

Volume 02  
Issue 2  
**15<sup>th</sup> November**  
**2024**

# Highlands Weekly



Dear Families,

This week we have explored significant National events including; Armistice Day, Anti Bullying Week and Children In Need. Across the school children and staff made great efforts with our Spots and Dots day to raise money for the most vulnerable children in society. We reflected upon Article 19 to understand the difference that Children In Need makes and the impact our fundraising can have. We are very proud of our children this week as they have shown the utmost respect, empathy and kindness in their actions.

## Islamophobia Awareness Month



Next week we will be marking Islamophobia Awareness Month in our continual pursuit to ensure our children build the greatest levels of understanding of what discrimination is and how to be an up stander. The statistics are very upsetting to read with increased hate related crimes. Please support us by talking to your children about this at home too and you can use the link below to support your conversations.

<https://www.therecard.org/news/what-is-islamophobia-awareness-month/>

## Guru Nanak Gurpurab



To all of our families marking the birthday of Guru Nanak, we wish you a peaceful Gurpurab.

## Punctuality



Please can we remind families that school starts at 8.50 and that the gates will be locked at 8.55. We allow 5 minutes grace for families, but anyone arriving after 8.55 will be asked to report to the front office to be registered as late. If you need any support with tips on how to make your mornings more punctual in the best interests of the child see the link below.

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/9-secrets-stress-free-school-mornings>

## Festive Events



Please see attached an overview of whole school events leading up to the festive Christmas period to support your family planning of events.

**Article 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect) Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.**

## Reminders

### Attendance Update

We would like to remind families of the NHS advice designed to support families to decide if your child is well enough to attend school. You can access this advice via the link below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Please be aware that if your child is absent from school due to illness for 5 days or more we will ask families to provide medical evidence in order for us to be able to authorise the absence. If this is not provided then your child's absence may be recorded as unauthorised.

## Birthday Celebrations

We are aware that many families like to send in edible treats for their child's classmates to help them celebrate their birthdays. We would like to remind families that if you wish to do this then the treats that you provide need to be **individually wrapped** and **nut free** in line with our school's Nut Free policy. Any treats that are not individually wrapped will be returned to families, as we are unable to distribute these.

## Sports at Highlands

This coming week (Sunday 17th - Saturday 23rd November) is Road Safety Week. The theme for Road Safety Week this week is Road Safety Heroes celebrating the incredible work of the NHS, emergency services and others who support people following road safety incidents. Lessons, discussions and activities will teach the children important road safety messages and help them understand how they can be Road Safety Heroes too! On Friday 22nd November we will have a "Be Bright, Be Seen" fundraising day where children will be encouraged to come to school dressed in their brightest and most reflective clothes highlighting the importance of being visible to other road users, with all donations going to Brake, The Road Safety Charity.

## Curriculum in Action

Take a look at our week of learning in action across the school.

### Oak Class

This week in Oak, we have continued reading our story 'Room on the Broom' by Julia Donaldson. We have been meeting all the characters and making predictions about what we think will happen. We also created our own wands. In Maths, we have been looking at addition and subtraction and matching amounts.



### Nursery

In the Nursery, we were busy during the whole week. On Monday, we learned about Remembrance Day, the children made poppies and played with soldier toys; at 11am we had two minutes of silence and the children were amazing. On Tuesday we have celebrated Anti Bullying Odd Socks Day and on Friday the children had a non-uniform day for Children in Need. We have introduced 'Colourful Semantics' at group time to help children to better understand word order and develop their vocabulary. As part of our Phonics learning, we have walked around the school listening carefully to hear the environmental sounds around us. The children have learned about patterns, which could be tricky sometimes and they have met 'Tommy Tom' in Ten Town. We have read 'Dear Zoo' story and the children have made some animal mask collages. We have started



learn the Christmas songs for the Nursery Nativity, which will be on December 4<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon and the morning of the 5<sup>th</sup>. We have started with Mark Making and the children have enjoyed having that one-to-one attention with their key person to learn to write their names. Finally, the children have been learning about seasons, especially about autumn, and they made an autumn tree for the classroom.



## Reception

This week in Reception the children really became immersed in our topic about 'People Who Help Us'. We began with Jobs in a School and had a visit from Dr Atwal. The children were able to learn all about the important role of a Head Teacher and ask questions to find out more. They then got the opportunity to talk to Mrs Birdi, who works in our Medical room and Mr Ashby our school caretaker. The children enjoyed hearing about everything he does behind the scenes and Noah (Yellow Class) recalled "He has to get to school so early before everyone to open the gates, he has all of the keys". Each class enjoyed discussing if they might want to have one of these jobs when they grow up. Tiago (Yellow class) said "I want to be a head teacher and be in charge of the whole school too." We even got a chance to meet the school rubbish collectors and find out how they help us, the children were so excited to see the truck arrive. For our weekly mark making the children were able to apply their phonic knowledge to begin to write words and short captions. This week in Phonics we have learnt the Phonemes c k and digraph ck. We have read half of the story 'Zog and the Flying Doctors' and created a story map to allow the children to recall parts of the story through pictures and actions. In Maths we have been using our knowledge of shape to make puzzles and pictures, and met the number 7 in Ten Town.



