



**BEAM**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Newsletter

May 2024

## Update from Headteacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we conclude the Summer 1 half-term, I want to express my gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support and active engagement in our school community. Your participation and enthusiasm have been truly inspiring (for your children and staff alike).

Thank you for attending our musical productions and for making Alien Day such a memorable and exciting experience for our children. Your involvement in these events not only enriches the school experience for our pupils but also strengthens our community spirit.

Looking ahead to the next half term, we are excited to offer more opportunities for parental engagement. We will be inviting you to join us for special library and reading sessions with your child, fostering a love for reading and learning together. Additionally, we eagerly anticipate our forthcoming sports day, where we will celebrate our pupils' talents and teamwork. We can't wait to see you there and of course taking part in the races!!

Through teamwork and collaboration, our children thrive in a supportive and nurturing environment. Your continued involvement is a cornerstone of our success, and for that, we are incredibly thankful.

Wishing you a restful and enjoyable break,

*Miss Whittington*

## Headteacher's Awards

Nursery 1 Azaiah Ajao  
Nursery 2 Noel Mazrreku  
RLS Hammad Khan  
RMK Jason Farchica  
RST Dardan Lusha  
1BC Ariana Hussain  
1HH Luis Voicu  
1NH Jayden Awolesi  
Art Tamar Alo  
Sport Dorothy Ekhosuehi

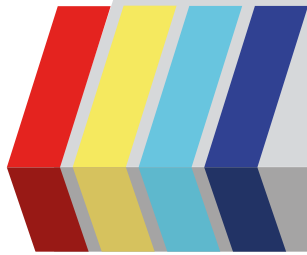
2DM Nakisha Akhimien  
2FT Akwasi Yeboah  
2MC Lavin Altun  
3JS Dana Ali  
3KY Zuriya-Nzinga Kilola  
3WA Moriah Adeyemi  
4JH Nevaeh Imaan  
4NN Mithush Rajinikanth  
4SU Nadia Backry  
Music Gvidas Gaubas

5AW Arham Zulfiqar  
5LR Jessie David  
5SS Layla Borg  
6DC Ion Suciu  
6LW Harvey Borg  
6PR Patrisia Nikolaeva  
Atlantis Kayden Ganiste  
AQ Zarin Islam  
Apollo Ammar Abbasi





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## Updates from classes -

**Year 6** – This term, Year 6 has shown remarkable dedication and hard work as they focused on revising for their SATS exams. Last week, they completed their tests, and we are confident that their diligent preparation will be reflected in excellent results, which will be announced in July.

In addition to their academic efforts, the students had the opportunity to participate in the interactive Streets Ahead workshop. This engaging session taught them important lessons about road safety, ensuring they are well-equipped to stay safe on the streets. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and enthusiasm both in and out of the classroom. Well done, Year 6!

**Year 5** – This half term, we explored the fascinating world of space, studying how different planets interact with each other. Our exploration included examining the phases of the moon and employing various scientific methods to evaluate theories such as the Heliocentric and Geocentric models. As we move into the final half-term, we will shift our focus to biology, exploring topics related to health and safety.

In our design and technology lessons, we engaged in an exciting project to create stuffed toys. We followed the Design, Make, and Evaluate model, which allowed students to experience the full design process. Though threading a needle was initially challenging, with the invaluable guidance from Ms. Echim and Ms. Rashid, we quickly mastered the skill. We cut our own fabric, added various appliques, and employed the blanket stitch to complete the project. The results were extremely satisfying, and you can expect to see these wonderful creations coming home in the next few days!

**Year 4** – We have been working exuberantly hard on their timetables practice in preparation for their MTC after the half term. We have seen excellent progress being made through consistent fluency practice in lessons and the use of TTRS. Additionally, in both literacy and history, Year 4 have been learning about the importance of the Windrush generation and why this was a significant time in British History. Through reading the novel 'The Windrush Child', pupils have been given an insight into what life was like for people leaving their homes and to start a new life in Britain.

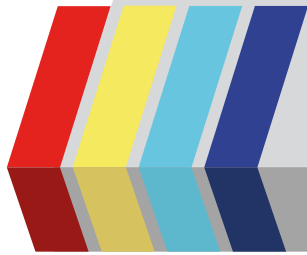
In science we studied the digestive system and the vital organs that formulate this process. They have been investigating on how food is digested and the importance of healthy living. Similarly, in geography, children have been learning about the water cycle and how all life depends upon the use water. Through a variety of investigations, pupils have been able to learn the movement of water which is vital to correlating this to understanding its importance.

