

HARROW LODGE PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER

1st March 2024

Issue 7

Weekly News

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy St David's Day to you all. I hope you will discuss the Patron Saint with your children and all things Welsh including daffodils, dragons and leeks!!!!

It's been a busy week - here are the highlights:

- I'd like to begin by thanking all of you who completed the Parent survey concerning Lunch time play. It was really useful to get an insight into your perceptions of play. We also surveyed the children with regards to their ideas about play. You won't be surprised to hear that the main grumble about play times from our children is that there isn't enough of it!! There were a few ideas that children thought would improve their play so we're going to have a good think about that and see if we can incorporate some of their ideas into our lunch times. On Monday, we had a visit from the OPAL (Outdoor Play And Learning) coordinator - she's going to advise us on how to improve play so that it makes the maximum use of our outdoor space. So, we walked the grounds deciding where we could set up some of the areas that children had asked for such as den-building, mud-kitchens, small-world play, arts & crafts, dressing up, sand-pits etc. And we've come up with a draft plan of action. Sadly, the tree-house will have to wait but, make no mistake, it's on my 'to-do' list!!
- I'm still looking for grants to help pay for our SEND garden but no one has come back to me with any suggestions. Any ideas for raising money would be most appreciated! The Trust have offered a large sum to cover the flooring but I still need a huge amount to make up the total. I await your ideas and advice!!!
- Talking of raising funds, the PTA (that's **you**) ran a sponsored bounce event. Two bouncy castles were set up in the KS2 hall and any sponsored children had 15 minutes to do as many bounces as they could. It was a very interesting exercise to watch the children enter the hall, fresh-faced and eager and then to watch them exit the hall, red-faced, dripping in sweat and completely bedraggled! What a transformation - bet they slept well *that* night!



- I did hear that some parents were rather disgruntled that their child didn't get to bounce - I heard that some parents were planning on sending the sponsorship money in after school or the next day and so it was upsetting that their child didn't get to bounce. However, I'm a little confused because the messages that the PTA sent out were quite clear that the sponsorship form was their permission to bounce so this was needed to allow any child to take part. I'm **hugely** grateful that you support the school so generously through the PTA events but may I respectfully ask that, if you can send the monies in **before** the day of the event, it would ease a lot of stress on the volunteers helping. I understand that it's not always possible but, if you can try, we'd all be really appreciative. If you disagree with the way the events are run, though, please, **please** attend the PTA meetings where all these events are planned and join in the discussion. Your opinion matters but, if you're not there to share it, we won't know what it is and so can't take it into consideration. On a more positive note, we were blown away by the £1000+ that was raised through the sponsored bounce. Thank you so much for your generosity - your children will benefit from it in one way or another and, as we're hoping to use PTA money to install air-conditioning into classrooms, *you'll* benefit also (no one wants children to be sent home from school because it's too hot to safely be here!).
- Throughout this week, the children in EYFS have displayed remarkable enthusiasm and productivity as they actively assisted their class teachers in planning and organising the upcoming Careers Week. Their creative ideas involved the construction of a police car and even a playful prison setup - a light-hearted caution for Mrs. Delaney to stay alert! The children are eagerly looking forward to receiving official training from Sergeant Davis, (aka Henry's dad), as they gear up to put everyone under surveillance, (with a special focus on Mrs Delaney!) It's all in good humour! A heartfelt thank you to the parents who have generously volunteered their services. If you are interested, it's not too late to contact Ms. Goodwin for an opportunity to discuss your chosen profession with the children in class next week for Careers Week.
- Year 2 and 4 were extremely lucky this week as they were treated to a wonderful workshop in 'Conductive Music'. When I joined them, the children were incredibly excited to show me how they were able to conduct electricity through the lead in their pencils to the computer which then played musical notes. I had to listen to everyone's composition which is lovely but, when there are only 4 notes to combine, there's only so much you can do to vary it - my head was buzzing by the time I left!



