

Harrow Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Summer Term 6th May 2022 Issue Number 29 Visit www.harrowlodgeprimary.com to view it online

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed your long weekend. Owing to the Bank Holiday and Polling Day, this week has been extremely short but here are the highlights:

• Our Muslim students celebrated Eid on Monday and returned to school full of excitement over their new clothes and presents. I was treated to a visit from Ifraah (R1), Idris (R2) and Aisha (R2)



who regaled me of stories of fasting, visiting mosques, saying special prayers and eating dates! Idris demonstrated how he prayed on his new prayer mat and Aisha tried to explain to me how the 'bones' were removed from the dates before eating them. Ifraah was enamoured with her new doll and, all in all, there was great excitement around the celebrations.

- Y3 took part in a Roman Day workshop and immersed themselves in all things Ancient and Classical.
- Some of you may be aware (from your children) that we have a new school project taking place across the school the Harrow Lodge 70 word acquisition project (yes, I know that's a mouthful but I'm waiting for someone to come up with a catchier title!!) Basically, our subject leaders have identified 10 words related to their subject that they consider are crucial for each year group to learn, understand and use correctly by the time they leave that year group. That adds up to 70 words per subject which totals 910 words overall that we expect our students to have 'acquired' by the time they leave to go to secondary school. They're all being uploaded onto our website on the Teaching & Learning tab next week so do take a little look and you can help us to help your children to improve their vocabulary with our '70 word Acquisition Project' Ok, ok, we'll just call it the '70 Word Project' for now until one of you comes up with something clever and snappy!
- Talking of vocabulary, our children know that we place a good deal of importance on developing vocabulary and, this week, Evie (R2) took that one step further and created her own word for the texture of her sunflower stalk - "It's rather smumverly, Mrs Searle - smooth at the top and rough at the bottom!" I think Evie might just be onto something - it's a great word to say and we might well see it in the dictionary in years to come (look, if 'bantery' can make it, I see no reason why smumverly shouldn't get a look-in!!)

Years 2 & 3 visited our local library this week and, as is common now, their behaviour was exemplary. The Librarian read a story to them and Y3 learnt about how books are organised using the Dewey System. May I beg and plead with you to take your child to the library and let them join it to receive a library card and start borrowing books. I know it may seem old-fashioned to you when there are books easily accessible on kindles and other platforms to download but there's nothing quite like the feel of a book and the vibrancy of the pictures when you have it in front of you. Moreover, if your child brings their library card in to school, they'll receive some much-needed points towards the Reading Challenge and gaining a gold token to buy a book from our Book Vending Machine!

- We welcomed the Head Teacher from Riverside Primary School in Barking & Dagenham this week who brought some of her staff along to visit our EYFS department as they wanted to see how we did things here our reputation is clearly growing!! This term, EYFS is transformed into a Garden Centre with green-houses and green-fingers galore!
- A big thank you to Demi (4A) who donated a bag of bulbs for our gardening club she had no idea what flowers the bulbs were from so we're all laying bets on what's going to grow. Our gardeners have also planted some fruit trees this week so next year, we might be serving apple crumble made with our own home-grown apples!!
- Our Parent Group met this week and we had some lively debates around school improvements. We're still short on members so do please join us for the next one if you can - it's very light on gravity but heavy on chocolate so it's worth rocking up for!! The minutes will be shared on Facebook and our website. Do please email me if there are any topics you'd like us to discuss even if you can't attend the meeting yourself.
- As you know, we're constantly trying to raise money to improve the offer we give to you as an educational institution and I hope you'd agree that there have been vast improvements in recent years and we've signed up to a new initiative which should generate some more income without you having to actually give anything yourself. It's called 'My School Fund' and, basically, if you sign up to it, we'll receive eGift Cards to spend in participating retailers - you'll receive eGift Cards too so it's a win-win kind of scheme! We'll be sending out leaflets soon explaining how to sign up so please keep a look out in your child's bag!
- And that brings us to the end of our rather short but still incredibly full week. Y6 have been studying hard in preparation for next weeks' SATs tests so say a few prayers for them as it's a bit of an anxious time for them all!
- So it just remains for me to wish you all a warm and enjoyable weekend and I leave you with this thought:

"The best of all gifts around any Eid is the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other"

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



As part of our Platinum Jubilee celebrations, we will be holding a family picnic on Friday 27th May between 12:30 and 1:30 followed by performances on the field which parents are welcome to stay for.

Children are asked to come to school dressed in red, white and blue on the day. We look forward to seeina vou there.









House Points



Ist Dragons 194 points 2nd Griffins 188 points 3rd Phoenixes 185 points 4th Centaurs 184 points







Chloe R2 Amelia-Rose 4B Josias 6B Kitty 6A



who have had a birthday in the last week. We hope you had a great day!



Achiever Badges

Congratulations to

Henry IA Ilsa IA

on receiving an achiever badge for gaining 3 gold certificates!

Dates for the summerterm:

- Monday 9th May Year 5 Royal Liberty Science workshops
- Tuesday 10th May Year 3 Colchester Castle trip
- Friday 13th May Year 5 British Museum Trip
- Friday 13th May Year 4 V&A Museum Trip
- Wednesday 18th May YHA parent meeting @ 6:00 pm
- Monday 23rd May Platinum Jubilee week
 details to follow
- Friday 27th May Jubilee family picnic/red, white and blue day
- Friday 27th May Break up for half term
- Wednesday 29th June Sports Day

