



## UNICORN SCHOOL

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No 903

## MRS FRALEY'S END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

Dear Parents

We have enjoyed another fun filled and exciting year which, on top of the academics, has been packed with an abundance of sports fixtures, visits and trips.

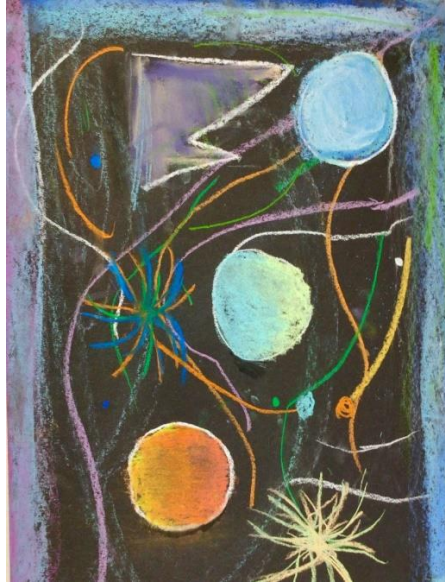
In sport, the children have participated in matches and tournaments in football, netball, hockey and cricket and all classes have had their swimming lessons, Violet and UV at Pools on the Park and Red through to Indigo at our new venue, which we are very happy with. We were lucky and the rain held for both of our Sports Days; Yellow - UV at London Welsh grounds and Red and Orange here at school.

Blue and Indigo had a great stay at Sayers Croft, Violet enjoyed their week in Devon, UV had an action-packed stay in Cumbria and Violet and UV loved their ski trip to Norway. Other highlights this year have included trips to Gunnersbury Museum, Kew Gardens, Garson's Farm, Roald Dahl Museum, Water & Steam Museum, Curzon Cinema, Battersea Park Zoo, Natural History Museum, Bekonscot Model Village, BBC Earth Experience, Hampton Court, National Archives, Sayers Croft, Legoland, Saxon Sustainability Centre, Thames Explorer Trust, Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond Park, Bocketts Farm, Junior Citizenship at Holly Lodge and the Houses of Parliament. All UV completed their Bus and Tube day challenge to get themselves from school to the fountain outside Green Park Station, a quick selfie and then back again!



Art and DT continues to be enjoyed by the children and is truly inspirational, whether paintings, ceramics, pottery or tapestry, it's always of an exceptionally high standard. Our Big Draw had the theme of 'Drawing with senses' and Arts Week's theme was 'Sustainability'.





Miss Gresson, Head of Music, has been busy. There have been tea time concerts, try an instrument afternoon, Kew Sparkle, Violet and UV sang at the O2 Young Voices and Cecil Court Care Home, ABRSM music exams held in school and many other musical delights this year. Unicorn Singers competed in the annual Richmond Festival and performed songs from Joseph and the amazing technicoloured dreamcoat at the Hurlingham School in Putney. Musical Theatre's Spring term production of Frozen was spectacular.



Drama, led by Miss Timpson, continues to be enjoyed, with outstanding performances of Violet's Macbeth and Indigo's Celts and Romans Assembly. The end of year UV play seems to get better and better with no exception of this year's production of 'Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits!' which was directed by Miss Botes. Special thanks go to Trudi Heath (Max and Matilda), Zeta Hade (Cara), Laura Marchant (Georgia) and Christie Butler (Harper and Brighton) who came in most days to help and Joshua Peake (Old Unicorn and Emmy and Savannah's big brother) who came back to do the lighting. Thanks also to Miss Gresson for music and songs, lots of other mums who helped backstage and last but by far not least, the UV children, who performed so brilliantly over the two evenings. Unicorn really does produce some very capable, confident children!



