

LATHOM NEWS

Please visit www.lathom.newham.sch.uk for more information.

Armistice Day

On Friday 10th November, selected Year 5 pupils represented Lathom Junior School at the Newham Schools' Armistice Service at the Cenotaph in Central Park, East Ham. This year was the 105th Armistice anniversary of the end of World War One, and at 10:50 am, this service was joined by members of the British Royal Legion and representatives of Newham Local Authority.

A two-minute silence took place just before 11 am at the Cenotaph and poppy wreaths were laid by children from primary schools in attendance. After the service, a British Legion representative spoke to the children about service men named on the Cenotaph.

Our children wrote reflections based on the day's experience as part of their home learning and shared their learning with their classmates.



VIP Breakfast

All children who received a VIP certificate in the first term were given a very special invitation to attend a VIP breakfast this term. Invitees enjoyed spending time at the VIP table with their friends, teachers and support staff. PSHCE Lead, Mrs Robanni and members of the Senior Leadership Team were also in attendance, ensuring that all children were served and comfortable at this special event. Children enjoyed a 'hearty' breakfast with options including fried eggs, hash browns, baked beans, pancakes, waffles, croissants, hot chocolate and fruit juices. A big thank you to Mrs Robanni for organising this event for our children and also our fabulous cooks and kitchen staff for the delicious breakfast.



Courtney Tulloch Visit

This term, we raised funds for 'Sports for Champions UK', an event aimed at inspiring pupils to become more physically active which promotes good health and wellbeing. We had the pleasure of welcoming British Olympic gymnast Courtney Tulloch, a GB athlete and double Commonwealth Games champion and part of the gold medal-winning England team at the Commonwealth Games of 2018 and 2022, to spend time with our children at school. A fun-filled day included assemblies in which Courtney inspired pupils by sharing his success, including showing three of his medals but also talking about the challenges he faced and how he overcame them. There was time allocated for children to direct any questions to the gymnast about his career. This was followed by each class having a timetabled slot to participate in a fitness circuit session with Courtney. Children demonstrated great enthusiasm during this time and took photographs with the athlete. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Courtney for giving up his time, for sharing his achievements and incredible gymnastic skills with our children. It is an experience they will always remember!





Football League Match

Lathom Junior School's first league matches took place this term with both the girls and the boys competing against Central Park School. The girls began the contest with a fantastic display, finishing the match with an impressive result of 10-0, setting the bar high for the rest of the league. Goals came from Aaminah (Beech class), Jessica (Aspen class) and Aiyana (Beech class) who is currently our lead goal scorer with six goals 'under her belt'. The boys had a more difficult task with the game being very close at 2-2 in the first half, followed by a second half which took place in rainy and wet conditions. Eventually, our team won the game 5-3 with goals being scored by Yahya (Birch Class), Sashvin (Beech Class) and a 'hat trick' from Gaffar (Birch Class).



Y5 and 6 Athletics

On November 22nd, Lathom attended a mixed athletics competition at Langdon in which children competed against sixteen other schools in various athletics events; Lathom were placed in seventh position – well done for a great effort!

Y3 and 4 Boys Handball

On November 29th, Lathom attended a boys' handball competition for years 3 and 4 children. The boys won five out of six matches and reached the semi-finals of the competition which was an excellent result for their first competition as a group.



Cheerleading Winter Showcase

On December 1st, Lathom attended the annual winter showcase competition; cheerleaders performed and competed against other schools with both age groups achieving a gold award in their discipline for their respective performances – what a fantastic effort!



Road Safety Week

During Road Safety Week, a Road Safety officer – Assia Karim – visited our school and discussed the importance of being safe on the roads, especially as the winter nights 'draw in'. During the presentation, children asked questions but also gave excellent responses about how individuals and communities could contribute to safer roads. Children marked the event by wearing bright clothes.



