



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 8th February 2019 Issue Number 20

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Oh my goodness, I feel like we've crammed 3 weeks' worth of events into one week of school! It's been so busy and, as usual, we've excelled ourselves. Mr Charlee coached our little Year 1s and 2s to an inch of their lives for the Havering Indoor Athletics Championship and I was well prepared with my pep talk about taking part being more important than winning as the whole team walked dejectedly into my office at the end of the day. Imagine my surprise when they announced that Harrow Lodge had come first!!! Y1 beat every other school in Havering to stand as Indoor Athletics Champions while Year 2 came in second.

Later in the week our Girls' Football team entered their second Tournament competing against 23 other schools in Havering. Just as before, we were unbeaten until we were knocked out but, this time, we made it a step further and reached the quarter finals. I told you we'd get better and better, didn't I? This time next year, we'll be lifting the trophy! Huge thanks to Mr Charlee and all your parents who became cheer leaders for the day (I thought the pom poms were a step too far, personally, but I'm not one to judge!!) This week is officially 'Mental Health Week' and Miss B has been talking to the children about the importance of your *mental* health as well as your *physical* health and the whole school took part in a 'Mental Health Awareness' Run buddying up children in different year groups who spurred each other on with encouraging words of motivation. It just melts your heart when you hear a Year 2 child say to a Year 5 child, "Come on, you can do it. Just a few more steps!"

Year 1 and 2 were also privileged to be educated in road safety this week with a wonderful theatre production showing them how to avoid the dangers on the roads. 'Look left, look right, look left again' should now be a classic mantra!

Visiting Reception this week was a real learning experience for me – as I passed R1, I heard Miss Goodwin talking to Boe about his new baby nephew that had just been born. "He's a pig!" she told Boe who appeared to take this slight with surprising good humour. As I walked into the classroom, fully prepared to tackle Miss Goodwin about her descriptions of newborns, I caught sight of a variety of Chinese looking articles, one of which was a rather splendid looking pig. I quickly realised that it was the start of the Chinese New Year (the year of the pig!!) and, clearly, Boe's nephew was a 'pig' because he was born in the *year* of the pig!! And what wonderful activities were being carried out to learn about the new year – the tastiest of which was noodle making (and noodle *eating*, **with chop-sticks**; so very little *actual* eating took place, by all accounts!).

Now, call me old-fashioned, but I do believe that schools should be encouraging **hygienic** processes of learning wherever possible but, especially, within the classroom itself. Consider, therefore, my **horror** when two Roman soldiers, in the form of Zac and Charlie from 3A, marched into my office offering up to me a plate of what I can only describe as faecal deposits and proceeded to tell me how they had become excavators for the afternoon and were digging through Roman **poo** to discover the types of food the Romans ate. And, what was even more charming, they had brought me my very own Roman poo to dig through. Delightful! The stench was unforgiving and I insisted on wearing my pink rubber gloves in case my fingers should accidentally slip into the offending matter. No sooner had I, hesitantly, begun digging through my poo (a sentence I never imagined I'd be using in a newsletter – or anywhere *else*, for *that* matter), then Charlie and Zac got extremely excited spotting melon seeds and various grains and began using their bare hands to pick them out, amid squeals of delight and satisfaction! On further investigation, I discovered that Year 2 and 3 had experienced writing on wax tablets, calculating mathematical sums using Roman numerals, playing Bingo using Roman numerals (I *did* question the authenticity of 'Bingo' as a Roman past time) and training to be soldiers of the highest standard – expert enough to beat any tribal warriors or annoying little Britons! Yes, Roman day was upon us and Years 2 and 3 were fully immersed in the Roman experience. They all ended the day with an authentic Roman feast sampling such diverse treats as olives, figs and dates all washed down with a cheeky cup of wine – sorry, I mean grape juice which we *pretended* was wine (although I was *somewhat* suspicious of the very rich and velvety consistency of Mrs Law's cup of grape juice which looked and smelt rather hedonistic!).

In other news, Conor from 5A, Kian from 5B and Ibrahim from 5C took a trip out to Scott's Primary school to spend a day experiencing the wonder of maths. Next week, they'll teach their classes everything they learned at Scotts – we love a bit of child labour here at Harrow Lodge!! With that in mind, we sent our Year 6s to Kidzania today to allow them to experience a variety of career options, earn money from them and generally try out living in the adult world! Oh for the chance to return to the child world for a day - they don't know they're born, do they???

This week, we also saw our latest PTA event in the form of another pyjama-fest film night! And what a success it was! Our new projector shone out with clarity and brightness allowing children to become fully immersed in the film. And, with some excitement, we've ordered our first instalment of playground improvement items. Some colourful benches will soon be winging their way to our school to provide a quiet area for children to read, chat and draw and two ActiveAll playboards will be installed after half term (more on that later). Thanks to the PTA, the playground will slowly start to take shape.

