

HARROW LODGE PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER

16th February 2024

Issue 6

Weekly News

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the week of Love and Pancakes, here are the highlights:

- We started the week in a very expressive fashion with children celebrating Mental Health Day by wearing clothes that were an expression of their unique selves. We had a lot of football kits (naturally!) but there were some fantastic outfits expressing hobbies, fads and general quirks and idiosyncrasies! It was a wonderful celebration of variety and diversity!
- Monday was spent 'Off Curriculum' and 'On Mindfulness' as we busied ourselves with a variety of activities designed to improve our mental health as well as share our individual passions. Dottie (2A) regaled us all with her baton twirling while Harry (3B) shared his love of the 'beautiful game' with a creative presentation of photos and pictures. Several of you sent in fantastic photos of your children showing off their brilliant talents and these were shared with their classes (I had a sneaky peak at some of them as well!!) Sahar, Zlata and Aya (5B) brought me 5B's 'Jar of Smiles' which was full of ideas of things to do to make you smile. I picked out 'Do something artsy while listening to Taylor Swift'! I LOVE Taylor Swift so that definitely brought a smile to my face. Kyle (4A) brought me a Glitter Globe that he'd made (similar to a seventies lava lamp but with glitter not lava!) and we spent several minutes just watching the glitter swirl around in hypnotic modulation! There were so many wonderful activities going on throughout the day and, as I floated walked around the school, I breathed in sensual aromas, listened to gentle undulating music and watched children stretch out in their 'downward dog' poses! The atmosphere was calm, tranquil and serene - just as one would hope for when celebrating Children's Mental Health Week.



- This week, we held our Parents' Evenings and it was lovely to see you all as always. Our prefects did a sterling job of directing parents and guarding doors to ensure that nobody got lost or trapped in a locked corridor!! A big thank you to Amelia, Nitza, Stanley, Reuben, Logan G, Pavel, Bonnie, Chanan, Sotente, Fatjona, Ava, Leo, Luca and Lily-May who all took turns carrying out what must have been some very tedious tasks but never complained. I hope they made you all feel welcome and, most importantly, persuaded you to take home some Lost Property with you!!
- On Monday EYFS and KS1 were treated to an Author event on a zoom call. The children learnt that it's 'ok to not be ok' through a social story and the author discussed with them what it's like to be an author. The children asked some insightful comments which was great to hear.
- Children, staff and parents have all been completing surveys this week about Playtimes. As you know, we're hoping to transform our playtimes into something more exciting and certainly more interesting than they are now in the hope that children will start playing more imaginatively and socially rather than just kicking a football around. The surveys are designed to find out how you and your children view playtimes currently and then we'll survey you again once we've made some changes and we'll see what you think of the changes!!! Thank you to those of you who have already completed the survey and I look forward to receiving the rest of the surveys soon.
- This week, we had a visit from the Local Authority who sent an inspector over to check how we're getting on with making school improvements and keeping standards high. It's called a 'Quality Assurance' visit and I suppose you could think of it as a 'mini inspection' but the Local Authority call it a 'KIT (Keeping in Touch) visit' just to see if we need any support with anything and I guess to make sure that we're not letting standards slip. It was a busy visit and a tour of the school showed off your beautiful children who were, as always, so charming and polite. We'll receive a report in a couple of weeks and I'll let you know how we got on.
- Thursday Evening set the scene for The 2 Johns to talk to you about the dangers your children are exposed to on the internet in today's world and I hope many of you tuned in to hear what they had to say. I'd be very interested in your thoughts about the talk if you'd care to email me. If you forgot to tune in, or weren't able to for some reason, we have a link to share with you to watch the recording at a time convenient to yourselves.

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/jj7fOGub8CguufaVtRybk13zQj38yEpu4i6sTMn6P8_hmbLvHiLxw8B3w6Z4m7Gc.YYjQ6VL6RYUxJ3nm

It's available for 28 days but then it will be cancelled so do please give it a watch. I can also direct you to the 2 John's website which has more information and helpful advice for you. And for the more tech-savvy of you, there are details of how to follow them on their other media sites.