Children in Need 2023

This year the school dressed up in spots or yellow for the charity Children in Need. Families donated £1 to raise money for disadvantaged children and young people across the UK; the charity's aim is to give every child the chance to reach their full potential in life. Thank you everyone for your efforts.



Flamenco

Flamenco is a form of song, dance, and instrumental (mostly guitar) music commonly associated with the Andalusian Roma of southern Spain. Thank you to Patricia, our MFL teacher for organizing a 'taster' session for the children – we all had fun as you can see!



UK Parliament Week

All children had a class assembly about the role of Parliament in the democracy of our country. Children were then encouraged to discuss why democracy is important, their role and rights as citizens in the UK and to ask questions about the Government and Parliament.

In Years 3 and year 4, children draw a self- portrait of themselves and wrote a speech bubble detailing an issue they felt strongly about such ending animal testing. In year 5, children used a comic strip template to tell a visual story about a new law they think we should have, and in year 6 children wrote a letter to their local MP about an issue affecting their local area.

In Parliament Week, we looked at what democracy and a general election was and then we were given an assembly which told us about what the house of commons were and what the house of lords were. Then in the middle of both houses is the speaker, who decides what the decision is. We found out that the prime minister is part of the House of Commons. We also looked at a website where there were a variety of petitions and found out that if the vote for the category gets 100,000 votes then the problem should be a discussion in the member of parliament. After discussing all of this we were told to write a letter to the MP of East Ham which is Steven Timms.

Mariam Nisham, Beech class

Anti-bullying Week 2022

The start of Anti-Bullying Week was marked with 'Odd Socks Day'; children and staff were encouraged to wear two different socks to school to stand against bullying and to recognise that we are all unique. The theme for Anti-Bullying week this year is *'Make a Noise about Bullying'*. Open View Education delivered the *'Turn up the Noise'* workshops. In these sessions, children were involved in interactive and engaging performances as they learnt to problem solve bullying scenarios. They thought deeply about how they would feel and where they could go for help if they needed it. The children then linked these issues to our school values and considered ways they could show kindness and appreciation of others. Children shared their learning in the form of reflections on the Google classroom.



500 Words Competition

500 Words is a UK wide competition to find the most talented young writers. Since it was first launched by Chris Evans on The Radio 2 Breakfast Show in 2011, the competition has received over a million stories written by children, generating more than 440 million words to date.

This year, the competition enjoyed the support of Her Majesty the Queen Consort. Her Majesty has a longstanding commitment to championing literacy and creative writing and has supported the 500 Words competition every year since 2015.

Thank you to all of the children that entered into the completion this year – here is Sandika's entry:

The Ship Of Adventures

'Mother has something planned for the summer holidays,' said Philip Mannering.

I know she has something up her sleeve. She was suspicious and she didn't say where we were going during the summer holidays.

'What?' said Dinah in her boring face, 'Please!!!' convinced Dinah and her friends Jack, Lucy-Ann and Philip Mannering.

'Where's Jack?' asked Philip. 'Let's see if he knows what's up with mother.'

'He's gone out with Lucy-Ann,' said Dinah. They spend so much time together!

'Ah!' shouted Dinah.

I can hear old Kiki screeching. Jack and Lucy-Ann were hanging out at the Coffee Shop until they found out that they looked alike with their red hair, green eyes and dozens of freckles that Jack grinned.

'Hola!!!' A snake hissed at Kiki, and she sat on a fence and roared like a lion at the snake. You never saw such a surprised snake in your life!

'He put tail down and slid down as quick as a flash,' said Lucy-Ann scratching Kiki on the head. The parrot started to roar again and the children were talking about her. Then she mewed and spat like an angry cat and the children laughed. Good old Kiki began to sway herself from left to right. She made a really unusual crooning noise that tells that she also had gone off into one of her tremendous cackles.

'Why are you showing off?' said Philip in astonishment. 'Let's spy on her to find any notice and that way, she'll get noisier and mother will come in a rush.'

