



**HIGHGATE**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **Headteacher's Newsletter**

October 2021

Dear parents,

As we reach the end of the first half term of the year, please take a moment to enjoy a bumper edition of the newsletter. The last few weeks has been a particularly busy time at school with so much to celebrate...

### **Fireworks Evening**



Thank you so much to everyone who joined us for a fantastic Fireworks evening at the North London Cricket Club last Friday. We were treated to amazing fireworks, delicious food, warming drinks and a great range of stalls, all accompanied by a perfect sound track from MC Nick. We are enormously grateful to the PSA and all the volunteers from our school community. As well as bringing our school community together, the event raised more than £3500 for the school.

### **Harvest Festival**



This year we were treated to not one, but three Harvest Assemblies – what a treat. Each assembly was wonderful and heart-warming in equal measure, with fantastic singing and signing, brilliant autumn colours and all set against an abundant Harvest Festival backdrop. Thank you to everyone who donated produce, helped with the display and distributed our harvest donations to 20 local residents and the Alexandra Wylie Tower Foundation.

### Big Soup Share



Yesterday's Big Soup Share was a huge, heart-warming success. The soup was made by Chefs Grace and Jakeline with delicious produce from the allotment and fresh vegetables donated by parents and staff - all served in beautiful edible bowls! A big thank you to the Green Council for organizing the event and running the stalls, to everyone who joined in, to our fabulous chefs and to Flo, for her dedicated work in the allotment.



### Art Studio



This term I am delighted to welcome Andrea Rodrigues Logartos, our new Art Studio Manager, to the Highgate Primary team. Andrea has been working in our beautiful Art Studio with children from many different classes, helping them to create incredible works of art; daring them to experiment and to fuel their imaginations. Please do read her half termly Art Newsletter which you can also find on the website here: <https://highgateprimaryschool.co.uk/classes/art>

### Nursery



In Nursery this term the children have enjoyed noticing the changes in the weather and the world around us. They've read lots of Autumnal stories such as 'Leaf Man' and 'We're Going on a Leaf Hunt'; made Autumn crowns, printed with vegetables and created some brilliant collage scarecrows to accompany our Harvest song 'Dingle Dangle Scarecrow'.

### Reception



The children in Reception were very excited to perform in the Harvest Festival celebration; they constructed their own friendly scarecrow and the classrooms have been busy and full of song. The children have all drawn pumpkins and other seasonal vegetables and had a go at "Chug Chug" combine harvester writing. What an excellent end to a terrific first half term!

## Year 1



There's been a strong Harvest theme in Year 1 this month, as the children have continued to explore their Senses topic. The classes visited the Allotment to pick apples and harvest other home-grown fruit and veg with our gardener, Flo. After an excellent demonstration by Chefs Grace and Jakeline, the children turned the apples into delicious apple and blackberry crumble in the Cookery Studio. They then prepared the other produce for sale at our very own mini Farmers Market; the children have really enjoyed writing persuasive captions to tempt parents to 'Come buy'! All this, and the chance to perform Dingle Dangle Scarecrow to parents for our Harvest Assembly.

## Year 2



It's been a very busy few weeks in Year 2 where the children have been learning in the outside spaces in and around the school. The trip to Old Orchard Garden on Hampstead Heath, involved pond dipping for found frogs and toads and making dragonflies and

beetles out of clay, twigs and leaves. The children have also been enjoying Forest School, making spider web weavings with willow frames and coloured wool. They've been insect hunting at the allotment and have had a lot of muddy fun traversing the streams and bogs in Queens Wood. Back in the classroom the classes have been re-enacting 'Goldilocks and The Three Bears', sequencing the story with pictures and writing parts of the story and, finally, planning and writing our own versions of 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'.

### Year 3



Year 3 finished a fascinating study of ancient animals and ancient people by recreating standing stone structures such as Stonehenge and others from around the world. The children used some highly creative mediums ranging from clay to felt, Jenga to Weetabix, Lego to Minecraft. A truly awesome demonstration of building prowess.

## Year 4



Year 4 has been busy enjoying the topic Masks and Minotaurs and becoming experts on Ancient Greece. As well as putting on assemblies about the Greek myths and the Peloponnesian war, the children have debated Diogenes' question 'What makes a good life?', made and eaten spanakopita, investigated the origins of democracy, designed ancient Greek theatrical masks and written Greek myths of their own. It's been fun (and we now know from where J K Rowling stole most of her ideas!).

## Year 5



Year 5 have been studying Charles Dickens 'Oliver Twist' in English and have imaginatively drawn plans for introducing a new character into the story. They have also been learning about Dr. Barnardo's lifeline work to help house and educate homeless

children. This week the children produced prints of their own in the style of the Victorian artist, designer and poet, William Morris.

### Year 6



Year 6 has been busy finding out about the history and geography of the Brecon Beacons in Wales which we hope to visit in February. The children became so knowledgeable about mountains that they felt ready to conquer heights for themselves. To round off the topic, both classes headed to 'Go Ape' in Alexandra Palace for an afternoon of climbing and zip wires. Great fun was had by all!

### Operation Ouch



Children at Highgate Primary had a lot of fun this week with a visit from Dr Ronx and identical twins, Dr Chris and Dr Xand, who were here to film an episode of CBBC's very popular show Operation Ouch! The team spent a couple of days in and around the school answering brilliant questions from our children. Horace played a starring role, running errands and generally helping out. We believe the show will be aired in February, but will of course keep you updated. We can't wait to see our children (and dog) on TV next year!

## Important Dates

Please add these dates to the family calendar...

Flu Immunisation (Reception to Year 6)	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November
Parent Consultations	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> November Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> November
Inset Day School closed to children	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November
Highgate Primary Winter Fair	Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> December
Last Day of Autumn Term	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 1.30 pm

Thank you all for your ongoing support throughout the half term. I hope you all have a restful half term.

With best wishes

*William*

William Dean  
Headteacher

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