip on the bus

to the sports centre. The best thing is going there every day and having pudding and playing 'It' and hopping and jumping in the garden." Oscar RK



MY LIVING ROOM FIRE



My living room fire
Warm as toast
Crackling and spitting
I love it the most.

Orange as sunset
Red as lava
It blazed all night
Warm and bright

In the night it glows
It sizzles and snaps
Quick as lightning
Squiggly like a snake

It glowed in the night
Burning bright
Fizzpops like a firework
Bangs like a drum

Bright as a light
It burned all night.

Eloise, 2G

ECO CLUB BEES-NESS



You'll get 'Buzz-ted' by Eco club if you don't look after bees!

Firstly in Eco Club this term we learned about bees by making an information wheel and when you spin it, it gives you a different piece of information every time. Bees are very important because they pollinate plants. Without them we wouldn't have most of our food, a lot of our medicine and some of our clothes! We also made a beeswax candle that actually worked. We played a game called 'Hive'. You lose when your queen bee is completely surrounded by other insects. Each insect moves in a different way. It was fun.

We have been monitoring classes using a weekly chart to see who is remembering to switch off lights and white boards. Some classes are more forgetful than others ... oops! Perhaps the 'Switch Off Fortnight' that is coming up in November will help to prompt classes to do exactly that!

We also tested a recycling game and thought it would be good for Reception children, so we gave one to each Reception class.

We are recycling plastic milk bottles in the new staff room and in the hall, using 2 new bins. *Eco Club*



SCRUMDIDLUMPTIOUS!

We all love Roald Dahl and what better than to get totally engrossed in this author's *scrumdiddleumptious* writing at the beginning of Year 3? The children have been exploring a variety of Roald Dahl's books in their English lessons and have made a short study of his life in humanities. Maths lessons have been choc-a-block full of problems and investigations to do with confectionery and the children have been commissioned to design a new factory room for none other than Mr Willy Wonka himself. We have also been treated to a couple of special additional extras...

Crocodile Suit For Sale!



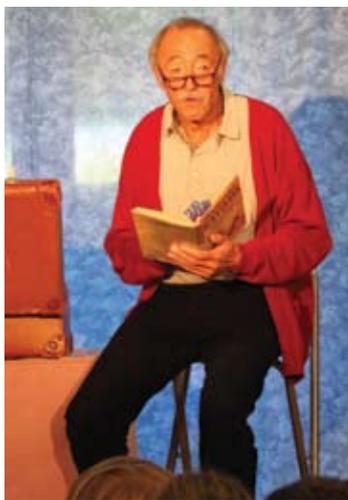
Yup, it's definitely 'wacko-land' in Year 3! What a great day, the costumes were brilliant. Mrs Birchall very nearly wore her costume to school but was terrified that her car may have broken down on the way ... then what?

The Year 3 corridor is always a vibrant and exciting place to be but on September 28th we descended into darn-right ludicrousity for our Dahlicious Dress Up Day. The children looked incredible! We had Verruca Salt stomping around in her finery, Matilda struggling in beneath a weighty bundle of reading books, a somewhat scaled-down Big Friendly Giant, several individuals purporting to be Willy Wonka, not to mention a small plague of Oompa Loompas (whose orange face paint, I am told, was still in evidence after several baths!) The children enjoyed having their lessons taught by the ravishing Miss Honey and a ravenous Enormous Crocodile (who curiously disappeared at break time after Mrs Birchall had received a Merit Certificate for her outrageous costume). It certainly helped to make the children even more excited about their topic - 'Scrumdiddleumptious!' Look out for our visit to the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre in the next issue of Kew Life! *Miss Honey & Crocodile*

He looks like Roald Dahl

On Thursday, October 4th, as the children crept downstairs into the hall, they were greeted by a towering gentleman who looked remarkably like Roald Dahl. In fact it was the very special performance entitled 'A Taste of Dahl'.

SILLY SAUSAGES AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL



As all became clear to the children and teachers alike, we realised we would be in for a treat! This was a morning of fascinating story telling, peculiar poetry and a sense of deliciousness filled the room. From the BFG, to the Grand High Witch, Mr Willy Wonka to Matilda: we were truly spoiled for choice and captivated by the hilarious and scrumdiddliumptious performance of the plethora of books from the world of Dahl. What a Thursday morning to remember! *Mrs Halle*



2K at the Stone Gallery with its breathtaking views while brave 2G pushed on all the way to the Golden Gallery to see the even more breathtaking views across London. Rather them than me!