That reminds Dinah that mother has gone all mysterious and Lucy-Ann told Dinah if she has noticed anything.

'Aunt Alison also had a feeling something up in her sleeve,' said Lucy-Ann instantly.

I think Aunt Alison got a plan for the summer holidays.

Jack groaned. 'Blow!'

'I got a perfectly good plan!' said Jack excitedly.

'I better get mine before Aunt Allie gets here,' said Dinah.

Rock Steady Concert

This term, selected children took part in the Rock Steady concert. These children have been practising every Friday to learn how to play the electric guitar, drums and keyboard and how to sing with a microphone. The children performed a range of songs for year 3, 4, 5 and 6. Thank you to the parents who attended.



In Memory of Benjamin Zephaniah

On Friday 8th December 2023, children participated in Lower and Upper school assemblies to remember the writer and poet, Benjamin Zephaniah who sadly died recently. Zephaniah was originally from Newham and had been a recent focus for our Black History work in Year 3. To honour him, Holly class read his Christmas poem, 'Talking Turkeys'.



Visit to The Tower of London

On Thursday 16th November, selected children from Years 4, 5 and 6 went on an exciting visit to the Tower of London. Children participated in an interactive workshop based on the theme of *Crime and Punishment*, in which they learnt about the history of The Tower of London as well as the story of Lord William Bishop and how he escaped from the tower. While at the Tower of London, the children also got the opportunity to view the crown jewels. It was a great learning experience for our children!



SEND Visit to The National Maritime Museum

Selected children with SEND enjoyed a visit to The Maritime Museum, taking part in a sensory session to learn more about the oceans and to engage with a map showing the seven continents to develop an understanding of the world and its seas.

Year 3 Historians

This term, Year 3 children have been learning about Ancient Greece and its impact on civilization. Children investigated the differences in lifestyle for Athenian and Spartan children as well as comparing the lives of ancient Greek women with those of modern day women. Children used secondary evidence to inform them about life in Ancient Greece, which also inspired Holly class to create Greek pots and vases, decorating them with patterns and earthy colours. The unit of work ended with a performance to illustrate what the children had learnt and to develop their oration skills.



Year 3 Visit to the Soanes Centre

This term, Year 3 children visited the Soanes Centre in Mile End. The workshop enabled children to understand seed dispersal as part of their preparation for science learning in term four when they will learn about plant lifecycles. It was a great outdoor learning experience for our children!



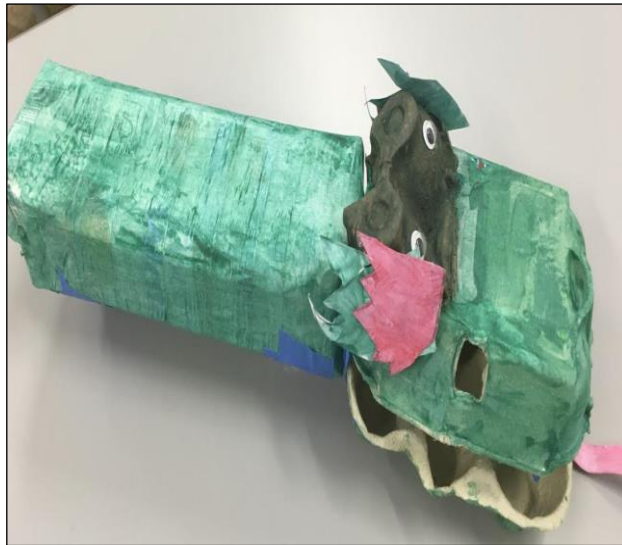
Year 3 Visit to St Paul's Church, East Ham

This term, Year 3 have been on an educational visit to St Paul's Church, East Ham as part of their unit of work in RE. They participated in a role play based on the Nativity and discussed the ways in which, and why Christians celebrate Christmas around the world. Children enjoyed listening to the story and re-enacting scenes from the story.

