

HARROW LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Spring Term 13th January Issue Number 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very cold and windy week has brought about high spirits and high tempers - and the children have been a bit fractious too!

Here are the highlights:

- This week is the last week before all applications need to be submitted to start school with us in EYFS in September 2023 so we've had a flurry of parents wanting to visit the school to look around and see what we offer. I'm happy to say that your children are always so welcoming and I swell with pride as I walk prospective parents around the site.
- We finally received a total for the money we raised on our Reindeer Run last term which was a whopping £618.80 for the King George and Queen's Hospital Charity. Thank you to all of you for sponsoring the children and thank you to the children for making such a big effort for other children less fortunate than themselves.
- Y1 and Y2 learnt how to and how *not* to cross the road this week by virtue of the Road Safety Show. They were taught how to use a zebra crossing and a pelican crossing and the difference between the two and, most importantly, NOT to cross the road near parked cars. I asked the road safety team if they could also teach them how they should never park their cars near a school but I think they passed on that one!!! I believe the show was a great success but do ask your children what they learned and reiterate the road safety messages for them.
- Whilst sitting in my office on Tuesday afternoon, I was confused to hear the whirring of wheels along the corridor outside my door. The lunch trolleys had already been returned to their homes so it couldn't be *that*; Alayna (R1) had already raced passed me in her wheelchair that afternoon so it wasn't *that*; Mr Welch sometimes drives his furniture trolley along the corridor but he was still out at lunch so I was truly baffled as to what could be rolling along the corridor



- making such a racket. Then there was a knock on my door and in rolled Alice (R1) wearing snazzy pink roller skates on her feet and a very wide grin on her face! I wasn't quite sure what to say as such an unusual incident was, frankly, unprecedented in my time as Head Teacher at the school. Still, I'm used to facing new occurrences so I wasn't fazed as Alice greeted me as if it was a very normal encounter. However, when I pointed out to Alice that she wasn't wearing standard uniform shoes, she told me that everyone in class was quite envious of Alayna's wheels and they had been discussing the different ways that they could each move around on wheels like Alayna does.....hence the roller skates!! It was an ingenious idea and I commended Alice on her balance and control at which point she admitted that she did often fall over and her dad had told her she needed to tie a cushion to her bottom in future! Another ingenious idea!
- We had a shortage of fruit this week as all the pears seemed to disappear. EYFS and KS1 have access to free fruit or vegetables everyday but this week the pears were thin on the ground and no one knew why until Ms Swain informed us of a conversation she had this morning with Kai (R1). While eating one of the pears at snack time, he commented on them saying, "Ms Swain, these pears are delicious. Can you tell Mrs Searle to get them again, please?" Hmm...not that I'm the suspicious type but it makes you wonder, doesn't it?
- Swimming began this week for 5B and 4A and the excitement was palpable. I believe there were a few wardrobe malfunctions (which is only to be expected the first time children have to get changed on their own) including a swimming hat that pinged off a head and flew across the changing room landing on a different head! I believe that there was consternation over how to dry oneself whilst maintaining one's modesty but Liam (4A) had a genius piece of kit in the form of a *towel poncho* (available from all good towel stores.....or Amazon!) All necessary changing can be conducted with two hands whilst protecting one's privacy!! Another ingenious idea - we're full of them this week!
- The PTA met to agree funding for the next few immediate projects. It was agreed to fund Phase 3 of the playground improvement plans (a gated football pitch in the KS1 playground), a three-holed basketball stand for the KS2 playground and resources for the Sensory room. There was also discussion about celebrating the amazing achievement of surpassing £100,000 raised since September 2018. What a coup! I think we must have the most successful PTA in the borough! The PTA would like to mark this achievement by treating the children to an inflatables day in the summer or some such high jinx so 'watch this space'! Well done and thank you to all of you for your amazing support.

