



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term

22nd November 2019

Issue Number 10

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week ends and we've finally got some fairly stable heat across the school. The heating issue is a constant worry when you never know whether you're walking into the Arctic or the Sahara first thing in the morning. Of course, it's all because of the age of the system and we've been told that, really, the whole system should be revamped but that it would cost around £20,000. Now, I suppose I could put it as an option to the PTA but I rather think that the playground equipment would win the vote at the end of the day and, quite frankly, I think I'd agree with you! From a child's point of view, it's a no brainer and I'm all for a child's point of view!!!

I think I have to begin this newsletter with a bit of a brag about one of our own teachers. As you know, Mr Charlee is an amazing PE teacher who not only teaches the curriculum but also trains our children up to take part in a variety of competitions (in which we do rather well, it has to be said!). What you may be less aware of is that Mr Charlee is a bit of a keen football player himself and last week, the team he plays for, Maldon and Tiptree, did rather well in the first round of the FA Cup beating Leyton Orient 2-1. On the 29th November, Mr Charlee will be playing in the next round against Newport so we're all very proud of him and will be rooting for him on the 29th. Now, this week, Mr Charlee has been putting those football skills to good use in a coaching capacity and our Y5&6 Girls have beaten Benhurst Primary 7-0 to get through to the next round of the Cup. They've also gone through to the next round of the League competition having won both their matches 2-0 and 3-0. Our boys had an unlucky start in the League, I'm afraid, and have found themselves out after the first round but 'they was robbed' according to Mr Charlee who talked about open goals and hitting posts – all of which explained why they were out when they had actually played really well. Now, although I know I sound very knowledgeable about this footballing business, it might surprise you to hear that I'm actually a complete novice when it comes to football so I'm like Noel on the Bake-Off when he describes the Technical Challenge – I say what I'm told to say but really have no idea what I'm talking about. What I do know a lot about, however, is how proud I am of both Mr Charlee and our children who always represent us with great sportsmanship and team effort. Well done to all of you.

This week has been very busy with lots of parents joining in with children's lessons. It's been fantastic to see so many of you coming into school to share lessons with your little ones (or big ones, depending on their age!) It's also given you all an opportunity to see our new Reception Area – I hope you were suitably impressed! I know there's still a way to go but it's getting there.

We also had a tour for prospective parents and I must give a really big shout out to our Deputy Head Girl, Maurette and Deputy Head Boy, Bogdan, who bravely led the tour explaining all the great things about our school. I wish you could have seen and heard them – they were such a credit to their parents and our school!

This week, 2A were lucky enough to visit Mod Pizza as part of their Muck, Mess and Mixtures topic. It was great for them to see how a restaurant is set up behind the scenes and the kind of work the employees do. Each child was able to make their very own pizza with their own choice of toppings. Gotta say, not a great fan of the anchovy and pineapple one but each to his own, as they say. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, learnt a lot about the restaurant trade and pizza-making and, here's the best bit, the manager said they were the best behaved class he'd ever had to visit and, apparently, they have a lot of schools visit. So, well done 2A, you're doing your bit for our excellent reputation!

Year 2 have had a lot of colourful fun this week with their topic. They made colour wheels, mixed paint, tried a bit of marbling, recreated a section of a well-known painting paying close attention to colour and made a big mess with bubble painting. You might have to do a few more uniform washes than usual this week but the smiling faces make it worth it don't they?

And it's all about a love of reading in school at the moment – I keep telling the children how they need to find their passion for books but, as some of them are finding it a little tricky, we're giving them a helping hand. This week some Year 2 and Year 3 children visited the library and met RJ Thompson, an author who wrote 'The Uncuddibles'. I think it's meant to be a take on the 'Incredibles' as the stories were all about unloved teddies who become superhero-like. The children loved the stories and so did Miss B who took them to the library. Mr Thompson is also his own illustrator and he showed the children exactly how he illustrated one of his stories – in fact, he did an illustration on his special ipad right there and then in front of them. What a great opportunity to see what's entailed in a job like that. Watch this space – we may find some of our children become illustrators on the back of that experience – stranger things have happened! Whilst we're talking about a love of reading, don't forget that we've got our book fair arriving next Thursday for a week. If you want to instil a love of reading in your child (and let's face it, why wouldn't you when you see all the benefits it brings?), then one of the best ways is to buy them their very own book – doesn't need to be expensive but a new book of their very own is a wondrous thing; the feel of an unspoilt cover and that smell of newness is divine and simply invites you in to start reading – job done!

Today, Miss Goodwin ran a maths workshop for EYFS parents to teach them the best way to help their children at home with maths. It was a great turnout of parents but, if you haven't been able to make the last workshops on Phonics and Maths and would have liked to, Miss Goodwin is leading a shorter version of both workshops on Monday evening at 6:00 pm. We hope to see you there.

