# HILLINGDON NEWS

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed a lovely half term break, whether it was relaxing and chilled out, or filled to the brim with activities and adventure. The first week back has certainly been a busy one; we began the week by thinking about mistakes and failure, exploring the need for these within our lives in order to learn and grow. We learnt about the 'Learning Pit' in assembly (more below) and pledged in KS2 to adopt a positive growth mindset. We ended the week with a fantastic Diwali Assembly performed by a group of children from years 4-6; we were also treated to a performance from the school choir, who sang

'Firework', linking not only with Diwali but also Bonfire Night. This week, our school week extended to Saturday for our footballers, who took part in the Packham cup at Abbotsfield, find out how we did below!

#### Issue 7

## **EUREKA!**

At HPS we want our children to feel confident to take on challenges in their learning. We have been discussing two types of mindsets that both children and adults can have; below are common traits of each:

#### **Fixed Mindset**

- I like my work to be easy
- I don't like to try a challenge
- I want people to praise me for how clever I am
- I believe I cannot change how clever
   I am
- I don't like to try new things because
   I won't be very good at it
- I give up easily

#### **Growth Mindset**

I never give up

- I like my work to be difficult it means I am learning
- I love challenges
- I want people to praise me for the effort I put into my work
- I believe I can get more intelligent by working hard
- I feel clever when I'm learning something new
- I learn from my mistakes

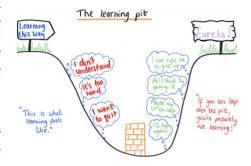
It has been proven that having a Growth Mindset can improve children's progress and attainment. As a result, we are teaching our children that by having a Growth Mindset they can grow their brains and intelligence and achieve anything they want!

### How you can help at home

 Talk to your children about their brain being like a muscle - the more

- they use it, the stronger it gets
- Encourage your children to not give up if they are finding something difficult
- Challenge your children to try something new or challenging

The learning pit shows the process of learning and recognises that it can sometimes be very challenging- the reward comes with the EUREKA moment at the end...



## Teamwork and Tenacity Shown at Packham Cup

On Saturday morning, a group of bright eyed and bushy tailed Year 5 and 6 children donned the HPS colours and made their way to Abbotsfield School to take part in the Packham Cup. Despite the chilly temperatures, our children were smiling, energised and ready for the challenge. Both teams played excellently in the knock out stages, particularly impressive were the B teams defence in the early games and Hechi's hatrick in the A team. Both teams were up against stiff competition, but their communication and tenacity was truly outstanding and allowed them to play to their best ability. Both Mr Martinez and Mr Andrade were very proud of the teams and could not believe the improvement in the children's skills and team work. The A team made it through to the play offs, but lost in the semi final on penalties, finishing in 4th place. Well done to all who took part and

a big thank you to the supporters who braved the arctic wind to cheer on the players!





## Attendance STARS

This week the best attendance in KS1 and KS2



KS1	KS2
2A 98.67%	60 98.67%
1M 98.33%	6D 98.00%



## Look what we've been up to:

Nursery - In nursery this week, we have been learning about our five senses. We have felt objects in feely boxes, listened to some mystery sounds, looked for hidden items in the garden, tasted a selection of different fruit and smelled a variety of scents- what a week!





Reception - This week we have been talking a lot about Diwali. We listened to the 'Rama and Sita' story and made cards to wish everyone a Happy Diwali. Outside the children were making Rangolipatterns on our playground... they looked amazing! Have a look!

We were also talking about Bonfire Night and tried to explain the noises that fireworks make. The children also blow-painted fireworks on card and made their own sparklers!





Year 1 On Wednesday, half of year 1 went on an autumn nature walk in our local area. As the children explored, they looked out for signs of autumn such as conkers, acorns, pine cones and sycamores. The children loved collecting the crunchy leaves in such a vast range of colours. We thought about the animals that might live there in the autumn and how the space may change throughout the different seasons. It was lots of fun! They shared what they had found with the other children who are now looking forward to exploring the season of winter in the coming months.





**Year 2** - This week in Year 2 we have been exploring shape and acrostic poems themed around our topic The Great Fire of London.

Here is a poem by Jessica Keating in 2M:

Babies crying and screaming.
Unsafe fire rising over London.
Running fire illuminating the city.
Nasty fire crackling.
Infinite fire burning.
Nauseous smoke.
Gigantic red,orange and yellow fire spreading all around.

In Science this week we experimented with glitter to understand how germs can be spread. Each child was given a small amount of glitter to rub into their hands (this acted like a sneeze into our hands). The we carried on with an activity in class as normal. After the lesson we looked all around the room to see where the 'germs' had spread... they were on the tables,

chairs, carpet, our hands, pencils, hair and even on our faces! What an important lesson we learned about washing our hands!What a busy and exciting week!

Year 3 - In literacy this week the children have been learning about the story of Rama and Sita as part of Diwali. They thoroughly enjoyed using different vocabulary when acting out the story in front of the class. The children also discussed the different scenes in the story and re-wrote the story in a storyboard format. Next week in literacy the children will be exploring persuasive writing as they look to attract lots of customers to the Year 3 and 4 cake sale on Monday 14th November.

In Science this week the children have started learning about their new topic Rocks and Soil. They began learning about sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous rock, as well as exploring the school grounds to see if they could find any! They are all very excited to explore this topic in more detail over the up and coming weeks.

Finally a big well done to those children who were presented with pen licenses in assembly by Mrs Breslin. They will be receiving their certificates early next week. Keep up the neat handwriting!





Year 4 - Last week, Year 4 were lucky enough to be chosen to take part in a workshop designed to aid the learning of German at primary level. This was a run by the Goethe-Institute. Punch and Judy are well-known but in this workshop the children got to know their German counterparts, Kasper and Gretel. Children got to know the main characters, observing scenes in English and German. Singing and intercultural learning were all part of the show and the workshop was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part. Thank you to Mrs Devons for providing the children with this fantastic learning opportunity!



Year 6 - Year 6 have enjoyed their first week back after half term. In English lessons they have produced some super writing considering the thoughts and feelings of one character in our class text , 'Friend or Foe'. The children have taken great care to engage the reader in their writing by drawing them in with rhetorical questioning and revealing their inner most thoughts.

In science lessons year 6 had great fun exploring why we see in different colours. They used different coloured filters to investigate how the colour of an object can change dependent on the colours that are filtered or reflected.



'I said my last goodbye to Mother. I was going to miss the bunks that Father had made when he was on leave. Even though I had my best friend Tucky, I was still lonely. I watched the raindrops race to the bottom of the window. There were three that joined to make a family (just like me, Mum and Dad).'

### By Lucy 60



## **Happy Diwali!**

A big thank you and well done to all of our children who were involved in Friday's assembly. It was lovely to hear all about the celebrations and learn more about the religious festival. There was certainly lots to think about, with the key message of family and celebration shining through. We hope all who celebrate, enjoyed a very Happy Diwali!