- On my walk-around on Friday, I had to wake Ms Harding up after lunch and the children told me that they'd found Ms Goodwin snoozing all morning under her desk. It was Pyjama Day, you see, and, as part of their Starry Night topic, they've been talking about all kinds of nocturnal activities so it was an opportunity to have a pyjama fashion show, of course. But, if you send teachers into school wearing pyjamas, don't be surprised when they fall asleep in the most bizarre places at any time of the day!
- As a school, we are always looking at ways to improve children's reading skills and, this week, we've been looking at eye scanning - an important element in the process of learning to read. It's been interesting to find that many children are quite weak at scanning across a page of writing. Apparently, according to the training we received, this is because many children are given ipads or tablets from the earliest stage of being in a pushchair and so their eye muscles are not being developed by looking around at the environment around them. What an interesting point - so, any of you with babies out there, remember, no tablets in the pushchair!!!
- To end the week, we had our first Celebration Assembly of the spring term and, as we've been thinking a lot about world peace over the Christmas period, I thought it fitting to learn a new song called 'Peace Prayer' and we sang it in assembly. Well, if anyone hears our children singing that song without being moved to tears, they must be hard as nails. What a beautiful sound they made - 'angels on high' comes to mind!
- And that brings the week to a close. It just remains for me to wish you a wonderful weekend and I leave you with this thought:

“If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant:

if we did not sometimes taste adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.”

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle

Star of the week:

R1: Maia
R2: Lauren
1A: Amelia
1B: Liza
2A: Kara
2B: Ibrahim
3A: Neve
3B: Joshua
4A: Aya
4B: Oscar
5A: Tonte
5B: Dolcie
6A: Matthew
6B: Alex

Please see our star of the week newsletter on our website and on facebook for photos of their work.
www.harrowlodgeprimary.com

Writer of the week:

R1: Evani
R2: Majus
1A: Kevin
1B: Aisha
2A: Isla
2B: Ibrahim
3A: Ali
3B: Diana
4A: Aya
4B: Alex
5A: Oscar
5B: Isla
6A: George
6B: Katie



House Points

1st **Phoenixes** 217 points
2nd **Centaurs** 210 points
3rd **Griffins** 169 points
4th **Dragons** 168 points



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to.....

Shannon 1B

Mabel 3B

Shakira 3B

Darcie 4A

Daisy-Bella 5A

Ronnie 5A

Alex 5A

Tawheed 6A

Spencer 6B

who have had a birthday
in the last week.
We hope you had a great day!

This week's
attendance award
goes to...

**1B & 2A who both
achieved 96.7%**

Whole school
attendance...

90.7%



OUR GOLDEN AWARDS THIS WEEK ARE.....

Alice R2
Jamie R2
Drey 2B
Helena 2B
Judah 2B
Jenson 2B
Joshua 2B

Oliver 2B
Zoey 2B
Daria 3B
Lucas 4B
Tymofii 5A
Pavel 5A

Kayla 6B
Leah 6B
Liana 6B
Toni 6B
Orest 6B
Romeo 6B





Congratulations!

to.....

Evie 1A
Mithran 1A
Nate 1A
Thea 1A
Leah 6B

on receiving an achiever
badge for gaining 3 gold
certificates!



Congratulations
to.....

Aria 1B
Elizabeth L 1B

for achieving
your reading
token this week!



Dates for spring term:

- **Wednesday 18th January – Performing Arts attending Young Voices at the O2**
- **Friday 27th January – Spanish Day**
- **Tuesday 31st January – Class photos**
- **Friday 3rd February – NSPCC Number Day**
- **Friday 10th February – Break up for half term**
- **Monday 20th February – Return after half term**
- **Monday 27th February – Stay and Learn Week**
- **Tuesday 7th March – Year 5 Theatre Group – Air Quality and Sustainable Travel**
- **Friday 10th March – 5A visit to Parklands Farm Galleywood**
- **Monday 13th March – 5B visit to Parklands Farm Galleywood**
- **Friday 17th March – Year 5&6 Road Safety show.**
- **Friday 24th March – Year 6 trip to Harry Potter World**
- **Monday 27th March – Parent's Evening**
- **Wednesday 29th March – Parent's Evening**
- **Friday 31st March – Break up for Easter**
- **Tuesday 17th April – Children return to school**