Visit our  www.esafetytraining.org

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Please Follow us on  @JohnsThe2

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FOLLOW THE 2 JOHNS

- Today, Year 5 were privileged to receive a visit from Animal Aid who talked to them about Animal Welfare and the importance of caring for all wildlife and pets.
- Today was also 'Green Day' and your children were able to come to school wearing green for a small donation of cash or, more importantly, seeds, bulbs, compost, pots, tools or any other gardening paraphernalia! Mrs Ellis who runs our gardening club needs to boost her resources so all your donations were gratefully received.
- While we're talking about fund-raising, our clever business women, Hannah and Amelia (Y6) have continued to sell their products over the week and set up a stall in the hall for Parents' Evening. What a killing they made - £89.10 and £20 worth of orders just in one evening! Thank you so much for your generosity - the pot is growing steadily and the girls are rightfully proud of themselves. I do think I'm going to have to enlist them for fundraising for the school next - or sign them up as honorary members of the PTA!
- On Wednesday, I had a busy day working on Policies (my very least favourite jobs of being a Head Teacher) and I was just beginning to lose the will to live when my nose began to twitch as a familiar aroma overwhelmed my senses. I couldn't quite place the smell or identify what it was so I took very little persuading to leave the office and follow the trail of sweet and sour tang and my nose led me to 3B where a wonderful sight greeted my eyes - steaming hot pancakes smothered in lemon and sugar piled high on the side just begging to be devoured - and of course I was happy to oblige. What a feast! Mrs Bracken hadn't been able to celebrate pancake day on Tuesday so she brought the ingredients into school and carried out the labour of love on Valentine's Day instead and we *all* enjoyed sharing that bit of love!! And on the subject of Valentine's Day, may I say a huge thank you to Kira (3C) and Zlata (5B) who brought me a Valentine's cake to brighten up my day - and it certainly *did*!
- Pancakes were being tossed around all over the school this week and our Willow Class certainly enjoyed making them and, even more so, eating them! The children used choice boards to communicate their selection of toppings and it was a huge success, especially for Mesh who kept returning for seconds, thirds and fourths!!!!



Visit www.harrowlodgeprimary.com to view it online



- Ms Howard (5A) is very fond of a competition in her class and she runs a lot of them giving her children the brief and expectations of the task and then she picks a winner - the pupil who has met the objectives the best. Only, she *doesn't* actually pick a winner - she gets **me** to pick the winner! I keep telling her she needs to be braver and start choosing the winner herself but she says it's like a mother choosing between her children and no mother should be expected to do that! Hand on face emoji needed again! Well, today's competition was to produce an information leaflet or poster about wolves suitable for children. Ms Howard laid out all the entries with no names visible so I was judging blind (I felt like Olly Murs on 'The Voice'!) and it was very difficult because they were all sooooo good. But, after much deliberation, congratulations go to James whose leaflet stole the show. Well done to all 5A, though, because the standard was so high!
- And, today, in our Celebration assembly, we were treated to a wonderful performance from 1A who sang their hearts out about the United Kingdom - not only that, they also used sign language to express themselves. They were amazing with Lauren telling everyone to sing louder and Sara wiggling for the United Kingdom they were singing about. Well done to all of 1A and Miss Lawson who coordinated the whole performance.
- And that brings us to the end of this week's newsletter. It just remains for me to wish you a wonderful half-term full of sunshine and showers apparently and I leave you with this thought:

***“All you need is love
but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt!”***

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



Stars of the Week

R1: Vinnie
R2: Hurmat
1A: Jayden
1B: Ismael
2A: Aarshy
2B: Idris
3A: Ibrahim
3B: Harry
3C: Vera
4A: Omari
4B: Diana
5A: Ichim
5B: Tiye
6A: Larrisa
6B: Arthur

Birthdays



Ifraah 2A
Irhaa 3C
Zirwah 3C
Sofia 3C
Muhammad 5A
Lily-May 6B

We hope you had a great day!

