

HARROW LODGE PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER

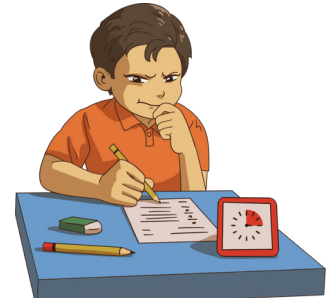
9th February 2024

Issue 5

Weekly News

Dear Parents and Carers,
Test Week! Here are the highlights:

- As I wandered around the school this week, you could hear a pin drop and, looking through the classroom windows, all I could see were the tops of heads as children beavered away feverishly. It's half-way through the year so these test results will be very telling. They help us to see how well your children have taken on board the teaching and help teachers to see which areas of the curriculum need revision. It's these midway results, however, that also painfully show up the impact of absence and there's little teachers can do about that other than let you know!
- This week, our Year 6 children were treated to another parent talk - this time about Islam. There were some excellent questions and I hope that your children came home and discussed what they'd heard with you. This would allow you to have your own input into the discussion especially if there are any elements which need explaining or refining or may have been misunderstood or not fully understood.
- On Wednesday, Y2 were treated to a zoom call with an Australian author called Robert Vescio who loves to write picture book stories about wild animals. He began with a quiz in which he gave the children clues to a variety of animals. Of course, our children found this very challenging because the animals were all native to Australia! They thoroughly enjoyed it, though, and, when he read his book, *'Into the Wild'*, to them, they were enthralled. The most interesting part of the meeting, however, was how puzzled the children were by the fact that the author sat in front of a window in his house showing that it was pitch black outside whilst our children were sitting in broad daylight. I think a good portion of the talk was given over to questions about why it was night time in Australia while it was *daytime* here!!!
- Our Great British Bird Watch this week received a fantastic response in EYFS in particular.





Aidan (R1) enthusiastically briefed the class on the proper protocol for 'twitching' (the correct term for bird watching). According to him, maintaining absolute silence is crucial to prevent the birds flying away. Aidan chose to conduct his survey at his nanny and grandad's house, because he found his daddy was too loud for the task!! I hope many of your children have taken part in this National Survey and learnt a lot from it (like Aidan's dad!!)

- Now, as you know, I love to encourage children to take initiative and to be enterprising and many children like to start lunchtime clubs - dancing, art, skipping, gymnastics, colouring - we've had them all! And a couple of weeks ago, 2 young ladies (Hannah (6B) & Amelia (6A)) approached me with an idea they had about a fundraising activity they wanted to carry out. They came prepared with written plans, examples of products they wanted to sell and most importantly, information on the charities they wanted to raise funds for. I was thrilled with their preparation and their business plan (yes - they'd worked out how much it would cost them to make the products they were hoping to sell, how much they would sell them for, how much profit would be made and how the profits would be shared between the charities!) But, these enterprises always need *some* adult support to help set them up, run them and sustain them and that's where most of them fall down because of the reliance on voluntary help at lunchtime, before school or after school (it's very hard to find) so I'd like to say an enormous thank you to Miss B, Mr B and Mrs Plewa, all of whom have given up precious time to support these children in their fundraising. Hannah and Amelia appear to have set up their own cottage industry and have been making bags, loom band bracelets and bookmarks continuously for the past few weeks and been selling for 2 weeks now and have raised a massive £97.94. They've even been taking orders and making bespoke items!! What a service! All profits are going to 'The Salvation Army' and 'Pets Protection'. Well done to both girls - we're very proud of you.
- And, finally, at the end of 5 weeks (as opposed to 2!), we have a fully refurbished Cookery Room! It looks fantastic but I'll wait until it's had a deep clean and a new fridge installed before sharing a picture with you. It doesn't look hugely different but it's fresh and all the peeling paint has gone!! We're so grateful to the Local Authority who have funded this project for us and look forward to bringing it to life after half term.
- Our SEND Garden has now been designed and is going to cost a huge amount of money (but worth every penny) none of which we have so I now have to set about



