

HARROW LODGE PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER

1st December 2023

Issue 12

Weekly News

Dear Parents and Carers,

- This week has been an exciting one. Here are the highlights:
- We started the week in full chocolate mode! Your children looked spectacular in their non-uniform clothes and my eyes lit up in delight as my gaze fell upon the tables groaning under the weight of deliciously creamy chocolate that I imagined would melt in the mouth whilst zinging the taste buds.... apologies, the sight of mountains of chocolate always sends me into a whirl! The point is, we collected enough chocolate for everyone to be a winner next Friday on the Tombola stall! Many thanks for all your donations!
- This week saw the last of our new Year 3 students join the school so, on Monday, 3C will be full. I'd like to thank both yourselves and your children for making our new families feel so welcome. About 60% of the children have joined us from out of the country, many with very little English and yet they have indicated to me that they have been made to feel welcomed by many parents and helped to settle in to Harrow Lodge life. I know that many of the children have made friends across the whole year group which is fantastic. Thank you for helping our new families to join our happy community.
- This week saw British democracy at its finest! Ms Goodwin had planned a lovely activity involving the Gingerbread man for the outside role-play area. The children, however, had other ideas and together decided that, under the rule of law, they would prefer a Santa's Grotto. Now, naturally, we *had* planned and prepared for such festive fun but this was planned for *next* week, not *this* week. After several discussions and an impromptu vote instigated by Luna (R1), Ms Goodwin lost and the children romped home to victory! Their garden now boasts a fully operational Grotto with 60 little elves shocked at Ms Goodwin's lack of understanding in regard to just how busy Santa is at this time of year!
- Sticking with EYFS, Thursday saw a rather unwelcome visit from Jack Frost who had left such slippery surfaces that the stage and climbing frame could no longer be used from a safety point of view and, when I took our prospective parents on a visit to the



- setting, I was met by two official-looking gentlemen wearing hard hats, lanyards and Hi-Viz jackets. A quick peek at their badges told me they were Health and Safety Officers. One of them, Dexter (R1), stopped us and informed us that we mustn't venture near the unsafe areas as they had been condemned! He went on to say that 'a *Ms Clarke*' had already been reported to his colleague Hudson (R1) for breaking Health & Safety guidance and she would be receiving a fine! Michael (R2) stood beside Dexter nodding in agreement. I think Mr Welch's job may be in danger of being poached at this rate!
- On another part of my Parent Tour, I happened to spy a year 3 art lesson going on which was an unusual occurrence in the morning as mornings are usually reserved for Maths and English lessons so I decided to take the parents in to have a look. The children were busy pulling out long rolls of brown paper, scrunching them up and tying string around strategic parts of the rolls. I confidently asked the children what they were learning about in their art lesson, knowing the parents would be impressed with the children's knowledge of art skills. I was met with an indignant reply from Joshua (3A), "This is a **reading** lesson, Mrs Searle!" Well, that put the cat among the pigeons! It turns out that they were making 'iron men' puppets based on the book, 'The Iron Man'. These puppets were amazing. They were able to move incredibly realistically and the written descriptions that followed the activity were breath-taking!
- Mr Charlee took a Year 5 & 6 Athletics Team to an indoor competition on Thursday and, although the outcomes aren't fully through yet, I believe we're going to have some great results to share with you. Look out for that in next week's newsletter.
- And, finally, Christmas officially began this week with our whole school visit to the Panto. This year, it was Dick Whittington! We had the usual grumpy faces when we took away the family bags of crisps and sweets that children had brought in for snacks but, once *that* bit was over, everyone left with smiles on their faces despite the walk ahead in the freezing weather. I reminded the children about theatre etiquette (no toilet visits until the interval!) so I'm sure they all adhered to that!!!! We booked out the whole theatre this year which is much less stressful. When everyone returned, the children couldn't stop talking about the experience - they had an absolute blast. A massive thank you to Ms Lawson and the PTA who organised this event. It's a huge event to coordinate and we're so lucky to have such a wonderful team to make sure all our children have an amazing experience.
- So that brings us to the end of this week's news. It just remains for me to wish you a lovely weekend full Christmas preparations and Advent Calendar treats (I have a cheesy one this year!) and I leave you with this thought:

"It's Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air!"

With Kind regards and Best Wishes,

Mrs Searle





Your children brought home a sponsorship form for this year's annual Reindeer Run last week.

This is a charity event run by King George & Queen's Hospitals Charity. They raise money to buy Christmas presents for all the children who are in our local hospitals over the Christmas period. The children will be making their reindeer antlers in school next week and on the morning of Wednesday 6th December they will run laps of the playground whilst wearing their antlers. There are prizes for the child in KS1 (EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2) and KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) who raise the most sponsorship money for this worthy cause.

Please encourage your child to collect sponsorship money, it must be so hard for those children to miss Christmas at home.



All sponsorship money needs to be handed in to the class teacher in a *named* envelope by Wednesday 13th December.

We thank you in advance for your support.



Stars of the Week

Our stars
of the week
will be
carried
over to
next week
as we have
no
assembly
due to the
Panto trip.



Birthdays



Nailah R1
Camilla R2
Archie R1
Dima 1B
Darcy 1B
Mithran 2B

Wendell 4B
Fraser 4A
Charlie 5B
Alex M 5B
Nathan 6A

*We hope you had
a great day!*

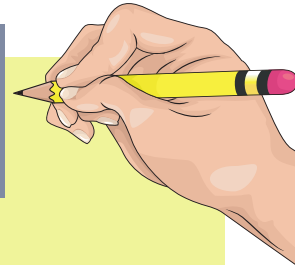


House Points



1st Centaurs 473 points
2nd Dragons 441 points
3rd Phoenixes 420 points
4th Griffins 399 points

Presentation Award



This weeks presentation
award will be carried over
to next week's assembly.



Attendance

This week's
attendance award
goes to...

2B who achieved
96.5%

Whole school
attendance was
89.6%



BOOK TOKENS

Keep working hard to
earn your reading
tokens!

REACHING GOLD!

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

Luna R1	Matas 2A	Amin 5B
Hudson R1	Ibrahim 3A	Tia 5B
Ada R1	Toby 3A	Arjun 5B
Matei R1	Navaira 3B	Doahika 5B
Arisha R1	Seth 3B	Olobo 5B
Sienna R2	Harry 3B	Tiye 5B
Idrees R2	Henry 3B	Opey 6A
Darius R2	Jake 3B	Lily-May 6A
Vivaan 1B	Meharwan 3C	Logan G 6B
Mussab 1B	Anaaya 3C	
Alice 1B	Shayan 4B	
Maria 1B	Taha 4B	
Nate 1B		
Evangeline 1B		

Achiever badges

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

Congratulations!



Autumn Term Dates

- **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 - Choir singing in Romford**
- **Friday 8th December - PTA Xmas Fair @ 3:30**
- **Monday 11th December - Year 2 concert @ 9:30**
Year 1 concert @ 2:30
- **Tuesday 12th December - EYFS concert @ 9:15**
Year 2 concert @ 2:30
- **Wednesday 13th December - Year 1 concert @ 9:30**
EYFS concert @ 2:30
- **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**