- As you know, our year 3s, 4s and 5s go swimming and we've started to go swimming from Y3 because we were shocked to find how few children had actually ever been swimming once they entered Year 5. So, we're looking forward to seeing if starting the children swimming earlier will make a difference to our outcomes. In year 5, children usually struggle to meet the 25m swim target let alone the 100m target expected so it was incredible to hear from Mrs Cole that Kara (3B) had completed a distance swim of 700m (almost half a mile in old money!!) in her lesson. Well done Kara - that's an incredible achievement! Another Olympic prospect coming from Harrow Lodge Primary!!!
- And what a response we had with our half-term STEM project! The bridges you constructed with your children were incredible. We tested them all to ensure that they could hold 2Kg and they were judged on this aspect as well as aesthetics and creativity. 5B were fantastic at helping me judge pointing out many desirable features that could well have been missed without their assistance. All the bridges were incredible and it was very hard to pick winners but, nevertheless, we managed to award some - see below for the year group winners who all chose their prizes in assembly today.
- Year 6 are working extremely hard at the moment as the countdown to SATs is underway so it was lovely to send them out on a magical mystery tour this week to Harry Potter World - unfortunately, none of the children were transformed into toads and they all returned safely (if high on sugar from Honeydukes and playing practical jokes bought from Weasley's Wizard Wheezes!)
- And that brings us to the end of this week's newsletter. It just remains for me to wish you a wonderful weekend and you can celebrate 'me' this weekend - apparently it's 'National Old-Stuff Day'!!!! And, after a week of misunderstandings and hot-headedness, I found this quote to be really helpful - I hope *you* do too:

Practise the Pause

***“Pause before judging, pause before assuming,
Pause before accusing.***

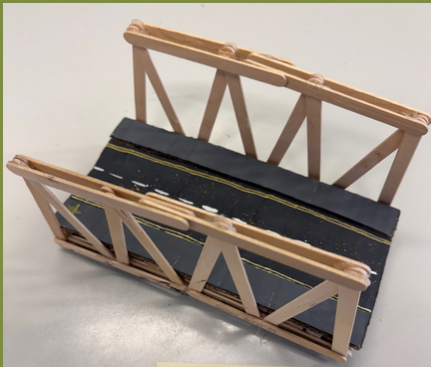
***Pause whenever you're about to react harshly
And you'll avoid doing and saying things that may hurt
or you will later regret!”***

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



STEM Maths Family Challenge Competition Winners



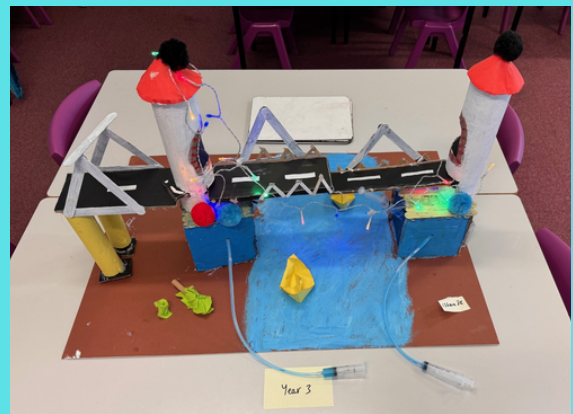
EYFS
Sehaj



Year 1 Paula



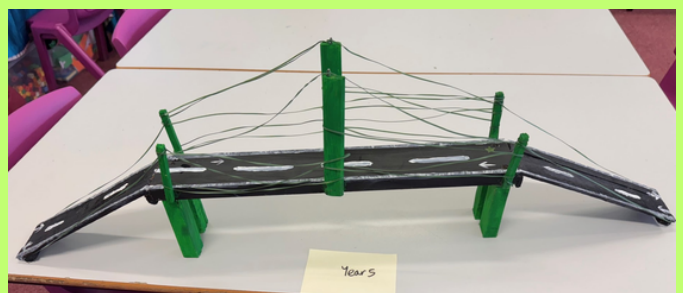
Year 2 India & sister
Penelope (4A)



Year 3 Ishan



Year 4 Mikala



Year 5 Roan



Year 6 Bonnie
(with help from her
sister Emily-Rose in 3B)

