



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 10th December 2021 Issue Number 13
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Dear Parents and Carers,

We're nearly there and, as we limp to the end of the year, there are many wonderful things still happening in school. Here are the highlights:

- Let's begin with last Friday when Years 5 and 6 had two STEM ambassadors visit them to talk about engineering as a career. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and it's an approach to education that focuses on the sciences, develops critical thinking and improves problem-solving abilities. STEM ambassadors are people who work or *have worked* in a range of STEM-related disciplines or careers and they visit schools to deliver talks and/or activities to do with their particular career. We invited two engineers in to speak to our year 5 & 6 children and they were intrigued and very interested in their jobs. They didn't discuss wages which I thought was a bit of an oversight because, if we're educating our young people about the world of work, they do need to have an understanding of the financial rewards as well as the satisfaction of various careers. We all weigh up both sides of the coin when making our decisions about life-careers.
- Also on Friday, we held our Christmas Bazaar. I was on the Coloured Hampers and Mixed Prizes raffle stall and I was so busy, I don't think I looked up until the end when we called the numbers! However, I heard that the chocolate tombola was a huge attraction as well as the Bottle tombola (well, of *course!*) and Elfridges sold out of presents for mum and dad! I spoke to Santa before he left for the evening and he told me that our children (and parents) were the nicest and friendliest he'd met out of all the schools he'd ever visited. Now, I know what you're thinking - I bet he says that to all the schools but I've asked other Head Teachers and, apparently he doesn't! Plus, I know Santa really well and I know he wouldn't lie - he wouldn't put himself on the naughty list!! So, pats on the back for all of you and your children! In total, the bazaar raised approximately **£2600!** What an amazing result - that's got to be a record! Well done and a massive thank you to all the PTA who have worked so hard to give us top-quality entertainment and raise much-needed funds in the process. And a huge thank you to all of *you* who supported us by turning up and joining in with the fun and games.
- Back to this week now and we've been treated to some wonderfully special moments beginning with the Infant Nativity concerts. Oh my, these have been spectacular and it was so lovely to have shepherds, angels and stars back in school once more!

The brilliant PTA also organised a whole-school visit to the Queen's theatre to see the pantomime Aladdin and everyone had a wonderful time - Oh no, they didn't! Oh yes, they did! It was great to take over the theatre as a school and have a shared experience like that! Thank you to all of you for supporting us in this way and allowing your child to make it a community event. However, I found it slightly disturbing that several children returned to school believing that I had played a part in the pantomime - no, not Princess Jasmine as I know you're all thinking - but the Yeti! Yes, you heard correctly, the Yeti !!!! *Someone* must have started that rumour and I'm on a mission to discover who! But a huge thank you to all parents who came to help supervise - we couldn't have done it without you! And, even better news, Queen's Theatre made a point of catching Ms Lawson as we left and commented on how well-behaved our children were compared to other schools - result!

- And Christmas festivities continued today with Christmas Jumper Day raising £112.54 for Save the Children and we had our very own Christmas dinner with all the trimmings!
- In other non-Christmas related news, our KS2 heating has been playing up again - it seems we have to choose between roasting or freezing since nothing in between is on offer! We've had the workmen in as we were all tired of wearing coats, hats, gloves and scarves whilst trying to elicit an acceptable work output! I expect there will be another bandage placed on the system until we can afford the £20,000 needed to replace the whole thing!
- I had a lovely visit from Evie (R2) who brought me her Grandmother's flower-press. She explained how the press worked and how her grandmother had pressed the flowers in it 60 years ago! Hope that's accurate - otherwise I may have just offended someone! Anyway, the flowers were beautiful and extremely well-pressed!
- Meanwhile Haakil, Harley and Lenny (R1) were excited to show me the robots they'd made in woodwork. However, there was a problem - the screws fixing the wood together were too long and their sharp ends were poking out dangerously. I subtly placed some blu-tak on my desk as I asked the children if they could think of any way they might solve the dangerous problem and, after a LOT of rather UNsubtle prompting, we did get to the solution of using blu-tak or, indeed, play-doh to cover the screw ends - we'll make engineers of them yet!
- And, hallelujah, the equipment was finished and signed off this week. Another great success for the PTA. 2A and 4A were our Anti-Bullying poster winners so they had first go on the equipment - Mrs Bracken got stuck on the monkey bars and Miss Batt spent the entire time telling her class not to take food onto the equipment - it was a fun experience! All classes will eventually get a turn on it but then it will be primarily for the infants to play on.
- And we finally welcomed Mr Welch, our caretaker, back after his Covid demise. I've never been so pleased to see the return of a colleague (and, yes, Mr Welch, I really do appreciate a caretaker's duties far more now!!!)
- And that's the end of a spectacular week filled with smiles, tears and raucous laughter. So it just remains for me to wish you all a lovely weekend full of planning, shopping and wrapping in preparation for the big day and at the end of a special week for us here at Harrow Lodge, I leave you with this thought,

