



Inspiring minds through opportunity

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## A MONTH OF ACHIEVEMENT AT CYRIL JACKSON SCHOOL...

Government advisor, Ruth Miskin, OBE, awards CJ with *Read Write Inc.* Model School status.  
*City Year* charity selects CJ as partner school for voluntary work.  
Pupils support local community through colossal donation to TH *Foodbank*.



Cyril Jackson Primary School in Limehouse has much to celebrate, it was announced today - being selected as a model school by a Government advisor for literacy; becoming a partner with the leading youth and education charity in London; and for celebrating the value and importance of Harvest Festival for the benefit of our local community by donating over a quarter a ton of food to charity.

### ***Read, Write Inc. Model School Status***

CJ has been awarded the honour of *Model School* status by Ruth Miskin, OBE, member of the Government's National Curriculum Review Advisory Committee and leading authority on teaching children to read. As one of only a small number of schools given the salubrious award, it is a true testament to the teaching excellence and resultant progress pupils are making with their reading. Phonics has been identified by the Government as a particularly successful approach to teaching children to read and Ruth Miskin's programme has been endorsed as a proven method to raising standards.



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Gillian Kemp, Head Teacher, commented:

*'Following months of hard work and dedication from pupils and staff alike, we are delighted with the judgment from Ruth and her publisher, Oxford University Press. As the first school in Tower Hamlets to receive the status, we are thrilled that all our hard work has been recognised. And with the increasing awareness of phonics for getting children to read quickly, following Government endorsement, we feel very privileged to be working in partnership with Ruth at the forefront of raising standards in education nationally.'*

### City Year



give a year.  
change the world.

Cyril Jackson is also delighted to have developed another prestigious partnership - with *City Year*, the leading youth and education charity in London. A team of eight volunteers are working with teaching staff, full time, to provide mentoring and tutoring support to the children. The volunteers are university graduates wishing to undertake a gap year before embarking on their careers. It is hoped the pupils will be inspired to raise their aspirations and strive to work hard for the benefit of their future academic lives and careers.

For more information, see [www.cityyear.org.uk](http://www.cityyear.org.uk).

### Harvest Festival supporting TH Foodbank

A new in-school record has been set for donations to the Tower Hamlets *Foodbank* this year following a high level of concern shown by pupils. As part of the school's annual Harvest Festival celebrations, pupils brought in donations totaling a colossal 255kg (equal to just over a quarter of a ton!) - which is enough to provide 510 meals. Food was put on display for a special assembly to raise awareness of the plight of many local people unable to afford food. Donations will then be distributed, via Foodbank, to the most vulnerable and needy members of the local community.



Tower Hamlets Foodbank Manager, Denise Bentley, commented:

*'We are deeply humbled and thankful for the support that all at Cyril Jackson Primary School continues to give to what is essentially, their local Foodbank – it allows us to be able to say to people who walk through our doors, that truly, this food is a gift from your neighbour. We will never ever forget your generosity to the community – and we hope that going forward (over the coming year) we will be able to work more closely together'*

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