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Dear Parents and Carers,

There has been a lot happening across the school this week for us to enjoy.

Our Year 2 children had a very different outdoor learning experience this week when they created Pudding Lane from their DT models as part of The Great Fire of London history unit. They set up their model houses and shops in the school garden and watched the fire spread from the bakery through the 'street' of their model London. You can see (and hear!) their excitement on the Latest News section of the website.

Year 4 have extended their knowledge of the Arctic and Antarctic with a workshop using drama and imagination to explore the unique polar environments and the sights and sounds found there. A highlight for the children was creating freeze frames and soundscapes. They enjoyed learning about explorers such as Ernest Shackleton, discovering how people and animals survive in these extreme regions, and discussing how we can help protect the future of the polar regions.

A huge well done to the children who represented the school this week at the Croydon Panathlon event. The children all had great fun gathering points as a team whilst participating in a wide variety of physical skills activities. Our children competed against 7 other schools and achieved an amazing third place award!

The Croydon Schools Music and Arts concert at Fairfield Halls is fast approaching and the year 5 and 6 choir are rehearsing for this. The concert will be held in March and you will be able to buy tickets from Fairfield Halls in advance of this date. Ms. Symons will send further information about this soon.

Our 'Times Tables Rockstars' event has been launched in school today as a fun way to get into the learning of times tables through the Times Tables Rockstars programme. More details about this have been sent home and you can support your child to practise their tables at home too! The learning of times tables is a big focus for us and the excitement is building to see which classes increase their scores; we are looking forward to celebrating whole class and individual efforts in our special TTRS Dress Up Day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

We will be holding our first Sunday morning Community Club session on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February in the school garden subject to a favourable weather forecast! Wendy is getting an essential garden job list ready for us – everyone is welcome to join us at any time between 10.00 and 12.00 to help and to enjoy the campfire food. More details will follow next week.

Remember to visit the school website to keep up to date with what is happening in school – the calendar is listed under 'News and Events' and the 'Latest News' gives you a flavour of what is going on each week.

Have a lovely weekend,

Helen Carvall