

Weekly Newsletter

23rd October 2026

**HARROW LODGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Here's what has happened over the last week!

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been the first really cold and rainy week of the new term which has meant indoor plays bringing wet-weather wiggles (KS1), cabin-fever capers (KS2) and rainy-day rocking (staff)!! However, none of this dampened the spirits of the week which included the following highlights:

Dottie (5A), our resident philanthropist, organised a fundraising event for 'Breast Cancer Now' and we all rocked up to school wearing our best pink outfits. I tried to emulate my inner *Elle Woods* or professional *Barbie* but the reference was lost on everyone who mostly saw me as a giant stick of candy-floss! Nevertheless, we all enjoyed a bit of pink frivolity and Dottie raised a very respectable £222.63 for the charity. Thank you for all your donations and to the children for popping in pink throughout the day.

The Book Fair arrived and children have thoroughly enjoyed browsing the shelves of books and then spending their money on pencils, rulers and fancy notebooks!!!! It's the same every year!

Our EYFS children performed their first 'production' for Harvest. It was a selection of songs with actions and a plethora of innovative improvisation which, frankly, elevated the whole thing to a stellar level!

Y5 followed with their own Harvest Assembly which was, of course, a more refined and sophisticated presentation full of educational facts and enlivened by light-hearted musical interludes—including a spirited rendition of the Samba Harvest Song. The children were a delight to watch and I couldn't believe how much they seem to have matured since last term - it was a real revelation!!

Our first Parents Evenings of the year were run this week and I didn't get any visits which is always a good sign because that means that everyone is satisfied with the messages they received!!

In other news, 1A took their investigation of materials very seriously this week... perhaps a little too seriously! After discussing which materials were absorbent and which were not, the class decided that simply testing materials on the table was far too boring. Instead, they agreed that the only real way to prove whether something was waterproof or not was to conduct a live scientific experiment involving a human being! Step forward, Mason: brave volunteer, fearless explorer, and temporary lab rat. Armed with cups of water and a collection of materials including wood, metal and plastic, the children carefully held each material above Mason's head whilst he sat patiently beneath, fully committed to advancing scientific knowledge, whilst water was poured onto the materials. Thankfully, these materials passed with flying colours and kept our brave volunteer perfectly dry. Then came the moment everyone had been waiting for... the tissue paper. The classroom fell silent. Eyes widened. Breath was held. Ms Goodwin dramatically released a single drop of water onto the tissue paper. The result? Gasps. Screams. Laughter. Shrieks of delight. You'd have thought Mason had been drenched by an enormous bucket of water, rather than startled by a single drop landing on his head! Unsurprisingly, the tissue paper failed its waterproof test and allowed the water through. Mason survived the ordeal remarkably well despite the traumatic experience of having a droplet of water land on his head. Thankfully, he lived to tell the tale, 1A learned a huge amount about materials and everyone agreed that science is much more exciting when your classmates become part of the experiment! A future Nobel Prize winner? We'll have to wait and see. But for now, Mason can proudly add "Professional Waterproof Tester" to his CV. (Thanks to Ms Goodwin for putting this so perfectly!)

Year 1 certainly had a busy week, as they were also invited to a 'Coronation Lunch' for King Charles. A tad late in the day, you may think, but these little ones were too young to participate fully in the *real* event, so this week they finally got their chance! The dining hall was festooned with Union Flags, while the children's splendid attire bore witness to the occasion—they looked every inch the young princes and princesses, dukes and duchesses, lords and ladies, bringing a wonderfully regal air to the celebrations. It was all part of their history topic, and they learnt about the historical significance of coronations and the traditions, pageantry and ceremony surrounding the monarchy.

I also spotted some amazing writing taking place in EYFS this week - only half a term in and these children are writing like mini authors!

This week we had some visitors from the DfE to undertake a Net Capacity Assessment inspection - sounds like another scary inspection but it's just to measure the rooms, find out what they're used for and I guess decide if they're suitable for purpose. I'm not sure really - apparently, they do this every 20 years but no one seems to know where the results end up or what happens with them - I guess it keeps someone in a job!!! If I find out any more than that, I'll let you know.

The Romford Recorder contacted me today wanting to write a piece about our recent Ofsted result. I'll send them a quote or two so keep your eyes peeled for that in the coming weeks. I also wrote a piece about the school a few weeks back but no idea when it was supposed to be in the paper - did any of you see it? I feel like this half term has been a bit of a blur to be honest - Ofsted arriving so early rather threw us off course from the outset and we've been chasing our tails ever since!!!

Now your children may have come home very early in the term talking about Christmas activities, and you probably dismissed it as childish chatter. In fact, they really were getting an early start on their festive preparations: their designs were being transformed into cards, mugs, fridge magnets and, of course, the ever-popular tea towel—all of which take time to produce! But now the wait is over: the shop is open for orders, and you won't want to miss the chance to own your budding artist's very first masterpiece. The shop closes on the 1st November which is only a week away and you can't put in late orders so do please tell all your parent friends to get ordering as it's heartbreaking for us when parents ask us if they can put in a late order because they didn't realise the deadline. Perhaps you could all share it on your WhatsApp chats which would reach a lot more than this newsletter, I'm sure!!