On Monday, 1st October, Year 2 visited St Paul's cathedral as part of their topic on The Great Fire of London. Children were taken on a special themed tour of the Cathedral and had the great privilege of being allowed into the quire to lie on the floor and admire the stunning mosaics. Children re-enacted the stories of key characters from the Great Fire's story and learnt more about Christopher Wren's design and hidden secrets. After lunch, the children made their way up to the Whispering Gallery. The staff at the Cathedral ensured we could hear a whisper from over 30 feet away! After that it was up to the Stone Gallery (2G made it all the way up to the Golden Gallery) to admire the breath-taking views over London.



Proper belly-laugh from Year 3. They loved it!

SUKKOT CELEBRATIONS



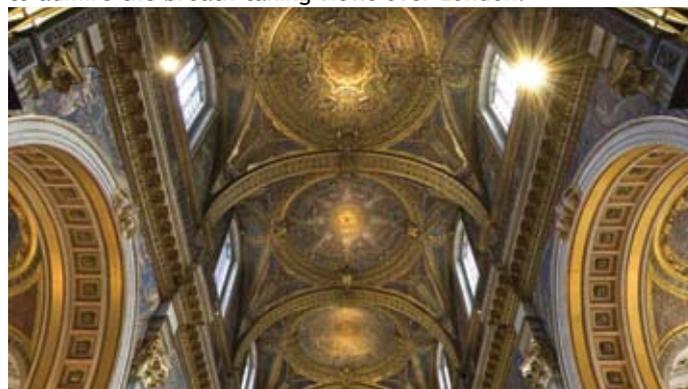
With great enthusiasm and creativity, all the children took part in the celebrating the Jewish festival 'Sukkot'. Sukkot is celebrated to remember the many years that were spent in the desert after fleeing Egypt and to remember the Sukkahs, or 'booths' when translated from Hebrew, which were

1G show their team working, knot tying, willow binding skills - impressive!

built by the Jewish people as a temporary home. Each class spent time designing and making their very own Sukkah. I was impressed and excited to see some really clever and unique designs! Award winning Sukkahs were built by 1G and 4K with a special mention to 2G for decorating their Sukkah so beautifully. Thanks to Larry and the kitchen staff for preparing us a lovely Jewish feast of Sephard Salmon with Hakkis Cakes and Sweet & Sour Cucumber Salad with Apple & Honey Tart for desert. It certainly was a favourite among the teachers! *Miss Seymour*



4K show true progression by incorporating the above skills with style and panache of master craftsmen for their finished Sukkah - fancy!



The view looking up from the Quire floor

"I loved the Whispering Gallery because we got to hear Mr Dan whisper silly sausages." Ava

"I learnt that London got the idea of pavements from Paris." Zachary

"My favourite bit was the Stone Gallery because we can see some London landmarks. I could see the Shard and the Gherkin and I could see the London Eye." Kip

"I learnt that they used leather buckets to put out the fire. I thought they used wood buckets in 1666." Annabel

"I liked it when we lie down and looked at the beautiful pictures on the ceiling. There was a picture of some trees and some animals in it." Lexi

"My favourite part of our trip to St Paul's Cathedral was when I saw a five pound note in the drain." Tom

"I learnt that there is nothing more beautiful than sunlight." Greta

"Something interesting I learnt was that St Paul's cathedral took 35 years to re-build!" Zach

It's true to say that the Fire of London topic has really captured the children's imagination. *Miss Gillis and Miss Neill*

ITALIANO ITALIANO



In Italian club this half term we have been learning how to say greetings such as ciao, buongiorno, buonasera and buonanotte. We have also been learning how to say the names of food and drink in Italian such as L'acqua, un caffè and la pasta. On the last Italian club before half term Grace, Saskia, Chloe, myself and Signora Thorpe-Woods made our own fresh pasta all'uovo from scratch. We had to weigh out the flour and make a well in it, crack the eggs into the well and knead the dough. At first it was really hard to knead the pasta dough because we had not put enough egg into the

mix but gradually the dough let us knead it into what looked like a fat pancake. At the end of the club we were shown how to roll out the pasta and cut it in to long pasta ribbons to make tagliatelle. We had to wrap the dough in a damp cloth and let it rest and then when we went home we cooked the pasta with a sauce of our choice. It tasted great with pesto! **Tabitha 5K**



It has-ta be a blast-ta make your own pasta! I thank you!

SCHOOL COUNCIL DEMAND MORE ... AND LESS FROM WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES



Lower School Council know what they want

As the fresh new beginning of the school year began, the children were brimming with anticipation as to who would be the representatives of this year's new School Council. Again, elected and voted for by the children, we have an entrepreneurial group of children from Lower and Upper school. They are working with Mrs Halle to see that steps are made to improve their school in ways which are important and highly valued by the members of their classes.

