



# HILLINGDON NEWS

It may have been a short week, but the Bank Holiday has not stopped us from having a jam-packed week at HPS! Year 5 had a tremendous day at HOAC, enjoying the great outdoors and being pushed out of their comfort zones, and we had the annual Swimming Gala at Hillingdon Leisure Centre where our amazing Swim Squad did us proud once again. This week has been particularly busy for the Year 6 staff and students, who have been working incredibly hard in the lead up to the SATS exams beginning the 8th May. We would like to wish the entire year group GOOD LUCK for the week ahead and thank family and friends for supporting the children.

## Issue 28

### An unforgettable experience at HOAC!

This week our Year 5 children went to Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre (HOAC). Read all about their day below:

**Journey:** We were all pumped and excited and couldn't wait to get there! Two separate coaches escorted us to the centre and on arrival we were set into our groups for the day.

**At HOAC:** When we reached HOAC, one of the staff members showed us to the Mayflower, which was our base for the day, and as we walked towards it we could see all the activities that we would take part in!

**Activities:** On reaching the base, we split into two groups and started our

first experience of HOAC! Half the day was spent orienteering, where we went around the site in groups, looking for different symbols. Year 5 really enjoyed the orienteering, as it used problem-solving and map reading skills. "I found orienteering fun because we got to explore the whole of HOAC," Oliver said. Angelina mentioned that "It was great as we got to see all the features of HOAC, like the different activities and areas!" The second part of the day included team-building games including: Nightline (an assault course where you were blindfolded); The Swamp (where we had to use planks of wood to step from one



island to another without being eaten by the crocodiles!) and the Giant Spider's Web (ask us if you want to find out more!).

All in all, it was a fantastic experience. "I found it really exciting and challenging because of all of the events. Everything that we did was FUN!"

Written by Hamza and Kaaya (Y5)



### Success at the Swimming Gala

We could not be more proud of our 6 Swimmers who represented HPS last Thursday. The Swimming Gala was a fantastic event with schools from over the District competing in a range of swimming disciplines. We were thrilled to win 3 individual Gold medals, as well as winning the freestyle medley relay. The children came second overall- what a wonderful achievement! More than the

medals won, we were most impressed by the sportsmanship shown throughout the event. More than ever, our 6 swimmers were cheering each other on, helping calm nerves and really giving every event their all. The atmosphere around the pool was electric and all 6 of our swimmers improved their times from training, proving that the element of 'competition' really helped to push them to achieve their best in the Gala. Well done!



# Look what we've been up to:

**Nursery** - We arrived at Nursery on Tuesday to discover a giant egg! The children were keen to look at, listen to and feel the egg. Lots of wonderful ideas were generated about what it might contain: "It looks like a coconut.", "I think there's an alligator, a baby one", "It could be a spider or a baby dinosaur". Imagine our surprise on Friday when we discovered the egg had hatched overnight. We hunted the nursery before finding a t-rex in our garden! The children were delighted, although a little surprised.



**Reception** - This week in Reception we had our last 'Shared Learning' session for this year, where parents were invited to join us in the afternoon to carry out our weekly challenges. We were making books with their help and created sea animals using paper plates. Some of us also had a go at doubling spots on the ladybirds' wings. It's great fun learning together!



**Year 1** - This week we have begun our new Picture This topic of Castles! We were so excited to explore the model castles that were set up in our classrooms, and begin to identify the different parts of the castle and the reasons they were built. We can't wait to get stuck into the challenges that this exciting topic brings.

**Year 2** - This week in Year 2, we have been learning all about what makes something alive. We had a great discussion over whether having the ability to talk means that you are alive, as according to Enid Blyton's 'The Magic Faraway Tree', trees can talk! We have now decided that as a work of fiction and by attempting to have a conversation with a tree in the playground (who rudely didn't answer us), this is not true! However there are many things that humans, animals and plants have in common. Why not ask us what we do know is true about the 7 Life Processes? Mrs Nerg taught us all about it!

We have also been working hard in mathematics this week with a focus on finding fractions of amounts, and in literacy writing exciting stories.

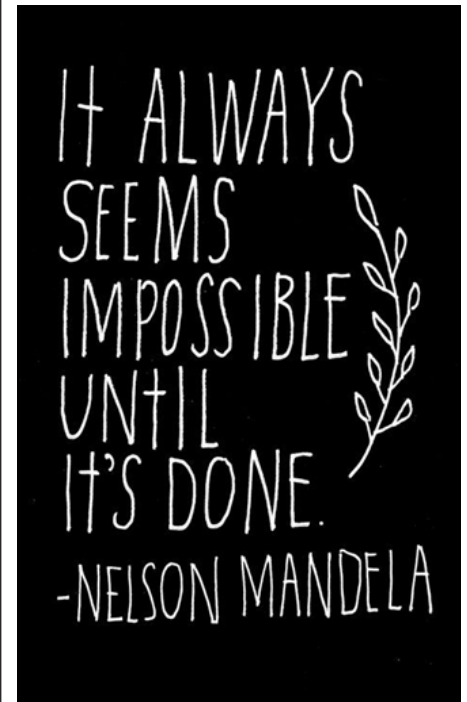
Well done to all the children who have read more than 3 times this week and remembered to sign their diary - this is fantastic to see and your teachers are so proud of your efforts to not only read regularly, but share these books with your friends.

**Year 3** - In literacy this week, the children have enjoyed editing and performing different play scripts. They have thought carefully about the key features of a playscript and how it should be performed. They will use this knowledge when performing in their class assemblies!

There has been a big focus on money this week in maths. Pupils have been adding amounts of money, finding change and solving money-focused problems. I am sure they won't short change anyone in the future!

**Year 6** - have worked so hard this week in the final preparations for their SATs tests next week. On behalf of all the staff in year 6 we wish the children all the very best - we know that they will all try their very best and that is all we can ask of them. Please remind your children to relax over the weekend - all the hard work is done now- and ensure

that they go to bed at a sensible time on Sunday evening. Don't forget that SATs Breakfast Club takes place every morning from Monday to Thursday next week and children are welcome to attend from 8.30am. As mentioned before, this is a really good way for the children to meet with their peers and their teachers before the tests and to calm any of those pre-exam nerves! Remember, 'Don't stress. Do your best. Forget the rest!'





# NOTICES



A reminder that this is the last week to collect 'Active Kids' vouchers from Sainsbury's. Every voucher helps towards purchasing new PE equipment. How many can you collect? Please place them in the collection box in the main reception.

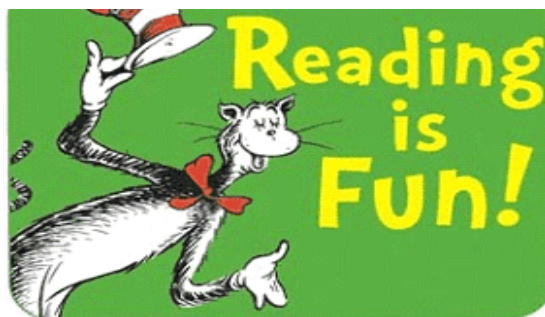


## Join us in our new location

- Birds of Prey in Action
- Woodland Crafts
- Ferret Racing
- Morris Dancing
- Children's Woodland Crafts
- Axe Men
- Charcoal Burning
- Family Pet Dog Show



**FREE ENTRY & CAR PARK**  
Breakspear Rd N, UB9 6LZ



Join us on 18th May  
For Picnic Day!

Choice of cheese, tuna or chicken sandwiches  
Vegetable samosa & spring roll  
Crudite's  
Fresh fruit  
Homemade iced cake

