



Harlington Lower School

Half Term School News - Spring (1) 2024

Welcome to our Spring edition of School News. This is our half-termly newsletter where we celebrate all the exciting things that we have been doing over the half term. We hope that you enjoy reading about our exciting Spring Term so far!

Message from our Headteacher

It has been another busy and exciting term at Harlington Lower School! As you will see from the photos and write-ups below, we have had lots of interesting learning activities taking place, as well as some new improvements to the school environment.

I am sorry to announce that Mrs Edmonds will be retiring at the end of the school year. Mrs Edmonds has worked at Harlington for 12 years and has touched the lives of so many children, families and staff. Mrs Edmonds will be greatly missed by the whole of the school community but we wish her well for the future. There will opportunities in the Summer Term to say a proper farewell to Mrs Edmonds but we wanted you to hear the news directly from us as early as possible. We will also keep you informed of news of recruitment.

Oak Class

Oak Class have immersed themselves in their learning this term. Their learning has been enriched through the story of Naughty Bus. The topic began with a special delivery of a parcel, containing a big, red bus! Oak Class have been writing labels and captions for famous London landmarks, roleplaying taking a bus to their favourite destinations and recreating a cityscape using blocks and small construction toys.



The children have been working really well with their learning partners to talk through their learning. They are making some really good progress at taking turns and listening.



Rebecca: We were taking away numbers.

Sid: We were adding numbers together to make 5!

Polly: Me and Violet made steps to 5.

Liam: Me and Wills made steps too.

Oak Class made the most of the cold snap in January by exploring ice caused by freezing temperatures. They decided to take some tools outside and smash the ice to save the frozen animals.

Don't worry, no plastic animals were harmed!



Ally: We got the animals out the ice.
Owen: I smashed the ice.

The class were absolutely thrilled to partake in a music workshop, earlier this term.



Freddie: We made music by using our body parts.
Jesse: The piano made a noise
Ohemaa: I pressed the button.



Oak Class really enjoyed taking part in both the football freestyle and yoga workshops this term.

Rumaisah: I enjoyed exercising and stretching.
Rebecca: I liked that Jamie could do a handstand with the ball on his neck,
I am happy that I could balance it on my neck too.



We celebrated Safer Internet Day, with a visit from a Police Officer, who explained how we can keep safe online.

Claudia: Black jumper was big.
 Maia: A good stranger is someone in uniform.
 Magnus: I'm wearing a police hat.



To end the term, we spent the day celebrating Chinese New Year. We enjoyed wearing red or gold to school. During our exciting day we made paper lanterns and learnt a dragon dance. We also had the chance to make and try some stir fry, rice and prawn crackers. Oak class all agreed that it was an amazing day!



Golden Book 12.2.24
 Claudia



Wow work
 Alasdair and
 Ohemaa

Chestnut Class

Chestnut Class have enjoyed looking at transport in history this half term. We have made timelines of transport vehicles, we have compared old and new cars, made our own model Viking boats and we went on a virtual steam train ride. The children were interested in learning about George Stephenson - The Father of the Railway - and we talked about how people may have felt going on a train for the first time.



Amelia - I liked making the Viking Longboat. I liked the red and white sail.

William - I liked learning about the old-fashioned cars. I found it interesting that the engines were so slow.

Tillie - The Vikings pushed their boats on land and sailed them on water.

Chestnut Class loved the football freestyle skills session with Jamie Knight. We worked hard to try and balance a ball on our backs, flick the ball up and even spin a ball on our finger. Jamie had so much energy and we were impressed with his skills. Jamie told us that it takes a lot of practice and perseverance to get as good as him!



Ernie - I loved it when Jamie spun the ball on his finger.

Sophia - I liked it when he did a handstand.

Harper - I liked it when he did a roly-poly



Golden Book 12.2.24

Lily G



Wow work

Georgia and Boden

Hawthorn Class

Hawthorn Class have really enjoyed their Art lessons this half term. We have been learning about the artist L.S. Lowry. The children have painted seascape pictures. They have recreated one of Lowry's industrial pictures by painting the background, drawing the buildings and then adding the matchstick people.



Aaraiz - I enjoyed painting a picture of the sea

Elliot - It was great fun painting the pictures

Ellie – I enjoyed creating the city picture

Emilia – I enjoyed drawing the people for the city picture

Our geography topic on Kenya is always exciting. Hawthorn boarded their flight to Kenya and have learned about the fantastic geographical features as well as the learning about the life of the Maasai tribe and children who lived in rural Kenya.