I am enormously grateful to all the parents for their unstinting efforts, supporting the school across the year. In particular the Ultra Violet parents, who never fail to amaze with their spectacular transformation of UV's classroom on party day; this year as a scene out of *Narnia*, complete with the avenue of huge Christmas trees and snow machine on the forecourt and magic wardrobe entrance to the classroom. Mr Gladstone was Aslan, Mr Jones Mr Tumnus and all UV children were dressed as Peters, Susans, Edmunds and Lucies. Parent helpers were various other characters including Mr and Mrs Beaver, the White Witch and Mrs Wolf, amongst others! Class reps and many more have given a tremendous amount of time and effort for the benefit of the children - thank you.



School Committee, under the joint leadership of Trudi Heath (Max and Matilda) and Laura Marchant (Georgia) deserve praise and recognition for all its fund-raising, which has included the Harvest Festival, Farmer's Market, Coffee and Croissants, Second Hand Uniform Sales, Christmas cards and wrapping paper, Junior Christmas Carol Concert, Christmas Fair, Christmas gifts for West London Action for Children, World Book Day, Mad March Hair Day, Infant and Junior Discos, Cake Sales, Mufti Day, Summer Fair and the recent brilliant Parents' Social; our thanks also go to Tara Carr (Bo) and Henry Fleet (Fordy) for compering the evening.

The total monies raised this year is in excess of a staggering £14,000, which will be split between our charities: Little Village, The Children's Trust and the School Bursary Fund. Our thanks to all who helped, donated, attended, baked, brought and bought!

Heartfelt thanks to Trudi and Laura for everything they have done again this year; there is now a pair or two of shoes that need filling! If anyone would like to take on this fun and rewarding role, Cindy would be thrilled to hear from you.



I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting with School Council, discussing in earnest and with great enthusiasm all sorts of interesting topics that arise during our lunchtime conversations. Thank you to the Head Boys, Head Girls and all the other members for their lively contributions to our weekly meetings.

We have a number of fond farewells, as many families, some of whom have long been part of the fabric of Unicorn are leaving, and I wish to acknowledge their commitment towards our wonderful school community.

In alphabetical order: The **Bal** family, Lennox [8 years], the **Behvand** family, Darius [8 years], the **Biggin** family, Amy and Sophie [10 years]; the **Burley** family, George [6 years], Mrs Burley also attended Unicorn as a child; the **Clegg** family, Jessie, Sammy and Isla [10 years]; the **Coladangelo** family, Emilia and Hector [10 years]; the **Hade** family, Teah and Cara [11 years]; the **Marchant** family, Jack and Georgia [9 Years], Mrs Marchant has also been Co-chair of School Committee for the past 2 years; the **Mazzarese** family, Emily and Anthony [1 year]; the **O Briain** family, Orla, Cormac and Naoise [13 years], Mrs O Briain has also been a School Governor and Mr O Briain has compered many a memorable parent social; the **Robertson-Jones** family, Magnus [4 years]; the **Wallace** family, Will, Toby and Barney [14 years], Mr Wallace has also been a School Governor and attended Unicorn as a child; the **Wieczorek** family, Genevieve [4 years]; the **Yorath** family, Grace, Bella and Billy [14 years]; Mrs Yorath also attended Unicorn as a child and Mrs Timmis, grandmother, was a previous Unicorn Headmistress for 18 years and a founding member of the school 54 years ago ... I think they win the prize!

As we say goodbye to some, we extend a warm welcome to our new families joining in September. In Red Class, the **Agrawal, Athanasoulis, Blundell, Cheong, Hammersley, Jones, Lawson, Pashley, Petros, Rees, Tsvetkov** and **Kalpala** families. Elsewhere in the school we welcome the **Kalpala** family also to Orange; the **Trotter** family to Yellow and Blue and finally, the **Trukhan** family to Green and Indigo Classes.

