

Weekly Newsletter

25th September 2026

HARROW LODGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Here's what has happened over the last week!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Let's begin with last week and a big thank you for your Jeans for Genes donations - we raised £173.56 (and two euros 😊) for which we are very grateful. We're also very proud to announce that we came second in the 'Havering in Bloom' School Category again this year. A big thank you to Tammy and the Gardening Club for their continued seeding and weeding which keeps us winning in this contest!

This week, you may have noticed that we've had new signage put up for the school. Now, it's been a bit of a contentious design decision - *I* loved our *old* signage but our Trust wanted signage that was more consistent across all their schools (quite understandable) so we had to come to a compromise. I think it'll take me some time to warm to it, but all the *children* have said they like it, so that's a good start. For me, there's a bit too much *white*, which isn't quite warm enough, but I hope *you're* all happy with it. Signage gives the very first impression of a school, so I think it needs to feel warm and friendly as opposed to business-like and corporate. Hopefully, we've struck the right balance.

We had our first round of Cycle Awareness courses this week and it was lovely to see the children so engaged and literally learning how to balance on a bike. Whilst all the children moved along gingerly, heads down and brows furrowed in concentration, Alexandra (2B) whizzed along, legs splayed out and, at the top of her voice, squealing, "Wheeeeeee!" as she manoeuvred around the obstacles, thoroughly enjoying every second of her newfound freedom! I think it's safe to say that Alexandra has discovered the joy of cycling!

Now, most of my days are spent in the office,

writing reports or dealing with site issues so I absolutely cherish the rare moments I get to spend with actual children and this week I got a very, very special one of those rare moments when Lottie (1A) came to visit me to read one of her favourite books to me. What a treat I had! Lottie read 'The Unicorn Academy' to me which is a book one would expect to see a Year 3 or 4 child reading so you can imagine what a delight it was to hear a Y1 child reading such a book with both expression and fluency. After she had finished reading, she looked at her teacher and said, "Oh, the butterflies have gone from my tummy now!!" My heart was fit to burst!!

Our Y6 children engaged in a 'Talk Consent' workshop this week in which the children learnt how to understand personal boundaries. The workshop was set at *their* maturity level and they were taught what **consent** means and how they mustn't pressure others into a choice; how they can seek consent or permission; how to communicate their response and be mindful of body-language and what they should do if someone *does* cross a personal boundary. It was a really interesting talk and I think we *all* learnt something along the way.

A further celebration is underway because we heard this week that we have been awarded the Silver Award for Mental Health Champions. Last year, we achieved the Bronze Award, this year the Silver so you know where next year is going, don't you? To be fair, they haven't created a Gold Award yet but, when they do, we'll be first in line to reach the podium!! A huge thank you to Miss B whose concerted efforts have ensured that we keep excelling in the Mental Health offer we give to our children and staff.

We also organised our annual MacMillan Coffee Afternoon where everyone was treated to some of the most amazing home-baking this side of the English Channel! Another 'thank you' to Miss B and her army of Mental Health Champions who put together a bake-sale worthy of the Great British Bake-Off Tent! And thank-you to all of you who baked or bought cakes that you donated for the cause. I'll let you know how much was raised in next week's newsletter at the end of a week spent trying to diet away the damage caused by sampling far too many of them!

As many of you are aware, since our site manager, Mr Welch, left our employ over a year ago, we have cycled through caretakers faster than a revolving door at rush hour. Well, we finally found Mr Ballard who has been a God-send but, just as we found a diamond in the making, we also got a call from Mr Welch saying that he needed to move back to working in the area and was wondering if we

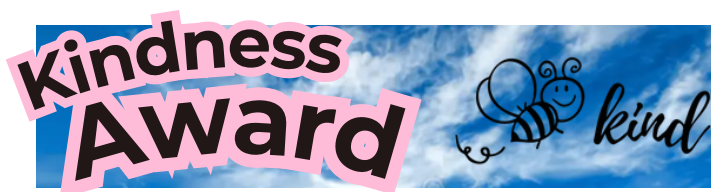
still needed a site manager! Well - our caretaker search is like a London bus service (no buses for ages, then 3 come along at once!!) So...we will be having **two** amazing site workers for a short while - a site *manager* and a site *caretaker* and our school is once more in expert hands. I'm sure you will join me in welcoming a beloved staff member back into the fold so please say a cheery hello to Mr Welch if you see him around next week.

