

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 15th February 2019

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

Family Learning Week and Singing Hands

It has been wonderful to see so many parents and carers visiting the school for Family Learning this week.

We hope you have enjoyed coming to see your children in class and learning alongside them.

As part of Family Learning Week, Wednesday saw the school visited by the famous *Singing Hands Duo*. *Singing Hands* uses signing and song, movement, fun and games to engage children in the learning of new Makaton signs and communication skills. Several different classes from across the school were able to visit them throughout the day and lots of parents joined them too.



The learners had a great time watching the group, singing along and joining in with the signs. You can find out more about the *Singing Hands* [here](#).

A Visit to the London Docklands Museum

Post-16 students recently took a trip the Museum of London Docklands near Canary Wharf to learn more about the rich history of this area.

The trip ties into this term's theme as the London Docklands has been a constantly changing environment, as the city of London has grown around and from it. Students saw everything from the docklands as the heart of the British Empire's shipping trade, to its decline and regeneration over the past 70 years.



Learners Explore Kidzania

Within Stratford's Westfield sits a mini-city run entirely by children and its name is Kidzania. Pupils in the middle of the school were lucky enough to visit last week and engage in a whole host of (usually) adult jobs and pastimes.

Some students tried out their skills as a Dental Surgeon and the whole group took on some important fire-fighting in the city – even getting to ride in a small fire engine.



Camden SEND Drop-in

Camden Special Education Needs is holding a drop-in for parents of children with SEND. This is a chance for you to speak directly to a relevant member of the Camden SEND team about any queries you may have, or support you may need through the borough.

The drop in session will be held at 5 Pancras Square on 12th March 2019 between 10 and 12. You will be given a short meeting with one of the SEND team but booking ahead is essential.

Please email SEN.Enquiries@camden.gov.uk with your name and phone number so that they can call you back to book you an appointment with the right person. Appointment times will initially be for 10 minutes. In cases where follow up work may be required they will agree next steps with you.

Swiss Cottage at Camden Dance Festival

On Monday this week a group of students from the upper school travelled to the *Place Theatre* to perform at Camden Secondary Schools Dance Festival.

The group have been rehearsing for 10 sessions with our dance teacher, Natasha, and a specialist in South Asian dance from the prestigious *Akademi School*. The group, which consisted of 8 students, put together a South Asian dance routine and performed it alongside 4 other Camden Secondary Schools on Monday evening.

Well done for to the learners for their hard work and confidence in performing so well in front of a big audience – the parents and staff who attended were very impressed with your achievement.



Enjoy Your Half-Term

Next week is the half-term break and we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy week away from school.

We look forward to seeing you again on Monday 25th February for the start of the second half of Spring Term.

Best wishes,

Monika Gaweda
Head of School

Catherine Shipton
Deputy Head of School

CITYLIT

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FREE

RESOURCE MAKING

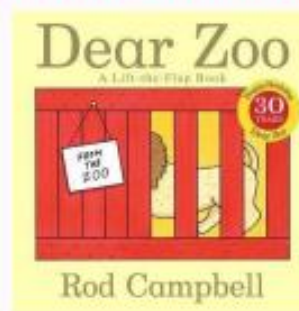
Come and make resources to use with the book *Dear Zoo* to help your child engage with the reading and to enjoy the story

Fridays -10:00-12:30

18 January - 29 March

Swiss Cottage School, 80 Avenue Road London NW8 6HX

Please let Robert, Hamdi or Israth know if you are coming



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Accessing Public Services Toolkit

At times we all face difficulties with the services we need for our children – and it's sometimes difficult to know what to do next.

This workshop will help!

This workshop aims to support families who are encountering difficulties in relation to the provision of health, social care and education support services. The workshop isn't about giving legal advice or solving individual issues, but about general strategies that you can use to get the services you need for your child and family. By the end of the workshop, you will be able to:

- Identify commonly occurring problems in accessing services and recognise different types of dispute
- Come up with problem-solving approaches to these problems
- Use a number of template letters when corresponding with public bodies

The workshop includes working on case studies relating to direct payments, respite care, Disabled Facilities Grants, residential placements and school transport.

A practical problem-solving workshop for anyone – regardless of your experience.
Come along to find out more.



When:

Tuesday: 26th February, 10am-2pm (incl. free lunch)

Where:

**Pirate Castle, 33 Oval Road, Camden
NW1 7EA**

This workshop is open to any parent or carer of a child with SEND who lives or goes to school in Camden. Book early to avoid disappointment as spaces are limited.

To book email maria.schultz@kids.org.uk or call/txt 07826 671 523.

www.facebook.com/CamdenSpecialParentsForum

