



HILLINGDON NEWS

We began our week in style, getting together as a whole school body to choose our H Factor winner. (Read more below about the process and to find out our winner!) As December dawned on us, we began to get into the Christmas spirit, as classes started preparations for the Christmas Fayre, Class Assemblies and the Carol Concert. There is certainly a lot to look forward to over the coming few weeks. As the temperatures have dropped, please ensure that children are coming to school with a coat or jacket, as we want them to be able to enjoy their break times and lunch times outside in the winter sunshine, without fear of them catching a cold! Next week marks the beginning of RE Week, Assessment Week and Enterprise Week, not to mention our Carol Concert on Thursday...expect a bumper edition next week!

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And the Winner is.....

After a gruelling (but fun!) audition process, the finalists gathered in Monday's whole school assembly to sing in front of the school. We were all very proud of each one of our finalists. Atina, Orla, Shruthi, Charlee, Pranay, Josh and Asveni sang their hearts out, each singing the first verse of 'Once in Royal David's City', not an easy song to sing at the best of times, but even more challenging with the whole school staring back at you! The children commented on the finalists bravery and courage. One year 4 child said-"It's such a huge achievement to stand in front of everyone. You have to be very brave."

After the assembly all of the children went back to their classes to vote for their favourite singer. It was a tense morning as the votes were counted up and on Tuesday morning in song practice the winner was announced...ATINA! Well done Atina, we can't wait to hear you sing in the Carol Concert on Thursday.



Learning Spellings is FUN!



This year our children in years 2-6 have been immersed in a new spelling world. The children have a short, snappy

spelling lesson daily, for 15 minutes. This engaging approach has certainly hooked some of our Year 6 children. "I love our RWI sessions, I wish they were longer!" "I never thought spellings could be fun". "Going through the spelling rules has really helped me in my Literacy lessons and when I encounter new words". Although this is still a new project, it has certainly had a positive start.

Inspired to Make a Difference

As part of our "Eco Warrior" unit, the Year 5 children have been finding out about endangered animals and the many challenges that they face. At the beginning of the term we set the children a challenge, to see who could design the most informative and eye catching leaflet. We were incredibly impressed by the entries and couldn't pick just one; the photos to the right show our favourite seven, which we will be sending off to the WWF Education Trust. It's wonderful to see our children so passionate about the environment and wanting to make a difference.



What a Win!

Our fantastic netball team took on the mighty Rabbsfarm this week, as part of the Netball League. Our talented athletes donned their thermals and netball bibs and were ready for the challenge after a week off last week. The team showed incredible collaboration skills, as they outpaced their opponents- showing a team who communicate well and stick to a game plan, are a formidable mix! Rabbsfarm put up a good defence, but could not withstand the HPS attack- the final score was an impressive 10-0. What a game!



Updating Our Books!

A big THANK YOU to all of you who came to our Scholastic Book Fair last week. It was a rip-roaring success with the school receiving a free book for every book sold! It's was a wonderfully positive event and was excellent to see both children and parents excited about reading and about the new and interesting books that were being showcased. As a school we have two big boxes of new books ready to share with the children as a result of the event. THANK YOU!



Look what we've been up to:

Nursery - Continuing our theme of 'People who help us', this week the children have been matching people to their work places and finding out more about the work of the police, firefighters and doctors.



Reception - Reception have been preparing and practising their Christmas performances this week. They have been trying really hard to remember their lines and songs. They are all really excited about inviting their mums and dads to the performance. Keep up the hard work Reception!

During our maths focus tasks, they have also enjoyed playing traditional games in with one another, taking turns independently and recognising numbers on a dice.



Year 3 - The children have had another busy week of learning! In literacy they have continued to read and complete writing on 'The Tunnel' story. The children really enjoyed having a debate using a 'conscious alley' about whether the main character should or should not go into the tunnel. They also continued to work on their dictionary and thesaurus skills to edit and improve their writing. It would be great if they could also do this in their journal homework every week.

A big thank you to everyone that brought in ingredients for our Christmas Fayre stalls. Next week the children will begin to design and make their gifts for the Fayre as part of 'Enterprise Week'.



Year 4 - Year 4 have been immersed into the Brazilian culture with a special Samba Workshop this week. 4F and 4J thoroughly enjoyed learning the basic samba steps and putting into practice all they have learnt in the classroom. There was shimmying, cross steps and turns galore! 4N are really looking forward to their workshop next week and learning more about the traditional samba music.



Year 5 - This week, Year 5 has been gearing up for the Christmas Fayre. To launch Enterprise Week next week, pupils in 5G and 5T spent their afternoons preparing a marketing pitch to present to a panel of 'dragons'. One 5T member said he had "really enjoyed the mathematical challenge, working out the price of ingredients." "It has been a very jolly but nail-biting week," exclaimed another child.

The pressure did not get to the budding Y5 entrepreneurs as they presented their estimated costs and profits, to the dragons. "It was not easy working out the total cost of ingredients and then predicting the end profit. We thought we would be left with more money!" a Y5 said.



Year 6 - have had an exciting time in science this week. They have started work on a Dragon's Den style project - making steady-hand buzzer games for the Christmas Fayre in a couple of weeks. They have had to consider lots of the different elements that go towards creating a product such as budgeting, designing and marketing. Once completed, the children will pitch their finished products to the class and 'the Dragons' and the successful games will be available to try at the Fayre. Will you be up to the steady-hand challenge..?

