



HOLLY PARK  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Holly Park Highlights!



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SPRING TERM 2020

## Skills Builder



After an assembly to introduce their challenge, the children in KS2 quickly set to work to become architects and builders. The task was to design and build a new community arts centre for their local area and this certainly got their creative juices flowing! Teams shared great ideas whilst using their imagination and problem solving skills to decide where to build their space and what materials to use - they could not wait to get creating and making! The day culminated with teams presenting to their classes, celebrating their creativity and reflecting on how well they had worked as a team. In this activity the children used the skills of: listening, presenting, problem solving, creativity, staying positive, aiming high, leadership and teamwork. The children used great vocabulary such as: architect, exit, design, sole use, floor plan and evaluate.



## Charlie Cook's Favourite Book

The infant show this term was fabulous. The children spoke, sang and danced beautifully. The scenery was superb. We hope that all the infant parents enjoyed it. Every child had a small part to play but together as a team they make up a lovely show. My personal thanks go to the KS1 staff - teachers and all of our teaching assistants for their hard work putting it all together.



Thank you to Mr Hogan for the songs and a huge thank you and well done to Mrs Fitzpatrick for producing and directing the show which really brought a well-known children's book to life! There are lots of pictures on the website.



## Pupil Voice



Mr French, Miss Roe and Fiona Quinton took a small group of our Y5 and Y6 children to the Climate Change March in London. The children absolutely loved it. Before they went, they made banners to express their views. They joined in with the chanting and stopped at several well-known London landmarks including Downing Street. They shared their experience with the rest of the school in assembly. Following on from the Climate Change March, we asked all of the children to think about issues that they feel strongly about. The house challenge was to decide as a group on an issue that they feel strongly about and to prepare a short presentation about it to the rest of the class. The children worked in their mixed age House groups. The presentations included placards, banners, posters, and speeches.





## Cafe Palm Class

At the beginning of the term the children went in small groups to visit 'Boyden's' cafe. While there they watched the various jobs being done. Once back at school they set up a cafe. The cafe was a real success; there was always a queue of children waiting to work in the cafe. The children especially enjoyed being the 'cooks' and 'chefs' and learned how to prepare healthy snacks safely. They also used their phonic skills to write orders and letters home. The children enjoyed reading books linked to food such as 'Oliver's Fruit Salad' and 'The shopping Basket'. The children made up their own shopping stories and used their calculation skills to create and solve number problems.

## Y2 Rainforest Fever



Year Two children have been learning about the rainforest. The children have been researching about rainforest animals from non-fiction books. The children have written some excellent factual booklets, which helped to develop their understanding of how non-fiction books are set out and how to write to inform others. The children also looked closely at the animals and plants that live in this habitat. They had great fun on their trip to Kew Gardens! In Kew Gardens, the children visited the Marianne North Gallery, the palm house and walked on the wobbly Tree Top Walk!

## YEAR 1 DESIGN VEHICLES

Year one invited their parents and carers to join them in a Vehicle Design Technology (DT) project. The children designed their vehicle adding special extras depending on the purpose of it, for example, a police car would need a siren. They had a great time adding the axel and wheels to the chassis.

An excellent job, grownups and children, well done to all involved another successful curriculum day.



## Nursery In Space

The nursery children have been learning all about space. They started off reading the story 'Whatever Next' Children used props to re-enact the story then they used a variety of materials to make their own space rockets. They used books and the internet to find out what things might be found in space and they used pastels to make their own space pictures. They watched a real rocket launch and after



reading the story 'Look Up!' they watched a real meteor shower. The children then read the story 'My Pet Star'. The children had to design their own pet star and talk about how they would look after it. The children enjoyed making and decorating salt dough stars which were hung on the ceiling with the paper mache planets the children had also made. Finally they read the story 'Aliens love underpants' and the children had to create their own aliens and give them funny alien names.

## YEAR 3 ROCKS & ROMANS

Year 3 had a visit from Geo Bus just after the Christmas holidays. They were completing their topic on Rocks and Soils. The children were learning about Volcanoes and Earthquakes. They learned about what causes volcanoes and the different rocks which come from them. They

did an experiment to show how volcanoes cause explosions and tried to build earthquake proof buildings. The children have also been learning about the Romans. They have learned about how Rome was created, Roman inventions and Gods, the Roman

invasion of Britain and the Roman Army.



The Nursery Display

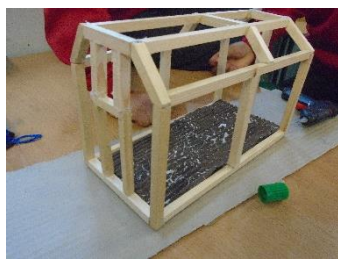
## YEAR 6

### WW2

#### DT PROJECT

Year 6 have been working on an intricate Anderson Shelter project, linked to the WW2 learning project.

