DISCOVERIÀG DWIGHT with





ERANAND SOFIA

By Dwight School London



DISCOVERIÀG DWIGHT WITH ERAÀ AND SOFIA



It was a lovely, clear, sunny morning in London and many children were getting ready for school. Sofia was feeling a little nervous this morning as she was joining her new school today. Sofia had just arrived in London from Spain and had never been away from home before.

When Sofia arrived at school, she was met by Eran, the Head Boy from Year 6 who was going to be one of her buddies.

"Bienvenido" proclaimed Eran as he greeted her with a big smile, I am Eran, I am from Israel but have been living in London for over three years now."

Sofia felt relieved that she was met by someone so caring and waved goodbye to her parents before heading off with Eran on a tour of the school.

"Shall we go and meet your new classmates and teacher first?" asked Eran.

"Yes please," replied Sofia.







Sofia and Eran arrived at the Year 3 classroom where they were welcomed by Miss Dattani.

"Good morning Sofia, welcome to Dwight London and an even bigger welcome to Year 3, we are so excited that you are joining us. Year 3, what would you all like to say to Sofia?"

"Buenos días" replied all the Year 3 children in Spanish.

Sofia was so surprised they knew how to welcome her in Spanish. Miss Dattani explained how Dwight has students from more than 50 countries and so they get to learn about many cultures and there is always someone to teach them how to say 'hello' in a different language. Miss Dattani then told Sofia and her class about their Units of Inquiry for the year and how knowledgeable they would all become.



Eran and Sofia then headed back out to continue their tour.

"Did you have after-school clubs in Spain?" asked Eran.

"No" said Sofia, "I was not old enough to join any clubs in my old school".

"You will love them here then" replied Eran, "we have so many, you can learn to be a presenter in a real radio station in the Dwight Radio Club, you can get fit in Aerobics Club or practise your English in EAL Club, or learn to sing in the Choir Club, and from Year 5 you can even build your own racing car in the Formula Goblin Club. There are so many to choose from! When I came here, I didn't know much English so I really liked going to Mr. Miles' EAL Club. My friends from London helped me too, so it is not too hard to learn to speak and understand English really quickly."



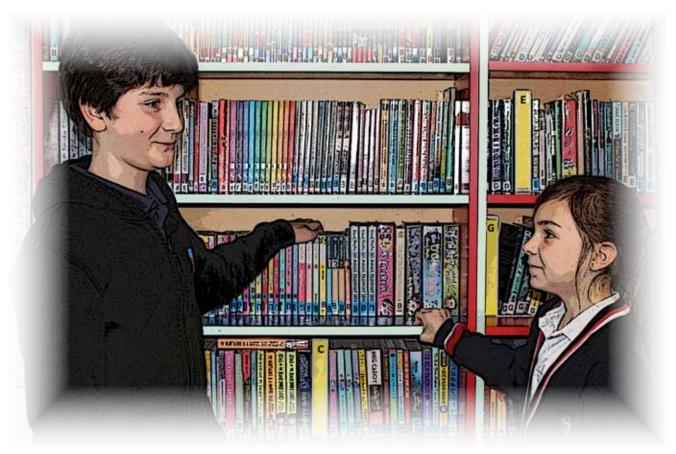


In the Library, Eran introduced Sofia to Mrs. Mastoridis, the Librarian.

"Good morning Mrs. Mastoridis, this is Sofia, she has just moved to London from Spain," explained Eran.

"Good morning Sofia, it is lovely to meet you, welcome to our school. You are so lucky to be joining Year 3, it is such a great year. Has Eran told you about Forest School?" replied Mrs. Mastoridis.

"No not yet, Sofia, let's have a seat here and I will tell you all about it," replied Eran.