And so, after a hectic week, I wish you all a wonderful weekend full of peace and tranquillity,
With kind regards and best wishes, Mrs Searle

Attendance
w/e 1st February 2019

Year Group	Attendance %
Reception	92.3
Year 1	96.7
Year 2	97.1
Year 3	95.1
Year 4	96.1
Year 5	96.1
Year 6	95.5

Congratulations to the individual class attendance winners!

1B & 2A - 97.4%

**Overall School Attendance
(year to date) – 95.7%**



Star Of The Week

R1: Isabella & Charlie
R2: Andrei
1A: Alex
1B: Sotonte
2A: Harry
2B: Lewis
2/3C: Archie
3A: Aminah
3B: Danish
4A: Emily
4B: Finley
5A: William
5B: Devon
5C: Dovydas



**Hot Chocolate Friday
Drinkers**

R1: Boe
R2: Alexander
1A: Daisy-Bella
1B: Samuel
2A: Maci
2B: Delia
2/3C: Kitty
3A: Mason
3B: Lewis
4A: Alfie
4B: Skylar
5A: Ela
5B: Devon
5C: Holly



Writer of the Week

R1: Sade (Maths Wizard)
R2: Bonnie (Maths Wizard)
1A: Logan
1B: Bonnie
2A: Tawheed
2B: Dinusan
2/3C: Amelia
3A: Evelina
3B: Corey
4A: Muktar
4B: Stanislav
5A: Godstime
5B: Uwaye
5C: Ibrahim

Diary Dates

Tuesday 12th February

Years 5 & 6 Hockey

Wednesday 13th February

Years 5 & 6 Road Safety Theatre performance

Thursday 14th February

Year 1 - Trip to Colchester Castle

Year 4 - Elm Park Library visit

Year 5 - Trip to look at London bridges

Friday 15th February

7pm-11pm PTA 80s Disco

Monday 18th February –

Friday 22nd February

HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 25th February

Return to School

2/3C - Elm Park Library visit

Wednesday 27th February –

Tuesday 5th March

Book Fair

Thursday 28th February

National Science Day

Monday 4th – Friday 8th March

Book Week

Tuesday 5th March

Years 3 & 4 - Tag Rugby

3.30pm - 6pm Parents' Evening

Wednesday 6th March

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

Thursday 7th March

World Book Day - Character dress up

4pm - 7pm Parents' Evening (not for 6B)

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

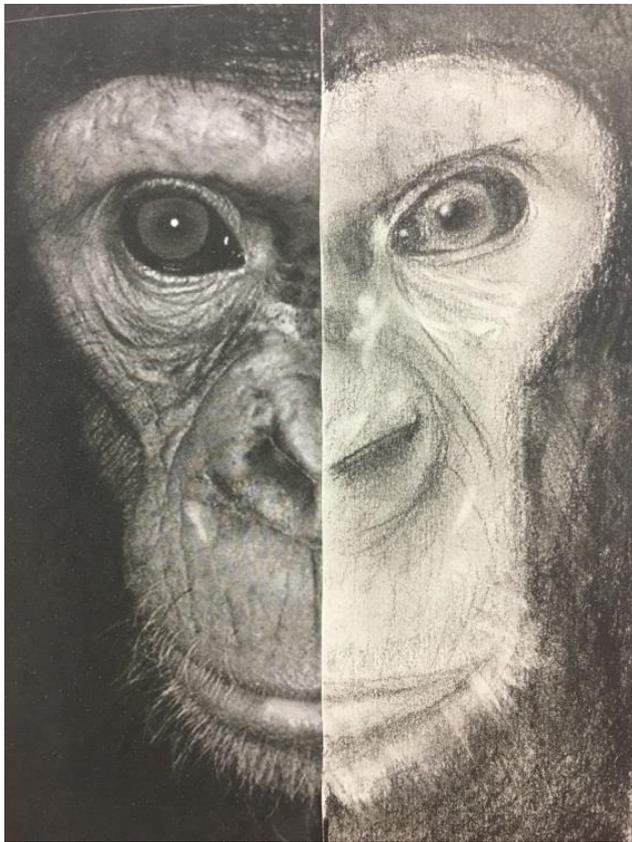
Please don't forget to let the office know if you have changed your phone number, email address or moved house.

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.

Thank you for your co-operation.



PICTURE OF THE WEEK

by Rebeca 6B

sQUID – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The amount owed on sQuid for school dinners is currently
£275.51

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!