## Year 1

It has been a fun week in Year 1. We finished reading the story of "Lost in the Toy Museum". We talked about the use of punctuation in the story such as the exclamation mark. We also read a letter that we received from the Toy Museum and discussed the features of a letter such as the sender's address and greeting. In Maths, we worked on our subtraction skills and applied this to word problems. We also looked at "First, Then and Now" stories to show our reasoning when solving a word problem. In Computing, we practised logging in and created a pictogram showing the different ways we travel to school. In Geography, we talked about the human and physical features we saw on our local walk and put them in order using the time connectives. We discussed what is near to school and places that are further away such as Ilford Exchange. In RE, we talked about why the Nativity story is important to Christians. In Reciprocal Reading, we read up to page 12 of the story "Biscuit Bear" and retold the story in our own words up to the part we have read. We also made predictions about what we think will happen next. Well done to the Stars of the Week this week: Hitaishi 1Ga, Rares 1An and Salah 1Ha. The Year 1 children will be watching an Owl Show on **Monday 18th November** and then have an opportunity to





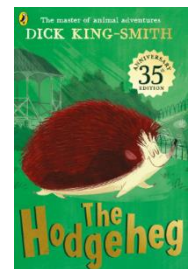
have their photograph taken with the owls. They children will bring home a proof photograph which will contain a link to order the photos online.

## Year 2

In Music we practised playing notes A and B to samba music. For the next lesson we will keep practising the sequence to the next part of the song. In Maths we have looked at block graphs and pictograms to identify the difference. We have also written number equations to explain the word problems. In Science we looked at how baby animals do not always look like their parents. We learnt new names for baby animals that are different from their adults. In RHE we looked at knowing the difference between our wants and needs. We looked at different scenarios and discussed whether it was a want or need. In English we are continuing to write our explanation text on the Great Fire of London. We created our own 3D houses that resembled the houses from 1666. We achieved a lot of new learning and are looking forward to building on our knowledge!

## Year 3

This week in Year 3 English, we started reading *The Hodgeheg* and focused on writing in-depth character descriptions. The children explored the main character, describing their appearance, personality, and feelings in detail. They practiced using descriptive language to bring the character to life on the page, paying attention to both physical traits and emotional qualities. It has been wonderful to see their creativity and writing skills develop!



The children participated in *Anti-Bullying Week* by wearing odd socks to show that it is okay to be different and to celebrate individuality. The children loved the chance to wear mismatched socks, and it sparked some great conversations about kindness, respect, and standing up against bullying. We also discussed the importance of supporting each other and creating a positive, inclusive environment for everyone. It was a fun and meaningful way to raise awareness and reinforce the values of empathy and friendship in our class!



On Monday, Year 3 took part in a two-minute silence to commemorate Remembrance Day. The children showed great respect and understanding as we paused to remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country. During this time, we reflected on the importance of peace and the role we can all play in creating a kinder world. It was a meaningful moment of reflection, and the children were very thoughtful as we honoured the memory of those who have given so much.



This Friday, Year 3 took part in Children in Need by dressing up in colourful clothes and wearing Pudsey-themed accessories to show our support for this wonderful charity. The children had lots of fun getting involved, and it was great to see so many creative outfits! We discussed the importance of supporting children in need and the impact that our donations can have. It was a fantastic way for the class to come together and contribute to such a worthwhile cause. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped raise awareness!



## Year 4

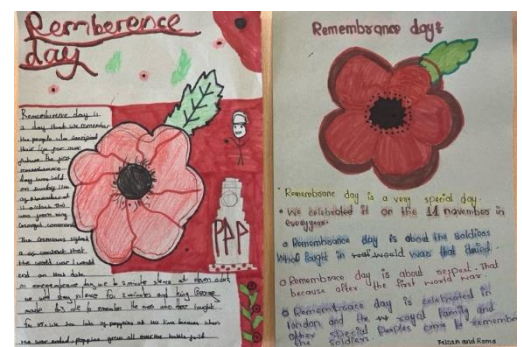
This week in Year 4 we have been busy baking our scrumptious lemon and blueberry muffins! We applied the three techniques we have learnt to help us in the baking process. We sifted the flour, we mixed the dry ingredients followed by the wet ingredient and we used a zester to remove the outer layer of the lemon to enhance the flavour of our muffins. In PE we have continued our learning about the six principles of dance. We have begun creating motifs using these principles in relation to the soundtrack for the Greatest Showman. In addition this week in RHE we have been looking at friendships and the characteristics of friendships and how to be a good friend.

