



in partnership with Blanche Nevile

# Headteacher's Newsletter November 2009

Dear parents and carers,

October has come and gone, and the children have returned full of energy for what promises to be a particularly busy and event filled half term. This newsletter brings you details of the many events scheduled for the coming weeks, along with news of what was achieved last month.

## New Toilets!



No doubt your children will have told you the very exciting news that the school now has brand new toilets! Research consistently tells us that the thing most children don't like about their school is the state of the toilets – but not at Highgate Primary.

## Harvest

The school celebrated harvest with a lovely harvest assembly linked our Black History celebrations. Themed 'harvest around the world', the choirs, musicians and children from Reception to Year 6, sang songs to celebrate the importance of harvest to people from different parts of the world. Many thanks to all the families who donated food for the Muswell Hill drop-in centre, and of course to Hilla for leading such a lovely event.

## More Baby News



Those of you who attended the harvest assembly will no doubt have seen Hilla conducting the singing on the day before she started her maternity leave. The good news is that she has just given birth to a baby boy! Congratulations and best wishes to Hilla.

## November

A number of the men-folk at Highgate Primary have decided to have a go at growing moustaches. Whilst this is admirable in itself, the real reason is to raise awareness of prostate cancer and issues surrounding men's health – and perhaps to raise some money along the way. Information on how to follow our progress on-line, and make a donation will follow in due course.

## Perform

Children from Key Stage 2 enjoyed drama sessions this week lead by drama specialists from an organisation called 'Perform Drama'. In a short space of time, each class put together a routine of singing, dancing and acting.

## Leading Parents Partnership Award

A number of events have taken been planned for November to support the school's aim of promoting parental partnership:

## Ocean Maths Project



Last month, parents of children in Year 4 worked together on a range of maths activities in a workshop which introduced parents to 'Ocean Maths'. This is a project designed to provide accessible and challenging homework that children and parents share. This is being followed by similar meetings for parents of children in Year 5 and 6.

## Reception Parents Meeting

Just to remind parents with children in Reception that Livia will be giving a talk about the school's approach to teaching and learning, which will take place in the Library at 2.30 on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

## Quiz

The annual School Quiz Night is taking place in our school hall on Thursday November 12<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7.30 pm. I have been compiling the questions and I can guarantee having a high IQ and numerous qualifications will not help. Tickets will be on sale in the playground after school next week - please feel free to come along and join a team, or you could put together a team of your own. Tickets cost £4 and include snacks and a licensed bar. You'll find them on sale at pick up time, or just complete the form on the separate letter coming home this week.

## Black History Month Celebration



Black History Month was celebrated in style at Highgate Primary with a special African and Caribbean evening which was held in the school hall. Children and parents enjoyed a stunning spread of chicken and ricy peas, salt fish and ackee, curry goat and plantain, alongside a host of other traditional African and Caribbean delights. Great music from parents and children and traditional dancing completed the event which raised money, not only for the school but for the Sickle Cell Foundation. Many thanks to all the parents and staff who helped organise such a successful community event.

## Home Learning Projects

More than 100 of our children produced Black History Month home learning projects during October. This was the first whole-school learning project and the quality of work was quite exceptional. Projects ranged from a book written about a visit to the African Gallery at the British Museum, to a film made about the life of Stevie Wonder. Space has been booked at the Haringey Professional Development Centre to display our children's brilliant work.



## Alice in Wonderland

I am pleased to announce that the whole-school Christmas production this year will be a special performance of Alice in Wonderland. Children from Year 4, 5 and 6 have auditioned and now been cast to play the leading roles, classes have been given their own songs and every child will form a part of the chorus.

Whilst all children will be a part of both performances, only one class will be performing on stage on each day.

Wed 9th December 10.00 am	Nam, RLM, IEP, 2LG 3EH, 4MK, 5LB/DB and 6PB
Thursday 10th December 2.00 pm	Npm, RTB, ISM, 2RV, 3LM, 4JS, 5NL and 6RO

Please make sure you have the dates in your diaries for what promises to be a fine celebration.

## Important dates for the Autumn Term

PSA Quiz Evening	7.30 pm Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November
Year 5 Ocean Maths	9.00 am Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November
Year 6 Assembly	2.45 pm Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November
Individual Photographs	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November
2RV class assembly	9.30 am Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November
Year 5 Cake Sale	3.30 pm Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November
Year 6 Ocean Maths	9.00 am Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November
5NL class assembly	9.30 am Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> November
Staff Training Day (School Closed)	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November
3LM Assembly	9.30 am Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December
Christmas Craft Fair	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Performances	10.00 am Wed 9th December 2.00 pm Thursday 10th December
Term Ends	Friday 18th December

With best wishes

William Dean  
Headteacher

