

HILLINGDON NEWS



Issue 2 2018-19

The second half of the Autumn term is always a busy time with so many national events and celebrations taking place, and this year was no exception. We've seen our school community in a different light as children and staff alike have attended school in their brightest outfits, spots, odd socks and Christmas Jumpers!

Respect has been a common theme running through many of our discussions and events this half term, from our whole school remembrance assembly to Anti-bullying Week activities, the children's understanding has developed and matured and we hope you have also seen evidence of this at home?

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of our parents and carers that have contributed donations, of cake or money, to the good causes we have supported this half term. In total, we have raised a whopping **£4,064!** Please read on to learn more.

Remembering

On the morning of 9th November the whole school came together for a remembrance assembly to commemorate the centenary of the end of WW1. We learned about the impact of the First World War and why we wear poppies on Armistice Day to remember those affected. The assembly ended with a minutes silence and the Last Post.

As part of our commemorations every child and adult in the school had the opportunity of making a poppy to remember all those who have made sacrifices to protect us. The poppies were then displayed on our very own soldier which we hope you saw in our entrance hall throughout November. Thank you to all those families who also sent in images for our remembrance display of photographs showing people especially important to our community. Thank you also to Mrs Payne for her fabulous recreation of the Remembrance Day Soldier.



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Year 1 Autumn Walks

This term the children in year one have been learning about the season of Autumn. As part of their learning they visited the nature area on school property to observe and collect objects relating to their science topic.

During science lessons children talked about how the leaves changed colour before falling off the trees in preparation for Winter.

All of the children greatly enjoyed themselves on the walk and it gave them the opportunity to identify and discuss some objects they were potentially unfamiliar with. The objects collected from

the walk were then used for inspiring and engaging learning activities in the classroom such as creating their own hedgehogs using the leaves from the walk.



Year 1 loved exploring our very own nature area.



Shared Learning

This November we welcomed the parents of children in Reception into our classes to share how we learn to read and write. We spent some time learning about the Read Write Inc. scheme, how to read with our children and techniques to improve the understanding of phonics at home.

The children absolutely loved having their parents in class alongside them, they were very proud to show off the writing they have completed since starting Reception. The parents were very impressed!

Thank you to all the parents who attended - there was a fantastic turn out.



Be Bright in Year 2

On 8th November the whole school took part in our Be Bright Celebration.

The boys and girls in Year 2 particularly enjoyed wearing bright colours to school! They had an interesting circle time and

shared their home celebrations and traditions. Everyone was excited to share stories about the different special times they celebrated with their families and friends and asked each other some very thoughtful questions. It was a fantastic opportunity to learn more about each other.

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to all parents who donated to this special event. **We raised a fantastic £477 in total**, which we will be using to revitalise our school displays.

Spotty Cake Sale

We had an exciting day on Friday 16th November celebrating Children in Need. Children came dressed in spotty clothing ready to donate to this fantastic cause. The children in Year 3 had been busy in their literacy lessons prior to the event, making bright and engaging posters to persuade children to help support the charity.



Some of our fantastic poster designers in Year 3!

In the afternoon, the Year 3 children and staff ran their traditional Cake Sale, which is always a popular and very busy event! As usual this was a big

success; every single cake was sold by the end of the day! We would like to thank all the parents who donated cakes for the sale and all those who came and

bought some. We hope you enjoyed eating them!

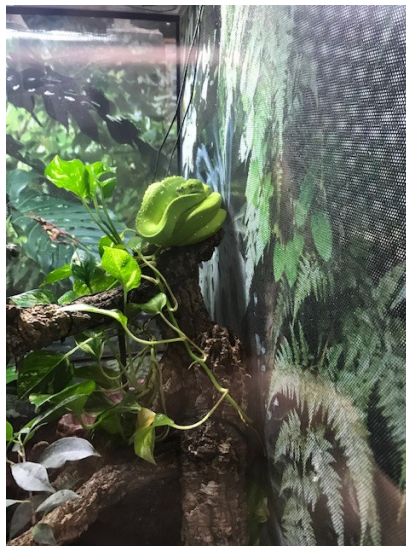
Together, we raised a total of £563!! Well done HPS!

Year 4 Trip to The Living Rainforest

On Monday 19 November, Year 4 made the exciting journey to The Living Rainforest in Thatcham.

We have been learning all about the Amazon Rainforest in our Topic lessons so this was a great opportunity to see the flora and fauna we have seen in photographs and read about in our books.

During our visit, we saw poison dart frogs, hissing cockroaches, a channel billed toucan, a yellow-knobbed curassow, an emerald tree boa, marmosets and much more.



The emerald tree boa.



We had a tour of the rainforest where we learnt all about how the animals have adapted to their environments.



Exploring the rainforest!



Factfinding with friends.

