



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term

15th November 2019

Issue Number 9

Visit www.harrowlodgeprimary.com to view it online!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week over and, believe it or not, it's been a fairly quiet week. We started with a wonderful Remembrance service. I can't tell you how proud I was of your children – they were so calm and respectful. We never practise that ceremony but we do talk to the children about the importance of remembering and respecting those huge sacrifices. Our children's generation are less and less likely to know anybody, personally, who fought in one of the Great Wars so it's really important to keep the memory alive. Showing respect through our silence and our actions is also a fading convention but one that is profoundly meaningful and important to instil in young minds. Your children did that beautifully on Monday afternoon and it was such a privilege to share that service with so many parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts. Well done to all the children who walked through the cold wind to place their wreaths reverently at the foot of the cenotaph. And thank you for sharing your precious photographs with us in memory of *your* relatives who played their part in fighting for freedom and independence. It was extremely moving to read some of the stories behind the pictures. Special mention must be made of our Head Girl, Catalina; Head Boy, Mathavan; Deputy Head Girl, Maurette; Deputy Head Boy, Bogdan and prefects Sydney, Denis and James who all spoke so eloquently in leading our service. And I'd also like to thank Miss Harrison and Miss Batt for ensuring that we had sound and music for the event – if it had been left to me, we'd have had to manage without music and the prefects would have had to shout at you across the playground! We're very lucky to have such technological competence in our school.

After a great start to the week, I'm afraid that we're still short of a caretaker so I'm doing two jobs at the moment (definitely falling short on the caretaking side of things but I'm doing my best!) Of course, it's at times like this that the universe decides to play that wonderful game of 'Let's make everything break down at the same time' (ah, I see the universe has played that game on *you* too!). After spending the weekend in school so the plumbers could drain the infant heating system to fix the leaking pipe in Miss Lawson's room, I returned to a freezing staffroom and foyer. The staffroom, where our hard-working teachers do their work preparation and grab a drink and a bite to eat, was now housing a leaking boiler leaking. Now, I have to say, PLT are quick to get the engineers over but you can't hurry a new boiler and a new boiler is what was needed. At 25 years old, this boiler should have been replaced 10 years ago so I guess we're lucky that it's lasted *this* long. But, it would take until Thursday before a new boiler could be fitted so Tuesday morning saw the resourceful Miss Batt running around the school collecting electric heaters to try and thaw out the teachers' hands and feet as they sat working in the staff room with hats, coats, scarves and red noses! Meanwhile the rest of the Infant side of the school was bordering on boiling point and teachers were stripping down to the bare essentials and complaining of heat-stroke. Of course, with no caretaker, no one knew how to operate the boiler that serves the infant side. So, it turns out that Google and YouTube are wonderful teachers and now Ms Haynes and myself are experts in the temperature regulation of large digital boilers (mates rates apply if you require our services).

Unfortunately, it turns out that draining the system at the weekend, created some kind of block which means that now the Willow Room Corridor has no heating at all! Basically, I've been up and down those boiler-steps more times in the last week than I've had hot dinners and we're still no better off! And then our dishwasher broke and we have to wash up by hand – now **that** really hurts!!! To top it all off, I get a call at 6am on Wednesday morning to let me know that the school alarm had gone off in the night and Security had sorted it out but they double-locked the front door and none of us had a key!!! Security turned up at 7:30am to let us in but, by then, I had a car park of very irate teachers waving their board rubbers at me! See what I mean about the Universe?

Our PTA had a meeting this week in the Harrow – not sure how much work got discussed but a good time was had by all! Seriously, though, we do need more of you at these meetings (some after school, some in the evening) because we need lots of ideas to make money for our playground equipment and the more parents, the more ideas! Anyone, absolutely anyone and everyone is welcome.

It's been our second week of cinema trips and all has gone really well until the Year 6s had their turn yesterday to see Aladdin only the film choice was change at the last minute to Maleficent – not a problem you may think and, you're right, Maleficent is a great film.....if you have the soundtrack playing at the same time as the film! Yes, indeed, 10 minutes of watching a silent film without subtitles would try the patience of *anyone*, let alone 60 odd 10 and 11 year olds!!! I believe 'riotous outrage' was a term bandied about at one point! But I'm glad to say that order was restored after a short while and the film was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

And today we raised money for Children in Need. Now, I know some of you were wondering why we Topped and Tailed it this year instead of just allowing non-uniform so here's the reason – we have 3 non-uniform Fridays in a row and, whilst every fundraiser is a worthwhile cause in its own right, non-uniform has a very particular and, I'm afraid to say, negative effect on children's concentration and behaviour in class. I do want children to enjoy school, of course I do, but not to the point where attainment is being compromised. So, we decided that topping and tailing would give children the option to wear Pudsey ears if they wished or their own choice of footwear (something children are *always* trying to wear!) but without the need to buy anything special (if you don't have ears, then wear your own footwear) and without the disruptive element of non-uniform. So, there we have it and I'm very pleased to say that we raised an amazing £211.93 to send to Children in Need.

I've also managed to visit a few classes this week and have been blown away by the handwriting in 3A, the knowledge of authors and stories in 3B, the use of prefixes to unravel the meanings of words in 5A and fabulous comprehension skills in 5B. I'm hoping to pop into a few more next week and I'm keen to find out which author comes out as the most popular across the school!

But, as the weather turns to a real freeze, I think we may have to confine ourselves to the indoors this weekend. Why not visit our website and choose a homework project to complete together? Whether it's making a telescope from junk cardboard materials, making a 3D model of the solar system or creating a design for an Ancient Greek jug or bowl, there's something for everyone and you don't even have to step outside your front door!