“I liked it when we made necklaces out of paper plates.” Charlotte

“I liked learning about the Masai because I liked making a necklace and learnt lots of amazing things like the men were hunters and did the jumping dance and the women made the mud huts.” Vincent

“I liked it when we learnt about the Big 5 and the Masai jumping dance” Alice



Golden Book 12.2.24

Ellie



Wow work

Holly and Kieran

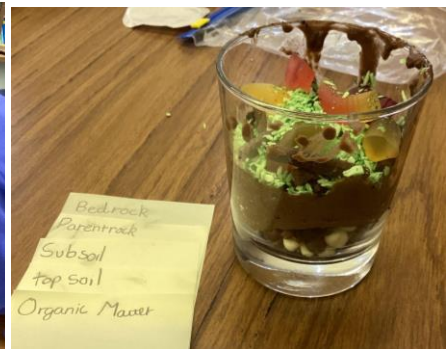
Rowan Class

Rowan Class have had a very busy half term!

Last week Year 3 took part in their Class Charity Week. The class voted on a charity they would like to fundraise for and they decided on Save the Children. The class voted to complete a 1 Mile run in which they asked for sponsors from family and friends. All children completed the 1 Mile run brilliantly and as a class we have raised an amazing £602.58 for this charity! We all know how much of a difference this will make to so many children. Thank you for any donations made.



- ✚ The class have also spent the last 6 weeks taking part in swimming lessons as part of the PE curriculum. The children have loved it and it has been wonderful to see their water confidence and ability grow!
- ✚ In Spring Term, the class also has Ukulele lessons with Inspiring Music. The children have the ability to explore music through learning a new instrument. This will continue after half term and the children will have the chance to perform to the rest of the school.



In Science this half term the children have had fun learning about rocks and soils. They have found it fascinating learning how fossils are formed. We had a fabulous time making edible soil including: Oreos, chocolate mousse and jelly worms!!!



Golden Book 12.2.24
Mila



Wow work
Ralph and Felicity

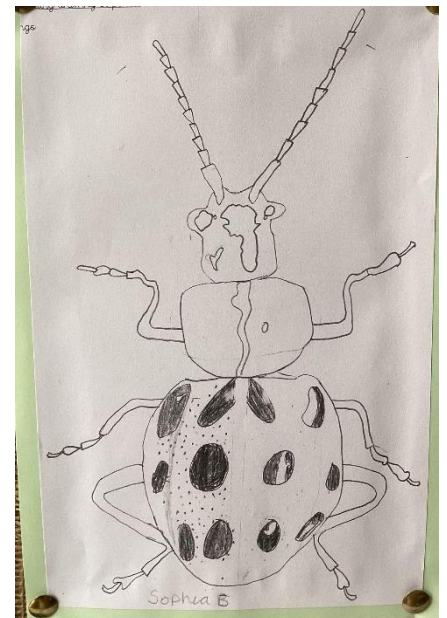
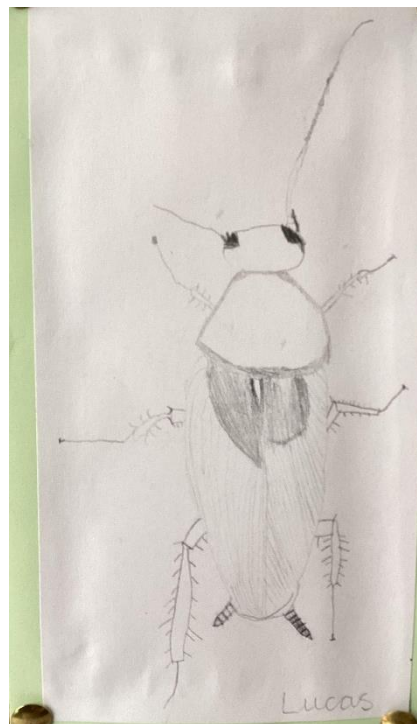
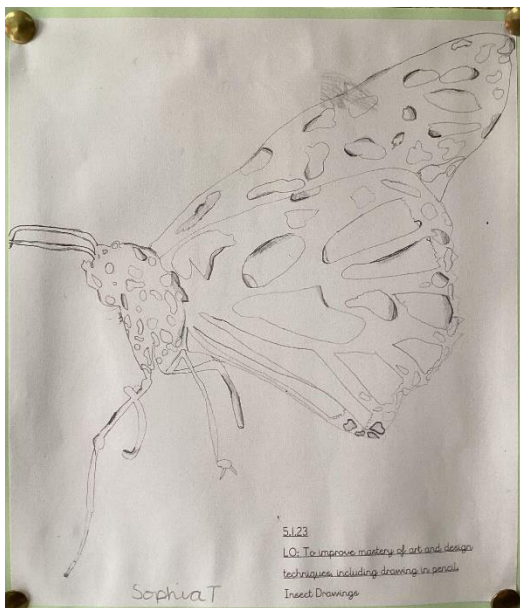
Beech Class

We have had a fantastic half term in Beech Class!