- fund-raising in earnest. Our Trust has offered to fund the flooring and we're hugely grateful for that. I've asked the Local Authority for help and am awaiting a response and I've begun to complete a Tesco fund-raising application (it's taken me an hour so far and I'm only half way through!) These grant applications have you jumping through hoops, bending over backwards and doing the splits in order to be in with a small chance of gaining a penny or two! If any of you know of any suitable grants that we could apply for, do let me know and I'll get onto them.
- We received a lovely thank you this week from TLM Environmental who took our Christmas cards for recycling. This is what they said:

A huge thank you for taking part in our Christmas Card Recycling Drive. Together, we recycled an impressive 1.740 tonnes of Christmas cards – to put that into perspective, that's around 25 trees worth of cards! Please pass a massive thank you to you pupils, families, and staff for collecting all the cards that they could.

So thank you all so much for your efforts. It's really appreciated.

- I'm so pleased to tell you that I have secured a parent online session with 'The 2 Johns' for next week on Thursday 15th February at 8:00 pm. You should all have received the link to join but here it is again just in case you missed it:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85898410786>

I do hope you can join and hear the very important messages. Please remember, though, the session is **NOT** suitable for children.

- I'm going to end this newsletter with a plea....I know Ms Goodwin and Mrs Byrne won't be happy with me but I think it's about time we did something about their classes always coming at the top of the Doodling List. PLEASE get your children Doodling - it's so good for them... apart from the fact that they might get their class to the top of the list. There are only 5 children actually doodling in 4B so even a small increase in that class will make a *huge* difference and just think of the progress they'll make in maths!!
- And that brings us to the end of this week's newsletter. It just remains for me to wish you a wonderful weekend and I leave you with this thought:

***“Raise your words, not your voice.
It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder!”***

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



Children's Mental Health Day



Harrow Lodge Primary School is running a **Mental Health Day** on **Monday 12th February** to continue to support the wellbeing of our children.

The day focuses on raising awareness of mental health and being mindful of how to support our own, and others', mental health.

The themes for the day that we will be promoting with the children are **'My Voice Matters'** and **'Express Yourself.'**

To tie in with the day, we kindly ask for your children to come into school wearing **non-school uniform**, in outfits that they typically wear on a day-to-day basis that shows their unique identities that **express who they are**.

**NO DONATION
NEEDED!**



On the day, we will be running sessions for the children to express themselves to the rest of their class, if they are comfortable to.

To help to prepare for this, we kindly ask for you to work with your child at home on something that they wish to share with their class linked to **skills, hobbies, talents or interests** that they have, e.g. singing, dancing, playing a musical instrument, artwork, a football skill, speaking another language etc.

Please send any pictures of your child linked to this to your **year group emails** by the morning of **Monday 12th February**, or please print any pictures and send them in with your child to share on **Monday 12th February**. **Thank you!** 😊

evfs@harrowlodgeprimary.com year1@harrowlodgeprimary.com

year2 year3 year4 year5 year6 ... @harrowlodgprimary.com

Gardening Club



On **Friday 16th February** we are going to have a **Wear Green** day to support our After School Gardening Club. In order to wear green we are asking that you bring a donation of one of the following:

- Coir - for potting (low salt content please)
- All purpose compost (not peat free please)
- Seeds or bulbs
- Seed trays
- Children's gardening tools
- Cash donation
- Just giving page donation



https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/GardeningClubProject?utm_term=gPj4Gx42Q

We thank you in advance for your support



Stars of the Week

R1: Archie
R2: Musa
1A: Freddy
1B: Nellie
2A: Evie
2B: Harley
3A: Joel
3B: Cindy
3C: Shriyah
4A: Hope
4B: Amber
5A: Baris
5B: Zlata
6A: Yafeya
6B: Maaz

Birthdays



Zoe R2
Regan 1A
Karley 1B
Ayaan 1B
Ibrahim 3A
Navaira 3B
Levi 4B

*We hope you had
a great day!*

House Points



1st Griffins 533 points
2nd Phoenixes 521 points
3rd Dragons 447 points
4th Centaurs 407 points



Presentation Award



This weeks presentation
award goes to Alex O in
6A

As a gleam of darkness crept the tower
she could see the dolls from all
different century set on their shelves
staring down at her, & venturing further
she kept her eyes on it, knowing the
second that she stopped looking it would
disappear. Then a doll with a bike
tried to get up. Without thinking, she
picked up the doll and put it down. Then

Attendance

This week's
attendance award
goes to...