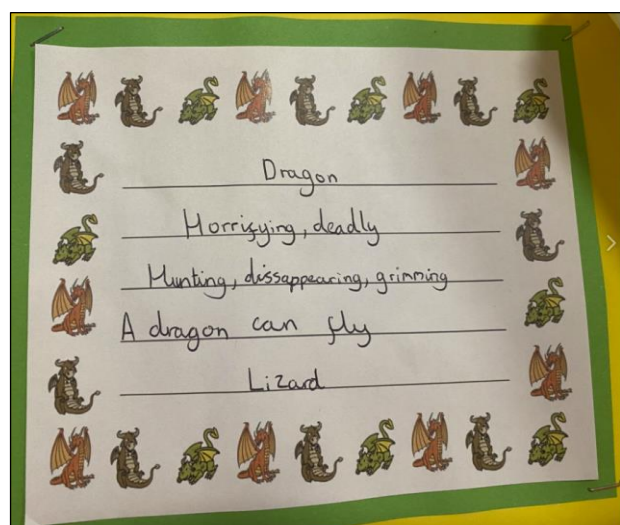
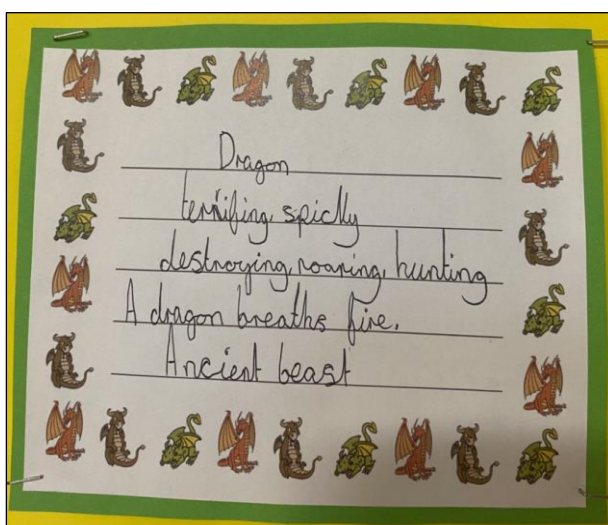
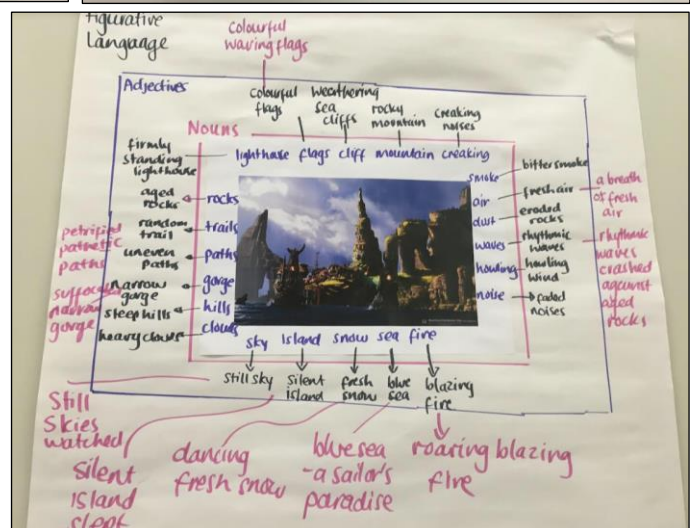


Year 4 Poets: Dragons!

As part of their English unit based on the book: 'How to Train a Dragon', Year 4 children wrote poems and made dragon models as part of a home-learning activity.



Appearance	Personality
rough scales sharp claws tail wings teeth horns	greedy hungry brave mean emotional sensitive wild wicked selfish evil aggressive
Movement	Motives
flies rapidly glides effortlessly roaring in demand stomping uncontrollably dashing carelessly breathe fire inhale/exhale piercing claws	rule the empire destroy habitats murder small creatures violent cannibal vicious wicked monster fear and trauma towards other creatures controlling beast



Year 4 children also wrote instructional texts. Initially, analysing different instructional texts to determine their purpose, identifying common elements such as the use of imperative language and the way these texts are sequenced to make them easy for the reader to understand and follow.

