



FLORA NEWS



Deputy Head's Blog

We are living in exponential times.

This week was Science and Maths week at Flora Gardens and we chose to have a focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) subjects based around the theme of change. These subjects are incredibly relevant as they help people make sense of the rapidly changing world around them. STEM education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy, and enables the next generation of innovators – all of which are crucial for our future.

Did you know...?

- The amount of technical information is doubling every 2 years. For university students that means that half of what they learn in their first year will be outdated by their third year.
- There are predictions that by 2049, a standard home computer will have computational abilities that will exceed that of the entire human species.
- There are estimates that today's learners will have between 10 and 14 jobs before the age of 38.
- The top 10 in-demand jobs in 2010 did not even exist in 2004!
- We are currently preparing pupils for jobs that don't yet exist, using technologies that haven't yet been invented, in order to solve problems we don't even know are problems yet.

According to the UK Commission for Employment & Skills, 43% of STEM vacancies are hard to fill because children, especially girls, are not going on to study these subjects at university. We therefore have a responsibility as primary educators to expose children to these subjects and spark a curiosity in our pupils that lasts beyond the primary school stage.

Our children this week have explored mathematical theories, identified problems then solved those problems, explored engineering through building bridges that stand and can hold weight – all while working together as part of a team and reshaping their current understanding of the world around them. These skills and strategies will help our children to learn new things, adapt to an ever changing world and stay curious.

We were very pleased that so many parents (71!) turned up to our open morning on Wednesday and we hope you all enjoyed the session. There was bridge building, egg parachutes, maths games, bee magnets and chemistry all taking place. Well done to our pupils for a fantastic STEM week (despite the scorching heat!) and a sincere thank you to the staff who made the week possible.

In other news, Year 2 went to visit the seaside at Littlehampton on Tuesday. Everybody had a fantastic time and managed to keep cool – especially Mrs Asserati and Mr Naismith who both got drenched by the children...and by each other. A most sincere thank you to the pupils who made this event possible!!

Finally, on behalf of the Flora Gardens community, "Eid Mubarak" to our friends and families who are celebrating Eid Al-Fitr this weekend.

Flora Gardens Eid Evening Celebration

Friday 30th June
5:00 – 7:00pm
School hall

There will be:

Food

Music

Face Painting

Games

Henna

And much more!

All parents and pupils are welcome – you can also bring friends and family!

Tickets cost £1 and can be purchased from Miss Kelly before and after school by the tuck shop.



Attendance

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd June 2017

Class	Attendance
Nursery	83.5
Reception	95.2
Year 1	90.8
Year 2	98.3
Year 3	86.2
Year 4	96.7
Year 5F	89.5
Year 5G	96.1
Year 6	99.3
Totals	93.2

6 week attendance monitoring is due next week. If your child has been absent from school and you have not provided us with a reason, this will be marked on the register as unauthorised and will stay this way until you let us know. Of course, not all reasons will be authorised. We must inform the Local Authority about any concerns we have of persistent absence. If we notice anything concerning about your child's attendance you will be receiving a letter from Mr Naismith and you may be asked to attend a meeting so that we can help you ensure your child attends school regularly.

Superstars!

Nursery – Salwa & Nazim

Reception – Rashid

Year 1 – Michelle

Year 2 – Hamza & Suhaila

Year 3 – Mikayla & Dafina

Year 4 – Aaliya I

Year 5F – Jasmin

Year 5G – Amin & Jayden

Year 6 – Lila

Music – Megan Y5F

PE – Cameron Y3

Well done!

Summer Fete – What do we need from you?

As always, any help that you are able to offer will be much appreciated. In particular, we need your help with:

- Bottles of any kind – it can be wine, shampoo, beer, squash...anything that you can spare. But please make sure it is in date and has not been opened. Please bring to the school office.
- Raffle prizes – are you or someone you know able to donate a raffle prize? Anything that you can spare that you think someone would like to win is welcome! Please bring to the school office.

We have had some feedback from parents that they are having difficulty removing whiteboard pen stains from school clothing. We have done some research on the internet and found this advice, which we hope helps.

1. Place the stained clothing on top of a towel. Get a clean absorbent towel..
2. Dab the stain with rubbing alcohol. Dab a small amount of rubbing alcohol on a clean sponge. ...
3. Fill a sink with water and vinegar. ...
4. Soak the clothing. ...
5. Wash the clothing in the laundry as usual.

Flora Gardens went green for Grenfell today. Thanks to your kindness and generosity we managed to raise over £300 for those affected by this great tragedy.

Maths and Science Week

“This was an absolutely brilliant Assmebly – the best one I have seen in all the years I have been a parent and Governor at Flora. It really shows the outstanding variety and quality of education that the school now offers. I was blown away – well done to every pupil and teacher involved!”

