



Edna G Olds Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy

Headteacher's Newsletter

11th November 2022



Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are thrilled to welcome children back into school following our half term holiday. Thank you for all of your support with re-establishing our morning and after school routine, we are so pleased to see the positive impact this is having on communication between school and home. Children have settled back in wonderfully and are enjoying exploring their new learning.

Today, we held a special Remembrance Assembly in order to honour our war veterans ahead of Remembrance Sunday this weekend. Poppy wreaths were laid by each class and a two minutes silence was held at 11am. The children have been reflecting upon the sacrifices made during war and conflict, as well as thinking about how veterans' passed sacrifices have enabled us to treasure the values and freedoms we experience today.

As you will have noticed the foundations for our new building are well underway. We are excited to share with you our very own Edna G. Olds reporting team 'Construction Commentators' that will be keeping you up to date with how the new building is progressing.

Please take note of key events taking place this half term, we are really looking forward to seeing you. Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Melany Pemberton

Executive Headteacher





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Edna G. Olds Events Planner

Autumn 2 2022/2023

31/10/22	<i>Diwali Celebrations</i>
9/11/22 9am	<i>Year 2 Class Assembly</i>
11/11/22	<i>Remembrance Day Learning</i>
14/11/22	<i>Anti-Bullying Week</i>
18/11/22	<i>Children in Need</i>
16/11/22 9am	<i>Year 1 Class Assembly</i>
7/12/22 3.15pm	<i>Christmas Fair</i>
8/12/22	<i>Christmas Jumper Day</i>
14/12/22 1.45pm	<i>KS2 Christmas Production</i>
14/12/22 9:30am	<i>EYFS Christmas Production</i>
15/12/22 1.45pm	<i>KS1 Christmas Production</i>
16/12/22 3.15pm	<i>Curriculum Showcase</i>
TBC	<i>Christingle Service</i>
20/12/22	<i>Christmas Dinner</i>

Diwali Celebrations

Children across the school have been building upon their understanding and learning about Diwali, it has been lovely to hear children talking about their own experiences and discussing these with their peers across the school. The children also enjoyed a delicious Diwali meal prepared by our kitchen staff team.

Nursery

In Nursery we celebrated Diwali by creating our own Rangoli patterns using small wooden shapes in frames, and on a larger scale using tissue paper shapes. We also looked at the story of Rama and Sita to learn about the origins of the festival. We talked about the types of clothing Hindu people might wear to celebrate Diwali, and dressed our own peg dolls with beautiful ribbon to represent saris.

Reception

Reception enjoyed spending time learning about the story of Diwali, and how it is celebrated. We compared this to the ways we celebrate special occasions with our own families. We created firework paintings and made our own Rangoli style patterns using hammers and pins to place our shapes.

Year 1

In English we have been working hard to verbally retell the story of Rama and Sita. We then drew pictures to represent the key events

During our independent learning time we were busy using our natural objects to create rangoli patterns.

We had a wonderful lunch to celebrate the Diwali festival.

Aireen so very kindly brought in her beautiful traditional Diwali outfit and shared it with her friends. Thank you so much Aireen.

Our P.E focus this half term is Dance. We had a fabulous time moving in a variety of different ways to traditional Diwali celebration music!



Year 2

In year 2 we looked at the different ways Hindu's celebrate Diwali, learning through the experiences of a young girl who celebrates it.. We talked about the different activities that take place during Diwali such as gifts and fireworks and learnt about what Hindu's wear on Diwali. We then found out why it is called the festival of lights and took a look at several different Diva lamps. Finally, we listened to some traditional music and watched some different dances that take place.

Year 3

Year 3 held a detailed discussion about what Diwali is, how it is celebrated and why it is celebrated. To really understand the importance of these different elements, we heard from children in the class that were celebrating Diwali at home and their personal experiences. We also listened to a story about Diwali and were intrigued by the beautiful illustrations that accompanied the text, which then inspired us to make our own drawings of divas and fireworks.

Year 4

It is Diwali this week, so a perfect time for the children to learn about an important element of the Hindu celebrations - Rangoli. Pupils conducted their own research about who creates these, why and how. They then looked at lots of Rangoli patterns in order to identify common elements. After that, they applied what they had learned about common significant elements to set about creating their own detailed Rangoli.



