



HOLLY PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Holly Park Highlights!



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AUTUMN TERM 2017

School Improvement

River Of Writing

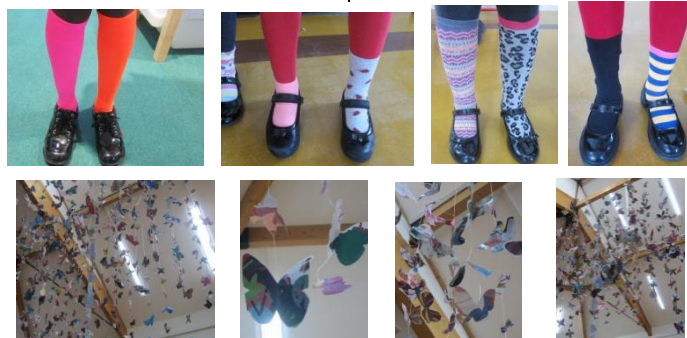
Every school makes an improvement plan for the academic year. The plan has a number of areas on it that the school feels it needs to work on over the year. Part of our school improvement plan for this academic year is to improve writing even further, in terms of children putting punctuation and grammar into place within their writing. Our children are very creative but need to take more care on the mechanics of the writing. Often children need more opportunities to self-edit their work. This year there are parent workshops for Y3, 4 and 5 all about editing written work. As a celebration of some of the excellent written work our children can produce, we have created a river of writing in the hall and we will be displaying excellent pieces of work from across the school. We hope that over the year our river will stretch all the way around the hall! This term we have pieces on the river from every year group.



NATIVITY

The Year 3 Nativity was absolutely wonderful. The children danced beautifully, sang sweetly, played percussion loudly and said their lines very clearly. Every child in Year 3 had a part to play. Many thanks go to the Year 3 teachers – Mrs Mehtar,

and Mr Bourne for their hard work and enthusiasm with the rehearsals. Many thanks also to Mrs Reinikainen for organising the costumes so that every child looked the part. The children participated with energy.



Anti-Bullying Week

As part of Anti bullying week we asked all of the children to come to school wearing odd socks. The idea was for the children to express themselves as individuals and appreciate individuality. Mr Hogan taught a song about being unique and how it is ok to be different. Our house challenge was to produce a short drama piece about

being individual. Our beautiful butterfly swarm is a permanent reminder to all the children that together we are one group of people at Holly Park but within that group we are all different and all unique. It is absolutely acceptable to be different.

Enabling Enterprise

Years 1 to 6 took part in an Enabling Enterprise Challenge Day called "Level Up" earlier this term. The day started with a whole school assembly led by teachers from Enabling Enterprise who introduced the theme. Over the course of the day, the children delved into the world of gaming and worked in teams to design and code a new computer game set in Holly Park! They learnt about different computer game genres, discussed what makes a good computer game, designed the setting, the characters and used coding to make the game work. They then became sales representatives and presented their games to the rest of the class. At the end of a busy day, they looked at the different skills they had used to reflect on how effective their team had been.



Poppy The School Dog



We were very excited to introduce a new member of the Holly Park family - Poppy who is a 3 year old Cockapoo. Poppy has most definitely become an integral part of our school community. Children can benefit educationally and emotionally, increase their understanding of responsibility and develop empathy and nurturing skills, through contact with a suitable, calm dog. The breed of Cockapoo is carefully selected as suitable for this type of environment. Poppy has settled in very well at school. She spends a lot of time with Mrs Puzey and

with lots of our children. She gets lots of visitors in my office at break times and the staff enjoy a good cuddle with her too. She is enjoying being walked around the school at dog walking club and at other times too. She definitely has her own fan club. I'm not so sure that Poppy and Marble have become the best of friends yet but Poppy is very intrigued by marble. Poppy has her own school uniform courtesy of Mrs Needham! She also has her own school blog on our website. If you haven't read it yet - do check it out it's a great read!!!

HEALTHY SCHOOL GOLD

I am thrilled to tell you that we have been working towards the Gold healthy school award over the last six months and this term we were notified that we have achieved the Gold Award. The evidence that was submitted was based on project work that we had been doing across the school and with particular year groups. The evidence was assessed by a panel of judges. We have

received a certificate and a logo for the newsletter and website. Well done to everybody involved but particularly to Mrs Thrasyvoulou who submitted both the plan and the evidence.



