



St Margaret's

Church of England Primary School

Spring Term 2 Week 5



Dear all,

As we come to the end of our first half term back at school since the Lockdown, I have to congratulate the children on their continued resilience and ability to adapt to the systems and structures in place. All of the children have settled in quickly over these last few weeks and have already been impressing me and their teachers with their fantastic work and behaviour. As mentioned previously, our continued focus is still PSHE and children's mental health and well-being.

As part of the on-going provision for wellbeing and mental health, we will have a new member of our school community from next week, our new school dog, Milo. He is hypoallergenic which means that he doesn't moult so great for those who have allergies! A full risk assessment has been carried out and there will be a long period of integration into the school and over the next few weeks he will not be in any contact with any children at this time. The dog will be ready to work with children during the Summer term. He was introduced to the children and staff yesterday - everyone was so excited to meet him!

As you will be aware from the letter you received last week, we have had our first case of Covid 19 since the children came back to school. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you to social distance and wear a face covering when dropping your children to school and that children should not be mixing with those outside their bubbles unless it is for childcare purposes. At St. Margaret's, we continue to adhere to government guidelines, following procedures for maintaining social bubbles and a rigorous approach to cleaning around the school. I am very grateful to our cleaning staff and midday assistants who work hard to ensure that classrooms, dining areas, corridors and toilets are cleaned thoroughly and regularly. All members of staff continue to wear face masks when not in their own classrooms, although they are still able to greet the children as they pass in the communal areas. Please continue to monitor your child for any of the symptoms of COVID – high temperature, a continuous cough and/or change in taste or smell – and inform the school if any of these occur. If you are unsure, please contact the school office. Next week, you will be receiving a letter from Matthew Cole, our director of Public Health for LBBD, who will be advising parents on testing procedures over the Easter Holiday.

Just a gentle reminder that we finish earlier than usual on Thursday, please refer to the timings you have been sent by the school office. All pickups will be at the normal gates.

'Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being certain of what we do not see.' Hebrews 11:1

Warmest regards,

Miss Sophie Newman
Head of School

If your child is unwell or absent for any reason, please call the school office, leave a message if you need to.

World book day 2021

World book day applicants - we will be announcing the winner on Monday 29th March 2021.

We are sorry for any inconvenience.

Contact Details

If you move house, change your mobile number, email or any emergency contacts, please let the school office know so that we can keep records up to date.

If you move house, you will need to bring proof of address.

Well done to **Steve - Year 1** who has completed **Level 1** in Abacus.

Steve has read **60 books** and completed **level 3** in Barking library's Reading bee.



Well done to **Charissa in Year 1** and **Deborah in Year 3** for both receiving 5 post cards and been given the opportunity to choose a book of their choice.





Easter Holidays

The last day of term for Easter Holidays is:

Thursday 1st April 2021

There will be NO extended schools (SMARTIES) after school, please arrive promptly at your child's finish times below.

Staggered finish times are as follows:

RR - 1:50PM / Side Gate

RK - 1:50PM / Back Gate

1 Blue - 1:30PM / Front Left Gate

1 Purple - 1:30PM / Main Entrance Gate

2 Blue - 1:40PM / Side Gate

2 Purple - 1:40PM / Back Gate

3 Blue - 1:40PM / Main Entrance Gate

3 Purple - 1:40PM / Front Left Gate

4 Blue - 1:35PM / Back Gate

4 Purple - 1:35PM / Side Gate

5 Blue - 1:35PM / Main Entrance Gate

5 Purple - 1:35PM / Front Left Gate

6 Blue - 1:30PM / Back Gate

6 Purple - 1:30PM / Side Gate



Money Raised

Red Nose Day



The total amount of
money raised is:

£864

The children all enjoyed dressing up as their own superheroes for Red Nose Day!

