



January 2020

Newsletter

Attendance Improvement



It has been lovely to see everyone back from their Christmas holidays with some looking a lot healthier than before the break. We would like to thank parents/carers and children for their efforts this month in coming into school on a daily basis in the way that things normally are when the region is not struck down by winter bugs!

The school attendance for January is 96.8% which has helped increase the school attendance since September to rise to 95.2%. Although we will be looking to achieve above 96% by the end of the school year, this has been a good improvement in a short period of time and we know how much parents/carers are supportive of their children coming to school everyday, so that they can learn consistently.

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

World Book Day



On Thursday 5th March we will be celebrating World Book Day. As in previous years, we will be asking that children come to school dressed as a well - known book character or around an aspect associated with reading. We will be sharing our favourite books and ask that children bring these along to school on the day. The children will take part in a range of book-related activities with staff across school.

School Visits



Over the coming weeks, we have a number of educational visits planned across school. We plan these to support children's learning by giving experiences which enhance the classroom provision. However, these types of activities are costly and we would not be able to schedule these if it were not for the generous contributions that parents and carers provide of which we are very grateful. It is important to note that we always subsidise visits and pay for transport so that the full cost is not passed to families. The way in which we work results in many quality experiences that all the children deserve.

Safer Internet Day



On Wednesday 12th February there will be a workshop for parents (2:15pm – 3:15pm) which will provide information about how to keep your child safe online. During the week, all classes will be involved in activities to support their understanding about staying safe online. Internet Safety will also be our assembly theme 'Together for a better internet'.

Article 17: We all have the right to be given safe and honest information that we can understand.

Article 19: All children have the right to be looked after and kept safe.

School Uniform



We have become aware that some of the children are wearing trainers as part of their uniform. Trainers must only be worn for PE and sports events. Please ensure that your child comes to school in black shoes. Additionally, we are finding that some of the girls are wearing black leggings rather than skirts, trousers or pinafores. Like the other primary and secondary schools in Gateshead, Harlow Green has a uniform policy. Children must follow the policy as expected but can only do so if supported by all parents/ carers. Please ensure that your child is ready for school everyday in appropriate uniform.

We do have a stock of nearly new, good-quality uniform in school if this is needed. Please contact the school office for further information.

Rights Respect Silver Award

At Harlow Green Community Primary School, we are proud to have achieved our Rights Respecting Bronze award. During the Spring term, we will be going for our Rights Respecting Silver award. The award is an initiative by UNICEF to make children and adults more aware of children's rights. To find out more visit www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa.

Our Right Respecting Officers meet every two weeks on a Tuesday lunchtime with Miss Coatsworth and Miss Callaghan. During those meetings, they discuss things we need to focus on as a school to promote the importance of the articles and children's rights. Our Rights Respecting Officers have done an amazing job so far in supporting the whole school and its community. Within school, the children learn about their responsibilities, and everyone is included. They learn that we all need to respect the rights of others and that if we all work together, we can make a better school and better community for everyone.

For further information on Rights Respecting activities take a look at our school website.

Nursery – Learning About Pets



In Nursery, the children have been busy setting up a new vet's surgery role-play area. They have been finding out about the role of a vet and the other staff that work in the surgery. They have enjoyed pretending to be receptionists, pet owners and vets. The children have also been working on their scissor skills this week, when cutting out the tags to attach to pet collars. The children then chose names for the pets and wrote them on the collars.

Article 24 We all have the right to be looked after and kept safe.

Reception – Chinese New Year!



The children in Reception have been very busy learning all about Chinese New Year. They have spent time talking about the Chinese Zodiac, painted Chinese dragons and threaded Cheerios onto pipe cleaners to make the body of the dragon. The boys and girls also made colourful Chinese dragon puppets and used them to dance to music. The children had a go at playing the drums for the Chinese dragon just like in the real celebrations!

Article 14: We all have the right to follow our own religion

Year 1 – Amazing Algorithms



In Computing lessons, Year 1 have been learning all about algorithms. They found out that an algorithm is a set of instructions used to solve a problem. The children had to find a box of treasure by firstly writing a set of instructions using the words forwards, backwards, turn, left and right. Then they followed the instructions to find it. Some children even had to debug their algorithm to make it accurate.

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

Year 2 – Brilliant Body Percussion



This month, the boys and girls in Year 2 have been experimenting with composing music using their bodies. They explored different parts of their bodies to find out which created the best sound. The children used their hands, shoulders, feet and knees to create a sequence of body percussion. The aim of the lesson was to create a rhythm with six beats which the children could repeat three times. The children worked co-operatively in pairs and enthusiastically performed their compositions in front of the class.

Article 29: We all have the right to develop our talents and abilities.

Year 3 – Effective Communication



Taking opportunities to focus on personal and social development is an important aspect of growing up. Year 3 enjoyed learning about different ways of communicating. The focus was on non-verbal methods of sharing information, the many ways this can be done and why we may need to do it. Playing a game of charades helped the children to experience first-hand that communication without words is not always straight forward.

Article 13: We all have the right to say what we think and be listened to.

Year 4 – Mighty Mountains



Year 4's curriculum theme this term is 'Climbing High' physically and metaphorically. As part of the Geography unit, the children will be learning how mountains are formed and what better way to begin than using vinegar, balloons, sand, tissue and Kit Kats! Using this interesting array of resources, the children made fault-block, dome, volcanic, fold and plateau mountains.

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

Year 5 – 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell



The children in Year 5 have completed activities to introduce their new English text, 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. To begin the unit of work, the pupils made predictions about the book based on different versions of the front cover. After reading the blurb, they then amended their predictions. Many predictions were very plausible and the children were keen to find out what the novel was going to be about. In order to infer the character's emotions, the children have been using quotes from the book. So far, there has been a great deal of discussion about the positive and negative attributes of each of the four missing children.

Article 13: We all have the right to share what we think with others.

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

Year 6 – Fun with Fractions



Year 6 have been practising their fraction and decimal equivalents. The children had the opportunity to convert fractions and decimals while playing a 'loop cards' game. They had to use known equivalences and calculate less-common examples in order to complete the game. The children responded well to this challenge and are definitely enjoying their work with fractions and decimals.

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

Diary Dates

February

Year 2 visit to the Mosque	Tues 11 th
Reception parental workshop	Tues 11 th
Safer Internet workshop for parents at 2:15pm	Wed 12 th

Year 1 visit to St. Ninian's	Wed 12 th
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Half term

Mon 17th – Fri 21st

March

World Book Day	Thurs 5 th
Parents Evenings	Mon 9th / Tues 10th
Last day of spring term	Fri 3 rd

April

First day of summer term	Mon 20 th
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