One of the things that we learnt was that hissing cockroaches are able to produce sound by forcing air through their spiracles. It sounds like a snake is hissing, this is a great adaptation because it scares predators away. We also learnt that poison dart frogs are bright colours in order to warn predators that they are there and scare them away too.

We headed back to school, full of exciting stories all about our brilliant day!

MFL at Hillingdon Primary School

Language Ambassadors

September 26th was European Day of Languages and this year we decided to mark the event with a week of celebrating, starting on Monday 1st October.

Our 14 Year 6 Language Ambassadors had been working since May to learn how to teach a language - some chose their own home language and others chose a new one. The children conducted some online research, looking at websites to help them develop their own Google Slides to use in the classrooms. Thanks to the work that Mr Jacobs has been doing in his computing lessons, they know how to use Slides and, thanks to the Google Classroom, the children were able to work together, online and outside of school to create resources for their lessons.

The children worked in pairs, with each pair taking one year group, and over the course of the week, they taught a 10 minute lesson in each class. It was scary to start with, but they did amazingly well and had lots of great feedback from the children and teachers. Some wanted the Language Ambassadors to come back every week but unfortunately they have our own lessons to go to!

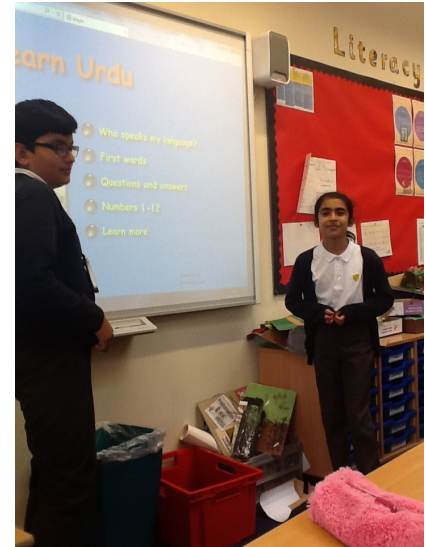
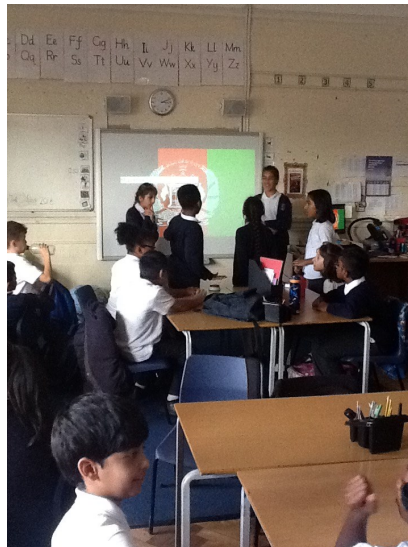
We would like to say a huge well

done to our Language Ambassadors who taught the following year groups a different language:

- ◆ Ellie-Rose (6H) and Hafsa (6D) - Spanish to Reception;
- ◆ Hanyia (6J) and Anisa (6D) - Urdu to Year 1;
- ◆ Maymuna (6H) and Tusmo

(6H) - Somali to Year 2;

- ◆ Harvey (6J), Adrian(6J) and Kira (6J) - French to Year 3;
- ◆ Suja (6D) and Ellie Rose (6H) -Tamil to Year 4;
- ◆ Marwa (6D) and Sapida (6H) Dari/ Farsi to Year 5; and
- ◆ Muhammad A(6J) and Aminah (6H) - Urdu to Year 6.



Our brilliant Year 6 Language Ambassadors in Action

Languages Show

On the weekend of 9th to 11th November, Ms Devons had great fun at the Languages Show, held at the Olympia Exhibition Centre, learning all sorts of new ways of teaching languages. She discovered some new games, new ideas and met some other amazing language teachers.

On the Sunday afternoon, Ms Devons even had the opportunity

to take part in a Primary Languages show and tell session where she shared the amazing work the Hillingdon Primary School KS2 children completed during their German lessons in February. The work on Goethe, one of Germany's most important writers and thinkers, was inspired by some of the poetry that German children learn in school, and was great fun. The children had produced some beautiful

work, which Ms Devons shared during the session. The other teachers were very impressed!



Sports News!!

Over the last few weeks the sporting calendar hasn't slowed down at all. In addition to the District Football and Netball league matches, children have competed in the Packham football tournament, the Uxbridge and District girls football tournament and also the Borough Boccia event. Read on to learn more ...

Football

The team has really begun to improve with stronger performances in the league just before we entered the winter break. The children are looking to carry the performances forward to the second half of the season.

The highlight of the season so far was the Packham tournament where the team came top in their group stage following 2 wins and 1 draw. They proceeded to the quarter finals, losing out by only one goal to a team that eventually reached the final. Mr Donnelly was very proud of the fantastic team performances throughout the tournament.