Year 4 Scientists

Year 4 children have been learning about the process of digestion in humans and other animals as part of this term's unit in science. Children learnt about the different part of the digestive system and their specific role in the process of digestion. They learnt about this chemical and mechanical process by making a model to observe what happens to food as it passes to the stomach and then onto the intestine.



Year 4 Artists

Year 4 children have been drawing still life compositions using a range of art media, looking carefully at basic shapes and their arrangements in space before adding detail in the form of line and pattern.



Year 5 Design Technologists

Year 5 children have made different sweet and savory breads as part of design and technology lessons this term. In these sessions, they learnt about the irreversible change that happens when we add yeast to bread flour which results in dough which is then baked.





Year 5 Historians

This term, Year 5 children learnt about the Ancient Egyptian process of mummification by mummifying and preserving a tomato as part of their learning in science! In English lessons, they used this experience to write instructional writing, detailing the process.



Year 5 Visit to Cineworld

In November, the Intu Film Festival makes it possible for schools to book a free film screening for pupils to have a 'big screen' experience. This term, Year 5 classes watched a visually impactful documentary: 'A Crack in the Mountain' at Ilford Cineworld. It featured the world's largest cave, Hang Son Doong in central Vietnam's Phong Nha-Ka Bang National Park, documenting the geographical beauty of the cave and the fight to protect it since its discovery. Children used this visit to make connections with their current learning about biomes in Geography.



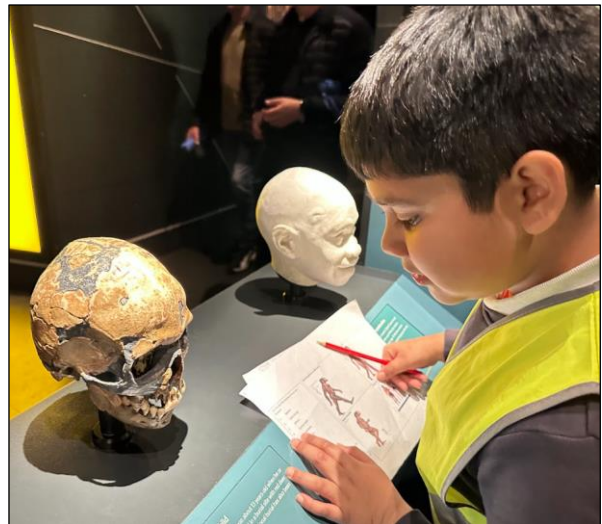
Year 6 Design Technologists

This term, children have been baking cheesecakes as part of their DT unit. Children taste tested a variety of toppings to add to their cheesecakes. They tasted their final outcome and then evaluated how they can improve it next time.



Year 6 Visit to The Natural History Museum

This term, and as part of their unit of learning about evolution, Year 6 children visited the Natural History Museum to learn about the origins of our species and to explore what makes us human. It was an exciting opportunity to get up close with nature, discovering fascinating creatures and intriguing science facts by exploring the museum's galleries. As they 'travelled to different time periods', children learnt about dinosaur diets and food chains using evidence from teeth, skulls and footprints.



Faith in Schools

Faith in Schools, is an organisation that works with schools in Newham; their aim is for every child and young person to have the opportunity to meet local Christians and discover what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century.

Year 3

Year 3 visited St Paul's church, East Ham to learn about the significance of Christmas for Christians. Children learnt that Advent means "arrival", and for Christians, this signifies the start of a four-week season of remembering and celebrating the arrival of Jesus on Earth.

