

NEWSLINE



North Primary School and Nursery

A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos

March 2017
Issue 7

A Great Day at the Zoo

All of KS1 enjoyed a day at the zoo on Friday as part of our Science work on animals. The children were excited to see all of the animals and each class had a talk from the zoo keepers. Year 1's are learning about the classification of animals in particular looking at five animal groups - mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians whilst Year 2's are learning about different animal habitats.

Joey liked seeing the iguanas best, they live in a hot, forest habitat and we felt what that was like as we walked through their enclosure. Edward saw lots of different types of monkeys and Connor spotted the baby rhino. Some children got to touch some of the exhibits in the 'Discovery Centre' such as the tarantula and the butterflies in the 'Butterfly House' liked our fluorescent yellow jackets. Orion said it was a great day. It certainly was! **Miss Jacobs reporting**



Music Festival

17 Year 5s joined choirs from 14 other schools at Charter Hall on the evening of the 28th for the annual Children's Music Festival.

The theme this year was Great Britain and so the children sang songs from the islands, past and present. Some of the schools also contributed their own items. It has become tradition for North's item to be the last one before the finale. Headteachers and staff from other schools say they look forward to our dance routine every year. Miss Jacobs and her dance team did not disappoint. Dancing to *London is London* from the musical, *Goodbye Mr. Chips*, the girls were amazing. They deservedly got the loudest applause of the evening. One head emailed to say, "We only come for the fab annual North dance. Always a 10 from us!" Other members of the audience unconnected with the school commented on their brilliant singing too. Mrs. Skinner had prepared them perfectly and they sang their hearts out. An evening to remember for the Year 5s and a very proud evening for their families. The school got to see the dance on the 30th.

Look out for the photos in the local press.

Year 6 were great ambassadors for the school on the 29th when they visited Eld Lane Church where they got Easter Cracked. Eggcellent!

Open Afternoon Feedback

Thank you to those parents who have completed and returned their Open Afternoon feedback forms. So far, the responses have been very positive and we welcome your views. One dad wrote that he enjoyed being involved with his son's learning and he proved that he is still learning because he got one answer wrong! A parent said that it was great feeling working with her Y1 daughter. Another parent commented, "There was a great energy and buzz around the school afterwards and everyone was talking in the playground whilst waiting for their children."

It is not too late to get your thoughts to us. If you have lost the form send an email or a letter or note.



HALF MARATHON

We are now approaching **£2000** adding together money pledged on My Donate to sponsorship money collected separately. Let's see if we can reach that figure by Easter.

Poet's Day at Cherry Tree

On the 23rd eight children from year 4 attended Cherry Tree school to learn about poetry with Joshua Seigal (an award-winning poet). The morning started with Joshua reading some of his poems, then he asked the children to write about random objects, which the children would then act out, this was a great ice-breaker. Joel liked how poems could be about anything, real or not. Joshua used humour to show children how fun poetry can be, and the day was a mix of listening to poems and the children taking part. The afternoon session started by Joshua asking the children to write ten things that they would put in a box, once they had had done this Joshua explained that they would use these items to write a poem about their Mums. I was amazed at how disciplined and focused the children were, during this activity and they came out with some touching quotes. Alex explained that this was his favourite part, as it allowed him to be creative and come up with imaginative ideas.



MUSIC@NORTH

Halim and Anais amazed the children in assembly on the 29th. Mr. Bosch accompanied Anais as they played a tune of their own composition. Then Halim played Fur Elise composed by Mr. Bosch's favourite composer, Beethoven. Both performed brilliantly and the children were a fabulous audience. Henry in Y2 said, "that made me feel really happy." Agreed, Henry.

EASTER PARADE

Looking forward to seeing your bonnets, hats, caps, fascinators and any other variation of headwear.



FREE gift with FINAL FREE Easter Play Walks at Charter Wood and High Woods Country Park – 10am Monday 3rd April

Last chance to come along to a FREE Play Walk! . Play Walks open up the opportunities for play and exploration of nearby green spaces facilitated by a forest school leader. Our FINAL Play Walks will share the trails the children established on the after school Play Walks from Braiswick and Queen Boudica primaries, along with all the places they loved to stop for imaginative play, looking for plants and insects, telling stories, making music, climbing and building dens. Every child will receive a FREE GIFT to help inspire their own fun family play walks in the future. Because our February Play Walks were so popular, we are asking families to book this time just so we have an idea of numbers. Choose which Play Walk you want to come along too, find out more and book your place at www.bffcolchester.org.uk

DATES FOR TERM

Friday 31st March	Last day of Spring Term - EASTER PARADE	
Tuesday 18th April	First day of Summer Term	
Friday 26th May	Last day of half term	
Tuesday 6th June	Return to school	
Friday 21st July	End of school year	
Monday 4th September	Year 6 go to Weymouth	
Wednesday 6th September	Autumn Term begins	