



HARROW LODGE PRIMARY



NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The day has finally arrived when we can hang up our pens and pencils and finally start preparing for Christmas. Children can relax (a little!) and allow sugar plums to dance in their heads instead of times-tables! (10 points if you can identify the poem I referenced there!!) 50

if you can name the author!! Anyway, here are this week's highlights:

- On Monday, Miss Batt held a delightful assembly to showcase the work our pianists have been doing this term. It was a mix of ordinary and Christmas-themed pieces that were played and all the children did really well.
- This week saw several year groups out on their Geography field trips touring the local area to discover what makes Hornchurch a town and not a city or a village. Year 5 were meticulous in their study and kept detailed records of the numbers of banks, transport links and other amenities which they then compared to London and Wellington. I think feet were sore and brains were full by the end of the trips!!
- Year 2, on the other hand, met with disaster just as they were ready to set off on their journey to town intending to note down the variety of amenities available for Hornchurch residents when it was realised that thick fog had swallowed the streets whole, leaving Year 2 squinting into the mist and sensibly deciding that an imaginary tour would have to do instead! However, imaginations can be rather wild in Year 2 so the trip was postponed to next term (where the likelihood of snow and ice stopping play is considerably higher - just saying!!) They had a lesson comparing England with Somalia instead (not sure what to say to that!!)
- On Wednesday, Miss Batt took the choir to the Retirement Housing Estate to serenade the residents for Christmas and the tears flowed like rivers - perfect

Merry
Christmas

- Christmas cheer!
- Wednesday also saw the return of a very special friend of ours. He signed in as 'Santa Clause' with his transport registration - SL3IGH! He turned up very early and told me he'd popped in for breakfast with the children. And that's what he did - reading stories to them as they ate their croissants and drank their hot chocolate. He even handed every child a special present - what a kind, old gentleman!
- EYFS rocked up in their pyjamas on Wednesday to travel on the Polar Express and to meet Father Christmas. After meeting the sleepy, jolly fellow (yes, he was fast asleep as EYFS tiptoed into the room!), R1 & R2 made their way back to class and climbed aboard the Polar Express with their Golden Tickets and, while on board, they wrote some letters to Santa and made some gingerbread houses which were very quickly devoured upon completion!
- The choir were out and about again on Thursday when they sang their hearts out in Romford Town Centre. This time, there were less tears and more smiles as the choir brought a little festive joy to some stressed Christmas shoppers. A big thank you to Miss Batt and Mrs Millard for their support in preparing and escorting the choir to their various performance venues this year.
- And, finally, we ended the term by visiting Holy Cross Church and singing our way into Christmas. Our Y6 children led the festivities telling the Christmas Story in their own unique way whilst every year group joined in with their favourite Christmas songs.
- And that, my friends, brings us to the end of the Autumn Term. It just remains for me to thank you for your kindness and generosity with the cards and gifts you have given me. I was touched by some of your lovely messages and I wish you all a wonderful holiday filled with family fun and happy memories and I leave you with this thought:

***"At Christmas, we discover that thinking of others
is what turns a season into a celebration!"***

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



Spring Term Dates

- Monday 5th January - Inset Day
- Tuesday 6th January - Children return to school
- Thursday 15th January - Year 1-4 Road Safety Shows
- Tuesday 20th January - Year 6 Parent's Evening
- Wednesday 21st January - Year 6 Parent's Evening
- Thursday 22nd January - Year 5 Road Safety Show
- Friday 30th January - Spanish Day
- Thursday 5th February - School Council trip to the Mayor's Parlour
- Monday 9th February - Parent's Evening (not Year 6)
- Wednesday 11th February - Parent's Evening (not Year 6)
- Friday 13th February - Break up for half term