Finally, don't forget to order your tickets for Fireworks night - there's only a limited number allowed to be sold so it's on a first come, first served basis, I'm afraid.

And, on that note, I shall wish you all a wonderful half-term week full of spooky fun, autumn adventures and, hopefully, some well-earned family fun! And I leave you with this thought:

"Life is a little like Halloween: the costumes change, the surprises keep coming, and the sweetest moments are often the ones we share."

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



A little bit of Halloween fun at Breakfast Club!

Stars of the week

Kindness Award



R1 Albie	4A Sofia
R2 Hamood	4B Arham
1A Ariyan	5A Ifraah
1B Oscar	5B Idris
2A Eliza	6A Shemuel
2B Tommy	6B Kara
3A Vadim	6C Vivien
3B Nectarie	Willow Charlie

R1 Akaran	4A Evani
R2 Hudson	4B Nellie
1A Miko	5A Shannon
1B Maiya	5B Milana
2A Adrian	6A Jenson
2B Amelia	6B Isla
3A Zoe	6C Ayanah
3B Dexter	

Achiever Badges



Book Tokens



Congratulations to following children for reaching gold 5 times and earning an achiever badge:

Finn 5B



Well done to the following children for earning their book token this week:

Lottie 1A
Emily 3B



Reaching gold this week:

Mason 1A	Ronnie 2A	Shalom 2B	Mannat 3A	Rohan 4B	Finn 5B	Maxwell 6C
Oliver 1A	Ayaat 2A	Layla 3A	Ada 3B	Idris 5B	Mithran 5B	Aiza 6C
Shaveer 1A	Amayah 2A	Sienna 3A	Amelia C 3B	Ifeh 5B	Chloe 5B	Vivien 6C
Isaiah 1A	Madalin 2A	Rocko 3A	Siraat 3B	Sophia 5B	Harley 5B	
Aadanan 1A	Amelia 2B	Meltem 3A	Lola 3B	Shiloh 5B	Paisley 5B	
Hurain 1A	Amanah 2B	Camilla 3A	Denzel 3B	Aria 5B	Ardi 5B	
Cooper 1A	Ismael 2B	Hurmat 3A	Matei 3B	Sia 5B	Joshua 6A	
Rahman 2A	Yahya 2B	Vadim 3A	Ella 4B	Thea 5B	Navaira 6B	
Da'ud 2A	Ebube 2B	Jude 3A	Karley 4B	James 5B	Aadam 6B	
Amaira 2A	Dawud 2B	Harley 3A	Paula 4B	Nala 5B	Vlad 6B	
Lenny 2A	Jude 2B	Isa 3A	Shayne 4B	Amelie 5B	Emma 6B	
Lennox 2A	Leo 2B	Michael 3A	Nellie 4B	Lorin 5B	Emily 6B	

Golden Welly Award

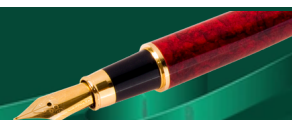
The award for great OPAL play this week goes to:

Greyd in 1A
Nectarie in 3B

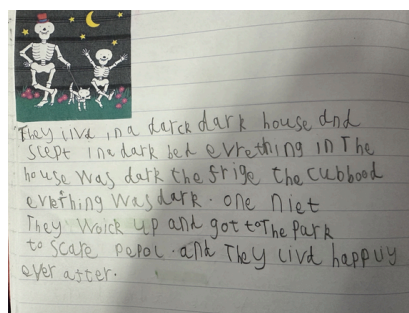
Well done!



Presentation Award



This week's presentation award goes to:



Lottie in 1A

AUTUMN TERM

Upcoming dates:

- 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 year 2-6
- Tuesday 17th November - Learn to ride for year 2-6
- Thursday 19th November - Individual school photos
- Friday 20th November - Children in Need day
- Monday 23rd November - Stay and Learn week
- Wednesday 2nd December - 5A visit to Elm Park Library
- Thursday 3rd December - sponsored reindeer run
- Friday 4th December - Whole school panto trip
- Monday 7th December - am Year 2 Christmas concert, pm Year 1 Christmas Concert
- Tuesday 8th December - am EYFS Christmas concert, pm Year 2 Christmas concert
- Wednesday 9th December - am Year 1 Christmas concert, pm EYFS Christmas concert
- Wednesday 9th December - 5B visit to Elm Park Library
- Thursday 10th December - Christmas jumper day and Christmas dinner
- Thursday 10th December - 3:30 - 5:00 - PTA Christmas Fair
- Friday 11th December - 9:15 - Rock Steady Concert to parents

Thank you for reading!

HARROW LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL	01708 448187
www.harrowlodgeprimary.com	Rainsford Way Hornchurch RM12 4BP