



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 17th January 2020 Issue Number 14
Visit www.harrowlodgeprimary.com to view it online!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week, another 7 days to shine! And this week has been no exception. Although the weather hasn't been the kindest to us, the children have coped well with the high wind and rainy elements. By 'coped well', of course, I mean that they haven't succumbed to the usual screaming, crazy behaviour that is customary on days of high winds (or full moons!). Don't ask me why but these conditions affect children in the same way in any school in any season but, thankfully, this week hasn't seen too much of the loud and wild behaviour commonly associated with wet and windy weather.

Our Year 2 children visited Leeds Castle this week as part of their topic 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets'. Well, as you may have seen in the photos on their Facebook page, Year 2 were transformed into a variety of historical figures who had lived at or visited Leeds Castle throughout history. Logan (2B) made a cool Henry the eighth while Brody and Kaeden (2B) enacted a fatal bow and arrow scene (which I can only imagine was poor old Harold in 1066) – apparently, Kaeden can do a pretty mean death roll! The biggest item of awe and wonder for our children, though, was the real fire blazing in the fire-place in the Queen's apartments. Our very safety-conscious 6 year olds were most concerned that the castle might catch on fire (no one could spot a fire extinguisher in that twelfth century mansion for some reason)!! I think the quote of the day, however, must go to Arthur (2A) who listened intently to the tour guide explaining what life was like for the monarch's children. She explained how Prince Edward was ordered to marry Eleanor and, as his parents were the king and queen, he had to do as they said. "We all have to do as the king or queen say, don't we?" she commented and Arthur replied in a rather loud and mocking manner, "Well, Harry and Meghan weren't listening, were they?" Once again, 'Out of the mouths of babes...'

Wednesday was a busy day for us with year 5 visiting Hornchurch High for an 'Art Attack' day. On arrival, Miss Cormenzana and Mrs Byrne were ushered away so that the children could gain the full experience of lessons at secondary school on their own. As you can imagine, our year 5 teachers were very disappointed to be stuck in the staff room with only coffee and cakes for company!! However, our year 5s thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to 'try before you buy' at Hornchurch High and were tasked with creating imaginary animal masks – a big shout out to Jessie, Mario, Iriana and Alex who excelled at the task and really impressed the Year 7 teachers.

Miss McAuliffe and her troop of maths geniuses were out and about again this week competing in the Explore Learning Maths Competition – Round 1, tick; Round 2, tick; Round 3 to get to the Final, missed by a smidgen! Catalina, Mathavan, Ewan and Kai stormed through the stages almost to the very end – we're so proud of them and how far they got.

While we're on the topic of Maths, Miss McAuliffe launched our new Times Tables Rockstars Challenge today. Bit of a mouthful but I believe it's going to revolutionise the learning of Times Tables – well, that's what it says on the advert, anyway!! Basically, each KS2 class will compete against the other class in their own year group. Each night, children can log into the Rockstars program and start playing. A bar at the top of the Rockstar page will show them which class is in the lead and by how much. The more you play, the more points you score for your class. The competition lasts for a week and the winners will be announced in next week's Celebration Assembly. Year 4 have already had a trial run at the competition and Miss Harrison practically fell over herself trying to get to

me this morning to show me the results – **4A 6,137** and **4B 11,397!** 4A are going to have to pull their socks up next week if they want to give themselves a fighting chance of winning! Of course the beauty of this program is that, while they think they're *playing*, pupils are actually practising their times tables! Let the battles begin!!

Wednesday also saw our year 5 and 6 footballers (and one year 4) take part in the West Ham Cup. As I'm sure you can imagine from the name of the cup, the standard was extremely high and, although we didn't get through to the next round, your children did you proud – great behaviour and great effort. Apparently, they did really well after a slow start and won the last match 3-1.

And sticking to the sports theme, 6 of our children, Jimmy-Dean, Abby, Mahdhe, Aidan, Jamie and Ewan attended the Boccia School Games Championship. We took the trophy with us because, of course, we won it last year but we hoped to bring it back home with us!! Well, the sensational six did amazingly well but were just pipped to the post by Clockhouse Primary. A close second place is still a result to be proud of and, once again, our children were praised for their exceptional behaviour. A huge thank you to Mr Charlee for organising the events.

And today, our infants have been learning about safety on the roads – a very timely show after last week's drama. We can never predict what might happen with children – they are notoriously *un*predictable, so we need to prepare them for every eventuality. I'm pleased to say that the show was well received and all the children learnt very good lessons with regard to road safety.

In other news, we had planned to get the infant corridor flooring fitted this weekend so I was hoping that leaking pipes were a thing of the past but last night we came across another flood in the Junior boys' toilets – luckily, it was easy to stem the flow but I guess that will be our next port of call with piping and sealant!

