



# Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 7th January 2022 Issue Number 15  
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you had a wonderful break and your celebrations weren't too disrupted with the dreaded Covid! Here in school, we've had a wonderful start to the New Year with a few minor set backs which I'm hoping will swiftly right themselves. We've only had 3 days but here are the highlights:



- Although we had all measures in place ready to return to 'bubble' teaching and staggered finishing, no guidance was given to us to bring this into force so we're keeping those plans on the back-burner for now, ready to pull them out if necessary. We've decided to take our own measures, however, of keeping adults as distanced as possible so year group staff all have separate staff rooms for breaks and lunch. We've also removed the cutlery boxes from the dining hall so that children don't take their own cutlery but have it placed on their trays by a 'gloved' lunchtime assistant. Small measures but, hopefully, effective ones!
- Only 3 staff members have been unable to return to work because of Covid so we're counting our blessings on *that* front at the moment. However, as every member of staff is crucial to the success of the school, we do feel every absence most acutely so we're praying that we will be spared to many more cases.
- After the amazing success of our musical Christmas concert, I was devastated to return to school to the very sad news that our drumming teacher could no longer work for us. He gave no specific reason but made it clear that it was nothing to do with the school and that he loved teaching our children so it was clearly for personal reasons. However, that doesn't make it any less disappointing. I know many of our children were thriving on his lessons and are deeply saddened by the news so I *am* looking for new blood! I think there are plenty of teachers out there but not many with their own electric drum kits which is what we need as we don't own a drum kit ourselves. I'll let you know if I'm successful - the feelers are out already.
- We had a lovely visit from Mrs Sterling on Thursday with her new baby, Rio, who made a surprise appearance in November (a month earlier than expected)! Now, I'm not saying that our children are lacking observational skills but the shocked looks on their faces when Mrs Sterling walked in with a baby told me that they had



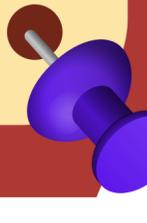
little idea that she'd been pregnant for 8 months before disappearing in November!!

- Friday saw EYFS rock up to school in their pyjamas in a bid to get the children excited about their new topic, Starry Night. I have to say, there are some very creative pyjamas out there - one child was dressed as a tiger! Well, each to his own - *my* son insisted on going to sleep dressed as a dinosaur for the first 5 years of his life so a tiger's not so outrageous it would seem!
- And Year 3 went on a Geography field trip this morning - which is a fancy way of saying that they went out and studied the use of land in our local area. Barish (3B) was most articulate as he explained to me (and 6 visiting parents!) how he was expecting to see most local land use to be 'commercial' because there are so many shops around here! I do love it when a child demonstrates how well they've been taught to analyse and deduce.
- And that's about it for the first week back. I've told the children that our New Year's Resolution is to become the best school in Havering and I've told them that the only way we can achieve big **out**comes like that is to put big effort **in** so we all know what we have to do and we're all aiming for the same goal!
- And so it just remains for me to wish you a lovely weekend full of love and good intentions and I leave you with this thought:

***"What the New Year brings to you will depend mostly on what **you** bring to the **New Year!**"***

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to.....

Sophia R1

Ellie R2

Daisy B 3A

Idris 3B

Frank 4B

Lexi P 5A

Violet 5A

Leah 5B

Syed 6B

Aminah 6A

who have had a birthday in the last week.

We hope you had a great day!

## Dates for the spring term:

- Wednesday 5th January - Children return to school
- Thursday 6th January - Prospective parent tour @ 1:45 pm
- Friday 4th February - NSPCC Number Day
- Tuesday 8th February - Safer Internet Day
- Thursday 10th February - Performing Arts trip to Mary Poppins
- Friday 11th February - Mental Health Day
- HALF TERM 14th -18th February
- Monday 21st February - Parents' Evening
- Wednesday 23rd February - Parents' Evening
- Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day (dress up)
- Tuesday 8th March - Year 6 SATs meeting @ 6:00 pm
- Friday 11th March - Scientist Day
- Friday 18th March - Red Nose Day
- Friday 25th March - Mother's Day stalls
- Thursday 31st March - Year 4 Easter Play
- Friday 1st April - break up for Easter @ 1:30 pm
- INSET DAY - Tuesday 19th April
- RETURN TO SCHOOL - Wednesday 20th April

