



Attendance

Well done to **Birch** in Infants for having the best attendance for the last two weeks running and to **Taylor-Brown** and **Kinsella** in Juniors. A special mention to Taylor-Brown for achieving 100% attendance.



Diwali

A few weeks ago, children in both schools enjoyed wonderful assemblies with special guest, Nabhi, who beautifully recounted the story of Rama and Sita and how it is intertwined with the celebration of Diwali. The children enjoyed listening to the story and actively participated by chanting "Hare Rama, Hare Krishna".

Children in Reception went on to learn a song called, *It's Diwali* (set to the tune of *Frère Jacques*) as well as make Diwali Diyas with playdough and flameless candles.



Fireworks Night

Thank you to everyone who supported our postponed Fireworks Night on Monday 6th November. The weather was still and dry and perfect for the amazing fireworks display. Nellie said, "It was really good. I liked the rides the best." Sofia-Loren preferred the fireworks, "I really liked the



Thank You on fire at the end!"

Maya Man

On the Wednesday before half term, Year 6 were visited by Robbie, our Maya Man. Mrs Mullen said, "Yet again, the children enjoyed an active learning session studying many different facts about the Maya. Each class worked collaboratively in small groups to dramatise an aspect of the Maya: from the Goddess of Death, to the game of Pok-a-Tok and even how chocolate was made! Later in the afternoon, we all met together to tell the story of the Creation. It was a brilliant day, we learnt so much and in such a fun way: a fabulous end to our study of the Maya." Lisa agreed, "My favourite part was the drama: we worked in groups and made everyone laugh!" Dhyana added, "We worked collaboratively and got to show our dramatic skills, it was so much fun!"



Tudors

On Monday, Year 5 enjoyed Tudor Day where they dressed as Tudors and took part in a Tudor theatre workshop. Last week they visited Hampton Court Palace. Harry reports:

"After the journey we went to the school meeting

area to get some wristbands and then it was time to enter the magnificent palace. We passed the ice-skating rink, which was being built, until we reached the archway into the main courtyard and looked at the fountain which was full of wine back in the day. Eventually we reached the giant clock which can tell the time and the stage of the moon. Next, it was King Henry's dining hall which has a pretty cool secret inside. We also saw all the deer heads that Henry killed in Bushy Park. We finished off the day in the room for Jane Seymour which is now a game room. It was a fantastic day."



Network Rail Safety Talk

Earlier this month, Year 6 welcomed Marcia, from Network Rail. She came to talk to us all about being safe when we use the railways. This tied in well with our Junior Citizen course before half term. Marcia gave us clear and concise information about the dangers of trains and what we can do to keep safe. We learnt many facts including, for example:

When a train brakes, how far does it travel before it stops? Five, 15 or 20 premier league football pitches? It is actually 20, about 1.25 miles, which tells us why we should never venture on the tracks.

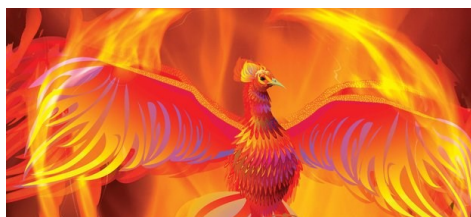
It was an excellent talk where Year 6 learnt more about keeping safe.



Mrs Mullen

Singing Assembly: Stravinsky

The children across both schools have enjoyed listening to *The Firebird* by composer Igor Stravinsky over the last few weeks during our assembly sessions. The music is from a ballet, itself based on a folk tale about an evil magician and a magical glowing bird. This ballet made Stravinsky very famous at the age of just 27.



The music starts with a solo played by the French Horn. This same tune is then repeated throughout the piece by other instruments. Gradually, all the instruments come in and the piece gets louder and louder. It makes a great finale to the ballet!

Mr Speck

Sports News

Football

Our football teams have been busy this half term. On 3rd November, the boys football team was invited to Kingsmeadow, the home of Chelsea's Academy. Fourteen boys got to watch Chelsea u21 v Fulham u21 before meeting the players, including upcoming stars Alex Matos, Leo Castledine and Alfie Gilchrist who have all been involved with Chelsea's 1st team this season.



Meanwhile last week, on the pitch, our girls beat Nelson School 3-0 in their first league match of the year while our boys drew 2-2. This week 26 children represented Heathfield against Trafalgar School. Our A team played their Year 6 team and won 6-4 while our other two teams, drawn from Years 3-6, played Trafalgar's Year 5 team, swapping over every ten minutes. They won both games, 3-1 and 2-0.

The Cricketer Schools Guide 2024

We are delighted to announce that, for the 3rd year running, Heathfield Junior School has been placed in the **top 50** junior and prep schools **best for cricket in the country**, one of only a handful of state schools to do so.



Dates for your diary

Thursday **23rd** and Friday **24th November** - Individual and Sibling Photographs

Sunday **26th November**, approximately **4pm** - Choir to sing at *Light Up Whitton*

Wednesday **29th November**, **9.30am** - Nursery Open Morning - [book via Infant School office](#)

Friday **1st December**, **3.30-5.00pm** - Christmas Fayre

Monday **4th December**, **3.30pm** - Reception Nursery Open Afternoon - [book via Infant School office](#)

Wednesday **6th December** and Thursday **7th December** - Year 1 Christmas Performances for Parents

Thursday **7th December** - Infants Christmas Shopping Day - [please place orders by 1st December](#)

Friday **8th December** - Juniors Christmas Shopping Day - [please place orders by 1st December](#)

Monday **11th December**, **2.50pm** - Junior Dance & Gymnastics Performance for Parents/Carers

Thursday **14th December**, **10.30am** - Junior Rocksteady Concert in Junior Hall

Friday **15th December**, **10.30am** - Infant Rocksteady Concert in Infant Hall

Tuesday **19th December** - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday **20th December** - Last day of term

Tuesday **9th January 2024** - Children return to school for the start of the Spring Term