



FLORA NEWS

Head's Blog

It's all about.... In or Out or Not Out

It all happened so quickly and to just about everyone's surprise. When it happened **48% looked at it and said "IN", 52% looked at and said "OUT"**. For a while it brought paralysis to everyone, nobody could believe what had happened; why the decision to take the risk was taken and what would happen next.

Most of us turned to the big silver screen to see what it was telling us. As we watched the replays the view was split, it was touch and go, IN or OUT? The final angle gave the answer we were looking for, he had just managed to ground his bat and the decision was "NOT OUT". I am, of course, referring to the trip to Lords on Tuesday to watch the cricket and take part in some cricket training. The pupils enjoyed watching the cricket and replays of decisions on the big screen and I hope that you enjoy some of the photographs that are within this newsletter.

I've talked about cricket and sport reasonably often in this blog because it is important to me, it enriches the lives of our pupils and, along with music, enhances the education for life that Flora Gardens provides. The extended day, increasing clubs from 3 per week to 12 per week this year (16 next year) is part of the extended and enriched education offered at Flora Gardens. The "open to everyone" breakfast club continues to grow and from September our extended day to 6.00pm will open; I do hope that parents use these opportunities to enhance the children's extended education opportunities and that it eases the pressure of child minders for those that have work commitments.

The IN or OUT theme was prevalent earlier in the week after one of the biggest upsets in footballing history - **Belgium beating Hungary!** I note this because I had the Hungarians in the sweepstake, oh well at least I didn't have England. It fills me with amazement how every two years the "English public" somehow convince themselves that the England Football team will be challenging for the World Cup or European Cup. The excitement builds up, England are world class, nobody will stop them and then, every time without fail, a few abstract performances take place and an early ride home for the overpaid, underperforming 'professionals' occurs. Never mind, I'm sure in two years time the "English public" will be more realistic....

I'll stick with the 'professionals' line of thought now. The teachers at this school are professional; they put the pupils first and conduct themselves as role models, demanding the highest attainment from pupils whilst demonstrating the "Flora Way" - caring, supportive, approachable, flexible and diligent. The results in Phonics (Y1), SATs (Y2) and writing SATs (Y6) demonstrate how far we have come in such a short time. Unlike the England Football team, at Flora we don't listen to hype but concentrate on delivering the best we can to all pupils. Our results this year are a great improvement but if you want to be the best you must keep looking at what you do, change things that can be improved and never settle for good enough, nor rest on past successes - onwards, upwards and continued change is the path that we will follow in order to achieve our vision for the pupils at Flora Gardens.

OK, I have to mention it.

"There will undoubtedly be effects on the education system, just as there will be in every sector."
So said Malcolm Trobe, Interim General Secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders.

It worries me deeply. Whatever happens this school will remain a school that reflects its community, which treats people equally, regardless of where they come from or what they believe or their status. We welcome all people with open arms and a lurch to the right will not change that at Flora Gardens under my Headship.

Have a great weekend.

Polite Notice

Please ensure that your child does not ride their bike or scooter across the playground or through the school building. We have had a couple of very near misses and so for the safety of our pupils we ask that this rule is followed. Thank you.

Summer Fete

The PTA will be running a second hand goods stall at the Summer Fete. They ask asking for donations of books, DVDs and toys.

If you have any donations then please bring them to the school office.

Also, donations of cakes and cookies would be much appreciated. These can be brought to the school on either Friday 15th (day before) or on the day.
Thank you!

Sports Day – Thursday 7th July – please make sure your child brings their PE kit to school.

Moving Up Day – Friday 8th July. You will have received a letter about this via email. If you did not received it, please pick up a copy from the school office.



★ **Superstars!** ★

- Nursery – Pash’a
- Reception – Nina
- Year 1 – Adam
- Year 2 – Cameron
- Year 3 – Ilhombek
- Year 4A – Rumaiysah
- Year 4S –Whole class
- Year 5F – Nizar
- Year 5G – Vinnie
- Year 6 – Jade

Well done!





Flora Governor, Jackie Hall, judged the Head of House portrait competition.

In 1st place...Suhalia, Iqra, Zara, Neveah and Nadir.
 Jackie's comments on the winning portrait...*'composition, humour, colour, texture and imagination. A gorgeous picture!'*

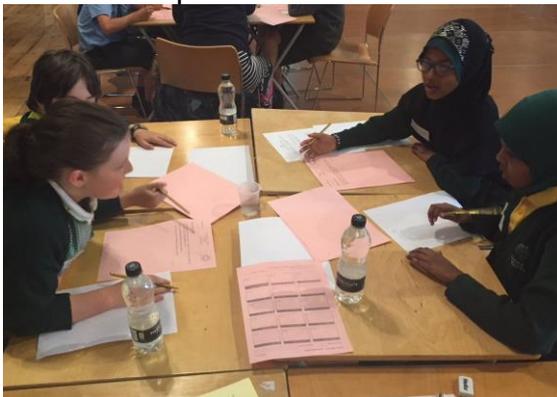


In 2nd place...Mikayla and Deka.
 Jackie's comments...*'wonderful use of shape and character.'*

In 3rd place...Mia, Sakina and Eva.
 Jackie's comments...*'lovely character, composition and texture.'*



Noah, Shamhaad, Maliha and Louise successfully completed the Primary Team Mathematics Challenge on Thursday – going up against some very stiff competition. Well done!



Reception and Nursery went on a trip to Wigmore Hall on Wednesday. They took part in a concert with other schools. Thank you to all the parents who supported us on the trip!



Year 4 Autumn carried out some experiments this week, including finding out how to move water with static electricity and putting a skewer through a balloon without popping it.

