



HILLINGDON NEWS

This week we have been focusing on the power of words and looking at what it takes to become a fantastic writer. Following on from the success of the 'Readathon', we discussed how exposure to different types of books and authors can help us to develop our vocabulary and writing style- giving us wonderful writing models and generally help us with the process of writing. Our Monday assembly was named 'Sharing our favourite pieces of writing'; the teachers couldn't wait to share with the children star pieces of work and some children were recognised for their effort and progress with their writing. We agreed that the editing process was incredibly important in KS2, with those children who saw this process in a positive light and really taking the time to improve their writing as well as checking for SPAG errors, making huge strides in becoming confident and accomplished writers. We have also had a range of sporting fixtures this week- read more below about our Gymnastics competition as well as the final netball match of the league. Rock Challenge rehearsals have really stepped up as we move ever closer to the competition- we can't wait to share with you our final performance next term! Finally, on Friday a wave of excitement spread through the school as children found out about 'Kidchella', our festival themed disco on the 9th February- we hope to see as many faces as possible! Monday marks the start of Assessment Week, this is a chance to celebrate all that the children have learnt over the year so far. A special GOOD LUCK to our Year 6 children who are having a mock SATS week- we know they will do themselves and us proud.

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Chinese New Year!

Reception thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year and were lucky enough to try some traditional Chinese treats. One of our parents, who owns Chummy Yummy, brought in a range of snacks for the children to try. Thank you so much, the children absolutely loved trying the new foods. They also welcomed in the new year by dressing up as a Chinese dragon and moving around the school- the rest of the school enjoyed looking out for the appearance of the dragon!



Celebration of Success

Friday was another fantastic celebration of success in our morning assemblies. As ever, it was lovely to see the children so proud of their achievements and so supportive of their friends. It was excellent to hear about the week's writing activities and see the children so eager to be 'the book the teacher is most excited to mark!'.



I KNOW NOTHING IN THE WORLD
THAT HAS AS MUCH POWER AS A

WORD.
SOMETIMES I WRITE
ONE, AND I LOOK AT IT,
UNTIL IT BEGINS TO
SHINE.

Emily Dickinson

**A BOOK NEVER RUNS
OUT OF BATTERY**



Look what we've been up to:

Nursery - At Nursery this week we have been focusing on the story of "Jack and the beanstalk". We have been playing a bean counting game and planting our own beanstalks.



Reception - 'People and communities week'

This week, Reception have been learning about 'People who help us'. They have had some exciting visits from our local Police, a doctor and our very own lollipop lady. The children had the opportunity to try on some of the special uniform and learnt a lot about how these people help us in lots of different ways.

As part of our topic, the children have also been learning about Chinese New Year, looking at different cultures and traditions. To celebrate Chinese New Year, Reception were fortunate enough to taste some delicious Chinese snacks and enjoyed taking part in a parade around the playground, with their very own dragon costume.



Year 1 - We just can't get enough of our dinosaur topic! Did you know that a real dinosaur footprint was found in South America just last week?! We have been finding out what it means to be a palaeontologist and what clues they find to help them find out so much information. As part of our design technology, this week we created dinosaur fossils! They are solid now and we are so excited to bring them home.



Year 2 - What a wonderful week we have had composing our fables, which have included a thought provoking moral, to remind us about life's lessons! We have been focusing on our handwriting, ensuring that our letters are on the line and formed correctly. Some of us are close a pen licence! Well done to all the children who have read 5 or more times this week and have received 5 star Dojo points! Keep it up!

We have enjoyed putting our multiplication and division facts into action when working through word problems. We have been using all the different methods to help us work these out. Our science experiment this week led to a few splashes of water! We have been investigating which materials are waterproof - perhaps we could do some further experimenting at home?

We are looking forward to our last weekend of Readathon - I wonder which year group will have raised the most money by reading the most books?

Year 3 - In Literacy this week Year 3 have been busy designing and creating leaflets about plants. They have thought carefully about the key features and have applied this knowledge to create wonderful and informative leaflets.

It has also been great to see how the children's enthusiasm and passion for

reading has continued into this week. Please keep up with this at home by reading with your child at least three times a week.

In maths, this week the children have been focusing on different word problems. There has been a big emphasis on getting the children to read the questions carefully, underline the key words and then checking their calculations. Next week in maths the children will move onto looking at fractions.

Year 6 - Year 6 have had great fun in their English lessons this week, exploring the eerie silent film, Alma. The film is full of strange happenings and creepy foreshadowing and, in preparation for a piece of writing, the children have enjoyed making inferences about the story and making predictions about what might have happened before and what might happen next. The Rock Challenge backstage crew have been especially busy this week and have created some beautiful baskets for the performance. The teachers have been very impressed with their 'can do' attitude. Year 6 will be taking their practice SATs tests next week. This will give them an opportunity to experience just what the tests will be like in May and to demonstrate all of the fantastic learning that they have done since September. Don't forget there is also a SATs meeting for parents and carers of year 6 children on Tuesday evening at 6pm.



Triumphant in the Final Match of the League

On Thursday our Netballers prepared for their final match of the league against Colham Manor. The children have played excellently throughout the year and have shown true sportsmanship and tenacity in their approach to each match- Thursday's match was no exception! The team have developed a wonderful bond and this could be seen in their neat passes and excellent tactical play. The children scored net after net, but they didn't once let the energy or determination drop. The final score was a 13-1 win to Hillingdon. We are now waiting to find out how we scored overall in the league table...we are keeping our fingers crossed for a top three finish! Well done to all involved.



QPR Lunch Time Sessions

Mr Charles has been busy at work with Mr Martinez to organise exciting lunchtime sport zones. It is wonderful to see so many of our children active at lunch time and really taking advantage of the activities on offer.



Gymnasts do us Proud at Keysteps Competition

The smiles on the gymnast's faces when they told us about their experience at the competition, was enough to confirm that the competition was a success! The Gymnastics Squad have been busy training since before Christmas for the completion on Wednesday. The Year 3 and 4 squad had their competition first in the morning and then the Year 5 and 6 team followed in the afternoon. The children were challenged across a range of gymnastic elements, including a body management routine (including

9 elements), floor routine and vault. All children competed excellently, with no one forgetting any part of their routine! For 6 of the 8 children, this was their first ever gymnastics competition- what an experience! Both teams placed 6th out of the 10 teams competing, with one of students-Lane- being headhunted by a gym club to try out for their elite development squad. Well done Lana! Huge congratulations to all involved, it was a tough competition but our children did themselves and HPS proud.

