



Magazine

INLINE

Little Ilford School News & Events Spring 2021 - Issue 30

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Courage
Commitment
Compassion

Dear parents/carers,

As we write to you, we are nearing the end of the Spring term and have been back at school for almost four weeks. It feels like a huge relief to have the students back for face-to-face tuition - we have really missed them. Impressive though the technical feat of beaming lessons into people's homes was, nothing replaces the ability to talk directly to our young people. Thank you so much for all of the support that you have given us through these trying times.

We will still be engaging in track and trace activities over the holidays, so if your children do test positive for covid and their symptoms began within 48 hours of finishing school, it is vital that you contact info@littleilford.org so that we can ensure that any contacts isolate themselves. We are sending tests home with the students so they can be tested over the holiday. It would be great if you could ensure that they are tested on Sunday 18th April prior to coming back.

We heard last week that funding has been finally approved for the extra works in our school expansion. This means that we will have a fourth staircase in the existing building, which will really help to relieve congestion, and an extra 3 square metres in each of the classrooms in the new block. Building works have begun and are due to be completed in March next year. The larger dining hall won't be complete until near the end of the project, so we have sent you details of our proposed school day for next year that will help us to cope with the works. I do hope that you fed back any views to our school email address.

We are sending out free school meal vouchers for qualifying families. Please do let us know if you are eligible and you don't receive them.

The borough has organised activities over the Easter holidays for children: Details can be found here: www.newham.gov.uk/ActivitiesForYoungPeople

Year 11 will be engaging in a busy programme of assessments up until late May to ensure that we give them the most accurate grade possible. Please do support them in their revision over the holidays. We hope that you will also encourage students in years 7 to 10 to read for pleasure over the holidays as this is the best way to grow your vocabulary and understanding of the world.

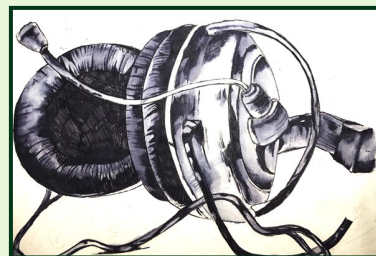
We wish you and your young people a really good Easter break and that they return, ready to learn, on Monday 19th of April.

Ian Wilson and Ravinder Bansal

Our Vision:

- We take ownership of our learning and aspirations so that we fulfil our unique potential;
- We promote equality and respect so that we feel safe, looked after and valued;
- We embrace challenge and change so that we have the confidence to broaden our horizons;
- We improve and achieve through resilience and self-reflection so that we are role models within the local community and the wider world.

Recording lockdown



Year 11 students Raisa (11.8), Munira (11.9) and Surraya (11.10) created this amazing artwork to reflect their time in lockdown.

Back to school after lockdown - a view by Sara, 8.11

Coming into school after a lockdown was quite abnormal. I knew it would be a difficult transition because for the past few months I had been sitting on a chair in my room alone to do my online learning. Now, I am sat in a classroom amongst many others, having to come into school every morning.

I came in for my first Covid-19 test on a Friday. I was a bit apprehensive, as I would be seeing everyone for the first time after months of only seeing their profile pictures during the online lessons. I spent a long time getting dressed - I wanted every crinkle of my shirt to be gone, my laces of my shoes perfectly tied, my hair perfectly straightened. It was an overwhelming feeling of nerves and excitement. Stepping outside of my home for the first time for school felt unreal - I did go out during the lockdown, but it didn't really compare to this.

Seeing everyone after lockdown was such a feeling I don't think I could properly explain. Seeing my friends was such a wonderful experience, being able to hear their laughs and see them in front of me!

I had never had a Covid test before, so doing my first one in school was a nerve-wracking feeling. Initially, I was terrified of the Covid tests! I thought they would be painful and extremely difficult. However, to my surprise, that wasn't the case at all! I felt much better after coming home that day - it made me realise that some of the worries I had were not really anything to be worried about.

The following Monday was my first full day of learning in person at school. I really couldn't expect how I would be feeling or what would happen. I had tried preparing myself as much as I could, but the rest would have been in the moment. That morning, I woke up with nerves in my stomach - the fact that I was going to physically be in school was still unusual to me.

When I arrived at school, seeing so many people startled me, any interaction with anyone still was still unfamiliar. My first lesson was PE, so it was very interactive. At moments, I had to remind myself I was in the school premises, and it wasn't some lucid dream. Although, having to perform in front of my peers for the first time made me a bit anxious - I had been participating through a screen and anytime I was confused during class, nobody would know. Now people would notice if I was nervous or didn't understand what was going on. It was a bit exposing for a few lessons; I had never realised how much of an obstacle it was to be able to keep composure during lessons.