In English, we read a book called *Escape from Pompeii* which is all about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. We have enjoyed reading about what it would have been like for people in Pompeii and what happened to the city after the eruption. We particularly enjoyed watching videos of volcanic eruptions and learning lots of interesting facts about volcanoes in our reading lessons. Our independent writing was incredible as we worked so hard to include fronted adverbials, rich vocabulary, accurately punctuated speech and paragraphs.

History has also been one of our favourite lessons because we have been learning about the Romans. We found out about the Roman invasions of Britain, Boudicca's rebellion, Hadrian's wall and how Roman roads were built.

In Art we have been exploring the work of many different artists all based around the topic of 'Insects'. We have developed our drawing skills in both pencil and colour and created some outstanding pieces of insect art.



In Science, we have been investigating solids, liquids and gases, learning about how the particles move in each state. We completed lots of experiments, we discovered that gases do in fact have 'weight' and we watched the processes of evaporation and condensation using a kettle and a metal lid. Our favourite experiment however was testing the best temperature for melting chocolate!



Finally, we had a fabulous time at the Freestyle Football workshop with Jamie Knight. We practised our 'blind heels', 'rockets' and even did handstands with the ball balanced.



Pyramid Schools Trust

As of 1st February 2024, the Harlington and Sundon Academy Trust merged with the Pyramid Schools Trust. We are looking forward to working with the Pyramid Schools Trust for the benefit of everyone.



New Mural!

We are very excited to have a new mural in the school hall, funded by the FRIENDS. This mural celebrates some of our school values and aspirations as well as complimenting our traditional mural of the school building.

School Council

The School Council have been busy keeping the school grounds tidy of fallen leaves, twigs and branches. They are preparing areas of the school in readiness for some planting in the Spring.



Visit from our MP

We were fortunate to be visited by our local MP, Alistair Strathern. He met with the school council and went on a tour of the school led by our pupils. Our school council were excellent role models and represented the school exceptionally. They asked thoughtful questions about his role as an MP and his views on climate change and reducing plastic use.



Library News

Thanks to the FRIENDS' generous support, improvements have continued to be made to the library this term. We now have a very popular spinner for some of our intermediate books, and a beautiful, calming forest scene decorating our main wall. We have also added some lovely new fiction books to our collection, which have been gratefully received.



It has been a real pleasure to spend time in the library with a range of children during some play times and lunch breaks over recent weeks, and to see them enjoying the books and the library space.



Look out for the return of the Scholastic Book Fair next half term - full details to follow.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - SPRING TERM 2023/2024
Please be aware that these dates may be subject to change.

DATE	MONTH	DETAILS	Time
3rd	January	Training day - school closed	
4th	January	Pupils Return to School	
18th	January	Parent Forum Meeting	9.00am
22nd	January	Rowan Class Charity Week	
6th	February	Safer Internet Day	
19th	February	Break for half term	
26th	February	Pupils Return to School	
29th	February	SATs meeting for Y2	9.00am
1st	March	Phonics Meeting for Y1	9.00am
4th	March	Parent consultations - All classes	3:40pm - 6.30pm
7th	March	World Book Day	
7th	March	Book Fair	3.30pm - 4.30pm
8th	March	Book Fair	8.00am
11th	March	Parent consultations - Chestnut, Hawthorn, Rowan & Beech	8.00am - 10.30am
13th	March	Y4 Children leave for Green Park residential trip	
14th	March	Parent consultations - Oak class	8.00am - 10.30am
15th	March	Y4 children return from Green Park residential trip	
18th	March	Science Week	
18th	March	Newsletter to parents	
22nd	March	WOW Tea Party with Miss Paulding	
25th	March	Hawthorn Class Charity Week	
28th	March	Easter service at St Mary's Church, Harlington	10am
29th	March	Easter holidays start	
15th	April	Training day - school closed	
16th	April	Pupils Return to School	