



Spring 1 2023

# Newsletter

## Pupil Voice (written by pupils)



Hello. We are back from the Christmas break, and it seems such a long time ago because so much has happened in school since then. All of the children have been working extremely hard in lessons and braving some of the cold weather in Outdoor Learning too. This year is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Angel of the North and we have been able to celebrate by sending some children to the Angel's birthday party on February 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, and also by doing some work in school about the Angel. Goodbye.

**Article 12: We all have the right to say what we think. Adults should listen and take us seriously.**

## Angel of North- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



On the 15 February 1998, Harlow Green pupils and staff noticed the arrival of a new neighbour who changed the landscape and views forever. 208 tonnes of steel, 20 metres high and seen by an estimated 30 million people each year, Athony Gormley's Angel is now recognised around the world as one of the most important pieces of public art. This year marks the Angel's 25th birthday.

To celebrate, the school have received two knitted Angels of the North. The Angels will be taking part in school visits and activities with the children over the next few months. Some children have also been invited to join in the birthday celebrations on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February. To keep up to date with the knitted Angel adventures, please look on our school website and Facebook page.

## Attendance



We would like to thank parents/carers for sharing our expectations of children's attendance and supporting them to be in school daily. Currently, the attendance is above 95% but it is important for us to improve this even further in the spring term as we should be aiming for above 96%.

We are very proud that we were able to present 196 pupils with attendance certificates last term who all achieved above 96% attendance. This is a great achievement for what was the longest term in the year. We will be looking to do the same again for children who achieve above 96% attendance during the spring term. A special recognition goes to Year 6 who continue to have the highest attendance in school.

**Article 28: We have the right to a good quality education.**

## Safer Internet Day



Last week, children learnt about how to keep themselves safe online, using this year's theme '**Together for a Better Internet**'.

To support families to help their children with this complicated area, we will be providing information over the year which we hope will be of help. We will distribute materials every couple of months, rather than all at once, with each having a different theme.

We very much hope that these resources will support understanding of how children can access the digital world in a safe manner as well as in a way that supports their personal development, appropriately. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher.

## Parent-Teacher Association



Over the years, the school has benefitted greatly from parental support. This happens in many ways from the way in which parents will follow school expectations through to providing time in school to support staff on class visits.

However, one aspect that we would like to develop further is that of the Parent Teachers Association (PTA). The PTA is a group of parents/carers who have some time to work to support the school in various organised and formal ways. In the past year, the PTA have organised and supported the development of the summer fair, managed the Halloween disco and organised a coffee morning. The PTA would like to develop further events but require more parental support.

**If you would like to be involved in developing this group further, please speak to Mrs Taylor at the main office.**

## Examination Dates



Please ensure your child is in school on time on the below dates:

Year 6 SATS – Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May

Year 2 SATS – May 2023- further information to follow

Year 4 Multiplication Check – w/c 5th June & 12<sup>th</sup> June

Year 1 & 2 Phonics Screening – w/c 12th June

## Diary Dates

### February

Half term

Return to school

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 24<sup>th</sup>

Monday 27<sup>th</sup>

### March

World Book Day

End of term

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Friday 31<sup>st</sup>

## Nursery – A Dino Discovery!



Nursery children discovered a dinosaur egg in the classroom this half term! This led to the children discussing what a dinosaur is, what they already know about dinosaurs and learning the names and simple facts about other dinosaurs. Later, the children learned about the life cycle of a dinosaur and made up their own movements to represent the life cycle such as curling up in a ball like an egg and jumping and shaking to show the egg hatching. A favourite part of the week was taking part in dinosaur dancing and yoga.

## Reception – Chinese New Year



The children have been learning about the celebration of 'Chinese New Year'. During sessions, the children tried Chinese dancing and talked about how Chinese New Year is celebrated – dragon dances, making lanterns and giving money in red envelopes. It was hugely exciting when the boys and girls created their own dragon and made a dragon dance! A favourite part of the week was the food tasting with chopsticks during which the children tried noodles, spring rolls, prawn crackers, soy sauce and sweet chilli! Kung Hei Fat Choi!

