



On Our Patch

Patcham Junior Newsletter
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Headteacher:
Alister Sutherland

Message from Mr Sutherland



A very warm new academic year welcome to you all.

It has been lovely to meet our new Year 3s and the handful of new pupils in other year groups—I am learning new names rapidly and look forward to knowing everyone by name soon!

phone system wasn't working last week, they really appreciated the emails and patience when waiting for replies. There always seems to be something that gives us a headache each term!

I trust you had a fantastic summer break (if you can remember the 'fabulous' weather we enjoyed) and have made the most of the first five weeks of a new school year.

The autumn term is always a challenging one for the children and adults alike as we all get used to new friends, new surroundings and inevitably the occasional teething problems we all face, however they've really impressed us all so far.

Later this month we have the Halloween disco to look forward so thank you in advance for your support on the 19th October.

As always, school has burst back into life as soon as the children all arrived and we've been busy working hard and learning new and exciting things.

Enjoy the rest of the half term and the unexpected sunshine!

Thank you for being so kind *Mr. Sutherland* to the office team when the

Dogs on the playground

Please can we politely remind you that no dogs (or any pets for the matter) should be brought onto the school site, including the playgrounds before or after

school, or the school's playing field at any time.

some members of our community who are not quite so fond, so please leave any dogs safely secured outside the school gates.

Whilst we love our pets, and Rocket our school dog would love to meet your dogs, there are

Thank you.

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Fabulous Fundraisers!

It was so lovely to see the local community come together to raise money for the Martlets. Phoebe and Tilly planned to raise £50 for the Martlets, who looked after their Mumma Clare. They set up a stall at the bottom of the road, and made clay bead bracelets and braided hair. With the help of friends and neighbours and family, they raised a grand total of £1180!

They would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone for their support and love during this time. They are over the moon. Thank you!





Tuesday`	10th October	pm	Autumn Term par-ents evening	Small hall & Music Room
Thursday	12th October	pm	Autumn Term par-ents evening	Small hall & Music Room
Friday	13th October	8.35—9am	School Nurse Drop in	Hex
Monday	16th October	All day	Y5 & 6 Skateboard-ing experi-ence	Main playground
Tuesday	17th October	am	Y3 Scootability experience	Main playground
Thursday	19th October	After school	Halloween Disco	Small hall
Friday	20th Octber`	All day	Last day of half term	
Monday	30th October	All day	INSET	School Closed

LAMBDA Drama Successes last term!

Calling all budding performers!

Did you know that LAMDA classes are now available at Patcham Juniors, delivered by Louisa Fitzgerald from 'Get Creative in Brighton'? A chance for your child to be trained in the art of public speaking and performance to drama school standard!



Huge congratulations to Fabian, Emily, Arwen, Evie, Zahra, Scarlet, Suraya and Irenie, each of whom has achieved a **DISTINCTION** in their LAMDA (London Academy of Dramatic Arts) exams, at Introductory, Grade One, Grade Two and Grade Three levels again this year!

Due to last year's Year 6s now moving on to High School, 4 places have become available for any Year 4, 5 or 6s at Patcham Juniors wishing to take these prestigious examinations. The sessions take place every Friday afternoon at Patcham Juniors (during school time), where each week the children have wonderful fun with drama games, costumes, wigs, improvisations, hot-seating and Bake-Off style judging of freshly-baked biscuits (let's not forget the biscuits!) along the way!

If you have a budding performer wishing to enhance their confidence and delve deeper into characterisation, please contact Louisa on 07967 633438, email getcreativeinbrighton@yahoo.com or visit getcreativeinbrighton.com

Make £5 Grow



The Year 6s have been budding entrepreneurs again this year and through their imaginative uses of £5, have managed to generate a profit of more than £1000!

