

# Weekly Newsletter

## Important Information Clothes

Please **label** all your children's clothes, shoes, coats, bag and water bottle. As our weather changes, please ensure your child comes to school with a waterproof jacket, spare clothes and wellies, as well as a plastic bag for any wet clothes.

## Reading Books

We are sending reading books home with children every Friday, please ensure that your child brings in a bag to take home and return their reading books so that the books can be kept in good condition.

## Artist of the month

Christie Belcourt



## Merit award:

Westminster: Petru and Liam

Lambeth: Ida and Betty

Waterloo: Carter and Zahidul

## Learning this week

We have had a lovely week learning all about the Lunar New Year.

We have discussed where it is celebrated in the world and learned more about how it's celebrated in China. We have made red envelopes and counted coins to match them to numbers. We have cleaned our classrooms and created paper lanterns to decorate. We have even had a go at making our own dragon mask using boxes and lots of imagination and creativity. Throughout the week, we have paraded around the playground as a dragon to mark the end of the Lunar New Year, making lots of noise with our drums. In addition, we have had a go at using chopsticks to pick up and serve noodles and have prepared noodle soup with carrots and peas and most of us have even tried it, discussing what it tasted, smelt, sounded and looked like.

This week, we have enjoyed reading the story of The Great Race and learned about the animals of the Chinese Zodiac. As it's the Year of the Rabbit, we have drawn our own version and written a sentence about it. Listen to the story at home, can you draw and label your favourite character?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZEf09e4DWSI>

In maths, we have been learning about heavy and light objects. We were human balance scales and used our hands to feel the weight of different objects in the classroom. We used the balance scales to check our estimation, we tested to see that bigger objects are not always heavier and had a go at ordering objects from lightest to heaviest. Can you find something at home heavier than an apple? Can you test whether you were right?

Best wishes,  
The Reception Team

## Reading challenge

*Can you create some actions for your favourite story book? Can your family guess who you are?*

Please send your photos of your challenge: [school@willowbrookgst.org](mailto:school@willowbrookgst.org)



## Philosophy 4 Children:



Talk together at home:

Would you rather meet with a dragon or race with a rat?

# Child Voice



## Characteristics of Effective Learning

### Playing and exploring – engagement

Finding out and exploring  
Playing with what they know  
Being willing to 'have a go'

### Active learning – motivation

Being involved and concentrating  
Keeping trying  
Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

### Creating and thinking critically – thinking

Having their own ideas  
Making links  
Choosing ways to do things

Westminster – Liam

‘I am making a dragon.’

Lambeth

Fatima enjoyed making  
noodles for the Lunar New Year



Waterloo – Asahna

‘I am sticking on the  
teeth!’



# Our week in pictures



Making red lanterns



Creating dragon puppets



Cutting and sticking red envelopes



Working together to make a dragon mask



Practising for a parade



Look at this dragon!

# Our week in pictures



Preparing a  
Lunar New Year meal



Cleaning to get ready for the Year  
of the Rabbit



Painting Chinese Good Luck signs



This is our castle!



Having a race just like in the story of the  
Zodiac animals



Comparing heavy and light objects  
from the classroom