We managed to raise:

Non-Uniform Day



For Non-Uniform Day,
we raised:

Dr Barnardos

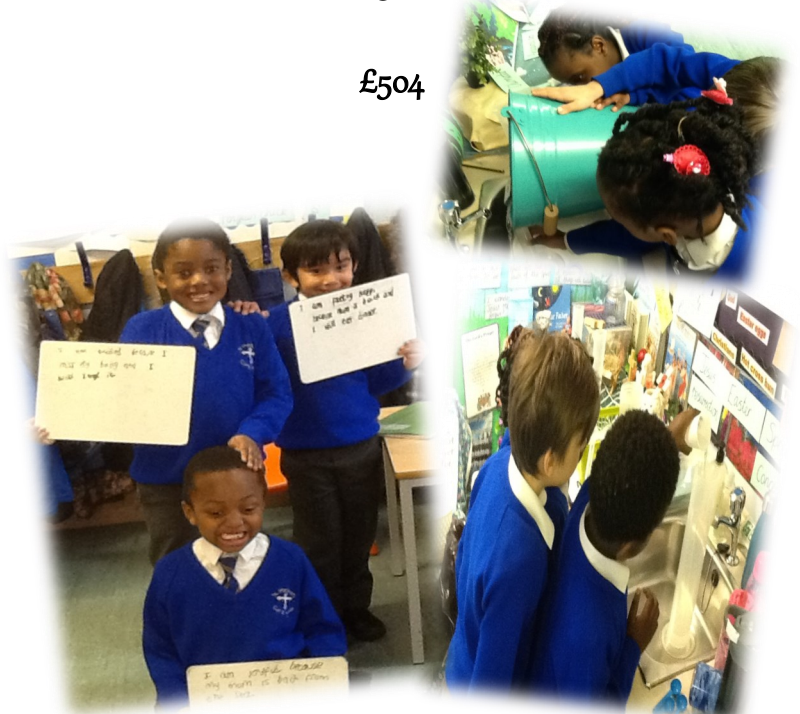
For Dr Barnardos, we
raised:

