



HIGHGATE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher's Newsletter

September 2021

Dear parents,

A sunny September and the excitement of a new school year has given us a great return to normal at Highgate Primary.

Summer Festival



Thank you so much to everyone who came to our Summer Festival on Saturday 11th September - and a huge thank you to Jenny, Julie and the PSA Team for creating such a memorable day. Not only was the weather gorgeous and the vibes happy and relaxed, we also raised a considerable amount of funds for the school too – possibly getting towards £10,000!. If you haven't yet read my blog about the festival you can here:

<https://highgateprimaryschool.co.uk/headteachers-blog/the-summer-festival>

Fireworks Night

The next PSA event is our Fireworks Evening which will be held on Friday 15th October. More information will follow soon about this highly anticipated event. For our new families – you are in for a treat!

Nursery



The Nursery children have made a wonderful start to the year. They have settled in brilliantly and had lots of fun exploring their new surroundings and beginning to make new friends. There has been an abundance of painting, singing and storytelling, as well as plenty of time spent outdoors soaking up the last of the summer sun.

Reception



Reception is off to a flying start! The children have been exploring the space, making friends, creating wonderful artworks, singing and playing together. We are thrilled to have such an enthusiastic group of children who are so happy to be here.

Year 1



We have been so impressed with how the children have settled into Year 1 with such enthusiasm and confidence. We started this term's topic, 'The World through Our Senses' with an in-depth investigation of the five senses. The children loved exploring a range of different tastes and textures – some were rather more popular than others. We've continued the sensory theme through the classic story, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', with the children bravely going on their own bare-foot bear hunt through swishy swashy grass, a deep, deep river and thick oozy mud!

Year 2

The children and adults in Year 2 were all very excited to be going on a school trip again, and being an adventurous lot, they went for a whole day out at London Zoo - travelling on the London Underground. We had a wonderful day spotting lions, tigers, and flamingos; marvelled at the giraffes and were thoroughly entertained by the penguins. We took part in a workshop all about camouflage and discovered that arctic foxes turn white in the winter.



The reptile house and the butterfly house were just as popular, as of course were the gorillas and monkeys. Did you know that bananas are actually not good for monkeys? The ones we eat are much too sweet for them. Inspired by the trip, the children produced beautifully written and illustrated recounts. Well done Year 2!

Year 3



Year 3 have been immersing themselves in prehistory and have quickly become experts on the Jurassic era. The children are currently designing and making papier-mache models of dinosaurs. We've learnt that scientists can't actually be sure what colour dinosaurs were, so we've based our designs on reptiles such as geckos and chameleons. It's going to be colourful.

Year 4



Year 4 have had a fascinating start to the term. It really was a joy to be able to take a trip to the British Museum, which looks just like the Parthenon. We discovered pots made by the Ancient Greeks and attended a workshop on how to recognise the gods, heroes and monsters of Greek mythology. The children (and teachers) behaved brilliantly, despite it being their first school trip in 18 months, and learned so much. Once back at school, a strangely familiar looking Perseus popped in to the Year 4 classrooms to explain how he defeated the gorgon Medusa (without being petrified). Could it have been John?

Year 5



Year 5's first topic this year 'A Victorian Education' has provided rich inspiration and the children have been practising their parts for their Victorian assembly. In the photograph, children are exhibiting their self-portrait silhouettes, just as the Victorians may have done 150 year ago. Year 5 have also been taking advantage of sunny days and a temporary displacement due to electric works to take some lessons outside this week.

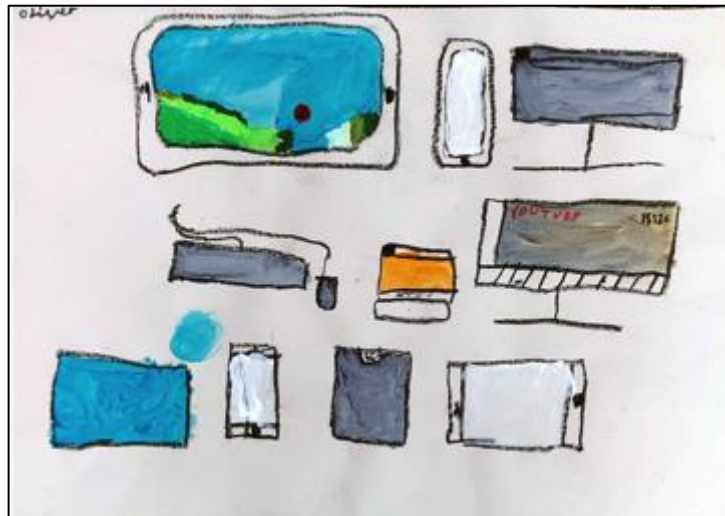


Year 6



Year 6 have scaled the heights with this half term's topic, 'Pendarren'. They began by researching mountain ranges around the world, finding their locations and discovering how mountain ranges are formed. Narrowing the focus, they then created eye-catching reports on the highest mountains of the UK and were inspired to create their own three dimensional mountains

Lockdown Art Project



Some of our children were given the opportunity to take part in an art project, working alongside artist Christine Watson, to create artwork reflecting personal experiences of Lockdown. The artwork is now displayed on the children's ward in the Whittington Hospital, including the brilliant painting above by Oliver.

Sport



Our cross country girls and boys kicked off the year with a fantastic overall team performance. Top performing children were Eliot in Year 4, who finished 41st out of 160 boys across the borough, the great majority two years older, and Lottie, who finished 37th out of 160 girls. Well done everyone for completing the 2.7km course.

School Gardens



Thanks to all the receipts our school community have collected and the generosity of Sunshine Garden Centre, our gardener Flo has been able to buy a wonderful collection of plants for our school grounds. Please follow the link to learn about how you can help our gardens and allotment.

<https://www.highgateprimaryschool.co.uk/support-us/local-garden-centres-support>



This week's delicious harvest from our allotment.

Clothes Recycling is Here!



You can now recycle pre-loved clothes, bags, shoes, bedding and towels in this new recycling bin at school (on the left as you go in the main gate). The PSA will earn money for all items that can be re-sold and everything else will be recycled. Please note the list of things that are not wanted including soiled rags, rubbish, metal and glass.

Important Dates

Please add these dates to the family calendar...

Fireworks Evening	Friday 15 th October
Individual Photos	Tuesday 19 th October
Half Term	w/c Monday 25 th October
Flu Immunisation	Tuesday 9 th November
Inset Day School Closed to Children	Friday 26 th November
Last Day of Autumn Term	Friday 17 th December 1.30 pm

With best wishes

William

William Dean
Headteacher



More Year 2 at the zoo!



Found him, at last.

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