In just under 5 weeks, we have already been extremely busy - this is a council with 'action' at the forefront of their campaigns! From fund raising ideas linked with Joodon School, to changing the face of the assemblies on a Monday and Tuesday mornings... they are a body of people ready to get things done! Watch out Mr Peck, these children have some great ideas. **Mrs Halle**



Upper School Council also know what they want ... and look a little more of a handful than Lower School!
Assembly changes have already been agreed by Mr Peck and will start after half term.

"I am extremely happy that the children of the Upper and Lower School Council have requested that teachers make their weekly assemblies more interactive, with more staff contributing to these assemblies... including me! Also that Upper School Merit Assembly is shortened a little, despite the host of awards given out each week. These changes will take place after half term. Thank you School Council and well done." Mr Peck

VIP GUESTS AT BOOK LAUNCH

Friday October 5, 2012

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NEWS

Author draws on talent of children

>> Pupils get into print with their illustrations for author's new book

by **Chris Longhurst**
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PUPILS who helped illustrate an author's new children's book were her guests of honour as she put the first batch on sale.

Hammersmith resident Lotte Moore was at Waterstone's in High Road, Chiswick, on Sunday to sign copies of her book, *The Teaspoon Family*.

It is the author's seventh book and to make it different she approached Kew Green School which set their art portfolio club the task of making the illustrations. In total, 10 pupils aged six to 10 contributed pictures.

Mrs Moore said: "Their work was incredible, some of the best pictures I've seen by children that young. I was so happy to use their illustrations and hope they are delighted with the finished version."

The book is available, price £5, and has the ISBN-13 number 978-0956453761.



VIP LAUNCH GUESTS: Author Lotte Moore with children who helped to illustrate her new book
Photo by Grant Humphreys WL20123821_1

THE TOWER DIG

It was Wednesday, 17th October and we were off for an archaeological dig at the Tower of London. We would be identifying, recording and classifying a wide variety of findings through excavating and handling Roman, Medieval, Tudor and Victorian artefacts. Learning was at the forefront of our afternoon adventure. We spotted some of London's glories from the coach window and tackled some mathematical recall of times tables as we counted and divided the kit-kats Larry had put into the lunch box. After lunch, tickets were collected and the fun, hands-on experience was about to begin - and it did, just not how we expected!



The artefacts found needed cleaning, identifying and categorising before deciding what it may have been used for

A brief read of the directions on how to enter the Tower of London (including step 3: Turn left and ignore the sign saying 'No Entry'), a quick stroll up to the 'Educational Entrance', a bag search and finally being told that the entrance is on the other side. We were certain that searching for the Lost Jewels of the Nile was an easier task! We finally arrived at the



Educational Centre and it was certainly worth it! Vivienne, our educational presenter, gave us an explanation of how archaeologists locate, clean, analyse, categorise and interpret to classify objects. After listening and reflecting on what we had learnt, it was our

turn to put all the skills into practice. It was evident that this practical experience not only provided an opportunity to use the knowledge we learnt but evoked discussions and excitement amongst us all. A really worthwhile trip and the children (and adults) were completely engaged in 'The Dig'. *Miss Jurgs*

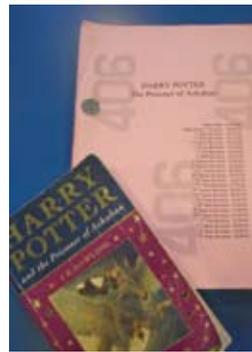
SCRIPTS AND SCREENPLAYS

When Year 4 heard about their most recent English topic, they were interested. When they chose to write their own scripts to Harry Potter, they were excited. When they heard that the Casting Director from Harry Potter was coming in to talk to them about her role, they were over the moon! Fiona Weir, a familiar face around the school, cast the roles in the last five Harry Potter movies and visited us to share her insight into how the scripting and casting process works. 40 excited children listened with interest as Fiona talked about how she uses the script when casting a role. Using one of the real scripts from the film, they heard how she interpreted important character descriptions and stage directions. The children were in awe as Fiona explained how she cast Ralf Fiennes as Lord Voldemort -

her brief was to find "The most frightening person imaginable". I think we'd all agree... she did a pretty good job!



