





HARROW LODGE PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER

29th September | 2023

Issue 4



Weekly News

Dear Parents and Carers, Another busy week. Here are the highlights:



- The week began with frenzied planning for our new Year 3 class. Mr Welch has been busy painting the upstairs classroom ready for occupancy and we've been hurriedly ordering stationery and sundries for 30 new children. We've planned for minor changes to lunchtimes and playtimes and everything seems to be coming together. On Wednesday, I invited all the new Year 3 parents and children into the school to welcome them, explain some of our regulations and give them a tour of the school. This was a lovely day as we met some of the children who'll be joining us and they are really lovely! The parents were so grateful to us for opening our doors to them because, at the moment, their children are basically lost souls with no access to an education. It seems crazy in this day and age that there should be children who can't get educated because of a lack of school places. I'd like to send out a really big thank you to those of you who contacted me to, firstly, make such positive comments regarding what we're doing to help these families and, secondly, for reaching out and offering a welcoming hand. These families are going to find it so difficult to integrate having been just dropped into a new school like this; some who live quite a distance away and a few who are new to our country so thank you for being so thoughtful and welcoming. I know some of you had some understandable concerns about how the extra class might impact the running of the school, as did I, myself, but I hope I've managed to allay your fears. After all, it wasn't too long ago that we had 3 classes in every year group and things ran smoothly then! It all comes down to robust planning, flexibility and positivity and we've got those in abundance!
- 2B had a fun trip to Pizza Express on Wednesday. They made their own margherita pizzas and enjoyed eating them together once they returned to school. They all saved some pizza to take home with them but the deliciously tempting aromas wafting from the back of the classroom tortured them all afternoon! Having the knowledge and skills to make their own pizzas will hold them in good stead for when they're teenagers, believe me!!!

• A big thank you to all of you who sent in glasses for the charity 'Eyes of Africa'. We collected around 500 pairs of glasses and the charity leaders were absolutely blown away with the response. They said they were so shocked that they were going to have to rethink how they were going to transport all the glasses to their final destination. A massive shout out to Alice D (1A) who brought in over 200 pairs - wow, she gets through those glasses quickly, doesn't she? Ah, actually, she went campaigning around her neighbourhood with her mum asking for donations - what an amazing effort!



- I've been treading the boards of the school a lot this week apart from the 3 or 4 tours I ran for our new Year 3 parents, I also ran a tour for prospective EYFS parents. I run about 6 or 7 of these each year in the autumn term to help parents choosing a school for their child for the following September and for each tour, I choose 4 Year 6 children to help me present our school to those parents. This week, I'd like to say a big thank you to Iyaz and Pavel (6A) along with Mollie-Mae and Chanan (6B) who supported me this week. They were confident and extremely verbose and the parents were very impressed by them. Well done to all 4 children.
- This week, we've have been looking at a redesign of our web-page. The Trust has always wanted to have a consistent design of web pages across all its schools but that hasn't really translated well for Primary Schools and the current design is very corporate and more suited to secondary schools. So, the Trust are looking at allowing us to have a little more originality to our web pages. As such, we've been thinking about streamlining our information but we need your help. So, I'll be sending out a questionnaire to all parents shortly asking you to let me know exactly what *you*, as parents, want to see on a school website. Please, please, PLEASE reply to the questionnaire as we really want to get it right for *you*!
- And, this afternoon, we held our 'Macmillan coffee afternoon' thank you so much for all your donations. Personally, of course, I didn't sample any of those cakes but they looked absolutely scrumptious!.....Oh, all right, I sampled a few but only because I felt I had a duty to do so to ensure we were offering quality products! It was lovely to see so many of you joining us (yes, I know some of you were dragged in by your little ones and so had no choice but it was still lovely to see you and have a chat!) A massive thank you to Miss B and Mr B and all our school councillors who set up the hall with cakes and activities and looked after little ones as they came in with their parents. I'm so proud of them and their hard work and enthusiasm. I'm so grateful to you all for your monetary donations as well. We raised a staggering £243.90! I feel that we are truly a giving school.

And that brings us to the end of a busy but wonderful week. It just remains for metwish you a great weekend full of love and kindness and I leave you with this thought:

""Always give without remembering and always receive without forgetting."

With kind regards and best wishes,



Birthdays



Harley R1 David 4A Jude R1 Thomas 4B

Vinnie-Ray R1 Sade 5A Sofia 1A Louis 5A **Brody 6B**

Ashwika 3A

Maria 1B

We hope you had a great day!

House

1st Phoenixes 330 points 2nd Dragons 326 points 3rd Griffins 322 points 4th Centaurs 291 points



Presentation Award

Keep working hard to improve the presentation of your work!



Attendance

This week's attendance award goes to...

R2 and 2B who achieved 98.7%

Whole school attendance was 95.5%



BOOK TOKENS

Remember to keep earning your reading points. Once you reach 50 points you'll get your reading token to spend in the reading vending machine.

REACHING GOLD!

Well done to the following children for reaching gold this week:

Gurlaveen 1B Alicia 1B Zaydon 2A Nate 2A Aarshy 2A Elliott 2A Elizabeth 2A Thea 2B Nala 2B Ashwika 3A Rhea 3A Emma 3B Sarah 5A Amanda 5A Sade 5A Riley 5A Eliza 5B

Achiever badges

Keep working towards achieving golds. Once you reach gold 5 times you will be awarded an achiever badge!







- Monday 9th October Flu vaccines
- Tuesday 10th October Year 6 trip to Docklands Museum
- Monday 16th October Parent's evening
- Tuesday 17th October EYFS Harvest assembly
- Wednesday 18th October 2A visit to Pizza Express
- Wednesday 18th October Parent's evening
- Friday 20th October Break up for half term
- Monday 30th October Return to school
- Week beginning 30th October World of Work week for Years 3-6
- Friday 3rd November PTA Fireworks night
- Wednesday 8th November 1A visit to Pizza Express
- Friday 10th November Remembrance service
- Monday 13th November Individual pupil photos
- Week beginning 13th November Anti-bullying week
- Wednesday 15th November 1B visit to Pizza Express
- Friday 17th November Children in Need day
- Week beginning 20th November Stay and Learn week
- Monday 20th November Flu Vaccines
- Thursday 23rd November Parent Council meeting @ 2:00 pm
- Friday 1st December Whole school Panto trip
- Tuesday 5th December Year 4 Science of sound workshop
- Wednesday 6th December Reindeer Run
- Thursday 7th December Christmas jumper day/Christmas dinner
- Friday 8th December PTA Xmas Fair
- Monday 18th December Breakfast with santa
- Tuesday 19th December Holy Cross Church and break up at 1:30 pm
- Thursday 4th January 2024 Return to school