On that warm and hearty note, I wish you a productive weekend full of junk, clay and glue sticks – happy building!

With kind regards and best wishes,
Mrs Searle

Attendance
w/e 8th November 2019

Year Group	Attendance %
R1	97.6
R2	95.0
1A	96.8
1B	99.1
2A	99.3
2B	97.2
3A	98.6
3B	98.8
4A	98.7
4B	87.2
5A	97.0
5B	97.0
6A	97.3
6B	96.4
6C	98.8

Congratulations to the individual class attendance winners!

2A - 99.3%

Overall School Attendance
(year to date) – **96.3%**



Star Of The Week

- R1: Lola
- R2: Ben
- 1A: Sade
- 1B: Jacob
- 2A: Gabriel
- 2B: Lily-May
- 3A: Kairyn
- 3B: Liam
- 4A: Syed
- 4B: Evelina
- 5A: Megan
- 5B: Jake
- 6A: Christiana
- 6B: Ela



Writer of the Week

- 1A: Lucas
- 1B: Olobo
- 2A: Lyla
- 2B: Daisy
- 3A: Roman
- 3B: Lexi
- 4A: Yabets
- 4B: Philip
- 5A: Sienna
- 5B: Neli
- 6A: Mia
- 6B: Fouad



EYFS Awards

R1

- Maths - Fraser
- Reading - Malik
- Handwriting - Mia
- Kindness - Ollie

R2

- Maths - Savelly
- Reading - Malaysia
- Handwriting - Louie
- Kindness - Evie

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Orders for Christmas cards need to be made via the website or by downloading a QR scanner app and scanning the code on the front of the card given out to your child.

CHANGES IN CONTACT DETAILS

Please remember to inform the school office if you change your contact telephone numbers or have moved house. It is vital we keep our records up to date.

Please use the Change of Detail forms which can be found in the Foyer.

Thank you.

GENERAL ELECTION

The school will be closed on Thursday 12th December as it is being used as a Polling Station for the General Election.



Parent View
Your Child's School

**Give Ofsted your view
on your child's school**

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Due to safeguarding reasons it is very important that we have as few visitors during the school day as possible.

Therefore, please do your best to remember to bring everything your child will need for the day as you leave in the morning i.e. lunchboxes, PE kits, after school kits etc.

If you do have reason to come in during the daytime, please remember to use the Rainsford Way entrance only between 9.30am and 3pm – there is now a Drop Box inside the walkway for you to leave any named items.

THE BARTON ROAD ENTRANCE IS ONLY OPEN FOR MORNING AND AFTERNOON DROP OFF/PICK UP AND WILL NOT BE OPENED AT ANY OTHER TIME.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Coffee Mornings take place on Wednesday mornings from 9am-10am in the Oak Room.

We ask for a voluntary contribution of 50p each week. If there is any money left over at the end of the term this will be donated to the PTA Playground Fund.

Please come along and join other parents for a chat and a cuppa.

DIARY DATES

w/c 18th November

Stay and Learn Week (please return reply slips)
9am-10am EYFS Prospective
Parents' Meeting

19th November

2A trip to MOD Pizza, Romford

20th November

1.30pm-2.30pm EYFS Prospective
Parents' Meeting

21st November

1.15pm-2.45pm Selected children to meet
author at Elm Park Library

22nd November

Pyjama Day (in exchange for chocolate donations
for the Christmas Bazaar)

25th November

6pm Phonics, Maths & Literacy Workshop for
EYFS Parents

26th November

2B trip to MOD Pizza, Romford

28th November – 3rd December

Book Fair - every day after school (KS2 Hall)

29th November

Non-Uniform Day (bring a bottle for the
Christmas Bazaar)

2nd – 6th December

Anti-Bullying Week

2nd December

9am Years 1-4 Anti-Bullying Show
10.15am Yrs 5&6 Anti-Bullying Workshops

Wednesday 4th December

Year 6 trip to the Ragged School Museum

Friday 6th December

3.30pm PTA Christmas Bazaar

Tuesday 10th December

2pm EYFS & Year 1 Nativity to Parents

Wednesday 11th December

9.30am EYFS & Year 1 Nativity to Parents
2pm Year 2 Nativity to Parents



Christmas Service at Holy Cross Church Friday 13th December 9.45am

If you are able to assist with walking the children to and from the church we would very much appreciate your help. Please let the office know. Thank you.

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

**The School Uniform Shop
(located in the Foyer) is
open at the following times:**

**Mondays and Thursdays
3pm – 3.30pm**

Drop Box

A 'Drop Box' for lunchboxes, water bottles and all ad hoc items which otherwise might be handed into the school office during the day, will be placed inside the Rainsford Way entrance every day. We have taken this measure for the convenience of parents and to alleviate the number of visitors coming into the school office. Any item you leave in the box must be labelled with your child's name and class.



We have lots of exciting events coming up for your children. We are always in need of more helpers, so if you can help at our events then please do come and let us know.

PTA Dates for your diary:

Friday 6 th December	Christmas Bazaar
Friday 13 th December	Film Night
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas Parties
Wednesday 18 th December	Whole School Panto visit
Thursday 19 th December	Breakfast with Santa

We look forward to seeing more of you.

Miss Lawson
Chair of PTA

sQuid

The amount already owed on sQuid for school dinners this week is currently **£104**.

Once a sQuid debt reaches **£6.75**, 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.