They began by researching Anderson Shelters and establishing their size and dimensions. Next, they sketched their designs and discussed, in teams, the dimension and materials needed to construct the shelter. Then came the interesting part...construction!



They used saws, mitre blocks, balsa wood, corrugated card, vices and glue guns to bring their Anderson Shelters to life - a total triumph!



## Terrible Tudors!

Year 4 had a wonderful time at the Tower of London. They learned about the history of the castle, and the people who have used it in the past. They saw where two of Henry VIII's wives were beheaded, and walked along the battlements looking out over the River Thames. Back in class, they made Tudor baked goods. Sycamore made honey biscuits and Mulberry made traditional



Tudor 'Jumbles', a type of scone. They made their own packaging for the biscuits, by folding card into boxes and decorated them in the Tudor style.

## FIRST AID



It will be compulsory for primary schools to teach some sort of First Aid from September 2020. Getting ahead of the game we have bought sessions for all classes from Reception to Y6 from a company that were recommended to us called Mini First Aid. Classes meet the new 2020 UK National Curriculum Requirements. In Reception children learn about what happens to their bodies if they are hurt and how they would be treated by a grown

up. In Y1-6 Children are starting to be more independent and can understand basic first aid. In the 1 hour session, children learn to deal with bumps, burns, breaks and bleeding, carry out CPR and deal with choking. The children really enjoyed the lessons and we have already booked for next year.



## Year 5 Get Practical!

For DT, children were given a plain flatbread recipe and then they had to choose their own flavourings to add. They were very lucky to be the first year group to try out the new portable hot plates so the lesson could all take place in the classroom, with great success. The pupils combined the basic ingredients and all took turns to knead the dough, before adding their own choice of ingredients. They all really enjoyed the cooking process, and the eating too, of course! Pupils then had to reflect on the lesson (an important part of DT) and drew conclusions from what went well and what could be improved with their design.



In science the children devised an experiment to investigate the effect friction has on moving objects. In groups the children had to consider what equipment they would need, how to make it a fair test and predict the outcomes. They used toy cars and ramps and covered the ramps with different materials to create a variable to test. After carrying out the experiment, the children recorded their results and drew conclusions. They really enjoyed devising and carrying out the experiment and in their conclusions thought about how understanding friction is important in everyday life.



# Barnet Schools' Dance Festival

Some of our Year 6 children took part in a huge Barnet Dance Festival at the Arts Depot this term. The festival included over 88 schools over a week - infant, junior, primary, secondary and special schools. The Holly Park routine was a lively dance to 'Bare Necessities' from Jungle Book. The children performed with

energy, co-ordination and great facial expression. Many thanks to Miss Yiannaki and Miss Harrison for their hard work and choreography. The dance was a huge success and their costumes and face paints were great.



## SILVER AWARD

There has been a lot of work happening this academic year as we have been working towards the silver award. The Rights Respecting Champions helped Maria Michael to carry out the action plan. This included: assemblies about the rights, House Challenges linked to the rights, reference made to the articles in teachers' planning and in lessons, the articles displayed around the school and in the weekly newsletter. Children have also been active citizens by campaigning for things that are important to them such as climate change. On 14<sup>th</sup> February, nine children attended the Climate Change Strike at Parliament Hill. This then inspired the whole school House Challenge where children will make banners, posters or plaques about something that they felt strongly about. The Rights Respecting Champions wrote to our local MP, Theresa Villiers asking her to raise awareness about all children's right to an education. Our Silver assessment happened on 6<sup>th</sup> March. We were delighted to be awarded the Silver award and were told it was a strong silver application. The assessor was particularly impressed with: Class charters, pupil voice within the school, our focus on mental health, Rights within assemblies and the use of picture news and the creative ways we have taught children about the rights. We look forward to working towards Gold!



## Love Of Reading!

This term has been filled with so many activities linked to reading. Just before half term, the Infant show was based on a book.

During the half term holiday, children and staff participated in a Reading Challenge and took photos of themselves reading in unusual places or positions. We had so many photos and have made two displays in school with lots of the photos.

The Holly Park annual book swap was a great success as usual. Children enjoyed browsing the books and choosing one to take home. A great way to get a new book to read at no cost.

World Book day was a huge success with so many children wearing absolutely amazing hats. There were so many exceedingly creative and imaginative ideas. On our Maths Day the children had to devise a board game based on their class reading book. We had games based on factual rainforest books and fiction books such as 'Nobody owns the sky' 'Who let the Gods out' 'Romeo and Juliet' 'The Highland Falcon Thief' 'Letters from the lighthouse' 'The Devil and his Boy' 'There's a Pharaoh in our bath.' 'Fly Eagle Fly' 'Fantastic Mr Fox.'