## Year 5

In our Year 5 History lessons this week, we have been learning about the importance of trade. We looked at the meaning of barter and then explored the different ways people traded starting from the Stone Age and then explored the Romans and Anglo-Saxons. This allowed us to compare how trading has evolved over the years. In Maths, we have been applying our knowledge of addition to look at calculations that has one addend that is the same and the other addend that is greater by ten or one hundred. This helped us to explore efficient methods when working out addition whilst allowing us to think about numbers that have a greater number. In RE, we have been learning about the five pillars of Islam and explore why faith is important. This has helped children understand how people turn to their faith during joyous or hard times and how this impacts the way Muslims live their lives.

## Year 6

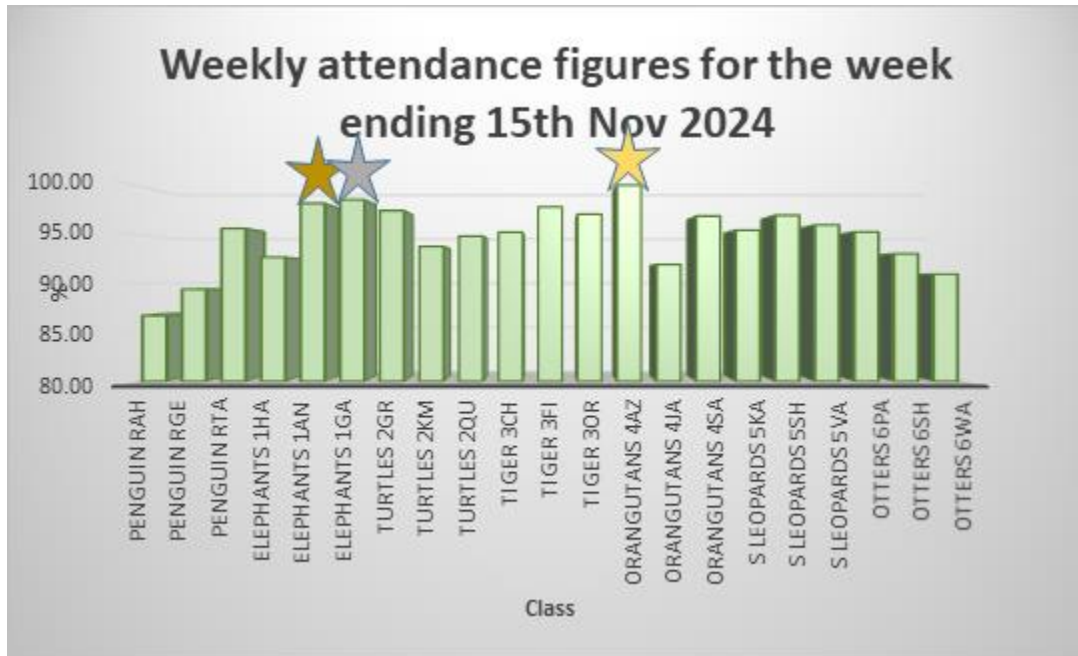
This week Year 6 began looking at non-chronological reports ahead of their upcoming big write based on WW1. We looked closely at the organisation and language features of the reports which helped us to form our PALS. The children are now aware of the purpose, audience, language and structure for when they write their reports. They also formed a list of subheadings that could be used, they will begin planning their reports next week. In Maths, the children have continued looking at multiplication and division strategies. In Science, we continued exploring shadows and focused on how and why they may change throughout the day. We planned an investigation to explore this, and we look forward to conducting this next week. In Geography, we looked at differences between the poor and rich in Rio De Janeiro. The children explored why there is such a clear distinction between the two areas within the same region. In History, the children learnt about the significance of Remembrance Day and its link to Armistice Day. They produced posters about why the day is so significant in British History. The children recognised this importance by partaking in a 2-minute silence at 11am on Monday. On Tuesday the children wore odd socks to school to commemorate Anti-Bullying week, to end the week they came in dressed in dots and spots to raise money for Children in Need 2024. It's been another fantastic week in Year 6 at Highlands. Have a restful weekend



## Attendance

This week's attendance figures (11.11.24-15.11.24) are as follows:-

**Total school attendance for this week is 94.91%**



This week's winning classes are:-

**Gold Award** 4Az with 100.00%

**Silver Award** 1Ga with 98.52%

**Bronze Award** 5va with 98.15%

Well done! to all 3 classes, especially 4Az

## Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the children celebrating this week – they will have received their birthday card from the Highlands Family.