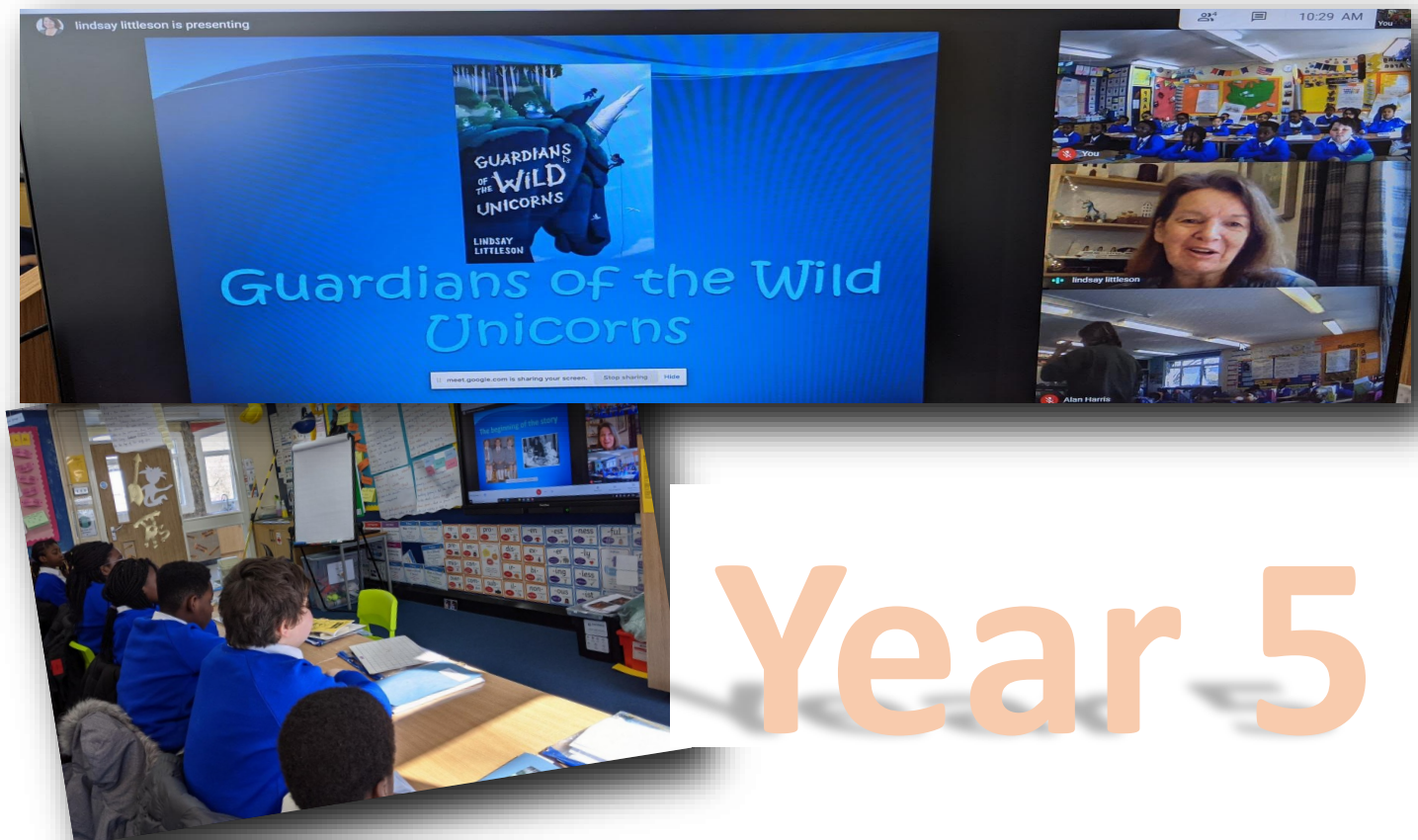
Save the Children



For Save the children,
we raised:

£504





Year 5

On Monday, year 5 had the amazing opportunity to meet the author of 'Guardians of the Wild Unicorns' which is the story we have been reading all term. Lindsay Littleton joined us virtually to tell us about what made her become a writer, the inspiration behind her stories and even read some of the book to us! We had the chance to ask Lindsay lots of questions and learnt a lot about her writing process. Lindsay even emailed us afterwards to say what a pleasure our year 5 children were at the end of the day!

Dear Lindsay Littleton,

Thank you for being able to give your time to us so we could meet you virtually! I found how you became an author really interesting and your stories. However, I liked how even if some one judges or criticises your work you don't give up and you take their opinion in good way (like how you edit your work to improve). Also, I like how you draw a character first because if you talk about their appearance you wouldn't have to think for hours. Also I like how you made the unicorn not childish/cartoonish because use it creates a lot of suspense, which means the reader would want to read more, and I love how you give author tips.

Some questions I would love to ask are have you ever wanted to be a writer? (You talk about it in the book but do I would like to know). In total how many siblings do you have? How many children do you have? How long were you a teacher for? Do you have pets? How old were you when you were inspired?

PS: Can't wait to read your new book that your making. My teacher ordered it on amazon already!

Overall, you have inspired me to go following my dreams and one day I'll perhaps meet them!

Dear Lindsay Littleton,

Thank you for taking time out of your day to do a virtual lesson with us. I also loved your story of how you became an author.

What is sound interesting is that you was inspired by your mom because she used to love reading books. What I loved about you is that when people criticise your work you try harder to fix and edit your book and you don't give up and if you don't win the contest you try harder next time to win the best winning award. What I enjoyed and loved is the sketches of characters so you can imagine what they look like. What also inspired you about the unicorns is that you did not want to write about gussy unicorn pillows or dresses you were inspired by the unicorn's in Scotland and statues.

PC: I can't wait to read any other books