



West Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Respecting each other, learning creatively, challenging all.

14th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

February half term marks half way through the school year and what a busy year we have had so far. The second half will be just as busy as we all work together in supporting all of our children to find their spark and continuing to shine in many ways. Please ensure you are checking your emails and classroom notifications for any upcoming events. It has been lovely to see so many parents attend our workshops on a range of topics. We really hope parents find these useful and are able to utilise the information at home with their children. Remember to look out for the next workshop and parents forum dates.

Since we returned we have already had so many amazing events, trips and workshops taking place. We hope you enjoy reading through our newsletter for information regarding some of these. We have lots more planned for the coming months, please check the dates for your diaries attached to our newly launched weekly bulletin.

Please remember to sign up to a parent consultation slot as these meetings will be taking place in the first week back after the half term.

Please find attached with this newsletter a health information document from Mrs Thomson.

We say goodbye to Tina Vadgama who joined us in January 2017 as a valued member of the SMSA team. During her time with us she has supported many children during lunchtime and has worked with the lunchtime team to ensure not only the safety of our children but helping to make lunchtimes a pleasant experience for all. We wish her every success in the future.

Thank you for supporting our many fund raising events for good causes and those to raise funds for the school. FOWLS has continued to champion the school and there are many more events planned for the second half of the school year. Please check the dates and times or pick up a flyer from the office.

Mr Dees has been off sick for a few days but we are positive that he will be fit and well upon our return to work.

We hope you all have a restful half term break and we look forward to seeing you when we return on Monday 24th February.

Kathy-Ann McClean
Deputy Head teacher

I have included a reminder of our vision statement (see opposite) - we continue to aim to ignite the spark of each and every child, whilst nurturing this to help ensure children from West Lodge go on to make a positive contribution to society. Our vision illustrates our aspiration – and also demonstrates our commitment to inclusion and working hard to build a culture of understanding and acceptance.

At West Lodge each child finds the spark within them. The light continues to grow, igniting the spark in others -creating ripples throughout the world. It all starts with understanding and acceptance....





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Safeguarding at West Lodge is 'everyone's responsibility, every day'

Our first and foremost priority is to keep your child safe and healthy; there are safeguarding notices around our school to remind staff and visitors of our policies and practices with the key message that: 'Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, every day'. Under the Ofsted framework safeguarding is a key indicator of what constitutes a good/Outstanding school.

Keeping your child safe means:

- The health and safety of all children;
- Making sure that the adults who work here have undergone safety and security checks;
- Protecting children from deliberate harm;
- Being an anti-bullying school;
- Being proactive against racist behaviour;
- Protecting our children from harassment and discrimination;
- A positive approach to behaviour management
- Meeting the needs of children with medical conditions;
- Providing first aid;
- Protecting children from drug and substance abuse;
- Children enjoying safe educational visits;
- Caring for children's personal needs;
- Keeping children safe when using the internet;
- Making sure our school is secure and safe;
- Being a 'listening school'.

All of our staff at West Lodge have regular safeguarding updates and recently this has included: Child Protection and Prevent Duty training. 'Prevent is part of the UK's counter terrorism strategy, preventing people from becoming involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism'.

Safeguarding is also part of our induction programme for new staff. We would like to highlight our safeguarding policies which can be accessed via the school website:

<https://www.westlodge.harrow.sch.uk/safeguarding/>



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Sustainability Week and Birdwatch

It has been a busy half term, working effortlessly on our pathway in finding ways to minimise the environmental impact and empowering children to look after our world. During sustainability week which took place from the 20th to 24th of last month the children have attended assemblies and learnt why trees are so important and the benefits of tree planting, followed by each class planting a sapling in our school grounds. We still have a few Field Maple saplings left so please contact either Mrs Aldrich or Mrs Constanti if you would like one to plant in your garden.

We have also talked about food waste to support children in understanding how important food is to their growth and wellbeing followed by the impact food wasting has locally and globally on the environment. We have started fruit waste recycling for KS1. We are very grateful for the donation of two compost bins. This has made it possible for us to implement fruit waste recycling throughout KS1.

It would be much appreciated if we can have three more for KS2, if anyone has any going spare.

The Big School's Birdwatch has sparked a real interest with children across the school being enthusiastic to go outside. Taking part in this research project for the RSPB, they have been very engaged with learning about different types of native birds and how to identify them. Some of the projects included: Making bird hides in Year 5, creating bird identification books with their own drawings in Year 3, and making bird feeders in Reception.

Australian bush fires

At West Lodge we value promoting awareness of important global issues. Sustainability Week certainly allowed children to explore climate change and the impact humans are having on the environment through learning about the Australian bush fires. Our children were very much aware of these issues and felt passionate about how we all need to do our bit, however small to make a difference. School Council delivered two excellent assemblies explaining how the fires began and how Australia was managing the crisis. The culmination of each assembly was a very tuneful rendition of the Australian national anthem! The Bake Sale was a great success; the upper school hall was at bursting point! The grand total raised from the Bake Sale and Mufti Day was £1082.15, this donation will be made to the WWF who are supporting animals affected by the fires.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Our Photo Gallery





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SEND Update

The West Lodge SEND Parent Partnership Representatives met with Mr Dees, Mrs McClean and Mrs Haines in January, and formally established the group and its aims and protocol. It was a productive meeting which was followed by an open Parents' Forum with a focus on SEND the next week. The Forum was in response to parents' requests for more information about: School SEND practice; The Harrow Local Offer; the national picture of SEND, budgeting and the process of EHCP assessments.

The West Lodge SEND Parent Partnership Representatives will meet with West Lodge staff again on March 25th, this will also be followed by our half-termly open Forum, with another SEND focus - this time with speakers from The Autism Advisory and SaLT Services.

A reminder of contacts, should you want further details or have any questions relating to SEND:

- Our email address for school SEND queries: send@westlodge.harrow.sch.uk
- Deputy Head for Inclusion – Kathy-Ann McClean
- Assistant Head SENCo – Hilary Haines
- Governor with responsibility for Inclusion – Jessel Patel
- West Lodge School Offer – West Lodge School website - policies
- Harrow Local Offer - www.harrow.gov.uk/cst

West Lodge SEND Parent Partnership Year Group Representatives

- Year 1 - Agnieszka Piatkowska
- Year 2 - Reena Anand
- Year 3 - Shikha Tiwari
- Year 4 - Sushmita Meredith
- Year 5 - Alice Lynch
- Year 6 - Balbir Lehto
- Kaleidoscope - Guinevere Moffett

Group SEND coffee mornings are held on the 1st Monday of every month, at 9.00 am at Daisy's in the Park

Pastoral Update

Last week, West Lodge supported Children's Mental Health Week, which is set up by children's mental health charity Place2Be. The week shined a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health and this year's theme was 'Find your Brave'. We ran a range of in-class activities and assemblies around the theme

Life often throws challenges our way. Bravery isn't about coping alone or holding things in. It's about finding positive ways to deal with things that might be difficult, overcoming physical and mental challenges and looking after yourself.

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health, check out these free resources and top tips on how you can help your children to 'find their brave'...

https://562edcf5b67b66a14900-eeaef90731f7ce1cd156ac7b02c7dd8f.ssl.cf3.rackcdn.com/Top_Tips_Parents_Carers_2020.pdf



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West Lodge School Council

Following the great success of the Council's involvement in Sustainability Week, at the most recent meeting we started thinking about how we can make sustainability part of our everyday life at West Lodge Primary School.

The ideas that were proposed were as follows.

- Have a compost bin in every classroom. This would be emptied into the school composter every day. If all waste fruit was put into the compost bin, then the class waste bin would only need to be emptied weekly. This would save four plastic bin liners, per class, per week!
- Appoint Junior Travel Ambassadors (JTAs) from the School Council Members using children from Years 4, 5 and 6. These children would be on duty with Mr Dees before school every Friday, encouraging safer driving practices and discouraging cars left idling as children are dropped off at school.
- Better Playtime Practices and the use of the Worry Box – the School Council would like to be part of an assembly where pupils are encouraged to think about how their own play impacts on others. Playtime must be enjoyable for all children.
- Each class to have their own plant. This will encourage pupils to think about how to keep the plant healthy and will help increase the oxygen in the classroom.
- The School Council wants to produce its own termly newsletter with articles specifically aimed at the school pupils. This was an idea raised by Meena Nandakumar.

All these ideas need further discussion, but it is clear we have a very active and passionate School Council. Thank you!

Rights Respecting Update

The Rights Respecting Steering Group have been working hard to promote children's rights by displaying rights respecting cards all over the school. This can now be seen in all classrooms, and in key areas of the school. Further to this, in the first week back after half term, West Lodge will be having their own Rights Respecting Week. During this week every class will be participating in an activity to learn and celebrate their rights. Did you know that Article 42 is – You have the right to know your rights! For more information, please visit the Unicef Rights Respecting website.

Learning Research Group

The Learning Research Group have been very busy this half term conducting surveys on how children feel about Science, and whether the use of knowledge organisers has helped them with their learning. After half term, the children will be analysing this data and will observe Science lessons across the school to see how the subject can be improved. They will then present their findings to Mr Dees in the Summer Term.

Maths Workshops

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Key Stage One and Key Stage Two Maths workshops about place value. Children from both Year Three and Year Six helped to demonstrate and teach the parents some activities and games. They were absolutely fantastic. Thank you to Rian, Rishi, Beth, Rishi, Samaira, Meera, Anya and Rivaan in Year Three and to Maria, Hrishi, Ridhi, Joseph, Arin, Avni, Daniyal and Imani in Year Five. The presentations from the workshop are now available on the school website.

Miss Patel & Mrs Leigh



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West Lodge Sports News

16th January, Year 5 and 6 Harrow Gymnastics championships, Norbury primary school

In a competition that has grown in popularity and standard over the years, West Lodge produced some excellent floor and vault routines. Lili led the Year 5 'A' team to 4th place with a brilliant 2nd place in the individual standings. She was well supported by Sophie in 7th, Honey in 10th, Ridhi in 15th and Amie in 21st. The year 6 'A' team placed 6th and were led by Lorenzo who claimed a bronze medal in the boys' individual standings. The year 5 and 6 'B' team claimed an impressive 3rd place with Cameron and Leighton finishing 2nd and 3rd in the boys' standings. Nikolas and Max were 5th and 6th in the individual standings helping the 'C' team to 6th place overall.

Year 6 'A' team: Mahi Tufail, Sri Puppala, Audrey Anderson, Lorenzo De Almeida Bowen

Year 5 'A' team: Amie Yifter, Ridhi Poddar, Honey Aldrich, Sophie Groom, Lili Alexander, Maria Tzanidaki

Year 5 and 6 'B' team: Maria Tzanidaki, Vaishali Bharadwa, Trisha Chagule, Sophie Malhotra, Cameron Jarvie-Smith, Leighton Elliott.

Year 5 and 6 'C' team: Max Tadaszak, Aria Nambiar, Nikolas Brooks, Ria Mawkin, Zainab Kanji, Sienna Patel.

16th January, Harrow schools cross-country championships, Harrow school

West Lodge produced outstanding individual and team performances at this competition. Up against year 7s, Max led the boys' team home to 3rd place overall in the team standings. Max fought for 2nd place followed Aaryan in 7th, Angel in 14th, Cameron in 18th, Boyko in 25th, Aaran in 26th, Sai in 37th and Joshua finding a sprint finish to claim 55th place.

The girls' team had an even better result claiming the team Silver. Nisha was first to finish in 8th place closely followed by Audrey (9th) and Abbey (10th). Inaya and Zainab finished in 15th and 16th with Ziyana bringing the team home in 43rd place.

21st January, Year 5/6 Badminton championships, Harrow leisure centre

The 'A' team had a close 26-27 loss in their first match to Newton Farm 'A' but recovered well to record successive victories against Norbury (26-22) and Newton Farm 'B' (19-12). Their fourth match against eventual winners Cannon Lane was a 13-19 loss. West Lodge played one another in the fifth round with the 'A' team defeating the 'B' team 19-8. The 'A' team's final match was hard fought 18-16 victory against Grimsdyke. This ensured third place overall in the team standings.

The 'B' team was made up of year 4s and they performed bravely improving as the competition went on. At the start of the competition, they suffered a number of defeats but their hard work and perseverance eventually paid off as they secured a 17-14 victory over Norbury.

Squad: Jaiden, Mashika, Shrimikund, Arjun, Shaym, Sri,

22nd January, Year 5 and 6 Middlesex Cup Football

After winning their respective Harrow tournaments, both West Lodge boys' and girls' football teams represented their borough at the Middlesex stage against the champions of Haringey, Brent, Barnet and Enfield. Both teams faced Enfield first and gave a good account of themselves, but just couldn't find the goal their dominating play deserved. The boys and girls both ended up losing 1-0, the boys losing to the eventual champions. Next up was Brent. First the boys played and were held to a 0-0 draw, with neither side able to create any clear cut chances. The girls also drew their second game by the same score-line, but only after a string of good saves and the woodwork dined West Lodge their first win. The penultimate match for both teams was Haringey. Despite another good performance, the girls were powerless to prevent a fantastic team, and eventual winners of their competition, going on to win the match. Unfortunately, the boys suffered the same fate, conceding after a swift counter attack by Haringey. In their final game of the tournament, both teams were determined to register their first goal and to end the tournament on a high. The boys played first and conceded an early goal, but they didn't let their head drops and displayed some quick, skilful football to take a 2-1 lead. With very little time remaining however, Barnet were able to power through and score an equalising goal to end an exciting game 2-2. The girls were able to record a deserved win at the tournament in their final match. Three clinical finishes were enough to hand West Lodge Girls a 3-0 win and earn them bronze medals as they finished the 3rd best team in Middlesex as well as the boys finishing 5th best in the county.

Girls: Aliza, Anya, Ciara, Inaya, Nisha, Audrey, Abbey, Ziyana, Lili, Maya, Alma

Boys: Henry, Deji, Max, Darren, Zac, Angel, Haaris, Leighton, Clem



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23rd January, Year 6 Middlesex cross-country championships, Harrow school

The children who qualified for this event to represent Harrow faced a step up in standard as they competed against the best runners in Middlesex! Max was 35th in the boys' race with Aaryan placing 68th. In the girls' race, our entrants were again closely matched. With just 10 seconds between them Nisha placed 60th followed by Audrey in 62nd and Abbey in 65th. This helped the Harrow girls' team to 3rd place in the team standings. The boys' placed 6th.

28th January, Year 5 and 6 Harrow Hockey championships, John Lyon Playing Fields

Both West Lodge 'W' and West Lodge 'L' were two equally matched teams and this was clear from the results as both teams won their groups. West Lodge 'W' secured 5-1 and 6-0 wins in their first two games against Camrose 'B' and Elmgrove 'A'. Their final match was a frustrating 2-2 draw as Marlborough set up defensively scoring 2 goals on the counter attack. West Lodge 'L' started strongly in their first game going 3-0 up against Camrose 'A' but held off a late onslaught to secure a 3-2 victory. Their second game against Marlborough had a similar theme and was heading for a draw before a dramatic last minute penalty goal! Both West Lodge teams met in the final in an extremely close match. The scores were level after full-time (3-3) before Sai scored his 4th and winning goal in extra-time leading West Lodge 'W' to the final where they played Vaughan. Getting off to superb start, Zac scored within 20 seconds but despite a lot of possession and host of close goal-scoring attempts we could not find the extra goal. Right in the final seconds of full-time, Vaughan equalised sending the game to extra-time. Both sides had chances to score but West Lodge 'W' found a killer pass to substitute Inaya to score the tournament winning goal sending West Lodge through to the London Youth Games Finals!

Team 'W': Sai, Nuwarrah, Aaran, Inaya, Abbey, Zac

Team 'L': Ben, Nisha, Boyko, Ethan, Katie, Ziyana

Goal scorers: Sai 8, Aaran 5, Ben 5, Ziyana 3, Boyko 2, Inaya 2, Ethan 2, Zac 2

29th January, Year 6 Netball league match vs Pinner Wood

West Lodge played their second league game against a strong Pinner Wood team. Over half the team were playing for the first time and showed great determination and desire to learn and improve. Pinner Wood started brightly and took a commanding lead after the first quarter. In the second quarter, West Lodge created many more chances and were able to score two goals through our captain, Aishwini. During the third quarter West Lodge showed just how quickly they were able to adapt to difficult situations. The entire team's defensive and offensive positioning was much better, but Pinner Wood's exemplary shooting was keeping them in the lead. West Lodge managed to win the final quarter, thanks to great composure in front of the net and great battling in defence. The final score was 11-5 to Pinner Wood.

Squad: Aishwini, Audrey, Alina, Aliza, Shaym, Aymen, Zahra, Parnita

31st January, Panathlon festival, Aspire leisure centre

Five children from school took part in this fun event with lots of a variety. They took part in seven events including basketball, bowling, football and polybat. The children enjoyed themselves and relished the opportunity to participate in these events along with other schools in the borough.

Squad: Amel Gagroo, Roisin Moffett, Oliver Spicer, Arshiya Pandey and Lucy Rollason

4th February, KS1 Festival, Harrow leisure centre

Ten children from year 1 travelled to Harrow leisure centre to participate in a 15 fun activities which involved throwing, shooting, team building. This was a great experience to participate in an event alongside 13 other primary schools from Harrow.

BLUE: Sabrina, Vish, Nikhil, Ami. PINK: Rohan, Holly, Neelormi. ORANGE: Miceal, Sarah, Arihaan

PE Team



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Chess at West Lodge

Since the beginning of the spring term, Chess at West Lodge has been thriving with the Advanced Club ballooning to 40 chess players from Upper School preparing to take part in the UK Chess Challenge in a breakfast club on Wednesday mornings.

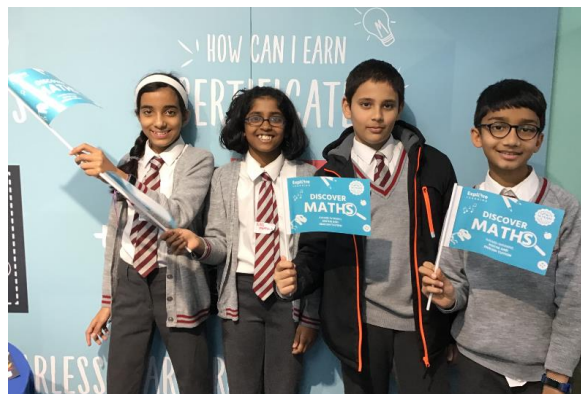
The children have now completed four of the seven rounds of chess matches to find the best girl and best boy for each year group. The top players will then go on to the Mega final stage which will take place over the Easter holidays at Harrow High School and compete with children throughout Middlesex. There will also be an online competition arranged on the Chesskids platform which will begin in March.

Year 3 Chess Lessons

Lilac class has been learning Beginners Chess with Mr. Long over the last half term and Maroon and Turquoise will have the same opportunity in 6-week blocks into the summer term. This gives a number of Year 3 children a good grounding in the basics of the game which is then expanded upon during Computational Thinking lessons which they will take part in during computing lessons in Year 4.

Year 6 Maths Competition

On Wednesday 15th January, four children from Year 6 competed in the Young Mathematician Awards held by Explore Learning. Sai, Hrithik, Sri and Inaya showcased their amazing problem solving skills and had a fantastic afternoon competing against other schools from Harrow. Sai demonstrated great leadership skills and showed good understanding; Hrithik encouraged everyone and was very passionate to support the team; Sri mind mapped lots of great ideas for the team to work from; and Inaya carefully observed what others were doing and challenged the team's thinking where necessary. Well done team!



Parent Partnership Award and Parent Forums

At West Lodge, we pride ourselves on our relationships with you as Parents/ Carers. The school has decided to celebrate this by planning on gaining a 'Parent Partnership award' Over the next year, we shall be calling on you all to ask for your views and opinions on how the school creates relationships with yourselves and how we can improve them further. The use of the Parent forums and workshops are an excellent way of being involved in school life so please do keep an eye on the diary dates and please see when you could possibly attend.

Next term we have the following workshops and forums for you to attend.

Friday 28th - Parents' Forum

Monday 2nd March - Reception Maths workshop - 9am and 2pm

Wednesday 4th March - Mind up day - workshop for parents (time to be confirmed)

Monday 16th March - Reception writing workshop - 9am and 2pm

Wednesday 25th March - SEND parent rep's meeting at 1:40 and then Parents' forum with a SEND focus at 2pm.

