EYFS Newsletter

Autumn 1
23rd October 2026

Chisenhale Primary School

Confidence • Curiosity • Kindness

WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL
Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.

Trips & Celebrations



In the final week of this half term we celebrated **Black History Month** in the EYFS. We marked **Black History Month** through art, story, song and dance in a rotation of activities across the classrooms in our setting on Friday morning.



On our first day back after our half term holiday (**Monday 2nd November**) we are going to mark the festival of **Halloween in the EYFS** through story-telling, spelling and a spooky rumpus – ***your child is welcome to dress up for the occasion!***

This Week in the EYFS

In Sun class our word of the week has been '**Africa'** as we have been participating in our school celebrations for **Black History Month**. We enjoyed reading and role playing **'Handa's Surprise'** and other 'Handa' texts by **Eileen Browne**. We tasted all the fruits in Handa's basket and recorded which ones we did or did not enjoy. We also learned some 'Call and Response' songs from Africa. We have begun our learning about letters and sounds with the letter **Aa** is for Africa**.** On Friday we did some African dancing and made a fruit kebab from all the fruits in Handa's basket. In mathematics we learned **'Handa's Counting Song'** and practised adding and taking away fruit from a basket. We also made a pictogram to show our favourite fruit from the selection. We have continued the '**Think Equal'** programme, thinking 'is there anyone like me?' – the answer is no!







For Black History Month the Reception classes have learned about **Harry Cumberbatch** – a local community hero. They have also learned about the tradition of **Harvest Festivals,** and how in our communities, food is donated, collected and distributed to thos**e** in need. In the Tower Hamlets phonics programme the children have added **r, & u** to the sounds they know and have been introduced to two-syllable words like **pocket and rocket.** In mathematics they have been embedding their knowledge of 3, including the concepts of **'one more', 'one less'** and **'altogether'**. In addition, we learned, practised and performed the **Kindness Song** at the parent open afternoon on Friday.

It was lovely to see so many of you at our open afternoon today. We hope you enjoyed seeing all the amazing things that your children have achieved during the seven weeks that they have spent in school this year.

We hope you enjoy the holiday and we will see you on Monday 2nd November!

Parent Partnership

We are looking forward to our first **Parent – Teacher meeting** of the year. This will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress and attainment over the first half term.

10 minute appointment slots will be held on **Monday 9th** and **Wednesday 11th November**.

You should have received a Google form on which to indicate the date and time that would be convenient for you. You will then receive confirmation of your allotted time.
Please speak to your child's class teacher if you need any further assistance.

Book Bags & Reading – A plea from Nursery Staff!

We would prefer if children only brought their school issue book bags into school daily.

We are currently finding it difficult to manage the number and size of additional bags (rucksacks etc) which are difficult to store and make it harder for children to hang up and access their coats and changing bags independently when they need them. Children are also bringing toys/items of food from home in these bags and putting in/removing items during the day. We would appreciate if you could encourage your Nursery child to only bring in their school issue bags.



This year **Diwali** falls on Sunday 8th November. We are keen to celebrate this event in the EYFS and wondered if any family members might help us plan appropriate and meaningful activities to share with the children on Friday 6th or Monday 9th November – please let us know if you can help!

Half Term Holiday

The half-term holiday will be from **Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October.**

Winter Coats

As the weather has turned more Autumnal your child will now need a warm and **waterproof** coat as they will have access to the outside area throughout the school day.

Friday is non-uniform day at Chisenhale Primary School