



Blanche Nevile Primary Newsletter

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Friday 24th January 2020

Dear Parents, Pupils, Staff and Carers,

This is an exciting year for our school as we celebrate our **125th Anniversary**. I am in awe of the vision, determination and 'can do' approach of our founder. These qualities continue to inform our current vision which is 'To provide the best bi-lingual education for deaf children by becoming an outstanding school that is recognised as a leader in Deaf education'. Thank you for all that you do to help us to achieve this.

Pupils at Primary and Secondary paid homage to **Miss Blanche Nevile** on the 14th January and on the 14th February we will come together to enjoy an afternoon of various activities such as designing a new logo for the school.

Thank you to the **Friends of Blanche Nevile** for their fundraising efforts. Our Chair of Governors will be running in the **London Marathon** for us on 26th April. You can find out how to sponsor her on our website and Facebook page. Alison is also encouraging us all to take part in the **Marathon in a Month Challenge** during February. A group of us at Secondary are doing this together. My contribution is to walk five miles. I'm off to the Lake District at half term so I might even manage the full marathon!

Heulwen Rees Headteacher
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Emily's Class

The children have taken part in lots of short and fun attention group sessions where they are given the opportunities to develop their attention skills. Through these attention group sessions the children have also been practising counting, such as, making fruit kebabs and counting the fruit. Some have been working out 'how many altogether?' and 'how many left?'. They've also been learning simple signs and words for objects and actions. Some have been reading Fairytale stories with story sacks, such as 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and 'Goldilocks'. The children have been acting out the stories in the role play area as well as making props using recycling materials. Some of the reception children are beginning to read CVC words using visual phonics. We've also read 'Whatever Next' with the story sack and the children have loved retelling the story to their peers.



Ms Daly writes:

Blanche Nevile School 1895 - 2020

Happy Birthday!



Blanche Nevile was one of 13 children. On 14th January 1895 she started her own deaf school in Phillip Lane, Tottenham, when she was 23 years old.

The school started with just 8 deaf children. Her approach was an oral education. The school was so successful that she inspired lifelong friend Mary Hare to start her own school of the deaf.

Blanche Nevile took the children on many trips to Tottenham Hotspurs FC, Tower of London, London Zoo and Westminster. We continue to follow her example and plan many educational trips and visits every term.

Many male teachers from Blanche Nevile served during the Second World War and when the war ended the children got 10 minutes extra playtime to celebrate!

After the war, on 25th October 1946 the famous deaf/blind writer Helen Keller visited the school and students from Blanche Nevile gave money to help children blinded in the war. Our school continues to support various charities such as Jeans for Genes, Save the Children and the NDCS.

Many students left school and went to work in factories or domestic work. Two girls went to work at Liberty's in central London. Nowadays our students have more opportunities for work, college and university.

A huge change for the school happened in the summer of 1987, as British Sign Language was introduced. This was the beginning of the creation of our fully bilingual school.

Our Celebrations

The staff and pupils at Primary all dressed up in their Victorian outfits to celebrate the day. We started our celebrations with a traditional Victorian style assembly about the history of our school. This was followed by a full timetable of Victorian style lessons such as sewing and handwriting. We then finished off the day with a wonderful cake and singing happy birthday to our school!

We are enormously proud that 125 years on, our school continues to provide a unique and inspiring provision for Deaf students from across London.

Please check our school website and newsletter regularly for updates and invitations.

Rose's Class

Year 3 have been off to a great start this term. We are enjoying exploring our topic on Ancient Egypt and have been solving mysteries by following footprints into our role-play pyramid. Inside we had to battle trap doors, a mummy and Queen Nefertiti!

In science we have been learning about rocks and the River Nile. We were given some dirty water from the River Nile and we had to make our own filters to make it clean again.



We also really enjoyed our Blanche Nevile Day on 14th January, when we celebrated the opening of Blanche Nevile School 125 years ago. Everyone looked fantastic in their Victorian clothes! We are looking forward to our class trip to the British Museum on Tuesday 4th February to see the Ancient Egyptian mummies.

Omar's Class



Year 5 and 6 have started their new topic, Space. To introduce them to the topic, the children became a living Solar System (with each child being given a planet) and undertook extensive astronaut training.

In Literacy, we have created our own planets and aliens using descriptive writing and are now looking at holiday brochures, while in Maths we have been practicing multiplication and division. We celebrated Blanche Nevile School's 125th anniversary in a Victorian themed day and have participated in a swimming gala with other deaf schools. The children did very well, showing fantastic effort and application.

Sharon's Class

In Year 2 we are learning about forces in Science. We experimented with what strength of force to use to roll a ball to hit a target.



Our book this week is 'The Journey' by Neil Griffiths. We made an interactive 3D map, following the journey of the little boat in the story. We have turned our role play area into a double-decker bus. Can you see who is riding the bus?

Matt's Class

This half-term pupils in Year 1 have begun their topic of 'Whatever the Weather'. They have begun learning about different types of weather and how climate is different in different parts of the world. They were introduced to the topic with an "In-Day" with Highgate Primary. We "travelled" to different climate zones of the world, including the cold polar zone (brrrr!), the warm tropical zone and our very familiar (sometimes wet and sometimes hot) temperate zone! The pupils all enjoyed these activities that helped develop their understanding of the world.



Dear Parents and Carers,

We all had a fabulous day celebrating the 125th anniversary of our school. The children looked wonderful in their Victorian outfits and thoroughly enjoyed the day. A special thanks to the class teams for their amazing hard work and dedication to our pupils for planning such a memorable day.

Well done to the Yr 5/6 pupils who recently completed in their first swimming gala of the year. They finished in 6th place out of 12 schools.

The classes have been on various trips this half term all linked to their new topics and there are a few more to come. Please keep a look out for any letters.

Remember you can now follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for regular updates across our school!

As always, thank you very much for your continued support.

Wishing you all the very best,

Kathryn

Assistant Headteacher



Important Dates

Science Museum Trip for Omar's Class	Tuesday 28th Jan 2020
British Museum Trip for Rose's Class	Tuesday 4th Feb 2020
Transport Museum Trip for Sharon's Class	Thursday 6th Feb 2020
Last day of Spring 1 term	Friday 14th Feb 2020
HALF TERM	17th—21st Feb 2020
First day of Spring 2 term	Monday 24th Feb 2020