Our brand new girls football team represented at the Uxbridge and District football tournament and were a credit to the school. Their effort and teamwork was fantastic and, considering it was their first ever tournament, they did extremely well.

Netball

With the new netball court installed the children were extremely excited to host St. Bernadettes in our first ever home game! The team were absolutely fantastic and their performance was incredible as we ran out 11 – 0 winners.



The HPS Netball Superstars

We are hoping to keep this form up after Christmas as the team have really gelled and are

performing well.

Boccia

The Borough inclusive Boccia event, held at Pield Heath House School, was a fantastic opportunity to introduce some of our children to a new sport.



Boccia Fair Play Award Winners

The children performed brilliantly and displayed fantastic sportsmanship which was recognised by the organisers. We were incredibly proud when they were chosen out of 9 schools to be awarded the fair play award. We are looking forward to some more inclusive events after Christmas.

Calling all Wimpy Kid Fans!

Jeff Kinney, the well-loved children's author of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series, has launched a nationwide diary writing competition!



The event was part of Kinney's global tour for the thirteenth book in the series, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown, where a snow storm shuts down Greg Heffley's middle school and turns his neighbourhood into a wintry battlefield!

The Wimpy Kid Diary Writing Competition challenges children aged 7-12 from across the UK to write a 500-word diary entry about the most exciting snow day they have ever had or could possibly imagine.

Children who submit their entries by **Thursday 31 January 2019** will be in with a chance to win a Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown print signed by Jeff Kinney and £100 worth of Puffin

Books, plus £500 worth of Puffin Books for their school. Ten runners up will each receive a signed copy of The Meltdown.

See Jeff's introduction here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=pWaQUfVjd6k

Enter here:

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/competitions/wimpy-kid/>

Anti-bullying Week

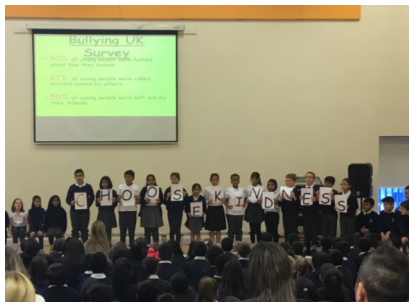
Children of Hillingdon Primary joined schools across the country to mark Anti-bullying Week, held from 12th to 16th November.

Anti-bullying Week is an annual event and each year there is a different theme. The theme this year was, 'Choose Respect.'

On Monday 12th November, 5A kicked off our activities with a fantastic assembly to both KS1 and KS2. Through a mixture of role play, song and information sharing, they thoughtfully explored the 'Choose Respect,' theme and reminded children of who they should speak to should they have any worries. They delivered their lines with great confidence and their teachers were very proud of them!



Learning through role play by 5A



Class 5A's important message to all: Choose Kindness.

It was fantastic to see so many of our school community wearing their Odd Socks to school on Monday. We would like to say a BIG thank you to parents and carers for their kind donations towards this event.

We raised £234 for the Anti-bullying Alliance!!

Throughout the week, children had an opportunity to discuss the meaning of the word 'respect,' during circle time and explore this further by discussing different scenarios. Each class also prepared some fantastic artwork: please look out for our new displays celebrating the children's understanding of respect and how to be a good friend.

The week culminated in every class from Years 1 to 6 participating in a brilliant Anti-bullying Workshop run by

OpenView Education, an Associate Member of the Anti-bullying Alliance. Children really enjoyed the workshops which provided a unique opportunity to reinforce the anti-bullying messages shared throughout the week and the important discussions that had taken place.



Class 2A had a fantastic time at their Anti-bullying Workshop



The Book Fair was a success and we achieved sales of £662. This has helped the school with rewards of **£165.60** to spend on new reading books in school. Thank you for these very valuable resources in the school.

Christmas at Hillingdon Primary School

Who's Got the H factor?

We were very excited this year to kick start our Christmas festivities with a significant increase in the number of KS2 children auditioning for the prestigious position of solo singing to open the HPS Christmas Concert. The

confidence and standard of all singers was particularly high making the first round of auditions particularly challenging to choose only 12 H-Factor Finalists.

The finalists, Ara (3CM), Jeevica (3M), Dulansa (3QS), Alfie (4T), Manraj (4H), Anasuya (4T), Destiny (5M), Negar (5P), Shruthi (5P), Jake (6D), Luana (6D), Isha

(6H), all went on to perform solo in front of the whole school and each class had the opportunity to vote for the singer to represent HPS at the concert.

Congratulations to Anasuya (4T) who won the H-Factor vote and to all other finalists who also led the whole school singing at the concert in church.

Carol Service at St. John's Church

On Wednesday 12th December, Years 2 to 6 took part in the annual Carol Concert at St John's church.

