



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Summer Term 12th July 2019 Issue Number 38

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I need to begin this newsletter by firstly congratulating the PTA on a wonderful summer fete last Friday. My favourite 'stalls' were the trampolines and the pony rides. Sadly the proprietors of both activities refused me entry on the 6 occasions I tried to sneak in but I was thrilled to see the children enjoying the bouncing and loving the ponies, especially the little one with the pink mane – I told a year 1 child that I thought it was a unicorn who'd lost her horn and she looked at me as if I'd lost the plot! Where's the magic gone these days??? My least favourite sideshow was the water-soaking stocks! Whoever thought up *that* game has a very wicked sense of humour!! Those sponges pack a punch! The big news this week, though, are the KS2 SATs results. Have a look at these fantastic results:

Subject	National Expected Standard	School Expected Standard	School Greater Depth
Reading	73%	75%	23%
Writing	78%	86%	19%
Maths	79%	82%	32%
Spag	78%	75%	39%
Combined	65%	67%	7%

A huge congratulations to our Year 6 children who have worked their socks off this year in order to achieve such wonderful results. But remember, a great education is about far more than great results. It's about learning life skills, resilience, empathy and compassion, sports, art, humanities, music and building knowledge both general and specific; it's about learning to get up each time you fall and developing skills that have nothing whatsoever to do with passing a maths or reading test. And our Year 6 children have done all of that and more this year and we're confident that they're heading off to secondary school fully prepared for the new challenges ahead.

And at the other end of the school, we were privileged to meet our new little ones this week as 30 or more 4 year olds descended upon us to come and get familiar with their new school, teachers and surroundings. There were a few tears and a tantrum or two but I settled the mums quickly with tea and cake!! The children, on the other hand, were happy as can be – not phased in the least! No cake needed there!

We sent a small selection of Year 6 children out into Romford this week to teach them skills around using public transport and keeping safe. The exercise was excellent and quite an eye-opener. We think we've drilled our children so well about stranger danger but put a man with a cute dog in front of them asking for help with their dog and all our advice seems to go out of the window. Many scenarios were set up to test our children's knowledge about getting out and about safely and dealing with stressful situations – it was a superb exercise and one that I'd really like to do more of.

Years 1 – 4 were treated to an enlightening talk about good dental health – I wish we'd had such education when I was at primary school; it would have saved me a lot of pain *and* money over my lifetime!!

And Thursday was certainly an exciting day. Children were able to meet their new teacher and get to know their classmates for September. There were a lot of cheers as teachers were announced and children skipped off happily to get to know them. There were, of course, a few sad faces as there always are on these occasions but I did try to remind children that each year they think they're going to be unhappy with the class they find themselves in and, each year, they always find new friends and end up loving their teacher more than any other teacher. The process can be difficult but, with your support, children settle quickly and become more resilient in the wake of it.

Open Evening was a phenomenal event. Many thanks to the PTA for providing drinks and snacks which kept us all going throughout the evening and the Art Gallery was spectacular. Your children are incredible artists and seeing their work framed and hung like a Van Gogh or Da Vinci was truly awe-inspiring. I hope you all had an opportunity to visit the dining hall where the street dance spectacular was on show as well as the Performing Arts routines. I was blown away by the dances and the talent of our children never ceases to amaze me. William (5A) will definitely end up on the stage in some way or another – his street dance moves rivalled those of Michael Jackson and he wasn't the only one showing an amazing talent for dance – we've got a huge group of children who are 'triple threats' – singers, dancers and actors! And the KS1 Hall saw an impressive display of work from Reception through to Year 6. I know I shouldn't have favourites but Year 1's dinosaur projects were outstanding and so creative. I hope you all managed to have a good look around the school – maybe a peek at the new toilets (maybe not!) which are now fully functioning as toilets not play areas (I think the excitement of clean toilet areas got the better of some of our younger children who were found throwing a few dance moves around in front of the hand dryers one lunchtime!)

And today, the YMCA came in to give a few demonstrations of the clubs they'll be running in September so that your children know what to expect and can make an informed choice regarding the clubs.

