

## Weekly Newsletter: Friday 30th November 2018

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

### Singing with the Orchestra of Enlightenment

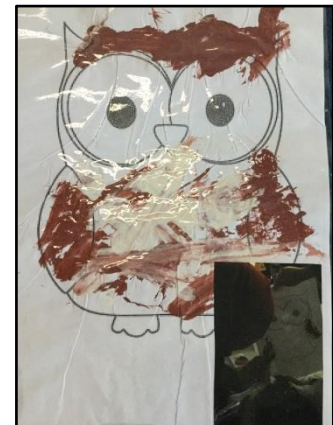
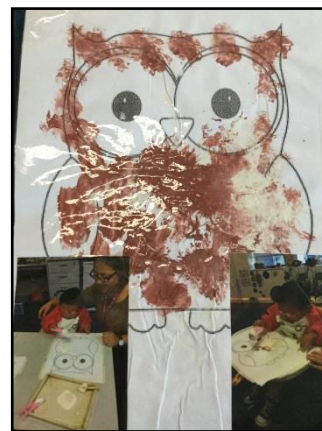
On Wednesday, a group of learners from the school took part in a performance of 'The Fairy Queen'. This was an opera written by composer James Redwood and performed by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE), who play original 18th century instruments. Along with Gospel Oak and Frank Barnes schools, Swiss Cottage learners took part in singing and signing some of the songs, as well as playing a variety of instruments, such as djembe, guitar, glockenspiel and even iPad instruments (Swiss Cottage learners had some 'solos' playing the iPad).



The event took place at The Amadeus Centre, which is a former church near Warwick Avenue. Some parents and family members came to watch also. The performance was the culmination of a project led by the OAE and James Redwood called 'Music is Special', which aims to bring together mainstream and special schools in making music. It's an annual project, and Swiss Cottage has taken part in it for a few years running now. The project involved workshops with the schools, and learners from our school had already taken part in two workshops (and some rehearsal time with me) before the performance.

### Owl Families in Lower School

Learners in the early years have been exploring our term's theme 'Ourselves' through the story 'Owl Babies'. The story explores family by focusing on a group of brother and sister owls. Here is the artwork designed by some of the pupils in the Lower School.



### Sixth Form at the Maritime Museum

At the end of last week, students from the Sixth Form travelled to East London for a trip to the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. They learned about the history of the British Navy and our island-nation's relationship with the world at sea. They also explored the architecture and grounds of the museum.





## Winter Festival

You are warmly invited to join us for this year's Swiss Cottage Winter Festival on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

On this day, the school gym will be transformed into a market with mini-stalls to purchase festive items and fun winter workshops to get involved with.

There will be two sessions to access the festival on the day: 10-12am and 2-3pm. Please come along!

## Christmas cards now available

The Swiss Cottage School Winter cards are available to buy from our school reception. The

selections of cards were all designed by learners at Swiss Cottage School. The cards are £3 for a pack of 5 (1 of each design). The designs are great and all proceeds go to our very own school charity to fund resources for our learners.

## Additional Needs Soft Play Sessions

Every Tuesday from 5 until 6pm, the Sheriff Centre at West Hampstead runs soft-play sessions for children with additional needs.

If you're looking for a local place outside of the school for your children to spend some of their energy, then this is a great opportunity.

The sessions are available for younger and older children with additional needs up to 18 (and their siblings) but do call ahead to find out more details and confirm on the day. For more information about the sessions email: [hello@thesherrifcentre.co.uk](mailto:hello@thesherrifcentre.co.uk) or call 0207 625 1184.



Best wishes,

Monika Gaweda  
Head of School

Catherine Shipton  
Deputy Head of School