And that's it for news this week - it just remains for me to wish you a lovely weekend and I leave you with this thought:

"They say you should never go back — but clearly whoever said that had never tried recruiting a site manager!"

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



R1 Grayson	4A Kevin
R2 Archie	4B Ella
1A Aadan	5A Dottie
1B Freddie	5B Lorin
2A Amelia-Rose	6A Grace
2B Alice	6B Vlad
3A Wilayat	6C Keira
3B Ayat	Willow Adam

R1 Gabriellus	4A Riley
R2 Arian	4B Raihan
1A Tallulah	5A Murtajiz
1B Bonnie	5B Rebecca
2A Harrison	6A Zoey
2B Gracie	6B Navaira
3A Michael	6C Mustafa
3B Ashton	

Reaching gold this week:

Lottie 1A	Nova 1B	Amelia-Rose 2A	Kian 2B	Billie 3A	Logan 4A	Ryan 5A
Cooper 1A	Danyil 1B	Lenny 2A	Niyanshi 2B	Lexi 3A	Ruby 4A	Nala 5B
Ollie 1A	Dior 1B	Franco 2A	Eva 2B	Wilayat 3A	Sofia 4A	Paisley 5B
Juwan 1A	Bonnie 1B	Madalin 2A	Samraj 2B	Jude 3A	Dollie 4A	Sia 5B
Max 1A	Thomas 1B	Eliza 2A	Musa 3A	Dhyan 3A	Rohan 4B	Sidney 5B
Jacob 1A	Dev 1B	Teddy Jacob 2A	Meltem 3A	Arisha 3B	Aisha 5A	Harry 6B
Amayah 1A	Harper 1B	Finley 2A	Michael 3A	Siraat 3B	Dalia 5A	Kira 6C
Hurain 1A	Zahra 1B	Ana-Maria 2A	Camilla 3A	Amelia G 3B	Diyan 5A	Oscar 6C
	Jax 1B	Alexandra 2B	Vadim 3A	Aarish B 3B	Elizabeth 5A	Vivien 6C
	Freddie 1B	Amelia 2B	Rocko 3A	Alice 4A	Evie 5A	Jibreel 6C
	Denys 1B	Haleema 2B	Harley 3A	Evani 4A	Lenny 5A	Promesse 6C
					Mia 5A	

Golden Welly Award

The award for great OPAL play this week goes to:

Samraj in 2B
Regi in 6B

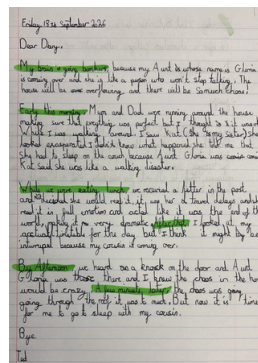
Well done!



Presentation Award

This week's presentation award goes to:

Laura in 5A



AUTUMN TERM

Upcoming dates:

- Wednesday 7th October - Performing Arts trip to see The Lion King
- Tuesday 13th October - Flu Vaccinations
- Monday 19th October - Parent's Evening
- Tuesday 20th October - EYFS Harvest assembly (am)
- Tuesday 20th October - Year 5 Harvest assembly (pm)
- Thursday 22nd October - Parent's Evening
- Friday 23rd October - break up for half term
- Monday 2nd November - Return to school
- Thursday 5th November - PTA Firework night
- Monday 9th November - Year 5 Bikability Week
- Monday 16th November - Learn to ride for years 2-6
- Tuesday 17th November - Learn to ride for years 2-6
- Thursday 19th November - Individual school photos
- Friday 20th November - Children in Need day
- Monday 23rd November - Stay and Learn week

Thank you for reading!

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