A small group of Year 4 children represented Beam County at the Barking and Dagenham Dragons' Den showcasing the water irrigation system that all of the year group had created and designed. We may not have been chosen as the overall winners but through the determination, dedication and persistency, we triumphed by establishing a well thought through presentation that showed professionalism which echoes around our school.





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## Updates from class-

**Year 3** – This term, Year 3 has been busy manifesting their culinary knowledge and skills in design and technology. Our topic has been based around seasonal foods grown in the UK and a little insight into the importation of foods from other parts of the world. We have reviewed preparations skills and applied these to designing and making our own tarts using seasonal ingredients. In history, we have continued our journey from the Stone Age and Bronze Age, through the Iron Age and onto our new topic of Ancient Egypt. The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the introduction to learning about a new civilization and have begun to make connections to their research assignment.

In science, the children have been expanding their knowledge and understanding of the different parts of a plant and the functions of the leaves, the stem, the roots and how they are all interconnected as a system. In addition, we have been observing how physical changes, such as missing leaves, can affect the growth over time. For RE, we have been looking at symbolism and artefacts found within Islam and Christianity, and discussing how and why they are important to members of each faith, as well as the story of Noah's Ark.

For computing, we have completed our programming and coding unit using the Scratch software to create small loops and animations of characters and dialogue to help tell a story. Recently, we have moved on to a new unit about data handling and have begun to make connections to the real world. In PE, the children have been continuing to develop their swimming skills and racket skills in tennis such as forward and backhand swings.

**Year 2** – Picture this, during our summer half-term, the art of the matter has been a self portrait, layering different coloured paper and card to build up a facial image. Miss Yousef in year 3 provided the children in year 2 with a deepened insight into particular religious festivals that are practised and celebrated i.e., Ramadan e.g., Eid-UI Fitr. The children celebrated at the end with a meal. We compared the similarities and differences of this festival with another i.e., Christian e.g., Lent

In geography children used their smart, technologically advanced thoughts into what makes an appealing settlement to live in i.e., village, town or city e.g., solar lighting; water/heat pumps from different climatic conditions. History went up in flames. Our Great Fire of London simulation heated up in the eco area, carefully and safely, watching how the fire spread so quickly in our controlled metal cage.

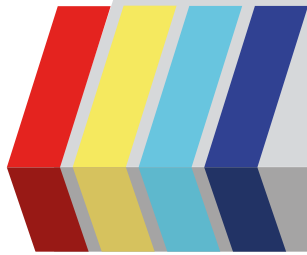
During literacy we have been making and cooking up a treat with Marcuccilli's Marvellous Medicine. A magic potion to change your child or Grandma. Don't do this at home parents!

**Year 1** – This half-term has been filled with lots of fun and engaging learning in Year 1. The children have had many hands-on experiences in science, geography and computing where they have been on insect and flower hunts around the school, been on local walks to take traffic surveys and learned to represent data in different ways.

In literacy, the children have loved learning facts about endangered animals through the text Dear Greenpeace and explored halves and quarters of shapes in maths. History has also offered enriching experiences learning about the seaside in the Victorian era.



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## Updates from class-

**Reception** – Our clever Reception pupils had an amazing term filled with fun learning and activities! We dived into the world of traditional tales and read together stories such as 'The Three Little Pigs', 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and 'The Gingerbread Man'.

The children have learned to talk about events and principal characters in stories and suggest how the story might end. They managed to express their creativity creating their own characters and writing their own imaginative stories.

The children are now confident to recognise tricky words on sight and write them in their literacy work. They are more than experts to write a short character description and to write about a key event from traditional tales.

Our outstanding mathematicians have been amazing at demonstrating their knowledge in subitising numbers to 10, knowing the doubles to 10, sharing into equal groups, knowing odd and even numbers and using number facts for addition and subtraction.

One of the best parts of this term was learning about the lifecycle of different living things including chicks, caterpillars and beans. How to plant and look after beans. About the seasons and the changing of the year from spring to summer.

**Nursery** – This half term in Nursery we have been learning about lifecycles. We started the term with the arrival of 8 fertile chicken eggs that were close to hatching. The children were fascinated when the eggs started to crack and they were able to watch the chicks make their way out into this world! They have also planted beans which are growing well and we are currently caring for some caterpillars that are starting to get very big and will start to spin their cocoons soon. The children have really enjoyed observing these natural processes and it has been wonderful to hear the conversations they have with each other about what they can see happening.