The children walked to the church and, when they arrived, were greeted by beautiful music from Aiza who played Christmas songs on the violin. Supported by our H Factor finalists, Anasuya then kicked off the concert with a fabulous rendition of 'Once in Royal David City'.

The church was filled with music and song as each year group went on to perform a wonderful song linked to Christmas, supported by Mr Devaney on the piano and Miss Connolly on the guitar. We even heard some of

our parents and family members joining in!



Our fantastic H Factor finalists sang beautifully

In between each song, passages of the Christmas story were read

by our wonderful readers: Hanyia, Evie, Jaidan, Samreen, Shreeya, Angel, Harris, Aadi, Krisztian, Senara, Susannah, Zara, Hiu Fung, Rhys, Inaya, Chiddi, Joshua and Chloe.

All of the readers, singers and musicians were a credit to our school. Thank you to everyone who supported in organising the concert and those that supported on the day. It was fantastic to see the school community get together to celebrate the spirit of Christmas.

Please look out for the next edition of our newsletter for details of RE week and some of our other festive celebrations, including Nursery and Reception songs, Year 1's nativity and RE week.

Festive Activities at Your Local Library

With Christmas nearly upon us, Hillingdon libraries have several exciting, free family events coming up, just in time for the holidays.

Nana the Reindeer: Saturday 22nd December, 11:00 - 16:00. The reindeer will go up and down the high street at 11am, 1.30pm and 3pm. No booking required.

Pantomime Pandemonium: Friday 4th January, 15:00 - 16:00. It's behind you! Get into the panto spirit with games and activities inspired by the Great British pantomime. Ages 6 - 10. Booking required, please contact the library on 01895 556242 or oakfarm-library@hillingdon.gov.uk



Christmas Fayre Message of Thanks

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made our school Christmas Fayre such a success:

Our industrious children and teaching staff who were busy making goods to sell;

Our hard working parent helpers and operational team;

Local businesses, individuals and Governors who kindly donated gifts or services to our raffle; and

All those who attended.

It was a real community event. We were even lucky enough to be joined by two very special visitors, Santa Claus and Mrs Claus!

Not only was the fayre thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, but we also raised a fantastic **£2,624** which will go towards extra-curricular activities and developing the learning resource provision at Hillingdon Primary School.

Thank you all!



Reception and Nursery were selling Marsh-mallow Snowmen and had a fun Lucky Dip!



Year 5 Yummy Chocolate Pots



Year 2 produced their popular sweets...marshmallows dipped in chocolate and sprinkles AND coconut ice. The boys and girls also made and decorated the boxes that contained the sweets. What a delicious treat!! Thank you to all parents, carers for providing the ingredients!



Year 6 had a brilliant time making their very popular Santa Slime which sold out in record time!!



Year 3's fantastic Table Top Decorations



Year 1's Festive Decorations



Nursery loved meeting our special visitor in his Grotto!!



Year 4's colourful tree decorations

Attendance

We are very pleased to report that last year we managed to secure a whole school attendance figure of 96.29%, in line with the 96% target set by the Local Governing Body.

As we progress through the Autumn term, it is fantastic to see so many classes already securing 97% and 98% attendance, and particular congratulations must go to our attendance stars opposite.

As we have shared with you previously, independent research has shown that attendance is directly linked to achievement. Furthermore, teaching your child the importance of regular and

punctual attendance is a life skill that is key to future success.

We understand that in the winter months children suffer from an array of coughs and colds. Unless your child is really unwell, please speak to our welfare team, Mrs Childs and Mrs Bristow, before keeping them off school to discuss how they can support the children in school.

★ Attendance Stars	
KS1	KS2
2D - 97%	6H - 98%
1A - 96.9%	4C - 97.69%
2K - 96.2%	4T - 97.68%

Fun Fest are Back for the February Half Term!



Fun Fest Opens at Hillingdon Primary School!



Working parents in Hillingdon have an exciting new holiday club for their children as Fun Fest opened at Hillingdon Primary School in October half term.

Fun Fest offers children a choice about how they spend their holidays. With a menu of exciting activities for every morning and afternoon, children can plan their



balanced with a safe, controlled environment. Fun Fest is registered as an approved high quality learning destination as assessed and quality assured by the Children's University.

Fun Fest will be back in action in February Half Term with more surprises! We will host Kidslingo where kids will have fun whilst learning French or Spanish! Book now by visiting www.fun-fest.co.uk.

own individual holiday programme. There are activities to suit all ages, preferences and abilities including Sports Action, Beauty School, Harry Potter Experience and Cupcake Heaven.

Fun Fest is Ofsted registered and run by qualified and experienced teaching assistants, sports coaches and enthusiastic students, creating an energetic and fun atmosphere



Quotes from the kids!

"Nerf Challenge was the best"

"I like Fun Fest because I had loads of Fun!"

"Fun Fest helped me make new friends"

