



Holly Park Highlights!



AUTUMN TERM 2025

A New Playgroup

This term we saw the start of our brand-new playgroup on a Wednesday morning for children under school age. A huge thank you to Miss Nichols and Mrs Puzey who run the group each week with help from Miss Mornington and Mr King for set up. Lots of parents, carers and childminders attend each week with their children. Everyone enjoys meeting, chatting and playing with the toys. There is always a story and songs at the end. There have been visits from Little City, Early Help and Year 3 also made an appearance with their Nativity songs. The playgroup will be running next term and we look forward to welcoming families from the community.



Year 3 performed a marvellous Nativity. The children acted, sang and danced with great enthusiasm. They all did a splendid job. The scenery, costumes and props were fantastic as always and thanks go to Mr Bourne and Mrs Mehtar for all

their work and commitment to producing such a great end of term performance. Thanks to Mr Mock and Mrs Needham for organizing the costumes. The children really enjoyed the experience and rose to the challenge.

How To Be A Lion



For the first two weeks of the new school year, classes used a whole school book called 'How to be a lion.' The book provided lots of opportunities to discuss

acceptance, identity and friendship.



Community Links

We are working hard this year to strengthen our links with the local community and have a plan set out for our pupils in KS2.

Year 3 – Older adults – Links with a care home and a grandparent tea

Year 4 – Young children – Links with our nursery, our playgroup and Puddleducks nursery

Year 5 – A special school – Links with Oakleigh Special School

Year 6 – Supporting the community – bag packing at a supermarket.

A couple of groups of Year 6 children went to Asda in Southgate and helped shoppers to pack their bags. Year 4 children have visited our nursery, Puddle ducks nursery and our playgroup. After Christmas, Year 5 children will visit Oakleigh Special School and Year 3 will host a tea party for older friends and relatives in the community.



NURSERY NOISE



The children have been exploring the wonderful world of sound through the story 'What's That Noise? After hearing about a boy with a box full of noise, each child decorated their own special box and filled it with items that made different sounds. They enjoyed listening walks around the school, talking about the noises they could hear, and played sound lotto games to help recognise familiar sounds, including those made by animals.

They also explored different musical instruments and created their own. They used them for a joyful singing session during carpet time. They also enjoyed using their voices and bodies to make different noises too.



The Treehouse

This term some of our children from our Treehouse had a great time making and eating their own pizzas at Pizza Express, planting snowdrops with the Mayor and attending a show at the Arts Depot.



Year 1 Immersive Experience



In RE Year One have been learning about celebrations. As part of this work, they visited Christ Church in North Finchley to experience the Christmas story from 2000 years ago. The children were dressed in shepherd's outfits and went in a time machine which took

them back to the year 0. From the time machine they met Joseph the carpenter, a shepherd on the hillside, a wise man, King Herod and finally, Mary and the baby Jesus. It was a really interactive and immersive experience and the children learnt a lot about why Christians celebrate Christmas.



YEAR 5 VICTORIAN DAY

Year 5 had a wonderful Victorian curriculum day. The children dressed up in Victorian costumes, and looked fantastic. The teachers were very strict that day! Children chanted times tables and children had to wear the dunce's hat! They learned to write with a quill and ink, and practised old-fashioned handwriting. They enjoyed doing several Victorian crafts, including paper quilling, creating silhouette portraits, and making a cup and ball game.



Y3 Scientists

Year 3 have been learning about 'Rocks, Fossils and Soils' in science. They learned about different types of rocks, how they are formed, which rocks are the strongest and which are permeable. In November they had a virtual visit from a geologist from the University of London.



The children were shown how various

rocks are made and the rock cycle. They also



got to see how fossils are formed. They got to use their 3D glasses to look at different types of fossils

Christmas Sing A Long

We had a very festive, jolly end of term singalong in the hall with our Y2 classes and the Junior Choir. There were a good selection of festive songs.



Well done to all of the children and a big thank you to Miss Halil for a lovely way to end the term with festive cheer.

Reception Frosty Fun!



As part of their topic on the changing seasons Reception read "Jack frost" by Kazuno Kohara. The children had a wonderful surprise in the morning when they found snowflakes and a present. The children had lots of fun re telling the story using props and they developed their vocabulary using words such as frosty, icy and hibernating. They took

part in a range of cross curricular activities. For example, whilst exploring the properties of ice they noticed how and why ice melts. They used their creative skills to make their own Jack frost pictures and used their phonics skills to write captions for the story.

Y4 Ancient Egyptians



Year 4 had a brilliant time learning more about Ancient Egypt on their trip to the British Museum. They were particularly impressed at being able to see the Rosetta Stone up close as well as the magnificent statues, hieroglyphics and sarcophagi on display. They also took part in a mummification workshop at the museum and followed this up at school by writing some fantastically detailed instructions about how to make a mummy. The children

have all been so enthusiastic about this topic and have produced some excellent related work.



Cultural Day



For our annual Cultural Day event, the children came dressed to represent their cultural heritage. Each year group had a theme to explore based on an aspect of cultural heritage:
Nursery - FOOD from different cultures
Reception - FAMILIES from different cultures
Year 1 - STORIES from different cultures
Year 2 - CELEBRATIONS from different cultures
Year 3 - ART from different

cultures

Year 4 - DANCE from different cultures

Year 5 - CLOTHING from different cultures

Year 6 - MUSIC from different cultures

Parents brought in food for a parent tea party at the end of the day.

Article 30 - Minority culture,

language and religion: Children have the right to use their own language, culture and religion - even if these are not shared by most people in the country where they live.



Y6 World War 2

This term, Year 6 visited the Imperial War Museum. Having learnt all about World War 2 in history, this was a wonderful opportunity to see many exhibits that expanded and supported their knowledge. Particular favourites were the World War 2 house, The Andersen shelter, WW1 trenches, a V2 rocket and a Spitfire! The children were incredibly

enthusiastic and well behaved - it was a fantastic day out for everyone that really supported their learning in class.



Y2 FIELD TRIP



Year 2 enjoyed a field trip to Arnos Park, where they put their geography skills into action. They followed a route on a map to the park. Along the way, the children spotted lots of different bridges, learning about their features and purposes. These included railway bridges with strong arches,

footbridges crossing over streams, and even an aqueduct which helps underground trains travel over the park. The children observed closely and sketched all of the bridges.



Local Charity - Live Unlimited

This term we supported a local charity - **Live Unlimited**. This is a charity that provides opportunities and support to Barnet's looked-after children and young care leavers, empowering them to live their best lives. Children came to school dressed in a mix of purple, green, blue and orange in return for a £1 donation to the charity on School Money.

