



# HILLINGDON NEWS

It was lovely to welcome so many parents and family into school this week, as part of our first Parent's Evening of the year. We hope you found the new checklist helpful and enjoyed meeting your child's teacher, sharing in their successes and discussing areas to develop. The school was alive with the sound of music, as a huge number of children entered the annual H Factor competition earlier in the week. A huge well done to all of the children who entered. We look forward to hearing the finalists sing in Monday's whole school assembly. We ended the week with 4F's class assembly, which was all about Universal Children's Day, it was a fabulous performance which was both informative and entertaining...Well done 4F!

## Issue 10

### Success with our Roald Dahl Minecraft World

This week was the official launch event for Microsoft's new Minecraft: Education Edition, in which James Protheroe announced the results of the Roald Dahl project HPS took part in last year. The project formed part of the celebrations for Roald Dahl's 100th birthday and saw children create Minecraft worlds in the style of Roald Dahl's books. It was a fantastic project that got children excited about both Minecraft and Roald Dahl literature. The children enjoyed an opportunity to be creative and develop their computing skills.

Amazingly out of 95 entries, the judges ended up choosing 7 finalists which included HPS! We are very proud of all students (past and present!) who took part in the competition and would like to say THANK YOU to Mr Hammond for organising. Look out for further Minecraft opportunities in the future.



### Taekwondo Taster Sessions

This week some of our Year 2, 3 and 5 children took part in some very special Taekwondo sessions. The sessions, run as part of the school games project, give children the opportunity to experience a range of different sports and activities that they might not otherwise get to try. The children thoroughly enjoyed trying out the different kicks, punches and stances. All groups behaved impeccably throughout the sessions and completely threw themselves into the martial art.

### Maths Mastery

On Thursday, six of our talented Year 6 students headed down to Colham Manor to take part in a special Maths Workshop event. The children were involved in practical maths tasks throughout the day and enjoyed working with other children from different schools. "It was the best day EVER!" Parath 6D.



### Pledge Leaves

This term our children are continuing their work the 'Pledge Leaves' as part of our PSHE curriculum. Every child makes a promise which is then written onto a leaf and collated on a class tree. This term's topic is Friendship and the children are considering what makes us a good friend. Following our Anti bullying week and the theme of 'Power for good', the children should find it quite easy to make a promise on their pledge tree about being a good friend.

You may like to discuss the following questions with your child to support the work we are doing in school:

- What do you think is a good friend?
- What do you think you need to do to be a good friend to someone in your class?
- What would make you a good friend to someone who is younger than you?
- What has the message of 'Power for good' taught you about being friends?
- What is your pledge and how will you work on keeping your promise?



# Look what we've been up to:

**Nursery** - As part of our work on 'Where we live', we have been creating buildings from construction blocks. We also had some special visitors - the librarians from Oak Farm library came to tell us about their jobs and what children can do at the library. Each child was given a book pack to take home.



**Reception** - This week reception have started working with their new RWI groups. Our challenges this week were linked to phonics and reading; the children made cards for their friends and tried to write their names and other words too. The children also practised blending sounds in order to read words in our "Word machine", built castles and made up their own fairy tales stories. We love reading!

**Year 1** - "In June I went to the Moon. I was in a race to get to space. I took my spoon to eat the Moon and I float in my space boat."

Some children in Year One have been finding out lots of information about the moon from non-fiction books and learning to write a poem using rhyming words! Wow.

**Year 3** - We have had an exciting week in Literacy focusing on the text 'The Tunnel' by Andrew Browne. The children have been using their imaginations to think of what incredible things they might discover after travelling through the tunnel. They have been developing their creative writing skills by using rich and varied vocabulary in their descriptions. Each class in year three participated in a 'Conscience Alley,' where they tried to persuade one of the characters to think whether or not it was a good idea to travel through the mysterious tunnel. The children have been having great fun with the novel and we will be continuing to focus on this text next week!

Our science focus of 'Rocks and Soils' has continued with the children learning about fossil hunters and dinosaurs, as well as how to create their own soil! Alongside this, the children have been writing a letter to a Stone Age boy called 'Ug' explaining how their lives are different to his in 2016.



**Year 4** - Following a busy week preparing for class assemblies, Year 4 were lucky enough to have a visit from Mrs Morris and Mrs Chaplin where we enjoyed playing games and talking about information linked to this year's Anti-Bullying theme 'Power for Good'. The children were able to share what they already knew about bullying and the different forms it can take. The children went on to think about how they could use their 'Power for Good' on a daily basis. The children have continued to explore their fantastic and exciting topic, Brazil. This week, the children have looked closely into the effects that deforestation has on the Amazon Rainforest. I think the children were surprised to find out how important rainforests were to

our survival and were also shocked by the impact that deforestation has on the environment.

**Year 6** - The children went back in time to the 1940s during a visit to the RAF 'Battle of Britain' bunker in Uxbridge. We discovered it was responsible for supporting the air defence of London and South East England during World War 2. The bunker room was left exactly as it was during 1940 and we saw memorabilia such as uniforms, medals and photographs in the museum. We were told the bunker and everyone involved in the air operations helped Britain to win the war and when Winston Churchill visited in 1940 said,

"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few". The knowledge of our ex-RAF guide gave us a real understanding of how important the bunker was during this crucial time in history.

## Attendance STARS

WC 14-18th November



| KS1           | KS2       |
|---------------|-----------|
| 2A 99.67%     | 6O 99.33% |
| RB/2QS 97.00% | 3D 99.05% |





# Reminders



A reminder that we are looking for volunteers to help with the Christmas Carol Concert on Thursday 8th December. You will also have received an email about the Christmas Fair on the 15th December. If you would like to help with either of these events, please speak to your child's teacher.

## Parent Satisfaction Survey

We would love as many parents as possible to complete the questionnaire emailed last week. It's an excellent opportunity for you to share your views with us about the school. Paper copies are available from reception, but the easiest way to complete is online. Thank you in advance to all those who have already completed the questionnaire. The survey will close on Friday 2nd December.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfsPgVxAtlZODhEnMGF\\_ndqRbZYscIvUBoenvAkSnZvCJY6AA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfsPgVxAtlZODhEnMGF_ndqRbZYscIvUBoenvAkSnZvCJY6AA/viewform)

# Book Fair

On Tuesday 29th November from 3.20pm we will be holding a Book Fair in the main hall. Scholastic are offering an excellent scheme where you 'Buy a book and the school gets one FREE'. Each book donated will be labelled with your child's name. As we look to drive forwards reading across the school, this is a wonderful way that parents can support us.



# Getting Creative for Christmas

Christmas is nearly here again! This year, all the children will again have the opportunity to participate in a whole school competition, designing and making a decoration to decorate the school Christmas tree. This is a home-based project which you and your children can enjoy together. At Hillingdon Primary School, we value the role of traditions such as this, in strengthening our community. Once again this year, we will be looking for imaginative and creative designs. We have had an excellent response from children in past years. All entries will need to be labelled with your child's name and class, and given to your child's class teacher, no later than Friday 16th December 2016. Winners will be announced in the last week of term and will receive special Christmas gifts. We hope you and your children enjoy this project together and we look forward to seeing all your fantastic ideas and creations.

