



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2nd October 2020 Issue Number 3
Visit www.harrowlodgeprimary.com to view it online!

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a week we've had this week! We started with smiles and ended with our hair pulled out!! Unfortunately, we've been subjected to the usual gremlins of the autumn term in terms of sickness with staff but multiply that by 10 and you'll get a rough idea of how difficult it's been to find cover. I decided early on that I didn't want to bring added risks into school by employing supply teachers who teach in many different schools so we're trying hard to keep to our own community to provide cover for staff! Thank you so much to those of you who came forward to stand as relief Midday assistants. We wouldn't have managed this week without you!

As you know, I love to give children the opportunity to show their leadership skills and, last year, we had several children, from year 2 through to year 6, running lunchtime clubs or carrying out whole-school competitions. Some of the clubs folded after a week or two but others thrived and went from strength to strength and I was thrilled by the entrepreneurial spirit that some of our children displayed as they ran competitions and lunchtime activities. Now, such activities are no longer possible at the moment as lunchtime groups are confined to year-group bubbles playing socially-distanced games but there is still scope for children to come up with ideas for school improvement and a year 5 duo has done just that. Kitty and Beau (5A) wrote a letter to me asking for a meeting so they could pitch their idea to me to create a happier school lunchtime. I duly obliged and it turns out that the 'gap in the market' (so to speak) that they identified was a bit of an old chestnut – the lack of chocolate flavoured items allowed in packed lunches!! Their idea was to allow one day where chocolate bans on packed lunches were lifted so all was fair between school dinners and home packed lunches. They'd thought it all through and presented a robust plan that would satisfy all children. I was impressed with their drive and ambition but, sadly, I had to inform them that our Parent Council had implemented a similar scheme a few years ago and it had failed miserably because lunch-boxes became chocolate boxes and children were climbing the classroom walls in the afternoon! I hate to squash a leadership drive, however, so I told them I would discuss the matter with staff and perhaps come up with a small concession for packed lunches on an occasional basis. So watch this space and read your parent-mails for updates! Well done girls – it's nice to see children showing initiative.

I've shown a lot of prospective parents around our school this week and I still beam with pride every time I walk around with new people – the school is such a lovely place to show off and your children are so well behaved that visitors have actually commented on the studious nature of all the classes.

This week I had the pleasure of seeing some beautiful woodland fairy houses (and 1 fairy school by Cody (1B)) that year 1 had made and was privileged to be shown the play-doh made by our reception children. Lexy (R1) was overly keen to let me know that they had used 'ingeedients' to make it – yes, you read it correctly, 'ingeedients'! No matter how many ways I tried to discover which ingredients were actually used, I was met with 'ingeedients' in answer! Must have been the 'word of the day' in EYFS!!

I've also never written out so many golden postcards as I have this week – 13 just from 1A!! I had to go and find out what Miss Lawson was doing that was eliciting so many gold awards and it would seem that Year 1 have been busy writing instructions on how to make a woodland crown and they were so amazingly good that 13, yes **13**, children reached gold on the strength of their hard work! Also, that would explain why I witnessed a few dads in the playground yesterday sporting the most leafy kind of headgear – I wasn't going to mention anything as I thought it might be a new trend emerging for men but now that I know that Year 1 were making woodland crowns, I'm ~~hoping~~ assuming that's what the dads were wearing!!

Year 2, meanwhile, have been busy painting with powder paints (remember those? Or is that just *me* showing my age?). I could hear excited voices coming from 2A so I popped my head in only to see 22 busy little bodies mixing paint and exclaiming at the colours they were developing. I was shocked, however, to see that Miss Howard had a **new** member of class in her room – it was a blue smurf. Now, don't get me wrong, I'm all for inclusivity but when we're talking about a different species, I think I might have to draw the line. Turned out I didn't have to worry, though, as the smurf was actually Darcey who had somehow managed to cover herself from head to toe (including face, arms, hands and legs!) in bright blue paint – there was little to be found on the paper but I'm sure there was a valuable life lesson in there somewhere!

In other news, we've had a marvellous donation of a couple of Clever Touch screens for our classrooms with a promise of more should we be happy with them. Now, it's not often that luck falls on our side but we have Mrs Matharu, our new year 6 teacher, to thank for this as it's her husband's company who are donating the equipment. And we're **very** grateful as many of our *own* screens are on their last legs and really need replacing but the coffers are bare so this is just the help we need.

Finally, I managed to carry out our first Celebration Assembly today – don't worry, it was a virtual one! As many of you know, I can be quite technically challenged and the thought of leading a 'virtual' assembly sent me into a bit of a spin but between myself, Mrs Browne, Oliver (6A), Skylar (6B), Madeeha (6A) and Megan (6A), we managed to pull off a *semblance* of a celebration assembly. It was one of the most stressful tasks I've had to tackle as a head teacher and has made it clear to me that I should give up my ambitions to move into a television career!! I breathed a huge sigh of relief at the end of it only for Mrs Browne to say, "Oh no, it's not recorded any sound!" As the panic rose in my heart at the thought of having to go through the whole assembly for a second time, our intrepid Year 6s saved the day by clicking a single button on the ipad which produced the sound – Mrs Browne retreated with her tail between her legs!! Next time will be better, I'm sure!

