



# HIGHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Headteacher's Newsletter

October 2020

Dear parents,

As we reach the end of the first half term, the children have embraced the weather and delights that autumn has to offer. Despite these strange times, we are still learning and laughing, as you will see from this newsletter....

### Nursery



In Nursery, children have been celebrating Harvest, singing and signing the Big Red Combine Harvester song and making collage scarecrows. Things have also been getting rather spooky in time for Halloween, dressing up in our witches den, scooping out pumpkins and making potions with green spaghetti.

## Reception



Reception children have also really enjoyed learning the Dingle Dangle Scarecrow and Big Red Combine Harvester to celebrate Harvest Festival. They had a terrific dress-up day and loved having the chance to sing with the whole school at the Harvest celebration singalong – what a treat.

## Year 1



Year 1 concluded their topic 'The world through our senses' with a delicious week devoted to the sense of taste, and what better way to celebrate than with some baking! After an excellent demonstration by chef Julia, the children peeled the apples they had harvested at the allotment and then assembled their own apple and blackberry crumble. Rubbing in the topping was nearly as much fun as eating the final product. The baking was followed by some great instruction writing as the children sequenced and wrote their own crumble recipes.

## Year 2



The Year 2 children have been exploring the woods and making the most of Autumn. They built attractions for the fairies of Highgate Woods so they could hold a big party for the neighbouring fairies from Queens Wood. As you can see, this picture shows a beautiful, heart disco dance floor – perfect for entertaining.

## Year 3



The year 3s have thoroughly enjoyed their study of prehistory. Highlights have included chocolate rock making, Iron Age weapon study and of course, dinosaurs. The Stonehenge models were pretty fantastic, too!



## Year 4



4EJ and 4IO have put on wonderful assemblies this week and last. This morning 4IO showed us the many wonderful things the Ancient Greeks have left as their legacy to the Western World - including architecture, philosophy, theatre, democracy and the Olympic Games. And last week 4EJ performed The Myth - a high-stakes competition to discover which Ancient Greek myth was the best. Although Heracles, King Midas, Perseus and Atalanta all re-told their myths and battled their demons with guts and gusto, Theseus was triumphantly declared the best Greek hero ever. Here they are celebrating at the end of the show. Well done, Year 4!

## Year 5



Things in Year 5 have had a distinct Victorian feel in recent weeks, culminating in yesterday's Victorian Day. Very strict Year 5 teachers taught well-behaved children about important things like pounds, shillings and pence and the Lord's Prayer, not forgetting the importance of times tables. Those were the days!

## Year 6

Year 6 have climbed to the dizzy heights of the world's mountain ranges this half term. They have enjoyed exploring human activity in the UK's national parks and were prompted to write extremely persuasive letters to the Minister for National Parks demanding better protection for these unique environments. In a focused study of the Brecon Beacons, the children somehow managed to fit 2.5 million years into a timeline showing the



changing use of land in the region. What a long way we have all come since the Stone Age!

## Wellbeing



Just about everyone who has been into school this term has commented positively on the happiness of our children who have adapted so well to the 'new normal'. That said, emotional wellbeing remains a top priority at this challenging time and pastoral support has been expanded to include all children. Working within whole class bubbles, the children have had the opportunity to explore emotions through creative therapeutic workshops and to express their feelings in a safe and comfortable environment. Moving forward, many children will have the opportunity to follow this up within a small group, with either a drama therapist or wellbeing practitioner, to express themselves through drama or art.

## Music



Despite the adapted school arrangements, we are still making music in our classrooms. Singing Assemblies finally started up again last week, which was wonderful. The assemblies now take place in socially distanced year groups in the hall, one year group at a time. Although we missed our usual Harvest Festival Assembly with all the parents very much, this week the playground was filled with joyous Harvest Festival songs.

## Happy Halloween



Everyone enjoyed the Halloween dress-up day today, with many fantastical costumes on show. What a treat to be able to celebrate the spooky occasion together safely. Although trick or treating is not allowed this year, today demonstrated how much fun you can have with your imagination.

## PSA News



The PSA are excited to announce that Horace Tote Bags are now available to accompany the fabulous Horace Tea Towel. Bag your bag on Scopay now at only £5 each. Christmas presents sorted! Thank you for your support.

## Important Dates

Please add these dates to the family calendar...

Flu Immunisation (Reception to Year 6)	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November
Last Day of Autumn Term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 1.30 pm

I hope you all have a restful half term.

With best wishes

*William*

William Dean  
Headteacher

Follow us on Facebook



@HighgatePrimarySchoolLondon

and Twitter



@HighgatePri