



## Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019 Issue Number 21

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Dear Parents and Carers,

And so we come to the end of another busy and exciting half-term. I don't want to alarm anyone but that actually places us half-way through the whole school year! No swimming this week so it was nice to see the Year 5s doing PE in school for a change – I don't normally get the opportunity to see how this year group are progressing in PE so that was quite a treat. The school councillors went out on a very important visit on Monday afternoon to the Mayor's Parlour and, on their return, the buzz was all about dressing up in the Mayor's robes. I'm sure they learnt a great deal about Mayoral duties and ceremonial processes but nothing seems to beat a good old dressing-up session! A huge thank you to Miss B who kindly escorted the councillors to the Parlour but, by all accounts, she and the Mayor, Dilip Patel, had a slightly less than worry-free afternoon. I'm sure you're all very familiar with the strange phenomena that is a young child's critical need to make a duty-call to the toilet within 5 minutes of stepping into a building (and, it would seem, the need increases exponentially with the level of boredom being experienced at any given moment!) And so it was with Logan (1A) who politely excused himself in the middle of Mr Patel's illuminating discussion on all things mayoral. Now, Logan is a sensible child and more than capable of conducting himself appropriately in such circumstances but when, after 10 minutes, young Logan had failed to reappear, Miss B became a tad concerned and went to investigate, taking Finley (6B) with her for 'gentlemanly' support! Opening the door of the 'smallest room', Miss B called in and asked Logan if he was alright. "I'm fine, Miss B," came the confident reply, "But I *am* stuck in the toilet and can't get the door open." Of course, Miss B was beside herself with worry, concerned that this young boy's anxiety might grow to a level of panic and so she reassured him that everything would be alright and they'd get him out promptly. Finley made the helpful suggestion of peeping over the top of the cubicle to reassure Logan but Miss B, while acknowledging the creative and caring nature of this proposal, advised that such a move might just *alarm* Logan a little more than *reassure* him!! Both Finley and Miss B struggled, in vain, to get the cubicle door open and Miss B finally gave up telling Logan that she was going off to get some help. Logan's reply was classic - "Ok, Miss B, take your time, I'm quite comfortable here!" The hero of our story turned out to be the Mayor himself who appeared in the toilet, armed with a dessert spoon from the Mayoral canteen, the end of which he used to turn the stubborn cubicle lock! I so want to believe that this scene played out with the mayor fully clad in his ceremonial robes but, sadly, that is mere speculation along with wishful thinking!! Back at school, I was bowled over by a Year 3 singing presentation complete with drums, glockenspiels and harmonies. With two of our Year 3 teachers off sick, Mrs Millard stepped into the breach and pulled the performance together with minutes to spare and no time to practise. What a triumph it was, too! I have to say, I was also most impressed with the rest of KS2 who were a polite and appreciative audience. Year 5 & 6 were treated to a very hard-hitting drama on Wednesday which warned of the dangers of playing games like 'Chicken' on roads. I'm proud to say that they all watched the drama with maturity and recognition of the serious nature of the subject.

Thursday was the busiest day of the week with Y1, Y4 and Y5 all out on trips. Y1 children were *beyond* excited as they made their way out to the coach waiting to take them to Colchester Castle. It was an amazing trip rounding off their topic on the Romans, the best part of which, apparently, was the lunch hall – now there's a surprise! Yafeya (1A) was very confused listening to what the Lord of the Castle had to do since he mixed up the Lord of the Castle with Jesus, the Lord, son of God! Y4 clutched their library books close to their chests as they filed out of school on their way to Elm Park Library, chatting excitedly about the new books they were planning on bringing back. Visiting the library seems to be a dying activity these days but its influence and impact on generating a love of books and of reading can't be overstated. If you get the chance to take your children to the library, grab it with both hands – reading is the foundation of success and we owe it to our children to foster that skill giving them the building blocks on which to reach their full potential. Y5 went on an exciting trip to visit the bridges of London. Now, our bridges across the Thames are one of the many outstanding features of our London skyline and, having studied the principles of bridge structures, Y5 were ready and raring to go in the morning, excited to visit each and every one of the bridges they had studied in class. Those fresh-faced, eager and excited children, full of boundless energy, returned looking exhausted, barely able to place one foot in front of the other. As they came through the school gates, they moaned and groaned about sore legs, blistered feet and aching limbs. I was able to ascertain, through weary sighs, that the favourite bridge was Tower Bridge but there was huge disappointment that the bridge didn't open whilst they were walking over it! Other outstanding features of this **bridge** expedition were a man constructing a huge 3D face out of sand, skateboarders whizzing around nonchalantly, a very tame fox looking for fun and friendship and the stunning Shard twinkling in the sunshine! Apparently, Borough Market was quite an interesting visit but I think that may have been the result of a wrong turn!

We also saw the return of some of our ex-pupils this week who came to us from Hornchurch High to experience a day of 'work' in a Primary School. I think I can safely say that their eyes were opened to the reality of teaching and very few will be seeking to take up the profession in later life!!

And that rounds off the half-term nicely – except for one last thing.....DISCO NIGHT!! I'm off to don my leg-warmers and shell-suit with iconic shoulder-pads to dance the night away in true 1980s style (the sad truth is that I can find most of those things in my loft!!) Wishing you a wonderful half-term break filled with visits to libraries, museums and historical houses and maybe a few London Bridges thrown in for good measure!