And so we end another week with the hope that next week will be calmer with a little less rain if I can be so bold as to desire it (just over lunchtime, at least!) And, at the end of a week that has felt rather stressful but in which we're all still safe and happy, I wish you a wonderful weekend full of peaceful tranquillity and I leave you with this thought:

"It's not the load that breaks you down, it's the way you carry it"

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



Star Of The Week

R1: Polly
R2: Zayaan
1A: Feryal
1B: Adelaide
2A: Olobo
2B: Mikail
3A: Nitza
3B: Alex
4A: Harry
4B: Orest
5A: Danielius
5B: Andrew
6A: Gustas
6B: Erin B



Writer of the Week

R1: Lexy
R2: Dioni
1A: Maya
1B: Nicole
2A: Darcie
2B: Leni-Rae
3A: Katie
3B: Rosie
4A: Scarlett
4B: Alyssa
5A: Kitty
5B: Jessica
6A: Nifemi
6B: Vinnie B

House Points

1 st	Phoenixes	254 points
2 nd	Centauris	229 points
3 rd	Griffins	214 points
4 th	Dragons	209 points



To our pupils who have had birthdays this week



Louis (2B)
Sade (2B)
Charlie (5B)
Liam (4A)
Daniel (1A)
Olivia (2B)
Joel (R2)



Our golden achievers this week are...

Daniel (1A)
David (3B)
Daisy-Bella (3B)
Ronnie (3B)
Kaeden (3B)
Archie (5A)
Beau (5A)
Lewis H (5A)
Lexie (5A)
Rafe (5A)
Evelina (5A)
Lou Lou (6B)
Neli (6B)
Riley (6B)
Teddy (6B)
Hayden (6B)



A HUGE THANK YOU...

to those of you who very generously donated towards Macmillan Cancer Support on Monday's non-uniform day.

We raised a grand total of

£361.60



Achiever Badges

CONGRATULATIONS
to

Rafe (5A)

on receiving his first
achiever badge for gaining
3 gold certificates.

Absences

If your child is going to be off school for any reason, please call 01708 448187 and leave a message on the absence line by 9am, if possible.

Unfortunately, if your child has been sick or has had diarrhoea, our school policy is for you to keep them at home for 48 hours after the last bout.

It is also very important we know if your child is off with COVID symptoms or if you are awaiting test results. Once results have been received please email them to office@harrowlodgeprimary.com.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Flu Immunisations

Your child should have brought home a Flu Immunisation Consent Form last week.

The nurses will be coming in on Monday 12th October to administer the immunisation. Please return the forms, whether you give permission or not, by Monday 5th October.

Thank you to those who have already returned their forms.

Barton Road Entrance

Please be reminded that, for safeguarding reasons, the gate at Barton Road is **not** in use during the school day.

If you have any need to come to school during the day, please use the Rainsford Way entrance.

In case of a bubble closure...

please can you have tools ready i.e. ruler, pencil, coloured pencils, notebook etc.

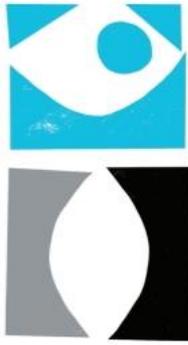
Thank you!



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>



NATIONAL POETRY DAY 2020

See It Like a Poet

HAVERING LIBRARIES NATIONAL POETRY DAY COMPETITION

Write a poem for National
Poetry Day on the theme of
VISION

Put your name, age and library card
number on the entry and drop it into
a library or email it to

Haveringlibrariescompetitions@havering.gov.uk

Closing date 14th November 2020

Winners will receive book prizes
and their poems will be displayed in
libraries.

1st OCTOBER 2020

#nationalpoetryday

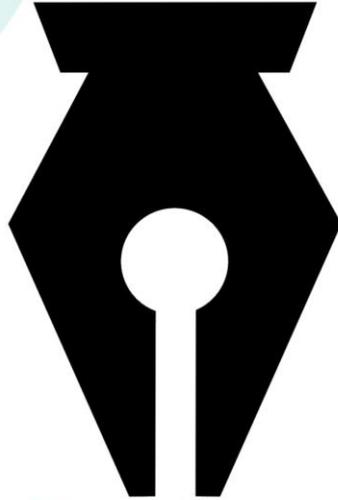
www.nationalpoetryday.co.uk

   Havering Libraries
www.havering.gov.uk/libraries

 **Havering**
LONDON BOROUGH



ONLINE **POETRY** RECITAL



In celebration of National Poetry Day we invite you to be part of our online collection of poems

To take part please submit a video/recording of your original poem

Open to all ages

Deadline: 20 October 2020

If possible, please film in HD, Landscape

Submissions/further information: arts@havering.gov.uk



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH