

HEATHFIELD SCHOOLS' PARTNERSHIP

6th December 2024

Attendance

Congratulations to the children in Bay, Chestnut and Maple in Infants and Coco, Maui and Temple Grandin in Juniors for having the best attendance over the last two weeks.

100%

Light Up Whitton

Our choir delighted the crowd at the *Light Up Whitton* event on Sunday 1st December singing a selection of Christmas songs including *Feliz Navidad* and *Jingle Bell Rock*. Millie from Nightingale said, *"It was great singing to everyone. It was a bit cold and we could hardly see because of the Santa hats! I really like choir because it's a chance to listen to all our voices together."*



Christmas is coming ...

Children in Infants and Juniors came to school on Monday morning to find Christmas decorations everywhere! There are plenty of exciting events coming up. One of them in the Junior School is the Book Advent Calendar. Mr Shaw explained, *"Starting on Monday, two classes each day will unwrap a specially selected wintery themed picture book to enjoy during story time. We can't wait to see what the elves will deliver."* For other upcoming Christmas activities, please see the diary dates overleaf.



Gymnastics and Dance Showcase

On Monday, our junior dancers and gymnasts put on three spectacular performances for their classmates, parents and carers in which they showcased everything they have learnt this term. Hazel said, *"It was fun because we got to perform for the whole school as well as our parents. I like dance and gym club because you get to spend time with your friends outside class."* Lola added, *"It has helped build my confidence. I joined last year but now my confidence has built up a lot."*



Our dancers performed again at a Dance Festival at St Richard's School in Hanworth yesterday. After watching St Richard's dance, everyone received a medal.



Warm as Toast

As the weather has been getting colder our Nursery children have been learning how to make toast to help warm them up. The activity was a big hit with the children. Finley said, *"I liked it, cause I ate it all up!"* while Cheeku said, *"It was good, because of the smell"*.



Visits to St Augustine's Church

Both Year 2 and Year 4 have visited St Augustine's Church recently to enhance their learning in RE about Christianity. Both year groups explored the church looking at the different features such as the font, altar, pulpit lectern and the pews. Harley in Sycamore enjoyed his visit saying, *"I had so much fun learning about the church"*.



Be Bright Be Seen

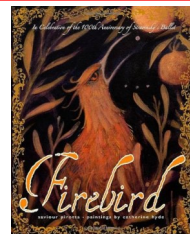
As we enter into winter and the days become shorter, we have been reminding children about the importance of staying safe and, in particular, being visible to drivers. On Monday our Junior children attended an assembly featuring road safety tips with the key message: *Be Safe, Be Seen!*

One way to help children be visible to drivers during the darker evenings is to wear reflective clothing. Our reflective zip clip sale has proved very popular. Jewin said, *"They are great because they have the words Be Bright Be Seen on them and they reflect off things so they can even help you see in the dark!"* The sale of the clips, priced at 50p each, will continue next week.



Firebird Dance Workshop

Last week our Year 4 children enjoyed a dance workshop based on their English book, *Firebird*, with Lee from Boundless Dance. Valentino explained, *"I really enjoyed it. We acted out the story of the Firebird through dance."*



I was a prince, we all stood in a line. Other people were wolves, they had to go on the floor. There was a king and some firebirds. The princes had to search to try and spot the firebird who flew in to take the golden apple."

Year 6 Visit to Synagogue

Last month, Year 6 visited Richmond Synagogue for their RE topic on Judaism. Mrs Peirson-Hagger said, *"It was fantastic to see all the significant parts of the Synagogue that we had studied and ask the Rabbi some questions. He explained all about Judaism and showed us the amazing Torah scrolls. It was interesting to compare the Synagogue with other places of worship that we have visited."*



Insight Visitor

Children in Years 3 and 5 have both had visits from the Insight Team recently. Insight work with schools in the boroughs of Richmond and Kingston to discuss Christianity. Both year groups learnt about the deeper meaning of Christmas for Christians, in particular they learnt about Advent as well as prophecies in the Old Testament foreseeing the arrival of Jesus.



Poppy Sale

We are pleased to report that we raised **£370.40** for The Royal British Legion from the sale of poppies and other merchandise last month. Thank you for your support.



Dates for your Diary

Monday **9th December, 2pm** - Year 1 Nativity for Year 1 parents with young children
Tuesday **10th December, 9am and 12.30pm** - Nursery Crafts for Orange Class with parents
Tuesday **10th December, 9.30am & 2pm** - Year 1 Nativity for Year 1 parents **without** young children
Wednesday **11th December, 9am and 12.30pm** - Nursery Crafts for Apple Class with parents
Thursday **12th December, 10.15am** - Junior Rocksteady Concert in the Junior Hall
Thursday **12th December, 2pm** (Maple) and **2.30pm** (Temple Grandin) Crafts and Singing with parents
Friday **13th December, 9am and 12.30pm** - Nursery Crafts for Cherry Class with parents
Friday **13th December, 10.30am** - Infant Rocksteady Concert in the Infant Hall
Tuesday **17th December** - Christmas church services for Reception (2pm), Years 1 & 2 (1.15pm) choir at both
Wednesday **18th December** - Christmas Lunch - wear a Christmas jumper with school uniform
Wednesday **18th December, 3.30-5pm** - Friends of Heathfield Schools' Partnership Christmas Fayre
Thursday **19th December** - Christmas parties - Christmas jumper with uniform (refreshments provided by school)
Friday **20th December** - Last day of term
Monday **6th January 2025** - Start of the spring term - no inset day, all children to attend from Monday

Trip to Stamford Bridge

Last month, 19 children visited Stamford Bridge to watch Chelsea Women beat Celtic Women 3-0 in the UEFA Champions League. Mr Nuthall said, *“The girls enjoyed watching the game in a big stadium and joined in with chants and dances. Whilst it was a fun evening with their friends, I hope it was also an inspiring experience for them.”*



Year 3 Boys’ Football Tournament

Yesterday, our Year 3 boys’ football team took part in a Richmond Borough Football Tournament at Richmond and Kew Football Club. It was the first time most of the players had represented the school. Maahid said, *“We played eight minute games against other schools in the borough like Sheen Mount and Stanley. We won two games and lost two so we didn’t make it to the semi-finals but it was really good. I felt nervous at the beginning but happy with how we played.”*



Harlequins’ METTLE Programme

Our Year 5 children have benefitted this term from METTLE sessions run by the Harlequins Foundation. Mr Watson explains, *“METTLE raises awareness and challenges the stigma of mental health. A key aim is to develop mental resilience in young people, whilst using essential skills such as staying positive and aiming high.”* The sessions covered relationships, emotions, self-care and physical activity. Sofia, from Coco, said,

“We discussed what depression and anxiety are and at the next session we talked about how to get rid of stress and how to be happier. In the final session we played lots of different games outside. I thought it was very good because we learnt how to stay positive even in tough situations. We learnt how to be a better version of ourselves.”



Cricket Awards

On Thursday 28th November, Mr Nuthall and Mr Watson attended the HAF Awards (Holiday Activities and Food Programme) at the House of Commons. Heathfield's Cricket and Football Holiday Camps won an award.

Mr Watson said, *“We were one of 11 regional winners from across the country and were recognised for the quality of our provision: providing high quality coaching, nutritional advice, sports psychology insights, free meals, trips to see first class games and having masterclasses from current professionals.”*

On the same day our school was shortlisted for the Children and Young People Now Award for the People’s Champion category for our cricket programme.

We have also been included in the *The Cricketer’s* Top 50 prep/junior schools magazine for the fourth year! We are one of only two state schools to be included in this category:

<https://www.thecricketer.com/Topics/schools/>