1A's old classroom floor was finally fitted this week and our next job was to find some spare furniture to replace the ruined fixtures. We hoped to move 1A back into their room by the summer term, if not by spring half term. All was looking positive with plans in place..... and then I walked into school today to be met by Mr Welch's worried face as he informed me that the newly fixed pipe in 1A was leaking again and he had walked into the classroom to find yet another puddle in the corner!! When are we going to catch a break in this school? It's as if the building is screaming out to us that it's had enough and just wants to shut up shop and retire – gotta say, feel a bit of empathy there!!!

Year 4 had the most amazing afternoon today as they learnt about Shabbat – a Jewish celebration – and sampled some of the kosher foods eaten at that celebration. Mrs Millard spent yesterday evening preparing foods to sample and artefacts to show to the children. One of the foods was Lekshon soup which is a type of chicken noodle soup but she also prepared a vegetable soup for those children who only eat halal meat. It was a super learning opportunity for our children to be immersed into the world of Jewish culture.

Before I finish, I'd like to share with you a conversation I overheard in the classroom this week. A young Year 2 student was asking her teacher about bullying and she was querying why people were moved to do it. She was very concerned about the unkind actions of some people that seemed to serve no purpose other than to hurt others. As the conversation progressed, the pair began talking about 'random acts of kindness' and how we might incorporate something like that in school in order to get people acting more kindly. And then she asked, "But would **one** kind act make you a kind person?" And that made me think - a *lot!* Sometimes, children can see things way more clearly than we adults can with our minds clouded with worries and 'to do' lists. It often takes a child to open our eyes to wisdom... 'out of the mouths of babes...'

And on that sobering note, I will bid you farewell and wish you a most lovely weekend. And I leave you with this thought:

"Kindness is not an act; it's a lifestyle"

With kind regards and best wishes, Mrs Searle

Attendance
w/e 10th January 2020

Year Group	Attendance %
R1	93.8
R2	87.0
1A	96.6
1B	92.9
2A	89.7
2B	91.1
3A	97.8
3B	96.8
4A	95.7
4B	95.5
5A	97.5
5B	98.3
6A	88.0
6B	96.7
6C	94.8

Congratulations to the individual class attendance winners!

5B - 98.3%

Overall School Attendance
(year to date) - 96.2%



Star Of The Week

R1: Ali
R2: Jacob
1A: Marnie
1B: Alex
2A: Nitza
2B: Bonnie
3A: Jimmy
3B: Matthew
4A: Arham
4B: Philip
5A: Armani
5B: Aidan
6A: Debora & Denis
6B: Ellie
6C: Christian



EYFS Awards

R1

Maths - Shayan
Handwriting - Riaadh
Kindness - Lilliah

R2

Maths - Nikita
Bookworm - Alex
Handwriting - Feryal
Kindness - Ben



Writer of the Week

1A: Raoul
1B: Daisy
2A: Bobby
2B: Alex
3A: Mubaraq
3B: Lola
4A: Isabelle
4B: Albie
5B: Ben
6A: Bogdan
6B: Andre
6C: Maurette

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 22nd January

Year 3 - Zoolab
Girls' Football Tournament (Brentwood Centre)

Tuesday 28th January

Year 1 - London Riverboat Trip
6pm SATs Meeting for Parents

Wednesday 29th January

Years 1 & 2 Indoor Athletics

Monday 3rd February

Years 5 & 6 Road Safety Show

Tuesday 4th February

Young Voices at the O2

Thursday 6th February

Years 5 & 6 Girls' Football Tournament

Monday 10th February

Year 5 – First Aid at Hornchurch High School

Tuesday 11th February

Safer Internet Day

Friday 14th February

Break up for Half Term

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Half Term Holiday

Monday 24th – Friday 28th February

Stay & Learn Week

Tuesday 25th February

Year 1 trip to Colchester Zoo

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.

Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school, please leave a message on the absent line by 9am.

Also please inform the office in advance of any appointments, even if you have told your child's teacher. This will save disturbing you with any unnecessary phone calls.

Thank you.

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.

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 finish being printed in The Sun tomorrow. If you have any tokens, please send them in with your child or hand them in on the gate in the morning.

Thank you!



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>



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

Next Wednesday, 22nd January, the School Nurse will be attending, so please come along and have your questions ready!

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.

sQuid

The amount already owed on sQuid for school dinners this week
is currently **£170!**

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.

Supporting



SHAPE UP YOUR FAMILY!



- WIN a FITBIT Bundle (FITBIT Inspire HR + Ace 2 Kid's Fitness Tracker)
- Support your local school
- Play for £1 per week
- Win up to £25,000

To start supporting, visit:

yourschoollottery.co.uk

and search for: **Harrow Lodge Primary**

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. Sign up before 22nd February 2020
Terms and conditions apply – see website.