



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term

22nd March 2019

Issue Number 25

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Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been a quiet week with very little movement around the school and classes settled and busy with their learning. So, it was quite a shock on Wednesday to start hearing mumblings building to energetic recitations and powerful choral speaking up and down the corridors at intervals throughout the day. On investigation, I came across Charlie, Zac and George in year 3 who stood in the corridor pouring over a document with great intent and fervent discussion. As I approached them, they were gripped with excitement and dragged me into the KS2 hall begging me to watch their rendition of 'Gangsta Granny Rap'. Well, I'd never seen anything quite like it, to be honest! Three of the coolest year 3 boys stood before me reciting a poem (close to 400 words long) about a rather dynamic grandmother! I was speechless when they finished owing to how impressed I was at their dedication to learning such a lengthy piece of poetry. But I think the boys took my silence as an indication of being underwhelmed as Charlie proffered apologetically, "We're going to add some actions to it. It'll be better then!" Well, with or without actions, it was a tremendous piece of artistry which was going to be part of the school Poetry Slam competition. I left the boys practising (with accompanying actions) and continued on my way passing several more artistes putting the finishing touches to their performances. By the time Thursday came, all the acts were polished and ready to go! And what a tremendous competition it turned out to be. The Most Worshipful Mayor (yes, **that** is his official title) was the visiting judge and he was most impressed with the confidence shown by our young competitors as they battled their way through performances of diverse poems covering a range of subjects from the sublime to the ridiculous! Jordi (4B), in particular, deserves a big 'shout out' for the amazing confidence and aplomb with which he delivered his energetic poem. He was the only entrant to perform entirely on his own and the crowd went wild for him! But *all* the children deserve to be recognised for the supreme effort they put in and the bravery it took to stand up there and open themselves to critique. Well done to all of them.

A huge thank you to Mrs Waddington for organising such a wonderful event. You can view the winners of each category below.

Indeed, the mayor himself was quite a figure of intrigue and delight for the children and a respectful hush descended on the dining hall as the mayor entered wearing his official chain of office. The gold chain sparkled in the spotlights as I introduced him to the children. "How do you know he's the Mayor?" I asked the wide-eyed audience. "Is it because of his smart blue tie?" "Yes!" they cried in unison! Sometimes our children do tend to speak before they think! Eventually, one bright spark did identify the gold chain as the indicator of Mayoral Office which relieved me no end! Mr Patel was quite the celebrity, actually, and the Poetry Slam Competition winners all gathered round him at the end of the event asking him to sign their books.

Later, as I passed Amelia (5A) in the corridor, I asked her if she'd enjoyed the event and she told me that she'd loved it and that the children were so excited about the visit from the mayor that they were all sniffing the table he'd sat at for the judging!!! After 35 years in this job, I can still get utterly stumped by children – this was one such occasion!!

In other news, 2A finally got their trip to the library and were thrilled to show me the books they'd been reading ranging from 'The lives of Dinosaurs' to 'Captain Underpants'. The children know me well enough now to know how impressed I am by fervent readers.

Our Junior Travel Ambassadors have been working really hard over the past week putting together an assembly about dressing bright and staying safe. They showed their finished assembly to the children on Wednesday performing with energy and confidence. We're very lucky to have such a dedicated team of JTAs. Well done to all of them.

And a big thank you to all the PTA members who turned up for our PTA meeting this week. There was a lot to discuss including the plans for the playground. We're in the process of getting a few quotes for various designs that include the kinds of items our children have said that they want in their play area. I've shared some plans with a few children who have helped me to tweak the designs to suit their needs better and, by next week's Parent Council Meeting, I should have a solid plan to share with parents. Everyone is welcome to come along, even if it's just to see where we're up to on the plans.

The next Fund-raising event in the PTA calendar is next Thursday 28th March when the PTA are offering a Pamper Evening. Now, I'm sure none of you will be surprised when I tell you that I've never really been a fan of this kind of thing – one look at my unmanicured nails, distinct lack of eyelash extensions and acute abundance of wrinkles will tell you *that* – but I'm reliably informed by every other woman on the planet that it's the best thing since sliced bread and should be experienced at least once in your lifetime for the sheer decadence of it, if nothing else. Apparently, there will be wine and Prosecco available – now, *that's* my kind of Pamper Evening!

