



HILLINGDON NEWS

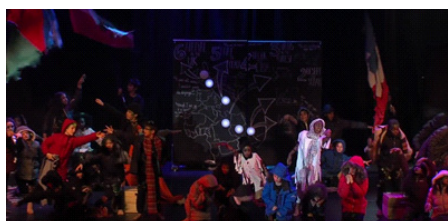
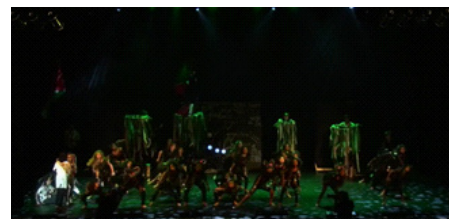
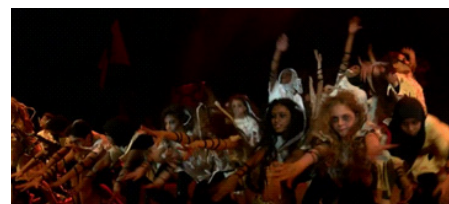
We have certainly come back to school with a BANG this week! Although for most of our children it has been a shorter week, Year 5 and 6 children were in during the INSET day rehearsing for the Rock Challenge Competition. As well as entering this global competition, we have also had a football match, the girl's netball rally and lots of exciting learning opportunities going on throughout the school- read all about it below!

Issue 20

Crowds Go Wild at Rock Challenge

Tuesday was the culmination of months of hard work as over 100 children from Year 5 and Year 6 made their way to Stevenage to compete in the J-Rock event. The children couldn't contain their excitement as they boarded the coach donned in their J-Rock T-shirts. They most certainly looked the part and couldn't wait to show the other schools this year's competition entry. The day was a whirlwind of rehearsals, production meetings, meeting other schools, cheering everyone on and getting prepared for the competition itself. The children thoroughly enjoyed their lunch time treat where we took over a local restaurant... the dessert certainly seemed to reenergise our performers and back stage crew after a long morning of dancing and cheering! In the performance itself, the children did themselves and the school proud. It was the best they had performed, with the lighting, costume, hair and make-up coming together

brilliantly to really tell Ruth's Story in a sensitive and moving manner. The feedback from the judges, other schools and the audience was hugely positive and we were overwhelmed by the number of awards won. Of the 11 awards won, we were thrilled to receive the 'Spirit of Rock Challenge'- awarded to the friendliest and most encouraging school, 'Education and Cultural Achievement'- owing to the work carried out around the theme of the performance and 'Positive Inclusion' awarded for the number of children involved in the production and our ability as a school to include all of Year 5 and Year 6, carefully playing to each of their strengths. Overall we were awarded third place, a huge achievement when coupled with our additional awards. We are incredibly proud of our HPS team and the quality and professionalism of the final performance. We hope to put the video of the performance on our website- be sure to check it out!



Celebration of Success

It may have been a short week but that hasn't stopped our children from excelling this week! It has been lovely to hear all about the writing going on across the school- the year 3 descriptive writing about Dragons sounded particularly exciting! As always it is a joy to hear about individual successes and to celebrate children who are excelling in different subjects. In the KS2 assembly we heard all about children who are actively engaged in lessons, always wanting to share their ideas and help others in the class- these

collaboration and communication skills are sure to stand them in good stead for the future. Below are a selection of certificate winners from Year 1, Year 3 and Year 4- Well done to all of our certificate winners.



Look what we've been up to:

Nursery - The children quickly settled back into Nursery and were keen to explore our new shoe shop role play area. Lots of maths language was generated as we talked about shoe sizes, compared the size of our feet and discussed how much the shoes cost.



Year 1 - This week we have been marvellous scientists! We used magnifying glasses, along with our senses, to carefully and closely make observations about plants. We looked at all the different parts and used our hands to see how they felt. We wrote down words about what we could see, how they felt and even described and named some of the different parts! We focussed intently and noticed lots of details. Our next step is to learn more about the different parts of a plant; what they are called and what their uses are. We will look at the similarities and differences between flowers, trees, bushes and vegetable plants. We will then use our careful observation skills which we learnt today to help us create still life observational drawings.



Year 2 - This week in maths we have been looking at fractions again. We have been using shapes, blocks and all sorts of materials to find $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$.

In science we are revising our knowledge of plants, their basic structure and our knowledge that they are living things - next week we are looking forward to planting our seeds in an investigation that will take several weeks to complete!

In English we have begun to read stories by the Grimm Brothers, why not ask us what we have found out about them so far? We could also share some of the stories we have looked at already, for example, Puss in Boots.

We are really looking forward to celebrating World Book Day next week and continuing with our fairy tale theme, we will be looking at the story of Little Red Riding Hood.