Y6 Visit the Temple At Neasden

It has been an industrious and fulfilling term in Year 6; the children have settled brilliantly into life as the oldest year group at Holly Park and are enjoying the academic challenges that come with it. In November, they all had an excellent day at Neasden Temple. The visit started by watching the daily Arti ceremony and looking around the Mandir. The children were fascinated by the incredible architecture and also enjoyed seeing all the

sacred images of the Deities. After looking around the 'Understanding Hinduism' museum visit, they were treated to a highly informative explanation of how the Temple was built - as well as a question-and-answer session with a member of the Temple staff. It was a super trip and the children represented Holly Park wonderfully.



RECEPTION CULTURAL DAY



During their Cultural Day the children celebrated the wide variety of cultural backgrounds in Palm Class. They all talked about their



families and their home lives and had opportunities to talk about the festivals and celebrations that they take part in. They found

out about the similarities and differences between ourselves. They dressed up in special clothes and got to try some tasty treats from different parts of the world. During the day we had lots of fun doing different activities such as flag making, designing Mendhi patterns and rolling Chappati dough.



Year One Love Animals

This half term, Year 1 have been learning about animals. They have learned about different animal families, whether they are herbivores, carnivores or omnivores. They read stories about animals such as well as reading non-fiction books about different animals around the world. The children also visited London Zoo. The children thoroughly enjoyed the aquarium, the reptile house and watching the penguins duck and dive in the water. The project was finished off by making animal habitats out of boxes and animal sculptures out of modroc.



Nursery Tea Time!

The nursery children wrote lists of food and drinks that they would like to have at the nursery tea party. They did some excellent mark making! On the day of the tea party, the children were taught about manners and had to ask for what they wanted in a polite way. They also had to take turns and share the food and drink.

They buttered their own bread and added sauce to the



Candlelight Concert



The annual Holly Park Candlelight Concert which is a well established tradition at the school was a really lovely evening. The Infant Choir and the Barnabas Choir sang separately and together with beautiful voices. Well done to all the children who surpassed themselves with high standards of choral singing. Both choirs' tuning, enunciation of lyrics, the quality of the choral sound, as well as their beautiful harmonies, were of immensely high standards. Well Done also to the audience who joined in the singing heartily

The Candlelight Concert combined celebrations of the festivals of Christmas and Chanukah. Whilst also singing traditional Christmas carols, the children sang in Hebrew and Arabic. The concert certainly got us all into the festive mood. We look forward to other musical concerts in the Spring and Summer terms.



Y2 And The Crystal Discovery



Y2 have been learning about Minecraft this half term. The children have been learning about materials and their properties and textures. They have hunted around the school looking for different materials and produced rubbings which showed them how each material has a very different texture. They have discussed the skills necessary to survive in a Minecraft world and what they would need to do to stay clean and healthy. As a year group they have also created exciting stories set in this strange world.

Then, one day an important message was sent their way informing them of an extraordinary discovery. Crystals had been found in the school! Now, because they have been learning all about materials and mining it was decided that they were the best year group to investigate. Low and behold, the story chair area and allotment were filled with sparkling magnificent crystals. The children produced fantastic, informative newspaper reports recounting what they had discovered!

Y5 And The Ancient Greeks



Year 5's topic this term has been Ancient Greece and they spent a lot of time exploring some of the amazing myths, particularly 'The Adventures of Odysseus'. One of the highlights of this topic was the visit to the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square where the children had the

opportunity to look at some of the famous paintings that depicted scenes from the myths they had been reading. One of their favourites myths was 'Perseus turning Phineus and his Followers to Stone' by Luca Giordano. The classes even got to re-enact the scene in front of the actual painting!



Y4 African Adventure

This term Year 4 have had a wonderful 'African Adventure'. Through this Learning Project they were inspired to learn more about the second largest continent and some of the different countries that are part of it! They looked at the geography, language and culture of the different countries and linked it to different curriculum areas, such as, printing, oral story telling and drama.



The highlight of this Learning Project was learning about Ancient Egypt and all its wonders; which culminated in a visit to the British Museum and looking at all of the mummies and how they were preserved.



Y3 Step Way Back In History



Year Three's major topic this term has been the Stone, Bronze and Iron ages . They have been learning about the Animals , Tools, Homes and Art. The topic was reinforced with a trip to the Museum of

London where the children got to see and learn about various artefacts from Prehistory, These included, weapons, jewellery and the first coins. The children and staff had a great time and learnt a lot.



Miss McTaggart



At the end of this term we are saying a fond farewell to Geraldine McTaggart. Geraldine has been at Holly Park for 10 years. Geraldine has worked as a teaching Assistant supporting various children across the school. We will miss

Geraldine, who has always stepped in to help when needed as an MTS or at breakfast club. Geraldine has also run some fantastic sewing clubs. Geraldine is retiring to go travelling with her partner. She admits that she had never intended to stay so long at the school, but loved the family friendly feel here and has made some good friends. We wish her well.