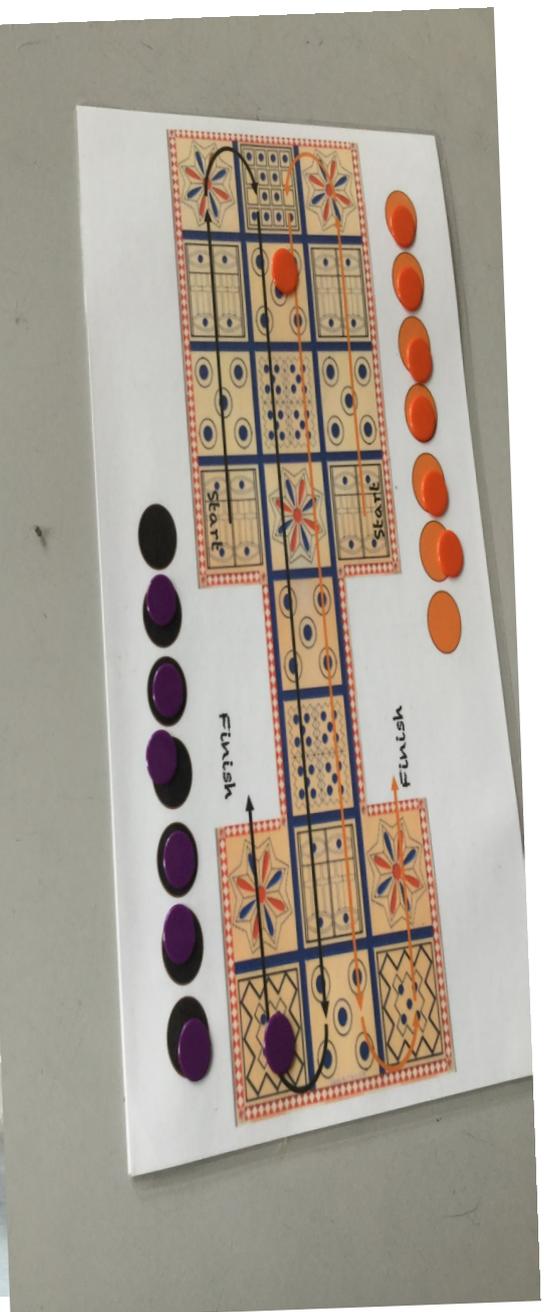
Stalls went cash-less this year and the array of stalls offering goods and services from hair styling, nail painting, and caricatures to doughnuts, home made cakes and fizz were well stocked with goodies and a relentless stream of excited customers!

Thank you to all families that supported—we now look forward to seeing what they decide to do with the money they generated.

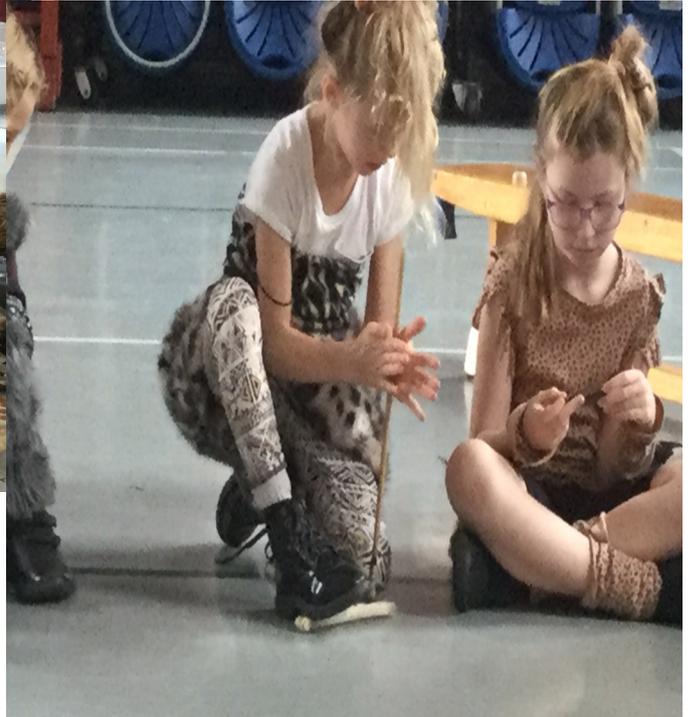


Y3 Stone Age Day

We handled original artefacts and had a great time with Flint the Neolithic Stone Age Man. We even chased a woolly mammoth!