Stars of the Week

- R1: Emily
- R2: Lexi
- 1A: Asad
- 1B: Karley
- 2A: Zaydon
- 2B: Amelie
- 3A: Rhea
- 3B: Regi
- 3C: Kimberley
- 4A: Michaela
- 4B: Taha
- 5A: Sade
- 5B: Daisy
- 6A: Hayden
- 6B: Chanan

Birthdays



- | | |
|------------|------------|
| Lexi R2 | Vivien 3A |
| Michael R2 | Kara 3B |
| Vadim R2 | Emma 3B |
| Henry 1B | Riaadh 4B |
| Nyla 1A | Shayan 4B |
| Sidney 2B | Mia 4B |
| Woody 2A | Neve 4A |
| Harry 3B | Kiam 5B |
| Jessica 3A | Mason 5B |
| Gold 3C | Eliza 5B |
| Jimmy 3A | Freddie 6A |

We hope you had a great day!

House Points

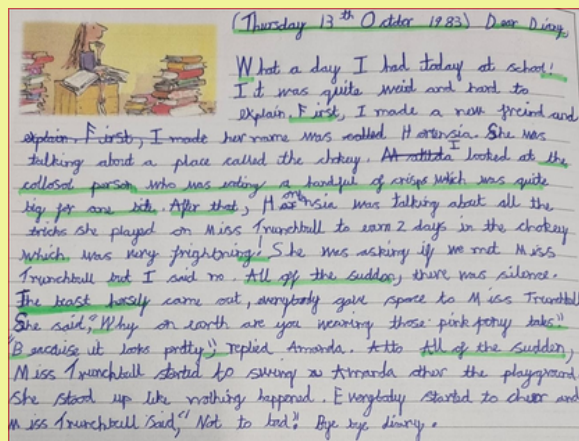


- 1st Phoenixes 494 points**
- 2nd Centaurs 477 points**
- 3rd Dragons 448 points**
- 4th Griffins 386 points**

Presentation Award



This weeks presentation award goes to Yaid in 4A



Attendance

This week's attendance award goes to...

R2 and **4A** who both achieved

98.6%

Whole school attendance was

95%



REACHING GOLD!



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

Fletcher R1	Oliver G 1B	Milana 2B	David 3C
Bella R1	Oliver M 1B	Lorin 2B	Ayanah 3C
Dexter R1	Nate 1B	Thea 2B	Tade 3C
Emily R1	Henry 1B	Amelie, 2B	Marco 3C
Kendall R1	Albie 1B	Heidi 2B	Ali 4A
Camilia R2	Paula 1B	Toby 2B	Ollie 4A
Jude R2	Brian 2B	Rebecca 2B	Fareedah 4A
Harper R2	Serena 2B	Shiloh 2B	Fayeq 4A
Isa R2	Grace 2B	Harley 2B	Zariana 5A
Meltem R2	Chloe 2B	Ifeh 2B	Roan 5A
Ariana R2	Alice 2B	Joseph 2B	Ichim 5A
Folu R2	Sophia 2B	Joshua 3A	James 5A
Charlie 1A	Kal-El 2B	Jacob 3A	Sofiya 6A
Freddy 1A	Kasey 2B	Nadiia 3A	Lily May 6A
Hugo 1A	Ardion 2B	Aadam 3B	Brody 6A
Asad 1A	Paisley 2B	Mahilan 3B	Oscar 6A
Evani 1A	James 2B	Cindy 3B	Mitchell 6A
Sofia 1A	Nala 2B	Ola 3C	Bonnie 6A
Karley 1B	Sidney 2B	Kimberley 3C	
Darcy 1B			

BOOK TOKENS

Congratulations to...

Regi 3B

for earning your reading token this week!

Achiever badges

Well done to...

Dexter R1 **Roan 5A**
Evani 1A **Charlie 5B**
Thea 2B **Sahar 5B**

for reaching gold 5 times and earning an achievers badge.

Congratulations!



Spring Term Dates

- **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**