ISSUE 9

Weekly Newsletter

HARROW LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

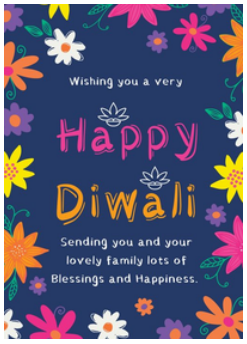
13th November 2026



Here's what has happened over the last week!

Dear Parents and Carers,

We begin this week by wishing everyone a Happy Diwali. Pupils have been learning about the wonderful Festival of Lights and the importance of celebrating light, hope and kindness.



Talking of kindness, a shout out must be given to Alice D (4A) who raised a staggering £735 for the Little Lady Locks charity and donated 10 inches of her hair 3 years ago. Well, since then, Alice has been feverishly growing her hair in order to donate another 9 inches to the charity this year! The money raised covered the cost of making a full human hair wig and a hair piece replacement system for a child suffering hair loss and her recent hair donation will be enough to enough to make another hair piece for a small child suffering with conditions similar to alopecia. alopecia. We are all really proud of her and her donation will certainly help the school in our pursuit of a distinction for our Social Impact Award. Well done, Alice, a kindness that truly makes a difference.



As many of you are aware, our Mental Health Champions felt that we needed a calmer area for our school Worry Corner now that OPAL had created a thoroughfare directly beside the current area and, having looked around the school for a suitable alternative, they were unable to find an indoor space that offered the peace and quiet needed. They therefore decided that the best solution would be to raise funds to purchase a shed that could be transformed into a calm and welcoming space, tucked away in a quiet corner of the quad. They then held a meeting to decide the best way to do this. Rather than opting for the usual non-uniform day, which they felt had become a little predictable, our Mental Health Champions wanted to organise something different, exciting and memorable so that pupils would always remember how they had helped to fund their new Worry Corner. They came up with the idea of a sponsored Obstacle Race and Emoji Hunt, which took place on Monday and proved to be a huge success! I heard children leaving the hall excitedly exclaiming, "That was brilliant! I wish we could have done more of it!" What a wonderful way to raise money for such a worthwhile cause! Their target to purchase the shed was £650 but, and hold onto your hat for this news, they raised an incredible £2202!!! Well! That just blew our minds! I want to extend my deepest gratitude to you for sponsoring your children in this manner. Not only are you supporting the school but you're also teaching your children that families pull together and that making a difference to the lives of others is worth going that extra mile for. You're showing them that kindness isn't just about what we say, but what we do, and that when we come together with a shared purpose, even the smallest acts of generosity can achieve something truly extraordinary! Having counted up their funds, our MH Champions realised that not only could they purchase the shed but they could purchase all the decorative accessories necessary to make the corner cosy and welcoming as well. They even felt

that they may even have some left over after all that has been bought and their discussions turned to how they might use the left-over money in a useful way. They decided that they would either join together with the School Council on a project to improve the school or they would put it towards doing something to support the well-being of the staff! Again - blown away by the maturity and selfless attitude of these wonderful children, who are not only thinking about how they can improve their own school experience but also considering how they can make life better for others. What a fantastic example of kindness, thoughtfulness and genuine care for their school community!

Y5 had their Bikeability week this week. Of course, it wasn't a good week for Bikeability as we had our Remembrance Service taking place and I was a bit miffed that the Bikeability had been booked for this week so I asked who had booked it so I could ask them to consider Remembrance next year when booking Bikeability - turns out it was ***me*** who booked it!!!! 😳 Moving on!!! Apart from *that* disaster, Y5 children did really well - only 1 wet day meant that they had a great run at passing their Grade 1 & 2 and thoroughly enjoyed it at the same time!

4A enjoyed a visit to the library this week, where they learnt all about the Dewey Decimal System, the differences between biographies and autobiographies, and fiction and non-fiction books. They were then treated to a story read by the librarian before being invited to choose a book to take home. Usually, books must be returned within three weeks but the librarian was so impressed by the children's impeccable behaviour, enthusiasm and politeness that she extended their return date until the end of January! What a wonderful compliment to our children and our school! Although I must admit, remembering *my* time as a mother of young children, my first thought was that this just gives them an extra seven weeks in which to lose the books - especially over Christmas!!!

And finally, this week, we took time to mark Remembrance Day and reflect on the courage and sacrifice of those who gave their lives for our freedom. For the first time in 11 years, the weather forced us to hold our Remembrance Service indoors, which was truly heartbreaking as, unfortunately, we simply don't have the space to accommodate parents. We know how much this very special occasion means to so many of you, and it was deeply disappointing not to be able to share it with you this year. Nevertheless, it was a truly moving service, with the children singing their hearts out as they performed songs about Flanders Fields, Remembrance and Prayers for Peace throughout the world. Our wreath bearers, two children from each class, conducted themselves with such dignity and respect, walking slowly up the central aisle of the hall before bowing their heads as they laid their wreaths. Of course, in light of our recent community tragedy, emotions were particularly heightened and many children were moved to tears. Staff were, as always, vigilant and on hand to offer immediate comfort and support to those who needed it. We were also especially honoured to welcome ex-soldier Mr Tonks, who joined us proudly wearing his Army uniform and well-deserved medals. His presence was a wonderful and poignant addition to this year's ceremony, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to him for joining us. I'm so very sorry that we were unable to share such an important occasion with you all this year but, perhaps, having managed 11 years without rain, we can now look forward to another 11! Fingers crossed!