House Points

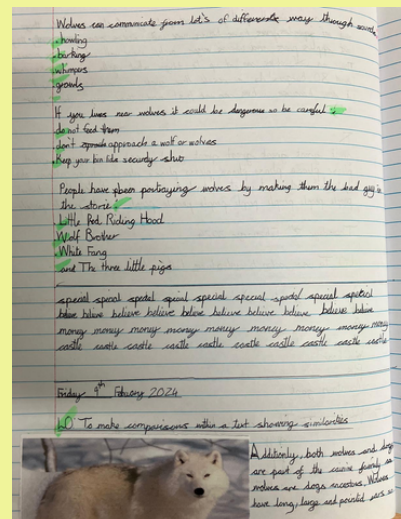


1st Centaurs 518 points
2nd Dragons 516 points
3rd Phoenixes 467 points
4th Griffins 465 points

Presentation Award



This weeks presentation award goes to Daisy in 5A



Attendance

This week's
attendance award
goes to...

2A who achieved
98.6%

Whole school
attendance was
94.6%



BOOK TOKENS

Congratulations to...

Ashwika 3A
Lucas 5A

for earning your reading
token this week!

REACHING GOLD!



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

Dexter R1	Nate 1B	Nala 2B	Ashlyn 3C	Ela 5B
James R1	Shayne 1B	Grace 2B	Kimberley 3C	Charlie 5B
Ashton R1	Karley 1B	Idris 2B	Sonia 3C	Tia 5B
Tashim R1	Rohan 1B	James 2B	Ayanah 3C	Olobo 5B
Arisha R1	Vivaan 1B	Shemuel 3A	Sofiia 3C	Tiye 5B
Ada R1	Elizabeth 2A	Adam 3A	Vivien 3C	Amin 5B
Lexi R2	Aarshy 2A	Grace 3A	Sinachi 3C	Iyaz 6A
Sehaj R2	Evie 2A	Ashwika 3A	Anayya 3C	Gurkeerat 6A
Callum R2	Summer 2A	Drey 3A	Yatniel 4A	Nitza 6A
Idrees R2	Nate 2A	Halimat 3A	Marharyta 4A	Hayden 6A
Isa R2	India 2A	Khaleelah 3A	Joanna 4A	Lyla 6A
Folu R2	Shannon 2A	Jessica 3A	Jude 4A	Sotonte 6A
Riley 1A	Aisha 2A	Judah 3A	Fayeq 4A	Stefania 6A
Kevin 1A	Toby 2B	Dima 3B	David C 4A	Luca 6A
Logan 1A	Milana 2B	Roger 3B	Fareedah 4A	Tymofii 6A
Layla 1A	Paisley 2B	Kris 3B	Louie 4A	Dolcie 6B
George 1A	Serena 2B	Nathan 3B	Fraser 4A	Fatjiona 6B
Maia 1A	Sophia 2B	David 3C	Maya 4A	Samuel 6B
Lauren 1A	Lorin 2B	Oscar 3C	Hope 4A	Zara 6B
Aayan 1B	Sidney 2B	Maxwell 3C	Omari 4A	Dorian 6B
Affan 1B	Ellie 2B	Promesse 3C	Thomas 4B	Stanley 6B
Henry 1B	Harley 2B	Irhaa 3C	Marta 5A	Manraj 6B
Alice 1B	Mithran 2B	Zahra 3C	Zariana 5A	
Aaron 1B	Amelie 2B	Vera 3C	Amelia 5B	
	Thea 2B	Kira 3C	Ariana 5B	

Achiever badges

Well done to...

Arisha R1	Thomas 4B
Ashton R1	Tia 5B
Nate 1B	Gurkeerat 6A
Elizabeth 2A	Nitza 6A
Aarshy 2A	Stefania 6A

for reaching gold 5 times
and earning an
achievers badge.



Congratulations!



Spring Term Dates

- **Monday 26th February – Return to school**
- **Wednesday 28th February – PTA Sponsored Bounce**
- **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 18th March – Science week workshops all day**
- **Wednesday 20th March – Year 1 Victorian Day**
- **Friday 22nd March – Non-Uniform – Bring an Easter Egg donation**
- **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**