Moving to staff who are leaving, we say farewell to **Miss Strickland**, Recorder, Music Theory and Orchestra Teacher and Old Unicorn parent for the past 17 years; **Mr Max (Peregrine)**, Teaching Assistant this year, Gap Year Student last and also attended Unicorn as a child; **Miss Rapti**, Teaching Assistant in Red Class for this year; **Mrs Sneddon (Emma and David)**, Teaching Assistant for this year and Old Unicorn parent and **Mr Casper (Inigo's big brother)**, Gap Year Student for the previous two terms and attended Unicorn as a child. All a cheerful presence in school and hugely popular with the children and staff alike. We will be sad to see them go and wish them every happiness for the future.

To the Governors who are leaving, we say farewell to **Rebecca Raffan**, Education and Staffing Committee for one year and **Jo Webbern**, Education and Staffing Committee and our Safeguarding Governor for 7 years. We thank them both for their constant support and invaluable contribution over the years.

Unicorn is unashamedly a creative school and we have maintained the breadth of what we offer right through this academic year. We are a small, non-selective school, and so the range of schools that current UV have been offered places to is testament to their hard work and the outstanding teaching they have received over the years. They deserve huge congratulations for their results and even more praise for the calm and mature way they have conducted themselves throughout the 11+ process. For a cohort of 19 children, they received 70 offers, including 7 scholarships and accepted places to:

Chiswick Community	City of London	Francis Holland	Hampton
Ibstock Place	Kew House	Kingston Grammar	Lady Eleanor Holles
Latymer Upper	Notting Hill & Ealing	Orleans Park	Radnor House
St James Boys'	Surbiton High		

### Class Teachers for September:

Red Class	Mrs Langdon	Orange Class	Mrs Maher	Yellow Class	Mrs Palmer
Green Class	Miss Engelmann	Blue Class	Mr Gough	Indigo Class	Miss O'Gorman
Violet Class	Mr Jones	UV Class	Mr Gladstone	Violet & UV English	Mrs Bird

**House Points:** The final scores on the house point doors for 2024 are:

Griffin	Phoenix	Centaur	Pegasus
1656	1650	1745	1621

Congratulations to Centaur who came first this term. All children should be very proud of their contributions with a total of 6672 house points being won.

My thanks to the UV parents for their very generous leaving gift of a lovely wind chime. I am also grateful to all parents, governors and colleagues for their exceptional contribution to school life and it just leaves me to wish you all a very happy summer break. Fingers tightly crossed for some sunshine soon!

*Polly Fraley*

POLLY FRALEY  
Headteacher



### Summer Birthday Wishes to:



QUINN (O), MAX (UV), REX (B), ANTON (R), ENIOLA (O), ALICE (O), CLARK (Y),  
ESME (B), RANI (I), MAX (G), HENRY (V), LILA (V), GEORGIE (O), JACK (G),  
BENJAMIN (I), POPPY (I), WILLIAM (G), GEORGIA (UV), EMILY (I),  
CORA (G), HECTOR (UV), HARRIET (B), AVA (O), MELISA (UV), ALEENA (B), KIT (Y),  
SCARLETT (UV), CLEMENTINE (Y), JACK (B), ADDIE (V), GIGI (V) AND MAYA (G)

WEEK COMMENCING: WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

AUTUMN TERM 2024

#### SEPTEMBER

Mon 2 Sept 18:30 - 19:30 Parent briefing for Red & Orange Classes

Weds 4 Sept 7:30 - 8:20 Breakfast Club begins (WAC)

**8:20 - AUTUMN TERM BEGINS**

8:30 - 9:00 Junior Assembly

18:30 - 19:30 Parent Briefing for Blue, Violet, & Ultra Violet Classes

Thurs 5 Sept 12:45 - 13:15 Tutti Fluti begins

13:30 - 14:50 Junior Clubs begins

18:30 - 19:30 Parent Briefing for Yellow, Green & Indigo Classes

Fri 6 Sept 9:00 - 9:30 Jitterbugs begins

13:30 - 15:30 Games for Blue & Indigo Classes begin

# Class of 2024