Y3 Stone Age Day



Promoting Reading for Pleasure at home



Introduction

There is strong evidence linking reading for pleasure and educational outcomes but the benefits of reading for pleasure go beyond this and stretch throughout a person's life. Reading increases our understanding of our own identity, improves empathy and gives us an insight into the world view of others.

We have put this poster together to help you promote reading for pleasure at home.

Reading Role Models

We need to make sure that the children see us reading. Many children see their parent on their phone and just assume that they are playing a game as that is what they would use the phone for. Not understanding that we may be reading. Similarly with kindles, children may think it is just a tablet.

The more they see the adults around them read, the more they will consider doing it themselves. Show them that it is fun!



Bedtime Stories

Due to time restraints, many families miss out on bedtime stories but the benefits are huge! Reading to your child for just 10 minutes a day/night can improve their vocabulary, encourage them to read independently and can also improve parent/child relationships. This is not just a KS1 issue. Older children love a bedtime story too (even if they won't always admit it!)

Bedtime stories can be whatever you and your child want to read together!(Extra tip – Do the voices! You can have a good giggle together at your brilliant/miserable attempts at doing various accents...)

If you don't feel confident reading aloud there is always the CBeebies bedtime story, but do this as a family activity rather than the children on their own, then you can talk about the story together afterwards.



Book Talk

Sometimes, children will just want to sit and listen to a book because they are so engrossed in the story. This is completely fine, there is no need to quiz them after every chapter that you read.



But sometimes informal book talk can be a fantastic way to discuss what has been read. Picture books lend themselves well to informal book talk because children want to explore and discuss the pictures, which often tell us so much more than the words.

- **Make links/connections** Do the characters/settings remind you of anyone/anywhere? Have you been in a similar situation? Have you learnt about this from TV/School?
- **Make predictions** Can you guess what the story is about? What will happen next?
- **Discuss/introduce vocabulary** If there is a tricky word, can you explain what it means?
- **Discuss emotions** How does the story make you feel? Some children find it hard to articulate their feelings, so if it is modelled for them by adults it can help them understand their own feelings.

Allow Their Choices

We need to allow children to read what they want to (within reason). Some children may find comfort in re-reading a book. There is nothing wrong with this at all. As adults we re-watch films many times and notice new things with each viewing, the same applies with books.

Comics, graphic novels and audiobooks are all valid reading materials and shouldn't be looked down upon. The same goes for the popular authors like Walliams and Kinney (Diary of a Wimpy Kid).

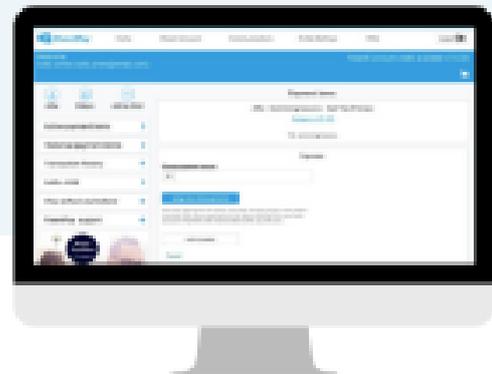
Imagine that books are like food... Comfort reads are not nutritional but we still love them (just in moderation). Harder richer texts are delicious, but too many can make us feel a little overwhelmed and needing of something easier occasionally.

If you do feel that your child is 'stuck' on a particular author or genre and you need book recommendations, speak to your child's class teacher or check out these reading tube maps that may help. <https://tinyurl.com/reading-tubemap>



Bank Transfer has changed to One-click payments

Please notify your parents, and encourage them to use One-click payments if they aren't already



Bank Transfer has been renamed One-click payments

To make our payment options easier to understand, we've updated the name of ParentPay Bank Transfer.

Some of your parents may already be using this functionality, so please let them know that those already using this feature won't need to do anything – just look out for our new One-click payments button as it has replaced the Bank Transfer button at checkout.

It's likely that there are parents at your school who aren't taking advantage of this functionality yet. One-click payments is designed to save parents time at checkout, so recommending it to them can help them get the best out of ParentPay.

We've created some [handy guidance](#) to make sure it's as simple as possible to set up, so please feel free to share this with your parents.

[Find out more](#)