On the sporting front, Mr Charlee has taken a team of year 3 and 4 children to a gymnastics competition. I was in the lucky position to be able to witness some of their floor routines as they put the finishing touches to their performances during their lunchtime training session. I was most impressed with the standard of presentation – not a flexed toe in sight! At the point of writing, I haven't heard yet how they got on but keep your eyes peeled on the website where Mr Charlee will update all our sporting achievements.

And so we come to the end of another week. The weather is warming up and summertime is looming on the horizon and I, for one, can't wait!

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend filled with lots of poetry reading and recitals in honour of World Poetry Day!

With kind regards and best wishes,
Mrs Searle

Attendance
w/e 15th March 2019

Year Group	Attendance %
Reception	95.2
Year 1	95.2
Year 2	90.5
Year 3	95.8
Year 4	99.0
Year 5	93.8
Year 6	97.6

Congratulations to the individual class attendance winners!

4B - 99.4%

**Overall School Attendance
(year to date) – 95.8%**



Star Of The Week

- R1: Charlie
- R2: Olivia
- 1A: Holly
- 1B: Zara
- 2A: Luke
- 2B: Sadie
- 2/3C: Jessica
- 3A: Tilly-Mae
- 3B: Grace
- 4A: Martina
- 4B: Stanislav
- 5A: Seidra
- 5B: Ewan
- 6A: Kirat
- 6B: Nancy



**Hot Chocolate Friday
Drinkers**

- R1: Darcie
- R2: Arina & Ariana
- 1A: Demi
- 1B: Bobby
- 2A: Vittoria
- 2B: Momore
- 2/3C: Macy & Sidney
- 3A: Mason
- 3B: Layla
- 4A: Tegan
- 4B: Chloe
- 5B: Amelia
- 6A: Felicity
- 6B: Holly



Writer of the Week

- R1: Eliza (Maths) Darcie (Kindness)
- R2: Raoul (Maths) Ariana (Kindness)
- 1A: Sofia
- 1B: Gabriel
- 2A: Vittoria
- 2B: Brannon
- 2/3C: Justin
- 3A: Benita
- 3B: Maizie
- 4A: Shania
- 4B: Mario
- 5A: Ellie
- 5B: Leiba
- 6A: Lewis
- 6B: Dew

This week's
Presentation Award
goes to
Nifemi (4B)
for presentation in writing

Diary Dates

Tuesday 26th March

Year 5 – Wiggly Wild Show
Easter Art Day
2pm Parent Council Meeting

Thursday 28th March

5pm-7pm PTA Pamper Night

Friday 29th March

Mother's Day Stalls

Friday 5th April

Talent Show

Wednesday 10th April

Year 4 Easter Production to parents
PTA End of Term Parties

Thursday 11th April

1pm Easter Bonnet Parade
2pm PTA Easter Egg Hunt

Poetry Slam Competition Winners

Years 1 & 2

- 1st Ronnie, Hannah &
Samuel (1B)
2nd Brody, Yafeya &
Logan (1A)

Years 3 & 4

- 1st Dia, Martina &
Shania (4A)
2nd Zac, Charlie &
George (3A)

Years 5 & 6

- 1st Felicity & Lillie (6C)
2nd Lorena & Kacey (6A)

EASTER HOLIDAY

Thursday 11th April - School finishes at 2pm

Monday 29th April - Return to school 8.40am



PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to

- ❖ Harry (2A) on being awarded Man of the Match last weekend for his team Elite Colts.



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!

KS2 First Aid

There is still time to book your child onto the KS2 First Aid Course which is being held on **Friday 10th May** at **3.30pm** in the Dining Hall at a cost of £12.50 per child.

Please let the office know if you are interested in booking a space.

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. Please follow this up with a note on your child's return.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Starry, Starry Night



**PICTURE OF THE WEEK
BY ROSIE – 1B**

sQuid

The amount owed on sQuid for school dinners is currently

£304

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.