

Weekly Newsletter

2nd October 2026

HARROW LODGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Here's what has happened over the last week!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Let's begin with last week's tremendous cake sale - what a great way to end a week by satisfying a sugar-craving at the same time as raising some much-needed funds for MacMillan and I'm so proud to say that we raised the princely sum of £200.86! Thank you to everyone who contributed either by *providing* cakes or *buying* cakes!

We began this week with a wonderful Road Safety Show for Years 1 and 2. The children helped Pellie and Zebbie to cross the road safely! I hope they all came home reciting the Green Cross Code - Stop-Look-Listen-Think!!

We also held a workshop for EYFS parents on child anxiety. Now that EYFS have been coming in for 3 weeks, most children have settled but, for those who are still struggling, it's helpful to have someone who can give you a bit of guidance on supporting them.

We had a second Parent Tour this week which was lovely. We decided to have less tours but more parents on each tour this year and split the group in half walking around the school so it means less disturbance for classes and today was our first really large group - I'm glad to say it worked out very nicely indeed.

On my walk around the school this week, I saw some wonderful work going on but I especially loved spending time in 3B. I was walking past what I thought was an empty classroom but on closer inspection saw 30 children with their heads down in silence - I assumed there was some kind of test going on so I wasn't about to disturb them but then one of those little heads looked up, beamed at me and waved. Well, you don't wave in the middle of a test, do you? So, I ventured in and what

I saw, nay, what I *felt* was beyond articulation! Gentle, lilting music played softly in the air whilst children painted, creating an atmosphere of calm relaxation and quiet enjoyment as they became completely absorbed in their artwork. I was stunned and overwhelmed with a sense of peace and tranquillity. I walked slowly around the room, asking the children about their pieces and, truly, I didn't want to leave. Mrs Bracken had told me from the start of the year how calm she was finding her class but I had yet to witness it for myself - today I had that opportunity and how glad was I?

Year 1 were having lots of fun learning the song 10 Green Bottles while developing their understanding of counting backwards in Maths. The children loved pretending to be the ten green bottles! They labelled their own bottles and worked together to put them in the correct order. As they sang the song, they enjoyed taking away one bottle at a time and counting backwards together. It was a fantastic, practical way for the children to practise their counting skills while having lots of fun. The classroom was full of singing, laughter and lots of enthusiastic little green bottles!

As we start October and Black History Month, Y6 have been reading 'Windrush Child' in class. I'm sure many of you know by now that Ms Howard is one of our greatest storytellers and her ability to bring a character to life through the use of her voice alone is second to none - such that the children in her class have been treated to live entertainment through book-reading on a daily basis. This week, 6A themselves have been writing and presenting speeches in role as a Windrush Child and they have been using all the oracy techniques their teacher has been modelling for them and we've definitely

got some budding actors and politicians amidst Y6! It was lovely to see our Forest Friends Library being used by a group of children being read to this week and it reminded me of how important reading aloud to children is. These days, it's so easy to forget to read to our children because they're not bored and pestering us - (they're being entertained by their devices) and yet, reading aloud to children remains hugely valuable even after they're able to read independently. Hearing stories read aloud exposes children to a much wider vocabulary than they are likely to encounter in everyday conversation; it develops their listening and comprehension skills and, most importantly, helps them associate books with enjoyment. Ten minutes snuggled up with a good book can make a bigger difference than you would ever think!

And, on that note, I shall wish you a warm and wonderful weekend and leave you with this powerful thought:

"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the aeroplane takes off against the wind, not with it!"

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



R1 Alp	4A Evani
R2 David	4B Alayna
1A Cooper	5A Ali
1B Denys	5B Kasey
2A Ava	6A Khaleelah
2B Ebube	6B Roger
3A Harley	6C Jibreel
3B Ashton	

R1 Rois	4A George
R2 Ardie	4B Mussab
1A Jacob	5A Zaydon
1B Nova	5B
2A Kiaan	6A Halimat
2B Haleema	6B Jessica
3A Sehaj	6C Kimberley
3B James	

Reaching gold this week:

Amaya 1A	Adrian 2A	Mylo 2B	Evani 4A	Thea 5B
Harrison 1A	Ava 2A	Ishmael 2B	Ashton 3B	Shiloh 5B
Mason 1A	Harrison 2A	Amanah 2B	Siraat 3B	Amelie 5B
Greyson 1A	Kiaan 2A	Tommy 2B	Archie 3B	James 5B
Haniya 1A	Lennox 2A	Darius 3A	Vinnie 3B	Milesa 5B
Yaqub 1A	Max 2A	Rocko 3A	Karley 4B	Finn 5B
Nova 1B	Soumia 2A	Levi 3A	Mussab 4B	Harley 5B
Mariam 1B	Tafeef 2A	Zoe 3A	Aisha 5A	Grace 6A
Thomas 1B	Tilly Rae 2A	Harley 3A	India 5A	Jake 6B
Mikaeel 1B	Ayaat 2A	Arisha 3B	Elliot 5A	Jessica 6B
	Alice 2B	Luna 3B	Summer 5A	
	Inaaya 2B	Siyanna 3B		

Golden Welly Award

The award for great OPAL play this week goes to:

Yaqub in 1A
India in 5A

Well done!



Presentation Award

This week's presentation award goes to:

Alice in 4A



AUTUMN TERM

Upcoming dates:

- Wednesday 7th October - Performing Arts trip to see The Lion King
- Wednesday 7th October - School nurse in for Year 6
- Tuesday 13th October - Flu Vaccinations
- Monday 19th October - Parent's Evening
- Tuesday 20th October - 9:15 am EYFS Harvest assembly
- Tuesday 20th October - 2:15 pm Year 5 Harvest assembly
- 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
- Thursday 3rd December - sponsored reindeer run
- Friday 4th December - Whole school panto trip

Thank you for reading!

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