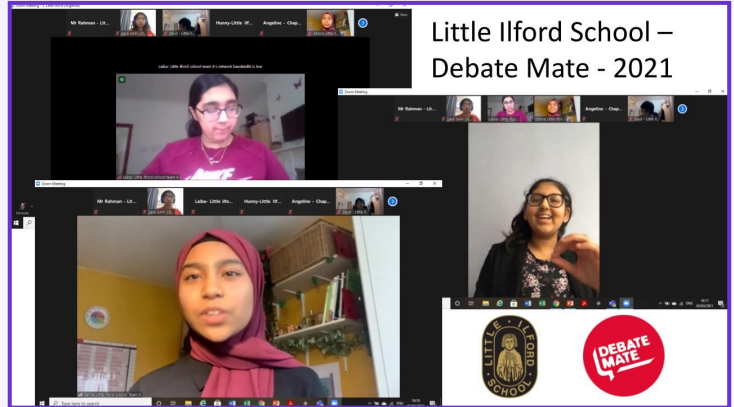
A few days went by, and I settled in quicker than I had initially thought. I was used to being in the classroom by now, wearing a mask became normal to me, and working hard came back like it was an old friend; I've missed it. I had missed being near my friends, and laughing about the weirdest things possible. I had missed having the teacher in front of me, so I could ask them any questions I had. I didn't realise how much my wellbeing had changed without school; it makes me appreciate waking up in the morning and coming into school more. I think a lot of us can now say we won't take school for granted anymore.

Despite the arduous times of being in a lockdown and not coming to school, I can still see a positive side of all of this. I think this time has been a time for self-reflection, a time to think about who we are and what we stand for. A time to change our values for the better, and a time to really better ourselves as individuals, and as a community. It has been quite the experience being alone for all of these months, as I've really gotten to meet myself, and understand who I am. Now, I've come back to school a more mature and understanding person, who is ready to learn at any moment.

DebateMate

LIS pupils have been taking part in DebateMate on Monday evenings via Zoom. The pupils mentioned below have also worked really hard as a team and have shown great resilience in these testing times by taking it upon themselves to work together. They were consequently rewarded with a brilliant win obtaining a very high score for Little Ilford School in the National Debate Mate League table.

- Hunny, 10.2
- Laiba, 11.2
- Sara, 8.11
- Zahira, 8.11
- Zayd, 8.2
- Special mention to Mohamad Essa in 7.12 who provided moral support to the team.



Little Ilford School –
Debate Mate - 2021

Girls' Club

Ms Probett has been running the weekly virtual Girls Club as a safe space for girls to discuss issues that are important for them. It's a wonderful, supportive group which shares their views and experiences as young Newham girls.

They have now decided to convert their experiences as a podcast - the two presenters are Fatima in 10.1 and Amisha, 10.4. The first show has just been finished and they are planning the next show.

The Club have also been working hard to create information and ideas to celebrate International Women's Day, which we celebrated for the whole month of March. They also created weekly positive motivation quotes to inspire students and staff alike.

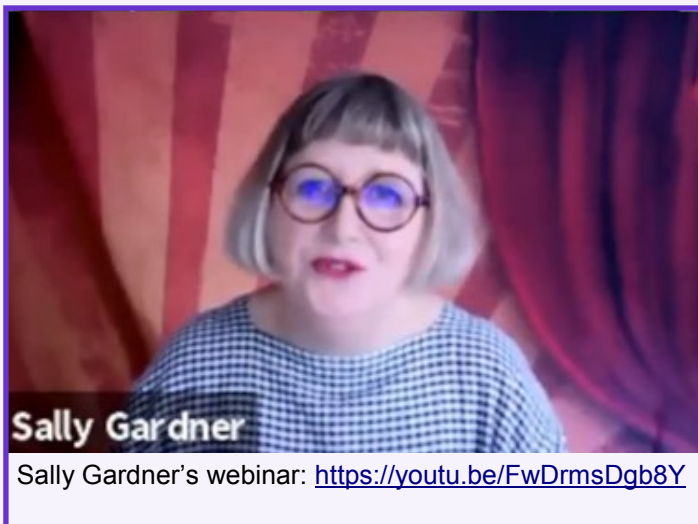


Library news



World Book Day was a virtual event this year with activities and competitions set for both students and teachers to take part in. We also had two authors' virtual events: Sally Gardner on Tuesday 2nd March and Alex Wheatle on Friday 5th March.

You can still watch the authors until 5th April, just click on the links below.



Sally Gardner's webinar: <https://youtu.be/FwDrmsDgb8Y>



Alex Wheatle's webinar: https://youtu.be/_pu-20KZIY4

A book list for the Easter holidays



All these titles are available on our [E-Platform](#) and [Oliver](#)

Readers of the Month of March 2021

Arjan, 7.9	Moeen, 7.2
Hashiro, 7.12	Harinandh, 7.4
Ashwaq Ahamed, 7.2	Alicia, 10.1
Fatima, 10.3	Tausif, 10.6
Ibraheem, 11.2	

Eplatform Readers of The Month of March 2021

Nusaira, 7.7	Wasi, 7.3
Harinandh, 7.4	Rakin, 8.6
Rawia, 7.10	Ayesha, Yr 8.4
Sefofo, 8.5	Mohammed K, 9.9
Hunny, 10.2	Fatima, 10.3