3C who achieved
98.5%

Whole school
attendance was
95.3%



BOOK TOKENS

Congratulations to...

Toby 3A
Louis 5A
Lashana 5A
Liam 5B
Eliza 5B

for earning your reading
token this week!

REACHING GOLD!

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

Aarish R1	Karley 1B	Ishan 3C	Charlie 5B
Kendall R1	Vivaan 1B	Irhaaa 3C	Tia 5B
Amelia R1	Zayna 1B	Zahra 3C	Muhammad 5B
Danielius R1	Dion 1B	Marco 3C	Marta 5B
Dexter R1	Albie 1B	Oscar 3C	Daryna 5B
James R1	Jessica 1B	Sofiia 3C	Ilinca 5B
Emily R1	Nate 1B	Kimberley 3C	Jack 5B
Tasnim R1	Kai 1B	Mustafa 3C	Opey 6A
Nailah R1	Kaiyaan 1B	Yaid 4A	Oscar 6A
Hurmat R2	Dahlia 2A	Arham 4A	Yafeya 6A
Rocko R2	Nate 2A	Fraser 4A	Nitza 6A
Meltem R2	Elliott 2A	Fareedah 4A	Lily-May 6A
Sehaj R2	Grace 2B	Neve 4A	Gurkeerat 6A
Harper R2	Idris 2B	Joanna 4A	Sotonte 6A
Darius R2	Aleeha 3A	David C 4A	Nathan 6A
Rahim 1A	Polly 3A	Hope 4A	Stefania 6A
Leandro 1A	Adam 3A	Maya 4A	Amelia P 6A
Logan 1A	Grace 3A	Feryal 4A	Ronnie 6A
Isobel 1A	Ashwika 3A	Oyintade 3C	Fred 6A
Layla 1A	Joel 3A	Amanda 5A	Larisa 6A
Alice 1A	Mahilan 3B	Temi 5A	Alex O 6A
	Aadam 3B	Muhammed 5A	Arthur 6B
	Seth 3B	Baris 5A	Maria 6B

Achiever badges

Well done to...

Nailah R1

Zayna 1B

Nate 2A

Elliot 2A

Ashwika 3A

for reaching gold 5 times
and earning an
achievers badge.



Congratulations!



Spring Term Dates

- **Monday 12th February - Dress to express yourself - non-uniform day (no donation)**
- **Monday 12th February - Parent's Evening**
- **Wednesday 14th February - Parent's Evening**
- **Thursday 15th February - Two Johns online safety zoom for parents @ 8:00 pm**
- **Friday 16th February - Wear Green for Gardening Club and bring donations for the club**
- **Friday 16th February - Break up for Half term**
- **Monday 26th February - Return to school**
- **Thursday 29th February - Year 4 Music workshop**
- **Thursday 29th February - Year 6 trip to Harry Potter World**
- **Friday 1st March - Year 2 Music Workshop**
- **Monday 4th - Friday 8th March - Careers week**
- **Thursday 7th March - World Book day - dress up**
- **Friday 8th March - Mother's Day stalls**
- **Monday 11th March - Class photos**
- **Tuesday 12th March - 3C trip to Colchester Castle**
- **Friday 15th March - 3A & 3B trip to Colchester Castle**
- **Monday 18th March - Stay and Learn Week**
- **Monday 25th March - PTA Easter Egg Hunt**
- **Tuesday 26th March - Year 4 Easter Play**
- **Wednesday 27th March - Year 5 trip to the British Museum**
- **Thursday 28th March - Easter Bonnet Parade**
- **Thursday 28th March - break up at 1:30 pm**