



Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 11th February 2022 Issue Number 20
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the last newsletter of the spring half term. It's been a quiet week but with some interesting work going on. Here are the highlights:

- I started the week in the most wonderful way - by being appreciated for what I do! Nothing spurs you on to work harder than someone telling you what a great job you're doing and that's just what Kara (1A) did for me when, during a phonics session, she said to Ms Browne, "Mrs Searle and you do a very good job, you know!" Well, there's no greater affirmation than that from a 5 year old. Thank you, Kara, and please will you come and voice your opinion to Mr and Mrs Ofsted when they visit?
- Josh (1B) further brightened my day by bringing in his Big Cities project in which he contrasted two cities - Rochester and Dubai and discussed how both cities had an abundance of human features whilst one was full of old features and the other was very new. Clearly, there's some excellent geographical analysis going on in Year 1.
- 5B have been making their winter soups this week - so my lunches have been sorted! I wasn't a great fan of the soup with oranges and cucumber in the mix, though, but everyone has to learn the flavours that blend and those that don't and that can only be done through trial and, in this case, very great error!!
- Meanwhile, 5A have been studying the human life-cycle and using fruits as a comparison to describe the size of a foetus at certain stages in the cycle. I did feel a pang of sympathy for the mother whose foetus was the size of a 'library' at 8 weeks according to Noah but I think he must have had a lapse of concentration and had intended to write 'raspberry'!!
- 5A are taking innovation to a whole new level this week by using their spare time to develop their creativity in a number of ways. Firstly, Kevin has been writing his first novel - a deep and meaningful story about a family tragedy while, at the other end of the genre spectrum, Tyler is writing *his* first book entitled, 'A day in the life of a corgi!' I can't wait to read both of them! Every child in 5A adores reading but the craze at the moment is to group-read play scripts so combining a love of reading with a penchant for performing! I had the very great pleasure of sharing such a play with 5A today and the children excelled themselves. And taking their creativity in another direction altogether Tawheed, Harry, Thomas and Scarlett are developing a board game to play during wet playtimes.

I was lucky enough to be chosen to trial the prototype and the group made changes and adaptations according to this, rather limited I grant you, market research! I can't wait to see the final version. Meanwhile Macy and Maci are flexing their teaching muscles as they prepare for a gymnastics club they want to run in the summer term. I'm just sitting back and watching these children fly!

- And, for all of you eco-friendly and safety-conscious parents, I finally have some good news regarding the parking around the school. I've been badgering the council non-stop (as many of you are aware) to do something to address the problem and, finally, this week, a member of the council met with myself and a couple of residents to discuss arrangements for bringing parking restrictions and penalties back into the area. Unfortunately, consultation won't begin until the summer term but that will be the start of getting cameras back onto our roads. It won't be the old PSPO system (*that* can't be revived no matter what!) but the cameras will pick up parking offenders during drop-off and pick-up times and a hefty fine will be levied.
- We have now set up our groups of children for extra tuition (a scheme funded by the DfE) which will begin after half term. So some children will be staying after school hours to do some extra learning with the aim of filling some of those educational gaps left by the lockdowns.
- I've been visiting our lunch hall this week keeping abreast of manners and behaviour and I've been happy with what I've seen. The cutlery is still being handed out to children and the salad is self-service on the counter not the cart for now. Please and thank-you is very apparent but, this week, it should have been 's'il vous plait' and 'merci' as we try to encourage use of French around the school. More importantly, I was shocked at how many children refused to have any vegetables on their dinner plates! We can't count ourselves as a healthy school if we're not actively encouraging our children to try some vegetables so, after half term, every child will be expected to take at least one portion of vegetables - no forcing to eat but strong encouragement to try (you know, you'll grow healthy and strong and grow muscles etc etc!!) Please make sure all your children know that they must take a portion of veg every day even if it's just a spoonful.
- And that brings me to the end of the news this week. It just remains for me to wish you a very lovely weekend full of love, hugs and kisses (it **is** Valentine's Day on Monday, after all!) and I leave you with this thought:

***"Love doesn't make the world go round.
Love is what makes the ride worthwhile!"***

With kind regards and best wishes,
Mrs Searle



Star of the week:

R1: Layla
R2: Murtajiz
IA: Jessica
IB: Emily-Rose
2A: Ethan
2B: Mujtaba
3A: Tia
3B: Olivia
4A: Dolcie
4B: Maria
5A: Fawwaz
5B: Lewis
6A: Archie
6B: Syed

Writer of the week:

R1: Liza
R2: Diyan
IA: Drey
IB: Dioni
2A: Aiden
2B: Daniel CJ
3A: Amatullah
3B: Nicola
4A: Lyla
4B: Daisy
5A: Hayley
5B: Akshee
6A: Lelou
6B: Armani



House Points

1st Centaurs 179 points

2nd Griffins 161 points

3rd Phoenixes 155 points

4th Dragons 141 points



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to.....

Ifraah RI
Ibrahim IA
Navaira IA
Levi 2A
Lelou 6A

who have had a birthday this week.
We hope you had a great day!

Achiever Badges

Congratulations to

Darcie (3A)
Akshee (5B)

on receiving an achiever badge
for gaining 3 gold certificates!

PRESENTATION
AWARD
goes to
Levi in 2A

Dates for the spring term:

- HALF TERM 14th -18th February
- Monday 21st February - EYFS and Year 4 Science Workshops
- Monday 21st February - Parents' Evening
- Wednesday 23rd February - Parents' Evening
- Thursday 24th February 5B 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
- Tuesday 15th March - Year 5 Royal Liberty school workshops
- 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

OUR GOLDEN ACHIEVERS THIS WEEK ARE.....



Aadam (1B)

Cindy (1B)

Grace (1B)

Joel (1B)

Darcie (3A)

Daisy-Leigh (3B)

Idris (3B)

Mikail (3B)

Sade (3B)

Akshee (5B)



This week's attendance
award goes to...

5B - 97.5 %

Whole school attendance...

91.3%



Reminder.....

Please can we remind parents that there is no access to the school from the Barton Road gate after 9:00 am.

If children need to be collected during the day or if you need to drop anything off then please come to the Rainsford Way entrance.

Thank you