



'DIGGING DEEP TO AIM HIGH'

7TH JULY 2023

NEWSLETTER

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Dates for your Diary

Tuesday, 18th July

**Secondary Site Leavers
BBQ**

Monday, 17th July

Primary Site Sports Day
Acorn / Willow / Beech - 9.45am
Maple / Hazel / Oak - 1.45pm

Wednesday, 19th July

**Primary Site Leavers'
Assembly - by invitation
only**

Thursday, 20th July

**Last day of academic
year:**

Early finish for students:
Satellite Site - 1.00pm
Secondary Site - 1.00pm
Primary Site - 1.15pm

As a school, we are forever striving to improve. We do this in many ways:

- Having a good training programme for our teachers and staff
- Developing ways to make learning fun and engaging for our learners
- Being accountable to our Governing Body and with their oversight plan the future
- Regular assessments
- Meetings for parents - be it about your child, general information sessions and coffee mornings or even our social events
- Fostering a culture of respect and inclusivity amongst the whole school community
- Asking pupils, parents and staff for their opinions and taking on board their feedback

The last point leads us perfectly onto our next request. It's time for parents to complete our annual survey. A link to the survey has already been sent out via Arbor, but for ease of access and to ensure as many of your views are obtained, please access the survey via the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/YbTP21bLZn>

Your opinions are valued. Thank you as always for your support.

The SUMMER FAIR RAISED HOW MUCH!!

The pennies have now all been counted and Sally, the Link Association Treasurer has finalised the accounts for the summer fair. You will be pleased to learn that a total of **£2,382.00** was raised. A fantastic amount. Our thanks go to everyone who helped towards raising this significant amount of money.

LP 10 - generalising skills
LP 13 - recognises own abilities



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE PRIMARY SITE?

Hazel Class had a lovely time at Holly Lodge this week. They had a walk around Richmond Park, had a picnic at Holly Lodge and found out about frog spawn on their nature walk.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE SECONDARY SITE?

The food technology department have been busy making granola this week to sell at our market stall in Croydon as the final part of our School Food Matters Programme, "Know Your Onions".



Luckily for the past six years (pandemic aside) we have been able to take advantage of this brilliant scheme designed to help our children understand how vegetables are grown and end up on our plates.

Earlier this year, an expert gardener came to visit and helped us sow seeds - with some success. We then had the opportunity to visit Sutton Community Farm to see how the professionals do it on a bigger scale.

Link Priorities:

LP 2 - friendship

LP 3 - spiritual development

LP 5 - applying different strategies to learning

LP 9 - community out and about

A few weeks ago, they sent a chef to our school and a group of us made some delicious vegetable dishes.

After the success of last year, we decided to make granola again to sell to the general public.



Last week, as part of the careers curriculum at The Link (secondary site), students participated in [World of Work](#) ('WoW'). Each tutor group chose a product or a service and had a £25 float to start them off. They spent two days shopping for/making and then marketing and selling their products. The range in the WoW market was amazing. Students ended up presenting their project to the whole school.

Branson class split into two and ran a beauty parlour alongside gaming, both of which were really popular. Their posters and advertising campaign were great and they won the award for marketing.



Yates made yummy pizza. They won the award for the best presentation as it was lovely to see them speak so confidently.



Weir class decided they wanted to make a game. They won the award for best teamwork because, through working together, they came up with 'Weir Wonderland', involving fun and games in the Muga. I have never had sponges thrown at me before, but it was all good fun!



Tomlin made snow cones and mocktails and had a lovely party vibe going on at their stall. They won the prize for resilience and hard work.



Fuller sold slushies and made the PE shed in to a lovely café. They even made their own syrup from fresh fruits. They won the prize for the best stall.



Rowsell decided they wanted to do something that would be healthy and good for the environment. They decided to sell tomato plants. They won the award for sustainability.



Wood made some beautiful sewing kits with fantastic designs. They sold out and won the award for most profit made.



It was a lovely experience and a great way for students to learn skills vital for the world of work.

Where else can you have pizza and cookies?



Roll on next year!

The Secondary Site had a great day out at Flip Out in Croydon last Friday. The day was an opportunity to recognise the efforts and hard work of our students for this academic year. The day allowed them a chance to relax and have

fun, sharing an exciting experience participating in many of the activities Flip Out provides.

'Laser Tag' proved to be the most popular, where students battled to be the highest-scoring in their game. The obstacle course, golf and ice rink, plus many more, helped to create a fun day out.

As the day ended, conversations led to where we should go for our End of Year trip next year!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? KEEPING A LINK WITH EX STUDENTS

On Tuesday, as part of the Johnson Access lesson, we welcomed back last year's leavers for a coffee morning. It was a great chance for old friends to catch up and share some of their words of wisdom with those who will be moving onto different colleges in September.



It was so lovely to see George, Kelson, Emily and Arlind again and hear all about how they are getting

on at college. They all shared lots of positive experiences and it was clear to see what confident and independent young people they are!

George (Nescot): "It's really good, I've made some really good friends who I think will be friends for life...The hardest part is probably getting used to the different days - sometimes I have to be in college for 8:30am, sometimes it's not until 10:30am... The adults are all really helpful."

Kelson (Carshalton): "I was nervous, but you get used to it. The best part is probably going somewhere that's bigger, and my social life is so much better...I would say just be positive and be you..."

Arlind (Bromley, Nido Volans): "It is really fun... I get to do Art and ICT... I have new friends and we take selfies together! I stayed away for 4 nights at a lodge!"

Emily (OHCAT): "I was so nervous and worried, but it gets better... I'm so much more confident and learning about being more independent - I go out with my friends to get lunch by myself now! You will love it, and you get to know new people and make new friends."

We are looking forward to seeing some more old faces at the Prom on Friday!



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE SATELLITE SITE?

Pioneer have been investigating how to make a home-made battery using lemons and potatoes.



We discovered that potatoes are an electrochemical cell, which simply means that they can produce

electricity! Children set up the experiment with help and predicted whether or not it was true.

In Pioneer this week, children crafted their own models using modelling clay. The creations included a teapot, a footballer and a rugby goal. Students from other classes were invited to join in the painting part of the activity once they had dried and a very good job was made with this collaborative team work.



Apollo and Hubble enjoyed playing with Orbeez this week! Children were asked how the Orbeez felt when walking on them and they said they were 'squishy', 'tickly' and 'jellyfish'.



SAFEGUARDING E Safety Presentation

For those of you who were unable to attend the on-line E-Safety presentation that the secondary school ran. We can now share the information via the following QR code. We hope you find it informative.



AND FINALLY

Willow and Beech Classes visited Sutton Sports Village today for their end of term trip. They had a brilliant time and are now looking forward to bouncing into the weekend!

Have a good one everyone, whatever you're up to!