**Top top top top English lesson!
Thank you Fiona**



It was a fascinating insight and the children were able to relate their own work in class to what happens to the script once written. The 'Lesson' over, Fiona fielded question after question about life on set and how the special effects worked... Teachers and children listened with wide-eyed interest! Parents, expect a lot of requests to read or watch Harry Potter over the

holiday! If you need 5 minutes peace, ask your children to write a script. *Miss O Hare*

IGOR, THE BIRD WHO COULDN'T SING



We were all so excited to make our way to the Barbican Concert Hall to hear the London Symphony Orchestra's own musical retelling of the story 'Igor, The Bird Who Couldn't Sing' by Satoshi Kitamura. We heard music by Edward Grieg, Benjamin Britten, Manuel de Falla and Arthur Benjamin and we also got to sing along with two participation songs. The children were absolutely transfixed by all the fantastic sounds and sights of a symphony orchestra and were entranced by the classical programme. The orchestra were equally fascinated by the sight of all of us in our amazing Igor masks - the presenter even made a special mention! Now that the children have heard a professional orchestra at close hand, we hope that many of them will be inspired to take up a musical instrument for themselves - We will be delighted to hear from you! *Mrs Coleman*



Fortunately, all these birds can sing ... beautifully!

HARVEST CELEBRATION

As I said in my welcome address, it was truly lovely to see St Anne's church packed to the rafters to celebrate Harvest. There is something particularly special about meeting as a school community at this time of year. All the start of year nerves have disappeared, new friendships formed allowing one to get a



real feeling of how the rest of the year will follow. The contribution of the children was excellent with Father Nigel commenting on just how sophisticated the singing is. Our readers also readily stepped up to deliver their words to good effect. As a school community, we were overwhelmed by the generosity of parent donations, both in the form of gifts and with their time. It would not have been possible to decorate the altar and surrounds without such support. Not to mention the fleet of cars that transported the bags of groceries to our local charities supporting homeless families in crisis. Thank you. *Mr Lowe*

STAFF AND PARENTS CLASH!



Gruelling and hard fought, some staff could barely walk after the game - although to be fair, one or two could barely walk before the game!

Manchester United v Manchester City, Real Madrid v Barcelona, Kew Green staff v parents... are all eagerly anticipated annual rivalries on the footballing calendar. This 'Clash of the Titans' took place on a beautiful autumnal afternoon just before the half-term break. With some new recruits amongst the staff ranks there was a cautious optimism in the air prior to the start and indeed the staff passed the ball round well... for 15 seconds before they gave it away and gifted the parents their first goal. The worst was feared at this stage with potential for a rugby score line, however to the staff's credit they withheld against some constant pressure and nearly sneaked an equaliser through debutant Dan Towle before unluckily conceding a second goal before half time. The second half was a much closer affair but a third goal for the parents sealed a deserved victory to retain the trophy for another year. For the staff, it's back to the drawing board to come up with a new game plan for 2013! Thanks to everyone who played and supported. *Mr Puckle*

CLOSE CALL AT SWIMMING GALA



No photos, no shouting, stay sitting down. It's a wonder parents and staff could contain themselves ... some didn't!

Whilst most other sane people are enjoying the last few hours tucked up warm and snug in bed, our intrepid school swimmers have been training hard to get themselves ready for the first gala of the year, Vs Thomas's Kensington. It was an unbearably tense affair with all of our individual racers performing well beyond expectations. This time last year we hardly won a race against Thomas's, a traditionally strong swimming school. This year we were neck and neck with an even score for both teams right through to the final team relay. Despite some

heroic swimming we were out-swum in the final race. If you think some of the Olympic races were dramatic, try coming to our next gala on the 16th November at Richmond Pools on the Park when we race against four other schools! Swim Squad, well done, we are all very proud of you. *Mr Ward*

YEAR 3 LATYMER VICTORY



No sweeter victory than a school victory

Our regular mixed matches against Latymer are becoming a highlight of our fixture calendar, and this term is no different. With the Year 3 girls just beginning to master the rules of netball and the boys having a quick one off lesson there were a lot of nerves as we headed to Latymer's Ground. For many of the children it was their first opportunity to represent Kew Green in a competitive fixture. All children took part and we were able to field five mixed teams. It was a lovely afternoon with many parents on the side lines cheering our teams on. Across the five matches we scored 18 goals to Latymer's 2 so a successful afternoon too. Suffice to say I am very excited about our promising Year 3 netball teams! *Mrs Gillett*

NETBALL AT KINGSTON GRAMMAR



A very worthwhile afternoon at KGS

On Friday, 5th October, ten Year 5 girls were driven in the school mini bus by Mr Peck and accompanied by Mrs Gillett to Kingston Grammar for a netball skills afternoon. We practised our footwork, a variety of passes and a warm up of shooting. We played some mini matches and watched a Year 7 netball match. We learnt new skills and picked up some handy Year 7 tips. It was great fun and we learnt a lot of new tricks. While we were there we got to chat to girls from other prep schools and the older girls were very good teachers! *Isabella 5G*

... and finally ...



We are still awaiting the final total raised on Jeans for Genes day, meanwhile thank you for your generous contributions. See you after half term ... hold tight, Christmas is coming! *Jem Peck, Editor*