In maths we have been learning to say if there are more or fewer objects, naming 2D and 3D shapes and recognising their properties. The children enjoyed building with 3D objects and drawing pictures with 2D shapes. They are now recognising when they see these shapes in their environment. They have also practiced rolling spherical shapes with different materials and then used paper clay to make a caterpillar.

The children have learnt to retell the stories 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and are starting to become confident speakers and performers.

They have also been working very hard on writing their names and some of them are becoming confident writers already!



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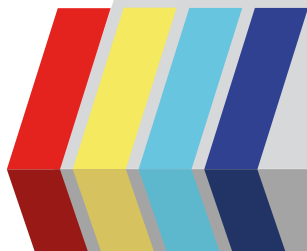
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## Places of Worship Update

It is with pleasure, that I inform you that we have secured a place to enter our school in for the Barking and Dagenham Schools 'Visit a Place of Worship' competition May 2024.



One of the aims of the 'Visit a place of worship' competition is to encourage high quality work in Religious Education (RE) within Barking and Dagenham schools.

So, I am delighted to announce that we have a variety of amazing entries covering all the faiths (see the above picture)! The entries done in school and those sent in, display careful planning, dedication, love of religion, valuable support from home and commendable creativity from our school community (staff, children and families) to mention a few! It was a delight to see the glee in children's eyes and joy in their tone as they handed their entries to me and most children told me the fun they had through the process! Well done Beam Scholars!

Thanks to the Pupil Parliament members from each class that gave time to serve; by joining in the 'Beam Panel of Judges' to choose the winning entries for the different categories!

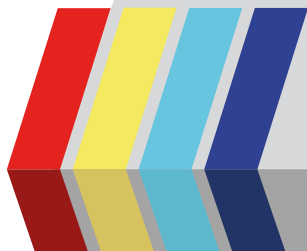
Our selection includes, written, drawn, 3-dimensional and painted entries – clearly showing the impressive skills our children have learnt over time!

We look forward to **21st June 2024** when winning work will be announced! **Good luck!!!**





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## Film and Enterprise

Congratulations to KS2 pupils who attended our after-school film club on their remarkable achievement of winning '**Best Soundtrack**' in Barking and Dagenham's first-ever film enterprise competition!

Pupils were given the opportunity to create storyboards, learn about various roles within the film industry and how to manage budgets. Once created, they were required to deliver a short pitch to convince the panel of why their idea should be chosen to be made into an actual film at Eastbrook Studios in Dagenham.

This accomplishment underscores their exceptional perseverance, teamwork and presentation skills, which were critical elements in enhancing their pitch to real industry experts.

Watch this space for the next generation of Academy and Bafta award winners!



<https://www.barkinganddagenhampost.co.uk/news/24246765.dagenham-schools-pitch-film-ideas-industry-experts/>

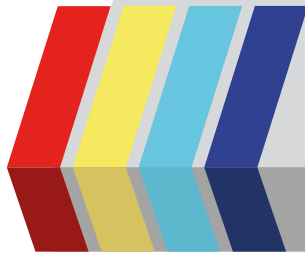
## Parents/Carers

- All are welcome at our parent coffee morning hosted by lifeline projects, once a month usually the last Wednesday of the month, please check school websites for confirmed dates each month. Join Lifeline for coffee and chat about what it's like raising a child in these trying times or any other issues.
- Measles cases in London are rising, please follow the link for further information  
<https://www.beamcountypriamaryschool.org/assets/Measles-Pop-Up-31-May-2024.pdf>





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## Other Events

17<sup>th</sup> April – Our Year 5 pupils experienced a gallery like no other. Frameless is an immersive art experience which showcased the work of artists that they have studied during their art lessons.

22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April – Selected Y5 and Y6 pupils took part in the B&D basketball 'A' & 'B' competitions at Eastbury School. The standard of basketball was very high, with a number of players from other schools playing for local clubs outside of school. This did not put our children off working hard and making it difficult for other teams to score. Whilst we lost more games than we won, often this was by one basket! The experience was really great for the children and the year 5 children who were in the team will return next year much stronger and know what to expect. A special mention must go to Timothy, Mayar & Danielle who worked tirelessly in both attack and defence in all the games.

30<sup>th</sup> April – Year 4 Social enterprise workshop - As part of our Social Enterprise Project, some pupils in Year 4 were invited to the Barking Learning Centre to deliver their Dragon's Den pitch. This is part of an exciting Big Issue Launch event to celebrate pupil's achievement

## Upcoming Dates

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Work Week 2024 – (*Inspire photo consent to be completed*)

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Y5 trip to Legoland

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Y6 Swimming lessons begin

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June – KS2 Gymnastics festival

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June – EYFS Sports Day

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 and KS2 Sports Day

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June – School Closed Non-Contact Day

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Polling day - School Closed Non-Contact Day

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Pupil Progress evening

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Non Uniform Day - School Closed PM



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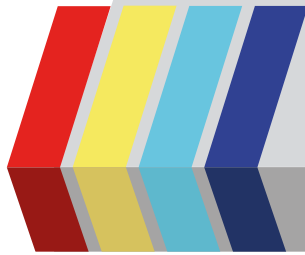
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## Safeguarding



[Resources for families | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

Back into School resources for families from the Children's Commissioner

[www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

Reliable information for parents, some of the things you can find here are ....

- A free download guide for parents on school attendance.
- Advice on how to apply for free school meals
- Moving from Primary to Secondary School ACTIVITY PACK
- top tips from the NHS for looking after a child with mental health difficulties and advice for looking after your own mental health
- wellbeing tips for parents to help you support a healthy, happy childhood – with advice on food, sleep, mindfulness, as well as ways to look after you and your child's mental health.
- And other resources for families



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## Little Recyclers

**Reminder** - our involvement with 'The Little Recyclers' is continuing. It's aim is to raise funds for the school whilst fostering a sense of community involvement and social responsibility amongst pupils, teachers and parents.

We have been provided with a new recycling clothing bank which is now available for donations, situated to **the left of the school office, opposite our Breakfast club\After School entrance.** If you are unsure on what is allowed or not allowed please see guidance from the poster in the front office.



*Should you have any pre-loved school uniform that you wish to donate, please continue to send in to our school office.*

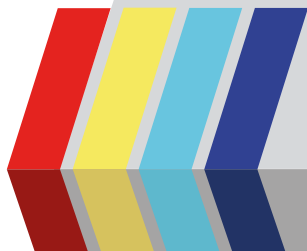
## Lost Property

This term we have seen a large increase in the amount of lost property found in the school. Please ensure that you **place your child's name in ALL UNIFORM, COATS, BAGS AND WATER BOTTLES.** If your child has lost an item of their uniform please come to the front office before or after school to check in the lost property.





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## Ready, Respectful, Safe

At Beam, we expect and encourage good behaviour and self-discipline from all pupils to cultivate an environment that promotes emotional development, effective learning and high standards. Through visible consistency, we are restorative in our approach, using a range of methods and strategies to maintain positive relationships. Our three simplified core rules: Ready, Respectful, Safe, ensure that we are consistent in our approach.

You will find our updated Behaviour Policy here: <https://beamcountyprimaryschool.org/policies>

We aim to provide an inclusive, calm, quiet atmosphere in the school and encourage children to move around responsibly. Our expectations of the children can only be realised through the co-operation and support between home and school. Should any difficulties be encountered, we invite parents to work with us to resolve them. Positive behaviour is a collective responsibility within the school. This extends beyond the individual classroom to cover every child and every area of the school and playground.

## Attendance

High Achievement is linked to HIGH School attendance , so we are pleased to announce that we have recently had the best attendance of the year SO FAR

<u>Daily</u>	<u>Rec</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>	<u>OVERALL</u>
16-May-24	96.92	100	96.2	98.78	98.81	97.44	100	98.38

## Punctuality

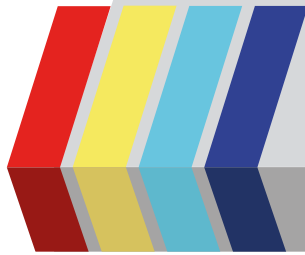
School starts at 8:30 and gates shut at 8:40 prompt. Arriving late disrupts the class and children's learning.

Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over **3** learning days lost each year ☹





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## School Catering

Primary school children in state-funded schools in London will get free school meals for the 2023-24 school year. The Mayor of London is providing this funding as an emergency cost of living support measure. **This has now been extended to the 2024-25 school year.**

Children who are entitled to free school meals because of family circumstances bring an additional £1,320 into the school budget. Therefore, if your child is entitled to FSM you still need to apply and register your entitlement, otherwise the school will not receive this additional funding. To register please go to the website below:

<http://www.lbld.gov.uk/free-school-meals-pupil-premium>

Please ensure if your child brings in their own packed lunch, they have their name clearly labelled and the contents **do not** contain nuts or fish

## Contact Information

**IMPORTANT** – If you or any of your emergency contacts have recently changed your phone number, email or home address please make sure you contact the front office either by email or in person

## Term Dates

First Day of term is Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Last Day of term is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July



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