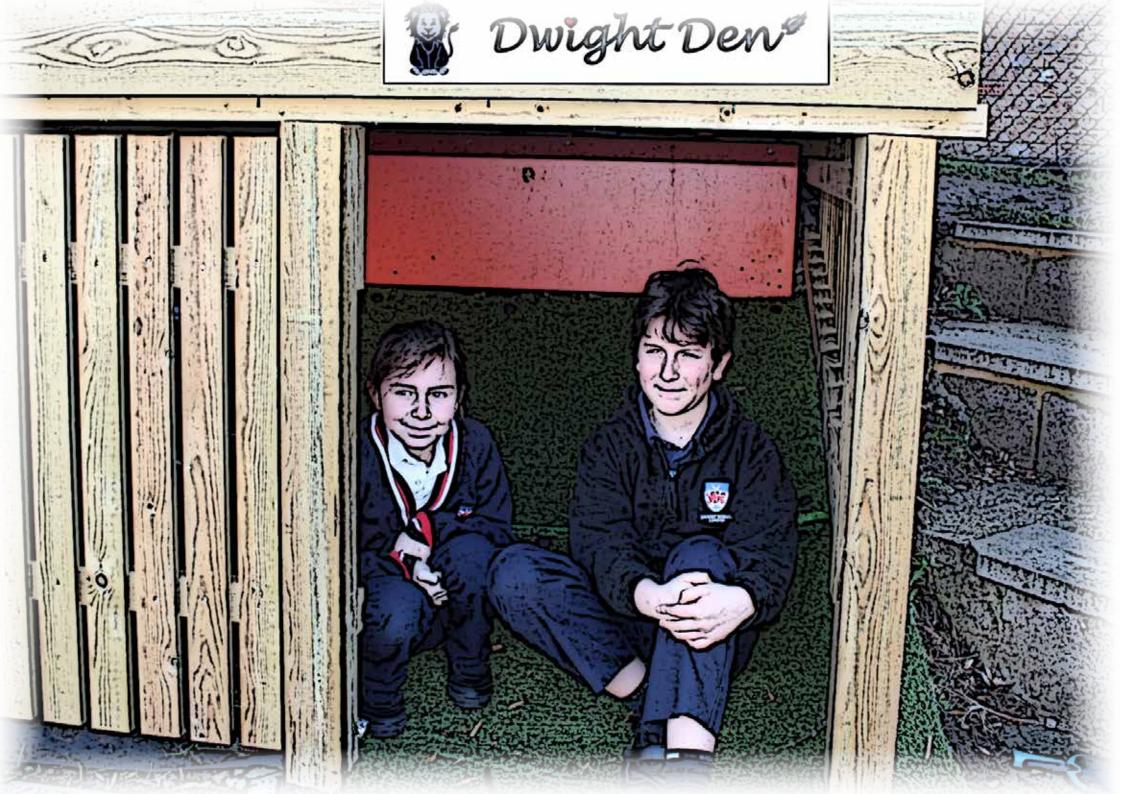


"Forest School is so much fun," explained Eran. "Every week you get to go to a place called Moat Mount on the school bus. It is a huge beautiful

forest and you get to explore it, you will even learn how to make a fire there! And in Year 4 you will get to sleep there for two nights! How cool is that?"

"Oh wow," replied Sofia, that sounds like so much fun, but a bit scary too?"

"It is not scary at all," Eran replied reassuringly. "You will be there with all of your classmates and teachers and you all work together. You will get to have a sleepover at school later this year and you will become so much more confident by going there each week that by the time the sleepover comes, you will not be nervous at all! Let's go out in the playground, I want to show you something exciting."



Eran took Sofia outside into the playground and showed her one of his favourite places.

"How good is this?" asked Eran as he pointed to the Dwight Den.

Sofia rushed over and climbed in.

"I love it!" she shouted excitedly. "Can we come in here whenever we want?"

"Yes, during break and lunchtimes and when you visit Forest School, you will be able to make your own den!" replied Eran. "We also have a huge sports field that we go to for PE lessons sometimes. Let's go back inside and let me show you the Radio Station."



After a while they headed back inside and found Miss Hendry working in the Radio Station.

"You must be Sofia!" said Miss Hendry, before Eran even had a chance to introduce her. "Mr. Parkin told us all you were coming, it is so nice to meet you. Would you like me to tell you a bit about the radio station?"

"Yes please, the equipment looks very complicated," replied Sofia

"You will soon learn what everything does and will be doing live podcasts before you know it. We teach you to use the microphone and soundboard, and you can present or interview someone. You get to listen to yourself and that is a great way to reflect and learn. If you work hard, you may even earn a Sparky, which is like an award, for being a great communicator."

"You could be DJ Sofia!" joked Eran. "If you are really good, Miss Hendry will encourage you to become a Digital Leader in Year 6."



"What is a Digital Leader?" asked Sofia.

"Let's walk to the Art Room and I will tell you about it on the way," replied Eran.





As they headed off to the art room, Eran explained, "in Year 6 you get lots of leadership opportunities. You can apply to be Head Girl, a Prefect, a Head of House, a Dwight Scientist or a Digital Leader. Digital Leaders promote the use of technology across the Lower School. Do you know what House you are in yet?"

"No." replied Sofia looking confused.

"We have three Houses at the school, and every student and staff member are in one. They are called Artists, Pioneers and Visionaries. We have House events where we compete against each other. We also get to do fun House days with the Upper School students as the House system runs through the whole school. I am a Pioneer, we can ask in the office which House you will be in."