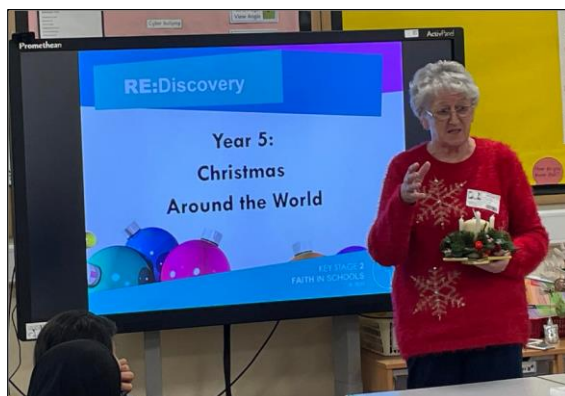
Year 4

Christian visitors to Year 4 explained the importance of the Bible in the Christian faith. Children looked at different stories in a children's Bible, bringing to life the story of '*Jesus Calms the Storm*' using physical movement and props.



Year 5

Year 5 children explored the different ways in which Christmas is celebrated around the world in different cultures and countries. Children analysed a mystery box of artefacts from different Christian traditions and cultures to help them make comparisons of the different ways in which this important Christian festival is celebrated.



Year 6

Visitors to the Year 6 classes supported the children to examine some of Jesus' teachings about life and death, including reading the story of his resurrection and its importance to Christian believers. Christian visitors sensitively shared their experiences of death and life after death which children then reflected on and made comparisons to their own beliefs and faith.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Thursday 7th December, children wore their Christmas jumpers to school and brought a contribution for the charity *Save the Children*. This charity is known for helping children who face serious issues including war, hunger and poverty. Thank you to all of our parents and carers who contributed to the charity.

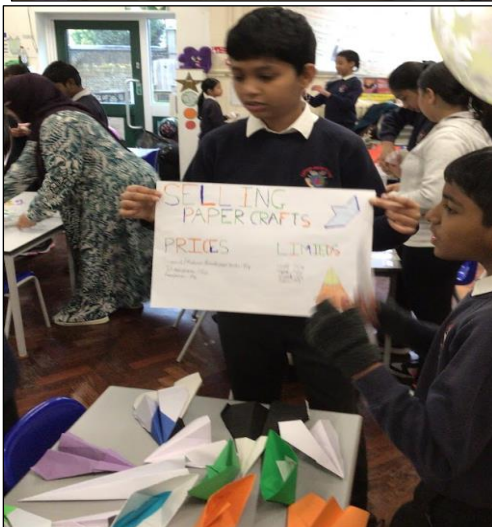


Christmas Lunch

Thank you to the kitchen staff for preparing a wonderful Christmas lunch for all of our children and staff.

Winter Fayre

A big thank you to Lathom PTA, Ms Wenbourne and all of the Year 6 staff and children who organised and ran this year's Christmas fayre. Thank you also to the parents and carers who came to support us all – we raised over £3000!



And a big thank you to Santa and his elves for stopping off at Lathom to visit our children – we know you are really busy at this time of year!