Well done to all the children winning certificates this week and to those children who earned extra points for reading every day at home! Keep it up!

Year 3 - In maths this week the children have revisited multiplying and dividing two digit numbers. There has been particular focus on learning their 4 and 8 times tables which they are expected to know fluently by the end of Year 3.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed reading the 'How to Train your Dragon' book in Literacy. Using this book, they have designed and described their own dragons using adjectives to create impact. Next week, as part of World Book Week, the children will be presented with a new exciting book. All activities during the week will be focused on this book, with emphasis on writing and art.

Year 4 - Year 4 have had a fantastic week learning all about the story of 'Rumpelstiltskin'. This week the children have read different versions of the traditional fairy tale and have also watched a film version. The children were then put into groups and, using picture prompts made within their groups, were required to re-tell the story to their peers. We could not believe how confident some of our children were, unearthing some fantastic story tellers within the year group. The children are now looking forward to creating their own 'modern day' versions of the tale for their writing focus next week.

Year 5 - At the start of the week, most of year 5 gathered to rehearse for Rock Challenge. There was great anticipation prior to the day and all were very much

looking forward to it. On Tuesday, Year 5 joined with year 6 at school ready to head to Stevenage. The day was fantastic, with one child commenting "It was like a rollercoaster, we were excited then nervous then relieved then very, very tired!"

After a late night, Year 5 returned back to school on Wednesday ready to start the new half term and all the challenges ahead of them. Year 5 look forward to sharing the Rock Challenge performance on Friday with the school and lots of parents.

Year 6 - Most of Year 6 arrived back at school on Monday raring to get started on their last Rock Challenge rehearsal. The children worked really hard all day to bring all of the final elements of the performance together and they had a great day in Stevenage on Tuesday. The judges' decision of third place and the wealth of certificates that the children returned home with on Tuesday evening is a testament to the commitment and enthusiasm that they showed throughout this experience. In English lessons this week, the children have been gathering together their memories and experiences of Rock challenge in order to write a newspaper article about the event. Science lessons have proved rather exhausting this week with the children conducting an investigation into the effects of exercise on our pulse rate! The year 6 classrooms were full of children star-jumping and hopping and they have written some excellent reports examining their data.



Road Safety

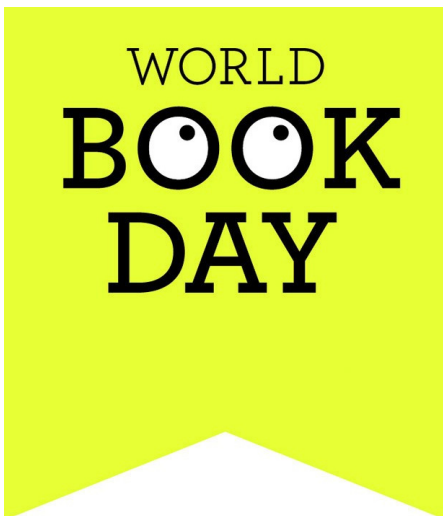
This week our Year 4 children were involved in some special Road Safety Workshops. The children behaved excellently and gave some very thoughtful and mature responses to the questions asked. It's wonderful to see and hear how road aware our young people are and how keen they are to help others stay safe when out and about. The children learnt essential road safety skills that will make them safer pedestrians. They were trained on finding safe places to cross the road, crossing at junctions

and near parked cars, the dangers of cars reversing and of wearing headphones or using a mobile. We also learnt the importance of keeping away from the kerb on pavements. Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



World Book Week

A reminder that this week is World Book Week, with the main day event being celebrated on Friday. Please refer to last week's newsletter for further information about the day. We look forward to sharing with you pictures from the day-lets share the love of reading whether your child is dressing up as their favourite book character, writing a book review or making a prop/item from a story of their choice. Let's get creative!



Online Safety

To celebrate the many positives of the internet, and to raise awareness of the issues that children and young people face online today, Hillingdon Primary School will be hosting and delivering an online safety information evening for parents and carers of children in every year group. The UK Safer Internet Centre who developed this presentation are experts in the field of online safety education and we highly recommend that you attend this event. The session will provide practical advice and safety tips to help manage online safety issues, and discussions surrounding suitable behaviour online.

The event will be on Tuesday 28th February at 6:00pm and will last for 30 minutes, with time for questions too.

We believe that internet safety education is a crucial element of the curriculum and an essential part of young people's development. This event is designed to help you become more aware of the safety messages that your children receive in school, in order to reinforce them at home. We really hope that you will be able to attend and look forward to seeing you there.



Notice:

The admissions policy has now been determined for 2018/19. Full details can be found on our school website.....