"Thank you," replied Sofia.



As they arrived in the art room, Eran introduced Sofia to Mrs. Boughton, the art teacher.

"Welcome Sofia, I do hope you are going to join my Art Club after school," said Mrs Boughton.

"Mrs. Boughton, you do not even know if she likes art!' laughed Eran. "I am showing Sofia around this morning, would you like to tell her something about the Lower School?"

"Have you seen the friendship bench?" asked Mrs. Boughton.

"No," replied Sofia.

"All of our students try to make a difference to our community and one of our Year 4 students noticed that some of the younger children wanted to play with the older students during break and lunch, so she decided to take action. She spoke with Mrs. Hornshaw, our Deputy Principal, about her idea of a friendship bench. The bench is where anyone can sit when they want someone new to play with. All the children love it!"



"Oh that is such a good idea," replied Sofia.

"Let's go," suggested Eran, "we still have lots to see. Goodbye Mrs. Boughton."





Eran and Sofia headed to the Music room together.

"We have time to see the Music room before we need to get to assembly," explained Eran. "Do you play any instruments?" asked Eran.

"Not yet," replied Sofia, "but I really would like to learn to play the guitar."

"Oh you should get your mum to sign you up for lessons here and then you can also join the Saturday Music Conservatory in the Upper School, it is so much fun!" exclaimed Eran.

"That would be great," Sofia replied, "I will speak to my Mum when I get home."

"We should head to the Hall now as Assembly will be starting soon," said Eran.



"Good morning everyone," cheered Mr. Parkin.

"Good morning, Mr. Parkin," replied all of the children.

"Welcome to this morning's assembly. Would our Year 5 students like to come to the front to share their learning with us?" asked Mr. Parkin.

The Year 5 students headed to the front of the hall with their teacher Miss Larragy. Sofia watched in awe as the students related how they had been learning about Values and Beliefs in their Unit of Inquiry. They shared photos and videos of their trip to a mosque, synagogue, temple and a church.

"Wow," whispered Sofia, "they have learned so much!"

"I know, we love visiting London to find out more about what we are learning in school. I recently went to the Houses of Parliament as part of my Unit of Inquiry on the Principles of Human Rights and Social Justice. We got to see Big Ben and the House of Commons first-hand, it was amazing," Eran whispered back.

Mr. Parkin thanked Year 5 for their great presentation and then announced, "I have some exciting news to share with you all. Our Wow Lessons will be starting next

week!" All o "Wh

All of the students started to cheer.

"What are Wow Lessons?" asked Sofia.

"We get to learn something that we would not normally get to learn in school. Each year group gets a different thing. So far I have learned magic, yoga, karate and this year I will be learning first aid," replied Eran.

"That is brilliant!" exclaimed Sofia.

Mr. Parkin finished the assembly and Eran and Sofia headed off on their tour again.





"Bonjour," Eran greeted a teacher as they passed her in the corridor.

"That was Mrs. Bettelheim the Languages teacher," explained Eran. "We get to learn French and Spanish in the Lower School and you can learn other languages like Italian and Mandarin in our after school clubs."

"You get to learn so much here!" replied Sofia.

"You will get to see what I have learned at the PYP Exhibition later this year," Eran responded. "I am doing a project about the planets. Everyone gets to come and see it and watch us all do a presentation and then they can come and check out our projects and we discuss what we have learned with everyone."

"Will I get to see it?" asked Sofia.

"Of course!" replied Eran "Everyone is welcome. "When the exhibition is finished, we get to go on an exchange with the students in Dwight New York!" cheered Eran.

"You get to go to America?" replied Sofia

"Yes," responded Eran. "Last year I thought our Year 5 residential to Flatford Mills in Suffolk was amazing, I cannot wait to experience New York! We should get you back to your class now as Miss Dattani will be wondering where we have got to."



Sofia and Eran head back inside to Miss Dattani's classroom.

"Perfect timing" proclaimed Miss Dattani. "We are just about to upload some of our learning on SeeSaw."

"What is that?" asked Sofia.

"It is an app that we use so that you can share your learning with your parents and they can see how knowledgeable you are becoming. Let's get you set up so you can show your parents when you get home. Eran, would you like to head back to your class now?" replied Miss Dattani.

"OK, I will see you in the hall for lunch Sofia, have a great first day!" said Eran.

"Thank you so much," replied Sofia.

Sofia was so excited about everything she had learned about Dwight from Eran. She realised she was no longer feeling nervous and was just looking forward to all the



exciting learning, events and clubs she would soon be part of in her new school!





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