With kind regards and best wishes,  
Mrs Searle

**Attendance**  
**w/e 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

Year Group	Attendance %
Reception	92.3
Year 1	96.4
Year 2	94.6
Year 3	95.8
Year 4	96.0
Year 5	90.3
Year 6	94.9

Congratulations to the individual class attendance winners!

**3B - 98.9%**

**Overall School Attendance  
(year to date) – 95.6%**



**Star Of The Week**

R1: Alex & Leni-Rae  
R2: Mason  
1A: Stanley  
1B: Gabriel  
2A: Karis  
2B: Jimmy  
2/3C: Dylan  
3A: Ema  
3B: Antonia  
4A: Pratyush  
4B: Sonny  
5A: Conor  
5B: Joshua  
5C: Alfie  
6A: Whole class  
6B: Paula



**Hot Chocolate Friday  
Drinkers**

R1: Eliza  
R2: Teddy  
1A: Sasha  
1B: Preston  
2A: Mubaraq  
2B: Momore  
3A: Lewis  
3B: Ilias  
4A: Jonnie  
4B: Erin  
5A: Scarlett  
5B: Louis  
5C: Josh  
6A: Philia  
6B: Nancy



**Writer of the Week**

R1: Louis (Maths Wizard)  
R2: Olivia (Maths Wizard)  
1A: Luca  
1B: Leo  
2A: Maci  
2B: Orest  
2/3C: Jessica  
3A: Laura  
3B: Alyssa  
4A: Skylar  
4B: Chloe  
5A: Maurette  
5B: Jone  
5C: Serena  
6B: Ariyan

## Diary Dates

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February –  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**  
**HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Return to School**

2/3C - Elm Park Library visit

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February –  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

Book Fair

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

National Science Day

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

Book Week

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

Years 3 & 4 - Tag Rugby  
3.30pm - 6pm Parents' Evening

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

4pm - 7pm Parents' Evening (**6B only**)

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

World Book Day - Character dress up  
4pm - 7pm Parents' Evening (not for 6B)

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 4 - Trip to Science Museum

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

2A - Elm Park Library visit

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Red Nose Day

## Reminder

As the office is closed until 9.15am (apart from children signing in late), please see the members of staff at the gates if you have any letters, uniform orders or messages which need to be passed on.

## Lost Property

There is a huge amount of lost property in the box at the moment, so please come in at the end of the school day and claim your children's lost uniform.

## Change of Details

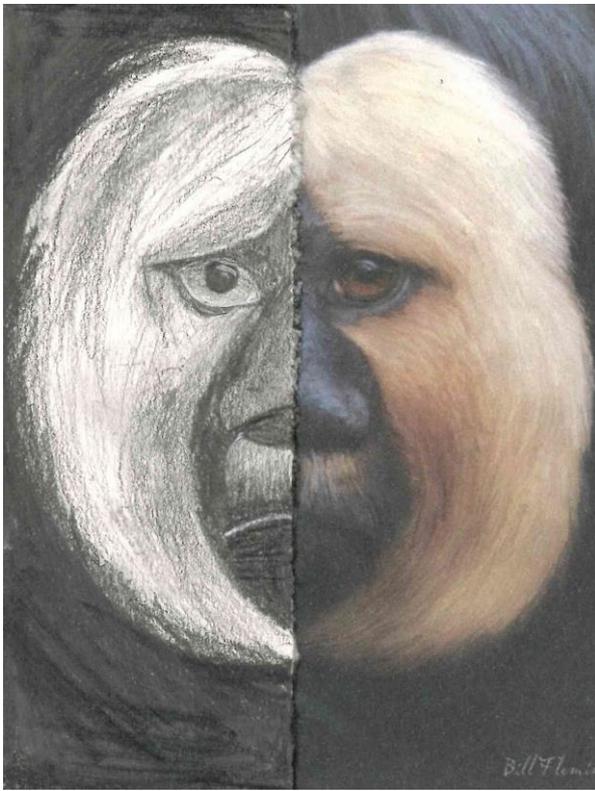
Please don't forget to let the office know if you have changed your phone number, email address or moved house.

Thank you.

## Absences

If your child is going to be off school for any reason, **please** ring the school office by 9am **every** day of absence and leave a message on the absence line, even if you have already told your child's teacher.

Thank you for your co-operation.



## PICTURE OF THE WEEK

by

Philia 6A

### sQUID – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The amount owed on sQuid for school dinners is currently

**£205.51**

As you are aware, once a sQuid debt reaches £10.50, your child's entitlement to a hot meal will be cancelled and they will be given an emergency meal of cheese and crackers with unlimited salad from the salad bar. This will continue until the debt is cleared.

If anyone is struggling to pay the debt, please arrange a meeting with our office manager as soon as possible to agree a monthly payment plan.

**We would also like to advise you that Trust policy is to seek to recover unpaid debts through the small claims court, but we sincerely hope that will never become an issue at Harrow Lodge.**



**KEEP FIT** is held on **Tuesdays** from 9.00am - 9.45am in the KS2 hall. This is a fun and **FREE** exercise class run by Mr Charlee. If you don't have childcare, please bring your little ones with you as they can be in the hall with us.



**COFFEE MORNING** takes place on **Wednesday** mornings from 9am-10am in the Oak Room. Please come and join us for a chat and cuppa! On **27<sup>th</sup> February** the School Nurse will be coming to answer any questions you may have.