Year 5

In Year 5, we have been investigating how to create visual effects with various mediums. We created a glowing candle flame using chalk and oil pastels, exploring how blending and smudging can be used to create radiance. We discuss how candles and light are used in Diwali, as well as other cultures and religions, to represent hope, safety and courage



Year 6

As part of our Diwali celebrations, Year 6 enjoyed investigating and finding out about the symbols associated with Diwali. The children discussed the fact that Diwali celebrates the victory of light over darkness and found out about the reasons Hindus, Sikhs and Jains celebrate the festival. The children went on to investigate the key symbols associated with Diwali and how they link specifically with the festival. They were interested to discover that the lotus flower is a key symbol of Diwali as it symbolises purity and that it is closely associated with the goddess Lakshmi who is given a special welcome into homes during Diwali. The children were also fascinated to find out that during Diwali, visitors to Hindu homes were welcomed with a dot of red or saffron powder called a bindi as a sign of future success or luck. Making links between the ways in which these religions celebrate Diwali was also a significant part of our learning. The children enjoyed discussing the similarities between the Hindu story of Rama and Sita with the Sikh story of the struggle for freedom by Guru Hargobind. They came to the conclusion that despite Hindus and Sikhs celebrating for differing reasons, the root lesson of goodness over evil and light over dark, shines through for both religions.

Edna News - New Community Room

Recently, children at Edna G. Olds Academy were delighted with the news of a new extension building being constructed and attached to what the original computer room. The new building will contain storage, space for future clubs and even brand new bathrooms and a kitchen overlooking the KS2 playground. The construction started several days ago and, from observation and discussion with the builders, has focussed on marking out the plans on the ground and digging the foundations. The construction site has been fenced off and the builders are using the ICT suite as a storage area and office and have taken out it's floor. The wall separating the car park from the Key Stage 2 playground has also been demolished so that the builders can bring materials onto the construction site and remove rubble and waste. A lot of progress has been made since Monday and as you can see from the pictures, they have been digging the foundations to about 1.5metres deep.

On Wednesday, three representatives of Year 6 (Prince, Moni and Haya) along with Mrs Sattar went to the construction site to ask the builders some questions about the project. They found out that the builders were called Stewart and Andy. They work here through the week and have other jobs at the weekend. This past week they have spent their time digging and levelling the ground since it was uneven. When asked when they estimated they will finish, Stewart explained that they were given 28 weeks (7 months) to finish their project. He also said that they will leave when the roof goes on as their part of the building project will be complete. The two builders began on Monday 31st of October, which means it's been more than a week since they started! They explained what the final project will look like and showed us where the different elements will be on the ground. There will be a step up between two different levels inside the build and it will be one floor, with the toilets against the wall near the ICT suite door. The flat roof will be made of timber and the walls will be made of brick and breeze block. A kitchen will be included somewhere in the build as-well so pipe work to run water to the taps will have to be included. The floor of the building will begin with stone and stand underneath, then they will add a damp proof on top to stop the building from getting damp when it is wet. After that, insulation will be added (to stop sound or heat from escaping and then they will add the finish of the school's choice. (for example: marble or stone) We are looking forward to seeing how the building work progresses and will be regularly updating the progress on the school's website so please look out for further weekly updates.

By Haya, Moni and Prince

Construction Commentators





Star of the Week



Nursery	Cavari	For showing confidence in making new friends and being confident to join others in their play.
	Adib	For always being an enthusiastic learner and being willing to have a go.
Reception	Arthur	for excellent motivation with his learning and always working hard to impress his teachers.
	Ella	for super focus in the classroom, always being engaged with her learning.
Year 1	Salih	For using his inference skills and making some amazing predictions and links to our class story
	Miray	For showing great concentration and enthusiasm in yoga and swimming.
Year 2	Yamen	For showing enthusiasm in lessons and being a great role model
	Tianna-Faith	For showing her growing confidence in lessons and especially when learning her line for class assembly
Year 3	Haadiya	For showing great enthusiasm and concentration in class.
	Nali	For showing great concentration and motivation in class and swimming.
Year 4	Mahdi	For confidently presenting his project and asking interesting questions.
	Giorgia	for taking ownership of her learning and working independently at home.
Year 5	Ali	For increased personal responsibility in his learning and presentation.
	Lamar	For her fantastic contribution to discussion in her creative writing
Year 6	Prince	for always showing respect around the classroom and around school. He is so helpful.
	Simah	for her personal responsibility with her maths, Simah goes home and does extra learning to make sure she understands the topic.

Children In Need

On Friday 18th November we will be taking part in raising funds for Children In Need. The children need to come to school wearing something spotty at a cost of £1. As well as this, cakes will be sold at break time and after school for a cost of 50p.



Twitter

Please remember that we regularly share tweets from the children's classrooms. Please follow Edna G.Olds Academy

Reception 2023 Applications

The primary application process for children applying for first admission to school for September 2023 opens on **Monday 14th November 2022**

Please look out for a letter being sent out today with more information