

THE PAKEMAN PRESS

Thank you for taking the time to read this weekly newsletter. We hope you will find its contents useful.



**Pakeman
Primary
School**

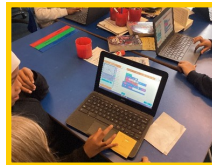
Issue 8 Autumn Term 2025

Friday 14th October 2025

Computing Workshop

Last week, Year 1 made Kandinsky inspired art including a microbit that the children programmed themselves so their work could move!

This fantastic workshop was part of the EU Meet & Code Week 2025 and was possible due to generous funding from the charity **Digit<all>**.



digit<all>



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half term:

**Monday 27th October -
Friday 31st October**

Last Day of Term:

**Friday 19th December
1.30 FINISH**



At playcentre the children had great fun carving out some pumpkins. They look very spooky!

SUPER STARS



Elm
Pine
Cherry
Holly
Maple
Willow
Palm
Banyan
Olive
Cedar
Mahogany
Eucalyptus
Sequoia

Hazel
Aizak
Nathalie
Safa
Yahia
Anaiya
Marnie
Isolde
Maria
Firdaus
Eremosele
Banyan
Madiha



Half-term Writing Competition

BBC 500 Words Writing Competition

Calling all amazing storytellers! 📖 ✨

This half-term, why not let your imagination run wild and enter the BBC 500 Words competition?



Write your own fantastic story — it can be funny, spooky, magical, or completely out of this world — as long as it's no more than 500 words!

When your masterpiece is ready, submit it online through the BBC 500 Words website:

🔗 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

Let's get creative and see where your stories take you. Good luck!



Celebrating Black History Month - Special Author Visit from Tola Okogwu

As part of our celebrations for Black History Month and our partnership with Bookmark, we were thrilled to welcome acclaimed children's author Tola Okogwu to our school.

Tola is the creator of the much-loved Daddy Do My Hair series, a vibrant and joyful collection of stories that celebrate family, love and representation. She visited our school to gift us a beautiful selection of her books and to inspire our pupils to see themselves in the stories they read.



A group of our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils were captivated by Tola's warm storytelling and lively characters. The children asked thoughtful questions, spoke with enthusiasm about the stories and shared their own experiences.

The children were so excited to open the books and explore the stories they will get to share with their classes next half term. Tola also signed the books she gifted to them, making the moment even more special.

We are incredibly grateful to Tola for taking the time to visit and share her passion with our young readers. Her message that every child deserves to see themselves in stories is one we wholeheartedly believe in.



Black History Month Music & Wellbeing Workshop

This week, our pupils took part in a joyful, hands-on music and wellbeing workshop led by Natalie. Through rhythm, creativity, and collaboration, the children explored the rich sounds of African and Caribbean instruments and even made their own shakers and drums using recycled materials. The session celebrated Black History Month while encouraging mindfulness, teamwork, and self-expression through music — ending with a lively group performance where everyone played together.



School Council - World Mental Health Day

Some members of our School Council children took a special trip to the Old Fire House Community Centre to deliver the cards, poems and artwork created by pupils across the school for World Mental Health Day. The messages were filled with kindness, hope and positivity, reminding local elderly residents that they are valued and cared for. The children represented Pakeman beautifully and enjoyed meeting members of the community while sharing the school's creative work.



THE CUBE - Standing Firm In Power and Pride Gallery

Please do remember to pop in to see our amazing art exhibition in the bottom hall after school.

All parents and carers are invited to look at their children's cube and interact with the audio stories via QR codes in a gallery styled space. Enjoy!



Attendance and Punctuality

Half Term Winners



Best attendance classes are Maple and Mahogany.

Best punctuality classes are Elm, Pine and Olive

Year Group	Best Attendance	Most Improved	Best Punctuality
EYFS & KS1	Willow Class	Under 96%	Elm Class
KS2	Mahogany Class	Mahogany Class	Sequoia Class

Library Takeover: Celebrating Black History Month

We are excited to share that this month's Library Takeover has been a great success, thanks to Emma S! She curated a fantastic selection of books to celebrate Black History Month, giving our pupils the chance to explore a diverse range of stories and authors.

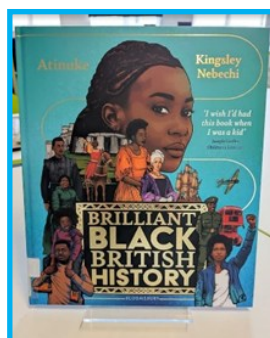
The display invited children to browse, share their thoughts, and choose books to enjoy in class or at home. It was wonderful to see their excitement as they discovered new stories and learned about inspiring role models.

A big thank you to Emma for carefully selecting these important books and helping our pupils engage with them. We can't wait to see how the children continue to explore the library and look forward to more Library Takeovers throughout the year!

For more book recommendations, visit the BookTrust Black History Month booklist:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book-recommendations/booklists/black-history-month/>

For Black History Month we have put together a booklist of historical stories from Black History around the world.



Daily Snack

Research has shown that children benefit from a small snack mid-morning to aid their concentration and learning. The Department for Education funds milk and fresh fruit for children in the 2 year old centre, Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes.

Children in year 3/4/5 and 6 are now allowed to bring in a piece of fresh fruit from home for morning break. ANY SNACK NOT ILLUSTRATED HERE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. We all need to encourage our children to make healthy choices.



would you like to be a families for life community champion?

we're looking for
inspirational volunteers
to encourage families
in islington to get
active and eat well

training
provided



ISLINGTON

Families for Life Parent/Carer Champions programme trains selected parents/carers to lead health activities - coffee mornings, workshops (e.g. packed lunches, Snacktember), and gate outreach (e.g. flu jab awareness). It's free and builds confidence, skills and CVs through training and hands-on experience.

Parents and carers gain valuable training and work experience.

Training runs Thursdays am 6 Nov–18 Dec at Town Hall.

For more information please Phone: **020 7527 2000**

DEADLINE: 31ST OCTOBER