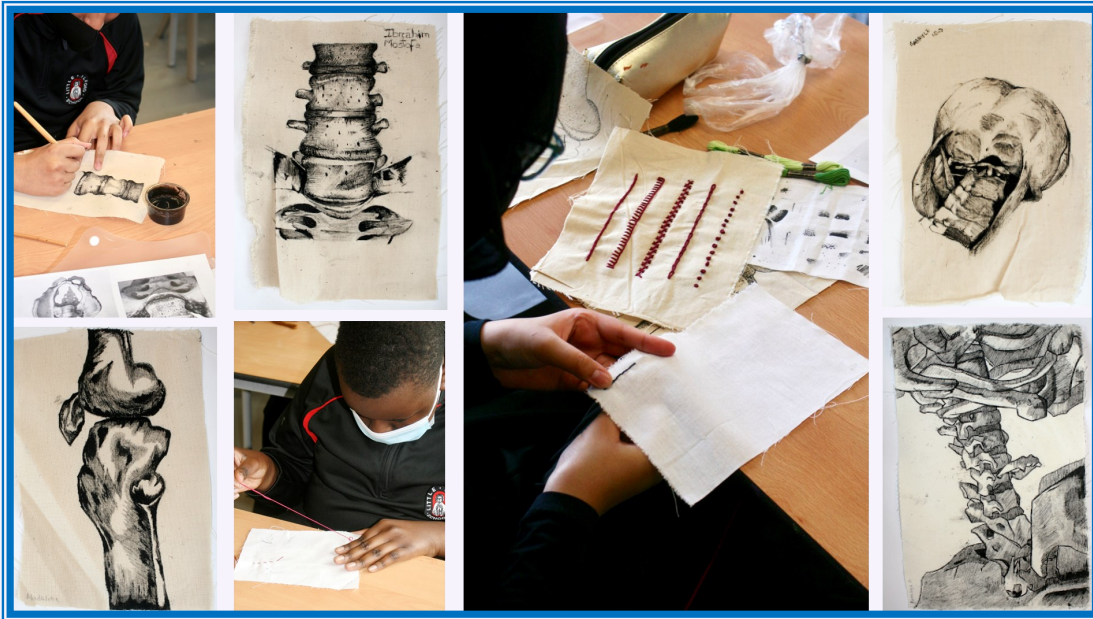
Most Popular Books of the Month of March 2021

- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle
- Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J. K Rowling
- Wonder by R. J Palacio,
- The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne
- The Deep End (Diary of a Wimpy Kid) by Jeff Kinney
- Everything's Amazing (Sort Of) by Liz Pichon
- The Midnight Library by Matt Haig
- Old School by Jeff Kinney
- The Way of the Dragon by Chris Bradford
- Wrong Time, Wrong Place by Simon Kernick
- All the Bright Places by Jennifer Niven
- **Clap When You Land** by Elizabeth Acevedo
- **Crongton Knights** by Alex Wheatle

Upcoming Events

- April-June Author Virtual visits/webinar.
- April 23rd- St Georges Day (Patron saint of England, think of English culture, Kings & Queens, fashion, food, festivals, music, history etc), also Shakespeare's birthday (think of his plays, poems, biography etc)

Some examples of inspiring artwork created by our Year 10 and Year 11 students.



Art is such a great way to express yourself. Take a look at these incredible inside-out boxes which have been created by Y7 and Y8 during Children's Mental Health week



Uniform

Since we returned to school in March, we have been aware that many shops and retailers have been closed and so we have taken a sympathetic view with regards to uniform. However, as shops are due to reopen from the 12th April, we shall be expecting all students to return to school after the Easter holidays in full school uniform.

Below is a link to our school website, where the uniform list and details of our uniform suppliers can be found. [Uniform | Little Ilford School](#). We also have a supply of ties available to purchase in school via Parentpay.

This expectation is in regards to **all** uniform, including PE uniform and all year groups, including year 11. If the correct uniform is not worn, I am afraid we will have no option but to send students home to change. As always, hoodies will be confiscated.

If you are experiencing any financial difficulties, you can apply here for financial support. [Hardship Grant Application](#).

Easter Holiday Activities - click on the illustrations for full details

CREATIVE ARTS & SPORTS ACTIVITIES

WEEK ONE
6TH - 9TH APRIL
2021

WEEK TWO
12TH - 16TH APRIL
2021

@CASA_HEADSTART

NEWHAMHEADSTART @ GCL.ORG.UK

HORSERIDING + OUT & ABOUT MUDCHUTE (MUDCHUTE FARMS)

This Easter Half-Term be a part of our amazing activities:

Horse-riding (Week One)
Basic training about how to care for horses & their stables; plus learning how to ride.

Out & About Mudchute (Week Two)
Activity taster sessions including animal care, horticulture, forest school and horse riding.

Location: Mudchute Farm
Time: 10AM - 3PM
To Register:
Email us & our Youth Practitioner will contact you with next steps.

There are four easy ways to keep in touch:
Our website: www.littleilford.newham.sch.uk
Email: info@littleilford.org
Download our App: <https://www.myedschoolapp.com/>
Follow us on Twitter [@littleilfordsch](https://twitter.com/littleilfordsch)
Call: 0208 478 8024