*Article 29: We have the right to education that develops our talents and teaches respect for others.*

## Year 1 – What is Technology?



Year 1 have been hugely excited to use the laptops this term. It all started with the children learning the different parts of a computer – screen, keyboard, trackpad and mouse. Next, the children were given individual log-ins and, even though it was tricky, everyone was able to successfully login. Later, the children focused on controlling the trackpad. The teachers then asked the children to make a picture on a paint program. They had to concentrate very carefully to control the trackpad with one hand and click the button to paint with the other hand. The children created some very impressive paintings of houses and showed fantastic determination when controlling the trackpad. Year 1 are becoming technological whizz kids!

*Article 28: We have the right to a good quality education.*

## Year 2 – Life as a Muslim



Year 2 had two special visitors this half term from Newcastle Central Mosque to teach the children all about life as a Muslim.

Firstly, the children learned about how the birth of a baby is celebrated by Muslims. They learned that the first words a Muslim baby ever hears is the call to prayer and it is whispered into the baby's right ear as soon as they are born. They also found out that seven days after the baby is born its hair is shaved and weighed. The family then donate the weight of the hair in gold to charity. This is called the Aqeeqah.

Did you know that Muslims try to pray five times a day? The children learned about how Muslims wash before they pray and pray on special prayer mats. Year 2 also got to see the Muslim holy book called the Koran and they found out that, because it is written in Arabic, it is read from right to left.

*Article 14 – We all have the right to follow our own religion.*

## Year 3 – Stone Age to Iron Age



In History, Year 3 have been learning about life through the ages. First, children learned about the Stone Age and investigated artefacts from this time. Year 3 then became archaeologists and, using images, discussed what the artefacts would have been used for and what they were made out of.

Next, the children learned about life during the Stone Age and wrote a diary entry imagining they were a child during this time who would hunt for food and make tools using flint. After this, the boys and girls learned about how life changed during the Bronze Age and the Iron Age because people developed skills in farming and trading.

Finally, the children investigated changes in homes during the ages and identified that people, who were nomads during the Stone Age living in temporary homes, were living in communities within hillforts during the Iron Age.

## Year 4 – Introducing Short Division



This term, in maths sessions, children were introduced to a number of new concepts, starting with more formal methods of short division, then developing their knowledge of fractions and decimals. In lessons, children have been using counters to look at division with remainders. Dividing 5 by 2, we split our counters into groups of 2 then looked to see if there were any remainders. Using their times table knowledge, the children knew there would be some remainders because 5 is not a multiple of 2.

As the children built their confidence, they moved away from using concrete apparatus to visual models and then completing calculations mentally or using written methods.

## Year 5 – Fantastic Fencing



This half term, Class 5A have been participating in some rather interesting PE lessons! After finding out that they would be taking part in fencing lessons, the children were very excited. Lesson 1 focused on the basics of fencing, including learning about the salute, the 'on guard' position, the rules for moving and also the importance of defending.

Once everyone knew the basics, the children were introduced to the foil and even got to play matches within their teams. They all performed the salute before the match began and correctly moved forwards and backwards away from their opponent, all whilst defending themselves against a 'touch'. The referees for each match had to keep a close eye on which opponent made the first touch and had the difficult decision of deciding which foil was most curved if both opponents scored a touch at the same time.

## Year 6 –Mental Health Matters



During PSHE lessons, Year 6 have been discussing the importance of mental health and ensuring that they are aware of how to keep mentally healthy and also how to ask for help if they feel that they need it. They have come up with many ways to help promote a healthy mindset and have produced posters to represent these ideas. They have also been introduced to the Young Minds website, which has various activities and sections to help young people in different situations.

*Article 19 – We all have the right to be protected and kept safe.*