And finally, tonight marks the end of an era for our Y6 children as they finish their Harrow Lodge journey with a Leaving Party which I'm sure will be full of fun, laughter and entertainment. There are plenty more 'end of era' events coming up next week but this one allows lots of dressing up, dancing and photo shoots which makes for a spectacular night!

With that, I wish you a wonderful weekend – time to get the paddling pool out I think and a few garden games and a sun-lounger or two for mums and dads!

With kind regards and best wishes,
Mrs Searle

Attendance
w/e 5th July 2019

Year Group	Attendance %
Reception	94.7
Year 1	96.4
Year 2	96.0
Year 3	97.3
Year 4	95.1
Year 5	95.9
Year 6	93.8

Congratulations to the individual class attendance winners!

5A - 100%

Overall School Attendance
(year to date) – 95.9%

School Dinner

Menu Change

Friday 19th July

Salmon Crumb Fillet

will be replaced with

Breaded Fish Fillet

DIARY DATES

Monday 15th July

2.30pm EYFS parents - meet the Year 1 teachers

Tuesday 16th July

2pm & 6pm Year 6 Production to parents
(please return the reply slips by 10th July)

Wednesday 17th July

PTA End of Year Parties:
3.30 - 4.30 EYFS & KS1
4.45 - 5.45 KS2

Thursday 18th July

9am & 2.30pm 100% Attendance Assemblies
6pm Year 6 Prize Giving Evening / Leavers' Assembly

Friday 19th July

Break up – 2pm

Monday 9th September

Return to School

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. This will save you getting a phone call from us!

Please follow this up with a note on your child's return. Thank you for your co-operation.



PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to

- ❖ Jack (R1) for gaining his first belt in Karate.
- ❖ Alfie (5C) for winning another trophy in kickboxing.

Art Exhibition Pictures

There is still the possibility for you to purchase your child's amazing framed artwork which was on display at Open Evening yesterday. Pictures cost £8 each. Please send the money into school as soon as possible, in a sealed envelope, with your child's name & class on the front.



SUMMER HOLIDAYS

We will be breaking up for the summer on

FRIDAY 19th JULY @ 2pm

School starts again on

MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER @ 8.40am

Notification of School Dinner Price Increase

A message from HES Catering Services:

HES Catering services have managed to avoid a price increase for over 3 years and, if we could, we would want to avoid any increase this year. However, there have been some very challenging circumstances for all of us. Havering used to be one of the most expensive and now we are better value than Greenwich, Tower Hamlets* and Enfield (£2.30, £2.39 and £2.37 respectively - *Mayors meals). Labour has increased especially since the T&C's have come into force. Food costs are very volatile and we are currently paying an average of 8% more now than ever before which is forecast to rise further.

Pre-planned maintenance (gas safety / PAT testing / refrigeration servicing and extraction cleaning) has increased, this does not include remedial repairs.

We want to continue to support with regards to kitchen equipment (as much as we can do). The increase in costs have been very substantial.

With the above in mind, we need to increase our current £2.20 price from September 2019 to a new price of £2.25.

sQuid

The amount owed on sQuid for school dinners is currently **£130**.

Once a sQuid debt reaches **£6.60**, 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.**



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THE BIG HAIR CUT



Hi, my name is Ellen and I'm having my hair cut on Tuesday 23 July at 2pm in the atrium of Queen's Hospital, Romford.

My hair will be donated to The Little Princess Trust which provide wigs free of charge to children and young adults who have sadly lost their own hair due to cancer treatment and other illnesses.

Any money raised from my JustGiving page or sponsorship will go to Children's Services at Queen's & King George Hospital.

If you'd like to make a donation, please go to my JustGiving Page at:

<http://www.justgiving.com/Aisha-Ellen>

or come and see me on the day. Thank you.



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KEEP FIT next Tuesday has been **cancelled**. Mr Charlee will be joining coffee morning instead.



COFFEE MORNING next week will take place on **Tuesday 16th** from 9am-10am in the Oak Room. Please come and join us for a chat and cuppa and to say farewell to Christina and Sonja!!



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Your Child's School

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on your child's school**

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