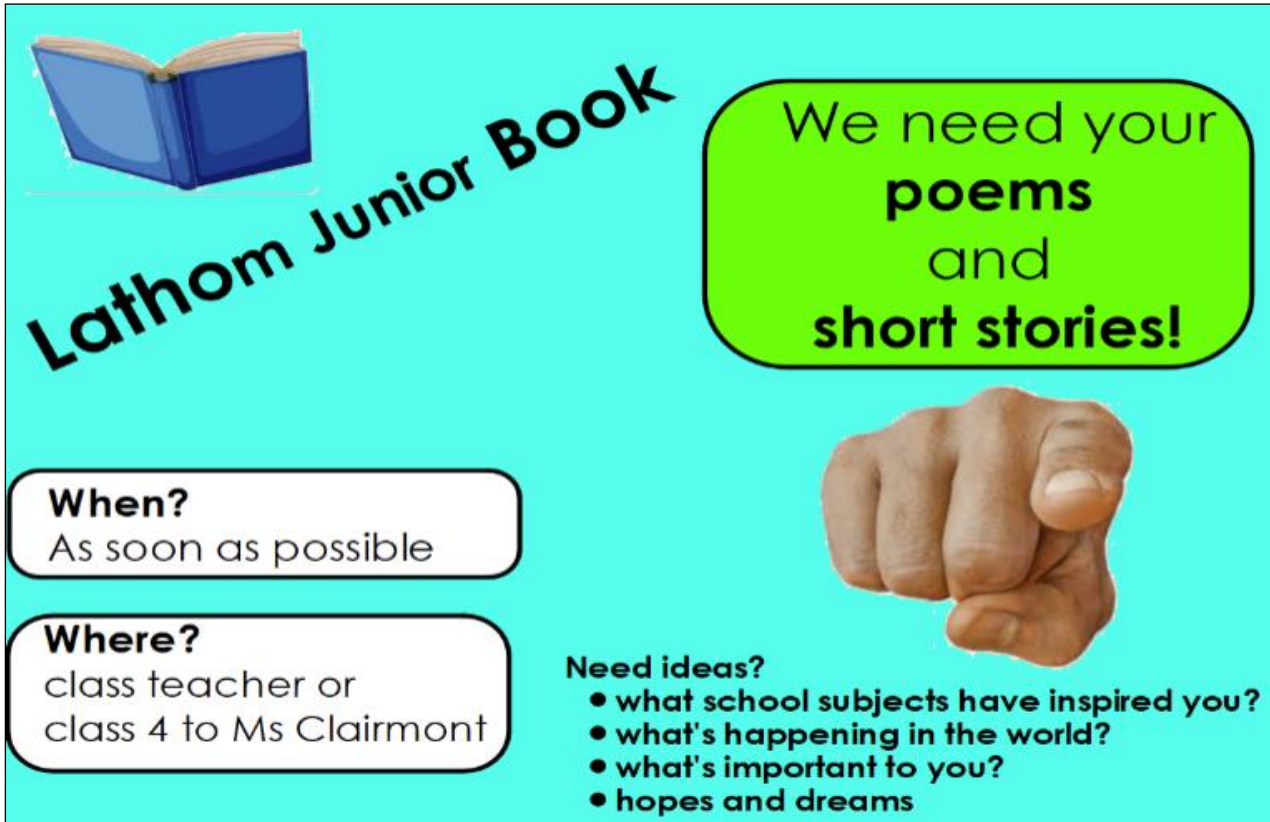
Christmas Parties and Disco

Children have celebrated Christmas this year by having Christmas parties and a school disco with their class friends – thank you to all of our parents and carers who kindly contributed food.



Lathom Book

Ms Clairmont is looking for inspiring writers to contribute a short story or poem for a Lathom book, so get writing everyone!



Lathom Junior Book

We need your **poems** and **short stories!**

When?
As soon as possible

Where?
class teacher or
class 4 to Ms Clairmont

Need ideas?

- what school subjects have inspired you?
- what's happening in the world?
- what's important to you?
- hopes and dreams

Visit our Website

Please visit www.lathom.newham.sch.uk to get the latest information about our school, to read our school policies and to find information about child protection, online safety and the complaints procedure.

Dates for your diary for next term:

4th January: Return to school
 8th -9th January: Year 4 visit to Kensington Gardens
 11th January: Year 3 begin swimming lessons at East Ham Leisure Centre
 12th January: Kings and Queens work shop at Kensington Palace
 29th January: Young Voices Concert
 2nd February: Visit to the Houses of Parliament
 6th February: Internet Safety Day
 7th February: Y3 Visit to Tate Britain
 8th February: SEND visit to TfL: Sensory Explorers
 9th February: NSPCC Number Day

We wish all of our families a very safe and peaceful festive holiday.

Lathom School values