In case you were unaware, we've had a big drive on handwriting and presentation this term and this week saw the deadline for our Handwriting competition. I'll be judging those next week and I think I'll have a job on my hands because, as I've been going round the school, I've seen tremendous handwriting in all year groups. Your children are really making a concerted effort to raise their standards. At this rate, those imminent inspectors are going to be blown away by the standard of presentation. Look out for the results of that competition in next week's newsletter. Talking of inspectors, we had a visit from one last week, on Friday, who came to look around (not as an official inspector but as an advisor really) and give us some pointers on how to get ready for an Ofsted inspection. It was a gruelling day but a really fruitful one and we came away with a long list of jobs to do to make sure we show off the best of ourselves. His point was this, "This is a good school. I can see that. You just have to say the right things to the inspectors about what you do here." And that's the problem isn't it? We all get so nervous during an inspection that we forget to mention all the great stuff we do and much improvement the children have made. Well, we'll keep on preparing ourselves and hope we get what we deserve!

It was a good job that there were no inspectors in today, though. What a lot of lazy children they would have seen, all rolling up in their PJs or lounge-wear (and carrying bars of forbidden chocolate with them to boot!). But it was all worth it for a great donation of the sweet stuff for our Christmas Bazaar. It's going to be a great Bazaar this year – Santa's been invited and I believe he's bringing his reindeer too but he'll leave them outside for you to take a gander at while he pops inside for a mince pie, a glass of milk and a quick chat with your little ones.

And, with that very Christmassy thought in mind, I shall wish you a wonderful weekend full of Christmas shopping! There! I've said it – I'm sorry but it has to be done and the sooner the better when all's said and done! More time to relax before the big day then!

With kind regards and best wishes,
Mrs Searle

**Attendance
w/e 15th November 2019**

Year Group	Attendance %
R1	95.2
R2	88.3
1A	94.5
1B	98.2
2A	100
2B	98.6
3A	92.8
3B	96.9
4A	97.7
4B	93.1
5A	93.0
5B	93.3
6A	99.1
6B	99.5
6C	97.1

Congratulations to the individual class attendance winners!

2A - 100%

**Overall School Attendance
(year to date) - 96.4%**



Star Of The Week

- R1: Logan
- R2: Neve
- 1A: Daisy-Leigh
- 1B: Jack
- 2A: Holly
- 2B: Bonnie
- 3A: Leah
- 3B: George
- 4A: Grace
- 4B: Laura
- 5A: Jessie
- 5B: Lou Lou
- 6A: Janvi
- 6B: Godstime
- 6C: Um-E-Miya



Writer of the Week

- 1A: Alex
- 1B: Eliza
- 2A: Zara
- 2B: Daisy
- 3A: Alex
- 3B: Matthew
- 4A: Hallie
- 4B: Zach
- 5A: Gustas
- 5B: Martina
- 6A: Debora
- 6B: Freddie
- 6C: Rosie



EYFS Awards

R1

- Maths - Frankie
- Reading - Riley
- Handwriting - Daniel
- Kindness - Mabel

R2

- Maths - Levi
- Reading - Thomas
- Handwriting - Daria
- Kindness - Nicole

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOL

The Sun has teamed up with HarperCollins to provide primary schools across England, Wales and Northern Ireland a free pack of 106 books, worth more than £600!

Tokens will be printed in The Sun and The Sun on Sunday between Saturday 23rd November and Saturday 18th January 2020, with bonus tokens printed on ad hoc days.

If any of you buy these newspapers we would be very grateful if you could let us have the tokens! Please send them in with your child or hand them in on the gate in the morning.

Thank you in anticipation for your help!

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.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Just a reminder that children attending Breakfast Club should arrive by 8.15am at the latest, which is when the gates are closed. Thank you.

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.

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

25th November

6pm Phonics, Maths & Literacy Workshop for EYFS Parents

26th November

2B trip to MOD Pizza, Romford

27th November

Indoor Athletics (selected Yr 5s & 6s)

28th November

Indoor Athletics (selected Yr 3s & 4s)

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 Years 5 & 6 Anti-Bullying Workshops

Wednesday 4th December

Year 6 trip to the Ragged School Museum

Friday 6th December

Year 3 Greek Day
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

Thursday 12th December

General Election – school closed

Friday 13th December

Christmas Jumper Day
Holy Cross Church – Christmas Service
Christmas Dinner Day
PTA Film Night

Monday 16th December

9.15am Y2 Nativity to Parents

Tuesday 17th December

PTA Christmas Parties



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 6th December

Christmas Bazaar

Friday 13th December

Film Night

Tuesday 17th December

Christmas Parties

Wednesday 18th December

Whole School Panto visit

Thursday 19th 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 **£154**.

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.

There is an auto top-up facility available on sQuid. If you need help setting this up, please come to the school office.

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.



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>