

NEWSLINE



North Primary School and Nursery
A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos

June 2017
Issue 1

Young Scientists

In the week before half term, every classroom became a science laboratory as the whole school went science mad. Our pupils were excited about the opportunity to focus on their science topics in all their lessons and immersed themselves in observations and experiments. Key Stage 1 pupils made the most of the good weather to look at the types of plants growing in the park and scrutinised the flowers in our school grounds using magnifying glasses to make detailed drawings. They have even grown their own cress seeds in different conditions and found out that a hot windowsill causes them to shrivel up! Year 3 pupils continued the botanical studies by growing plants in different coloured liquids and even tried out microwaved water to see if it had any effect. Water was also a focus for year 4 pupils as they looked at all the different states in which water exists. They made their own water-cycles in bottles and carried out some tasty work making ice-cream. Children remember what they have learned if they can eat it and the year 5 pupils, thinking about chemical changes, cooked eggs and pancakes to help them remember their experiences. Year 6 pupils became scientists and engineers for the week, responding to a challenge from Mr Garnett to find out how long it would take the school hall to fill up with water from Victoria Falls. They had to make their own theodolites to help them measure the height of the hall in order to work out its volume (they calculated that it would take 0.45 seconds to fill).

Good work assembly and end-of-week certificates demonstrated the high quality of the work which our pupils carried out during the week and we relished the opportunity to ask and answer some deep scientific questions.

Mr. Armitage reporting

Great Art Comes to Colchester

On Thursday 25th May 2017 Mr. Garnett took 24 children to Firstsite to view the BP Portrait Award Exhibition.

The children studied the portraits very carefully, looking at the skill and techniques of the artists. They thought about what emotions the subjects were expressing and what was the meaning behind the objects and clothes in the paintings. The children wondered how one portrait is judged to be better than another – how do you pick a winner when they are all so amazing and so different?

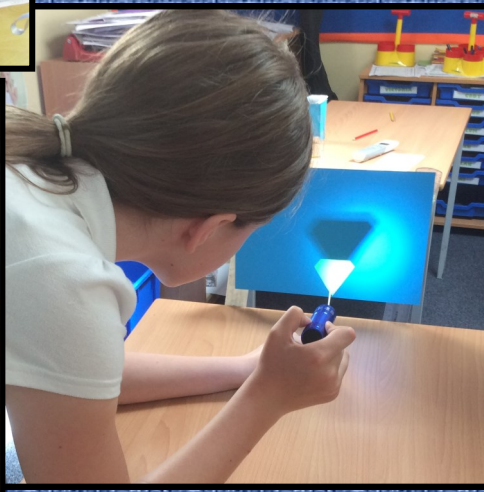
There was plenty of expertise to help the children. Two Firstsite tour guides were on hand. School Governor Mr. Locke joined us and he is a senior curator at The Royal Academy of Art. Learning Support Assistant Miss Allen is an artist. Parent Mrs. Upton is Head of Art at Thurstable School. Governor Mrs. Parker is an historian with a background in museum education.

The children recreated the poses of their favourite portraits and made videos explaining their reasons for liking the portraits. They also spent a long time sketching their favourites. Oleya even drew a portrait of Joey! *[pictures: Louis and his hands, the group. Other photos can be seen on the school TV]*

The exhibition runs until June 18th. Do not miss out.



Scientists pictured:
Benjamin, Ira and Lucas;
Victoria and Kacie, and
Rhian.





An incredible 1165.49metres of pennies (and other coins) were laid out in total by all the classes on the last day of the half term. If laid out in one line it would take the children over 4 minutes to run from the start to the end of that line! Incredible! The NSA now have the enormous task of getting these coins bagged and banked. The winner of the Penny Race 2017 will be announced in the next couple of weeks. Thank you all.

**NSA Bingo Night - Friday 16th June
Eyes down for a Full House!**

It's Bingo time again on Friday 16 June at 6pm. All the family are invited to come along and enjoy a great evening. Supper and soft drinks will be available, see the flyer sent home with children or the school website for more information. Tickets available in the office: Adults £3, Children £1. Secure your tickets early to avoid disappointment. This event always sells well!



Give feedback and win cinema tickets!

If you have been aware of the Best Foot Forward project, whether you have taken part in activities or not, please help us evaluate the project by completing our short survey at www.bffcolchester.org.uk Every completed survey will be entered into a free prize draw and five respondents will win a pair of cinema tickets! Although the Best Foot Forward project is now over, a number of legacy projects will continue which will appear on the website soon and we will make you aware of through the school. Thanks for your help, your feedback is really valuable.

Meet The Teacher Meetings

These meetings will last about half an hour and are an opportunity to hear your children's new teachers help you prepare for the coming year.

Meet the Teacher - Parents Meetings

Monday 10th July	New Parents - Sept starters	9.10am
Tuesday 11th July	Current Year 3	2.30pm
Tuesday 11th July	Current Reception	2.30pm
Wednesday 12th July	Current Year 5	2.30pm
Wednesday 12th July	Current Year 4	9.10am
Thursday 13th July	Current Year 1	2.30pm
Thursday 13th July	Current Year 2	9.10am

Music Concerts

Please add these dates to your calendars and diaries

Wed 5th July @ 2.15pm	Y4 IfA concert for parents
Thur 13th July @ 7.00pm	Music Evening Concert
Wed 19th July @ 2.30pm	Y3 IfA concert parents
Thur 20th July @ 2.00pm	Y5 IfA Battle of the Bands for parents

TERM DATES

Wednesday 14th June	Y5/6 Parents Meetings: Sex and Relationships Education	6.00pm & 7.00pm
Friday 16th June	NSA Bingo Night	Please Note New Date
Wednesday 21st June	Nursery Sporty Morning	
Tuesday 27th June	KS1 Afternoon of Sports	
Wednesday 28th June	Reception Sporty Morning	
Thursday 29th June	KS2 Afternoon of Sport	
Friday 30th June	NSA SUMMER FETE	6.00pm
Tuesday 4th July	KS1 Play - Around the World	Evening performance
Wednesday 5th July	KS1 Play - Around the World	Morning performance
Friday 7th July	KS2 special event!	
Friday 14th July	OPEN EVENING	6.00pm
Tuesday 18th July	Year 6 Production	7.00pm
Friday 21st July	End of school year	
Monday 4th September	Year 6 go to Weymouth	
Wednesday 6th September	Autumn Term begins	