



East Sheen Primary School

Headship Headlines December 2019



Happy

Quality of Education

As the first term of the academic year draws to a close, it is extraordinary to reflect on how much has already happened and how much has been learnt!

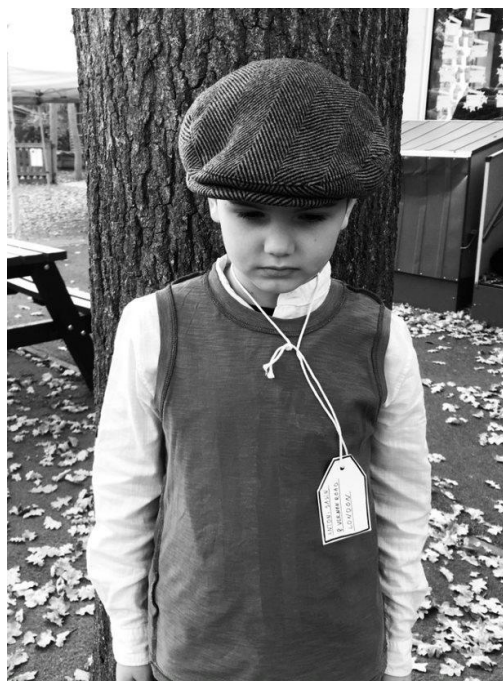
During November, the Headship Team carried out formal lesson observations of all classes and as usual, we have been very impressed by the level of engagement and enthusiasm shown by children across the curriculum as they are challenged to work collaboratively, explore, discover, discuss, empathise and think deeply. The governors also joined members of our newly elected pupil leadership team on a learning walk focused on the habits of mind; feedback confirmed that these habits are deeply embedded in teaching and learning. When asked what school would be like without our thinking school strategies, the children replied, "It would be boring. You'd always try to do things in the same way and not realise you can think about a problem differently."

This term we achieved the Wellbeing Award for Schools and also discovered we were top of the league tables in Richmond for progress in maths and writing and for maths attainment. Our combined scores for high achievement in Reading, Writing and Maths put us second in the table. Our progress scores for all subjects were well above average. What makes us most proud about this is we did not narrow our curriculum or provide additional classes to prepare for tests before or after school. Our children continued to attend sporting events, chess competitions, field trips and museum visits. They took part in Christmas and musical productions. They had a very busy timetable and no learning opportunity was lost, but school was full of variety and lessons built on what children already knew and were planned to encourage children's curiosity-which is endless!

o



Curious



Resilient

OFSTED is looking for more than a theme day to cover history and geography topics. We value our theme days as they always reflect the culmination of a planned, sequential learning experience. Educational visits to museums and sites of interest, such as Hampton Court and Butser Farm, also contribute to active learning and enhance the study of a particular topic. We are fortunate to have London museums and parks on our doorstep where our children can explore and build their lived experience; this helps them to embed their learning in their long- term memory. It is always a joy to see older children joining in with the songs they learnt in previous years, as classes present their assemblies to the school.



Kind

The term has ended with wonderful concerts from the orchestra and Rocksteady bands, beautiful singing from the choir and three different shows for parents! Reception impressed everyone with the number of words they had learnt to sing in their songs celebrating Christmas and how well they managed their parts on the stage. It was hard to believe that they had been in school for less than a term and they made us very proud indeed.

KS1 sang carols from around the world and greeted the audience, wishing them a happy Christmas in many different languages. Over 42 languages are spoken by children in our school and it was lovely to reflect on how a story from so very long ago is celebrated across the world. Their singing and energetic dancing left everyone in a party mood.

KS2 eco elves delivered a thought-provoking and humorous show. The singing was magnificent and the children explored how Christmas could be great fun and environmentally friendly! The school has been involved in a number of "green" projects and we are all trying to make changes that reduce waste. Our Christmas hoop decorations not only had a colour scheme as usual, but also had to be made with recyclable materials this year. Glitter days are gone...

We hope all our children and their families have a wonderful Christmas break and we look forward to welcoming you back on 6th January 2020!



*Wishing you a peaceful and joyful
Christmas and a very happy new
year.*