And that brings us to the end of a very long week. It just remains for me to wish you a lovely weekend. Hunker down under the duvet as it's about to turn very chilly indeed and I leave you with this thought:

"We cannot change the sacrifices of yesterday but, through the kindness we show today, we can help shape a better tomorrow."

With kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Searle



Stars of the week

R1 Leo
R2 Zenayah
1A Edua
1B Paige
2A Finley
2B N'Myah
3A Layla
3B Amelia G
4A Alice
4B Vivaan
5A Woody
5B Serena
6A Zoey
6B Dima
6C Maxwell

Kindness Award



R1 Jian
R2 Isaiah
1A Harrison
1B Mariam
2A Amaira
2B Mylo
3A Musa
3B Lola
4A Maia
4B Kai
5A Ali
5B Thea
6A Drey
6B Roan
6C Mark

Achiever Badges



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

Michael 3A
Meltem 3A
Camilla 3A
Harley 3A
Ardion 5B
Mithran 5B



Book Tokens



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

Jax 1B
Luna 3B
Olivia 3B
James 3B
Zirwah 6C
Vera 6C



Reaching gold this week:

Aaron R1
Akaran R1
Hania R1
Bella R1
Tawfeeq R1
Enibibi R2
Leo Law R2
Zenayah R2
Daisy 1A
Lottie 1A
Shaveer 1A
Harrison 1A
Miko 1A
Micah 1A
Ollie 1A
Freddie 1B
Miyah 1B
Nova 1B
Dior 1B
Zahra 1B
Adrian 2A
Aleena 2A
Eleanor 2A
Finley 2A
Harrison 2A
Kiaan 2A
Max 2A
Ayaat 2A
Tafeef 2A
Lexi 3A
Parker 3A
Wilayate 3A
Callum 3A
Idrees 3A
Camilla 3A
Harley 3A
Meltem 3A
Michael 3A
Aariish A 3B
Aarish B 3B
Aidan 3B
Amelia G 3B
Archie 3B
Arisha 3B
Emily 3B
Luna 3B
Siyana 3B
Vinnie 3B
Aria 5B
Rebecca 5B
Amelie 5B
Shiloh 5B
Sophia 5B
Nala 5B
Paisley 5B
Idris 5B
Finn 5B
Toby 5B
Ardion 5B
Josh 6A
Jimmy 6A
Jenson 6A
Adam 6A
Harper 6A
Khaleelah 6A
Naylaa 6B
Teddy 6B
Dima 6B
Ismail 6B
Gabriel 6C
Promesse 6C
Kimberley 6C
Ayanah 6C
Mark 6C
Olamide 6C

Golden Welly Award

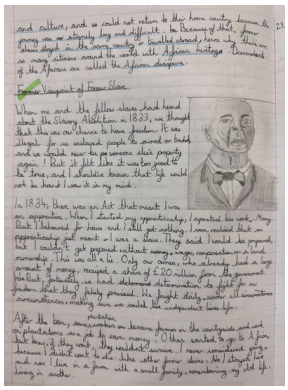
The award for great OPAL play this week goes to:

Kian in 2B
Darcy in 4A

Well done!



Presentation Award



This week's presentation award goes to:

Navaira in 6B

AUTUMN TERM

Upcoming dates:

- Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th November - Learn to ride for year 2-6
- Wednesday 18th November - 4B visiting Elm Park Library @ 11:15 am and 2A visiting @ 2:00pm
- Thursday 19th November - Individual school photos
- Monday 23rd November - Stay and Learn week
- Wednesday 25th November - 3B visting Elm Park Libarary @ 11:15 am
- Wednesday 2nd December - 5A visit to Elm Park Library
- Thursday 3rd December - sponsered reindeer run
- Friday 4th December - Whole school panto trip
- Monday 7th December - am Year 2 Christmas concert, pm Year 1 Christmas Concert (times tbc)
- Tuesday 8th December - am EYFS Christmas concert, pm Year 2 Christmas concert (times tbc)
- Wednesday 9th December - am Year 1 Christmas concert, pm EYFS Christmas concert (times tbc)
- Wednesday 9th December - 5B visit to Elm Park Library @ 11:10 am
- 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
- Tuesday 15th December - Choir singing in Romford Market @ 1:00pm
- Wednesday 16th December - Breakfast with Santa
- Wednesday 16th December - Choir singing at Park Rise Retirement Village pm
- Friday 18th December - 10:30 Holy Cross Church Carol service
- Friday 18th December - 1:30 Break up for Christmas
- Tuesday 5th January 2027 - Return to school

Thank you for reading!

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