Thursday 2nd April - Autism Awareness Parents session (Time to be confirmed)



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Whole School Writing Project

This half term the children enjoyed taking part in our annual whole-school writing project. The focus was on reducing plastic waste. In Key Stage 1, children wrote a letter to the Staff at West Lodge after seeing the amount of plastic that was being used in the staffroom. They gave the staff some suggestions as to what they could use instead of the plastic that they saw and the children came up with some great alternative ideas! Children in Key Stage 2 wrote a persuasive letter to the parents and carers of West Lodge to encourage them to prepare zero-waste packed lunches and snacks for their children. These letters were backed up by scientific research around the impact our waste is having on the oceans and earth.

On Tuesday 11th of February, author Zanib Mian, along with Brook's Bookshop, returned to West Lodge to launch the second book in her series, 'Planet Omar'. The children were very excited to hear all about the second instalment during Zanib's assembly and enjoyed meeting her and getting their books signed afterward.

The beginning of the spring term saw the introduction of a new guided reading programme in Key Stage 2. Children now have access to a broad range of new and exciting fiction and non-fiction texts, covering a variety of genres and themes. Many texts are a part of a series across Key Stage 2, meaning children will be able to continue reading about their favourite characters, but still advance through to more challenging texts each academic year.

The children in Reception and Key Stage One are also enjoying all their new home reading books and guided reading books. In particular teachers are finding the questions at the back really useful to support comprehension. The Key Stage One Superhero reading challenge is going really well and it is exciting to see children in each class being awarded their Hulk Award for recording 25 reads in their reading diary. Please continue to read with your children and record it in their reading diary when you do.

Safer Internet Day:

Safer Internet Day was on the 11th February and was celebrated globally with the theme: **Together for a better internet.**

At West Lodge we were involved both in the classroom and with parents. Our Digital Leaders from Y6 have created kahoot! Quizzes which were shared in classes from EYFS to Y6. From the Digital Leaders perspective, they championed their role as responsible digital citizens, whilst at the same time sharing an important message E-safety message in a fun and interactive way with the Children.

As we write this article, parents meeting will be happening tomorrow (50 names down to attend.) We have some exciting new materials to compliment the Safer Internet Day in school and look forward to sharing these on the day. These will be made available on our school website over the next few weeks.

Ongoing Support:

Should you have any concerns about your pupil's online usage or just need some guidance, we are more than happy to work with you. First contact would be the class teacher or member of SLT. We also have Mr Wes Jefferson who is also a trained Child Exploitation Online Protection (CEOP) Ambassador working in school.



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Performing Arts

Young Voices 2020 – The O2 Arena

On Thursday 6th February, 63 members of our US Choir joined over 8000 other children from all over the South East in singing at the O2 Arena. After an afternoon of rehearsing the various medleys original songs and the dance moves, the evening performance was fantastic and we hope that the record 107 parents and carers in the audience really enjoyed themselves. When asked, the children said that the Queen and Pop Medleys were their favourites. Yet again, we were kept entertained by the street dance crew – Urban Strides and, it is fair to say that, Tony Hadley was in amazing form. Many congratulations to all of the children involved and thank you to the staff and parents for supporting the children so well. An evening to remember for all of those involved.

Guitar Festival

On Tuesday 11th, five of Mr Townend's guitar student were involved in a lovely concert at the Harrow Arts Centre. Many parents ignored the power cut in Hatch End and filled the Arts centre; not a seat was empty. We were entertained by an eclectic mix of music including the Habanera from Carmen, The Good, The Bad and The Ugly and Scarborough Fair. Congratulations to the children involved. Participants – Lakindu, Inaya, Ziyana, Shanaya and Maria.

Explore Arts Award

On Tuesday 11th February, 18 children from year 6, who are working towards their Explore Arts Award, attended a drawing workshop at The Heath Robinson Museum on 11th February. As well as exploring the theme of fairies in art, they also created illustrations of magical characters based on some of their teachers!

School Uniform

Please be reminded that we no longer stock any uniform at the school. All our items can be purchased from Angels Uniforms, 363 Rayners Lane, Pinner HA5 5EH.