"Today's special moments are tomorrow's special memories!"

With kind regards and best wishes,
Mrs Searle



Star of the week:

R1: George
R2: Laura
IA: Ilsa
IB: Isla
2A: Jacob
2B: Yatniel
3A: Liam
3B: Nicola
4A: Riley
4B: Brody
5A: Jenson
5B: Leah
6A: Lewis H
6B: Molly



Writer of the week:

R1: James
R2: Nadiirah
IA: Loris
IB: Musa
2A: Leah
2B: Ben
3A: Kyla
3B: Boe
4A: Sofia
4B: Lily-May
5A: Maci
5B: Aahil
6A: Alena
6B: Maizie



House Points

1st Phoenixes 254 points

2nd Centaurs 231 points

3rd Griffins 217 points

4th Dragons 179 points





Happy Birthday

to.....

Jude 2B
Daniel CJ 2B
Dorian 4B
Sofia 4A
Rafe 6A



who have a birthday coming
up in the next week.
We hope you have a great day!

Achiever Badges

Congratulations to

George R1
Freya 1A
Harper 1A
Jake 1A
Jenson 1A
Kara 1A
Navaira 1A
Seth 1A
Mahilan 1B
Regi 1B



on receiving an achiever badge
for gaining 3 gold certificates!



PRESENTATION
AWARD

goes to
Cindy in IB

OUR GOLDEN ACHIEVERS THIS WEEK ARE.....



George RI
All of IA
All of IB
Mahilan IB

Syed 6B
Mikele 6B
Ellen 6B
Nassar 6B
Molly 6B
Corey 6A
Rafe 6A
Chaniya 6A
Alyssa 6A



This year we will be taking part in the charity Reindeer Run on Monday 13th December. This raises funds for the King George and Queen's hospital charity which provides gifts for children who are in hospital over Christmas. Your child will have come home with a sponsor form this week to collect sponsors for completing laps of the playground with their reindeer antlers on their heads.

There will be a prize for the star fundraiser in each key stage so please help your child gather as many sponsors as they can for this worthy cause.

Thank you.





Dates for this term:



- Monday 13th December Charity Reindeer Run
- Tuesday 14th December Piano Fun Club/Drum Club concert at 2:00pm
- Wednesday 15th December PTA Christmas parties
- Thursday 16th December PTA Breakfast with Santa
- ~~Thursday 16th December Carols around the Christmas Tree at 2:30 pm~~
- Friday 17th December Break up at 1:30 pm



I am a parent at Harrow Lodge Primary and I personalise a variety of items by sublimation (printing a picture that won't fade, crack, peel or break).

Last year I printed 'Lockdown Snowflakes' with children's photos on but they were so popular that some parents have asked me if I would produce them again so they can get a snowflake with a current photograph on it. On one side of the snowflake is the School badge and, on the reverse, a printed picture of your child. I'm offering these metal snowflake tree ornaments as a small way to add a few pence to the school coffers. The snowflakes will be a treasured memory for years to come.

For every snowflake sold, £2 will be donated to the school. This is a truly beautiful memory to hang on your Christmas tree every year, while also helping to raise money for the school.

If you're interested in this memory snowflake, you can order one by sending £4 into school in an envelope with your child's name and class on the front. Please label the envelope with the word SNOWFLAKE. You can then email me your chosen picture of your child.

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