

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an absolute pleasure to be back at Blanche Nevile this term.

Primary have had a jam-packed schedule as ever; the last week alone has included the joint production of 'Mary Poppins' with Highgate Primary, and the Early Years Nativity production!

There has been culture with trips to the Theatre, including seeing a secondary pupil perform with Chickenshed Theatre, and sports courtesy of the Panathlon Challenge Deaf Swimming Gala! We are so proud to have so many talented children in our school.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us by coming to the Parent/Teacher consultations, our Coffee Mornings, the Winter Fayre and our various school productions - it is always lovely to have our parents and carers visit.

We are really looking forward to everything that January has to offer. We will be welcoming a new member of our Wellbeing team, Jessie, who will be available to support the children with their emotions and will continue to offer our BSL Parent Classes, Coffee Mornings and many other events.

We hope to see you soon, and wish you a restful break and a Happy New Year!

With best wishes,
Helen

Mae's Class

We've had an incredibly busy half-term with lots of trips! We went to Story World where the children enjoyed exploring the literary world, we went to see Dear Santa where the children got to meet Santa himself and received a present from him! Then we went to Jackson's Lane to see Three Billy Goats Gruff. So many trips and we have had a lot of fun reading stories such as We're Going on a Bear Hunt and The Jolly Christmas Postman and we got to decorate the Blanche Nevile Christmas tree! A very exciting term we have had.



Simon's Class

We had a merry ending to our Autumn 2 term. We had a wonderful term filled with shows! First up was our wonderful performance of The Great Fire of London special assembly that we performed with our mainstream class. We practised signing with our mainstream class to pull off a majestic, synchronised visualisation of London on Fire, as we signed the song to perfection. Next up was our Coffee Morning with families and carers coming to watch as each class at Blanche Nevile performed a short performance. Ours was a retelling of The Gingerbread Man, where the children themselves devised with the support of adults to create the retelling. Our class performed tremendously and left the audience giggling. Finally, we had our Mary Poppins performance, where our class performed flippingly fantastically as penguins with their flippers. On behalf of the Year 2 & 3 team, we wish you a wonderful winter solstice and enjoy your well-deserved break.



Sarah's Class

We cannot believe Autumn term is coming to an end. It has whizzed by!

This half term we have really enjoyed our science topic: weather. From hosting a weather channel in our school assembly, to looking at the trees and plants changing over the last six weeks, we have become experts in knowing how to dress for the cold weather. We have braved the weather every fortnight and really enjoyed our time at forest school. We have been searching for different leaves as well as creating art with the natural resources we have found. We look forward to forest school again in 2024.

As a year group we have been really working on understanding and communicating our emotions. We have done this in a range of lessons and we had a special visit from Helen, a play therapist, where we did some emotion work. We are all confident in using some words, signs and most importantly, our facial expressions. This is such an amazing skill for Year 1 to master so quickly. From all of the Year 1 team, we hope you have a lovely break and rest. The children have done so well so far and we are incredibly proud of them.

Sarah, Mandy, Lisa and Sindy.



Conor's Class

What an incredibly busy yet rewarding term it has been for Year 4 & 5! In our Literacy sessions, we dedicated ourselves to completing the final chapters of *Oliver Twist*. Through engaging role-playing activities, we enhanced our reading comprehension, honed our retelling skills, and explored creative writing by reimagining various scenes. The highlight was undoubtedly our captivating performance at the Coffee Morning, where our acting talents shone brightly in front of proud parents and families. In Maths, we have been busy learning about column addition and subtraction with two 3-digit numbers. We also looked at number fact families to help us with basic arithmetic operations and solve problems.

In Science, we have been looking at properties and changes of materials. We investigated different materials, considered their uses and their properties, as well as how different materials dissolve, separate and whether the changes were reversible or irreversible. The creation of our own Lava Lamps was a particularly thrilling and successful experiment! Cookery this term brought forth a delightful adventure as we tried our hands at making Cheese Blintz, a culinary escapade enjoyed by both pupils and adults alike. The weekly swimming sessions at Park Road Pool proved to be transformative, with remarkable progress evident in our 2nd place finish at the Panathlon Challenge Deaf Swimming Gala. Long may the remarkable progress continue! To culminate the term, Year 4 & 5 pupils dazzled audiences with their outstanding performance in the Christmas production of 'Mary Poppins' alongside Highgate Primary School. Their stellar effort and talent made us immensely proud!



Rose's Class

What a busy half term it has been! Year 6 have managed not one, not two but THREE shows! The first was a production of the epic tale of 'Beowulf'. Year 6 developed the song lyrics, movement, dancing and characterisation. Then we had our coffee morning and we were excited to see so many parents come along. Year 6 performed their mountain poems in BSL and in English, in true Blanche Nevile style! Finally we had our Mary Poppins show with Highgate, and Year 6 shone! They've also worked very hard in maths, in history and in science, learning about multiplication, the Vikings, the Windrush Generation, evolution and more. Now for a lovely, well-deserved break. See you in 2024!



Important Dates

Tuesday 19th December 2023 9.30am	EYFS Nativity
Tuesday 19th December 2023	KS1 Jackson's Lane Trip
Wednesday 20th December 2023	EYFS Jackson's Lane Trip
Thursday 21st of December	Early Closure and End of Term (School Closing at 12.30pm)
Friday 22nd December—Friday 5th of Jan 2024	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!
Monday 8th of Jan 2024	INSET Day (School closed for pupils)
Tuesday 9th of Jan 2024	Start of Spring 1 2024 (School open for pupils)
Friday 16th of Feb 2024	End of Spring 1 term

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have had another busy term at Primary. The children have been working hard and have been enjoying the new learning of their topics as well as having fun along the way! Thank you to all of those parents who were able to join us for our recent Coffee Morning and to those who stayed afterwards to have a coffee and meet other parents and carers. We've also had a busy time with the end of term and Christmas Performances. It was lovely for us to return to the full performance with HPS, just like old times!

A huge thank you to all of the school team for all their hard work this term and the many opportunities given to the children. The last few weeks have been busy with our usual Christmas activities and celebrations as well as some lovely trips. We are especially very proud of all of your wonderful children and their amazing hard work and progress this term. We have been lucky to welcome many visitors and we look forward to the new term and many more opportunities in the new year.

As always, thank you very much for your continued support and I wish you and your families a very festive holiday and a Happy New Year!

Wishing you all the very best,

Best wishes,

Kathryn

Head of School

