

HENDON NEWS

9TH OCTOBER 2020

Head of School

Dear parents, carers and children,

Despite all the rain, it's been an action-packed week at Hendon Prep. In our Prep and Pre-Prep assembly we talked about a very happy and friendly lion who wanted to meet his friends and so one day went for a walk... This was part of the tale I shared with the children in preparation for the Emergency Lockdown procedure. The children did a marvellous job listening to their teachers and following the lockdown process. Many of the children later asked if they could meet 'Larry' the lion!

With all of the new Covid-safe adjustments, next week sees the first time we will hold parent – teacher conferences virtually. This is a new system for our teachers and as I have asked throughout our unprecedented journey together since March, to please be patient. We are very much hoping that these sessions run smoothly. Should there be any issues of a tech nature, we will of course complete your appointments either by phone or at a rescheduled date.

The return to school has seen a general heightening in anxiety over the last weeks, less from our students than expected and more from our parent body. Please be assured that staff are working with the best interest of every child in mind. We are determined to keep each child safe, but also to continue the learning and to ensure the well-being of all. We do need to strive to develop independence and communication skills for the children, but also to work on resilience and developing of other social, life skills. We are a non-selective, diverse and inclusive school, welcoming children from all races and backgrounds, and individual needs. Please do contact the school directly, if you would like to talk about anything.

Wishing you all a relaxed and safe weekend,

Mrs Gorasia

School News

Parent Teacher Conferences

This year, parent/teacher conferences will be held via video calls using a new app called School Cloud through Cognita Connect. Thank you to those of you who have already booked your appointments. We are hopeful that the tech will be on our side and these will be constructive and informative sessions.

The length of the appointments have been set as per your letters so please be aware that in order to keep to time, sessions will countdown and then time out. Teachers do not have control of this, so please do not be offended when the session ends.

These conversations provide you with an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into their new year group expectations and progress they are making.

Booking of appointments will close at 4pm on Monday 12th October, promptly. Should you need to make any changes after this date please contact Mrs Butler via Cognita Connect. Please also let us know if you can't make a session booked.

Prep Sports - Friday Afternoon

We are delighted to have organised a new venue for our sports afternoon this term. We have secured a number of pitches at Power League in Barnet and the children went off this afternoon filled with excitement. The children will spend their afternoon practicing their football skills and having the opportunity to play matches.

A thorough risk assessment of both the coach travel and venue has been conducted and we are pleased with the actions in place to make these afternoons Covid safe. This also allows for our younger students to have full use of the playground for outdoor learning and physical activities.

Enhancing Our Curriculum

Salvete omnes! (Hello everybody)

This term Year 5 pupils are studying the Roman Empire. Pupils are investigating why the Romans invaded England and the impact of the Roman Empire on our modern world. Everyone worked hard on their History homework project this week and created amazing Roman shields. Pupils also had the opportunity to re-enact scenes of the everyday life of Britons and Romans who lived 2,000 years ago.



Keeping Fit and Healthy: Inside and Out

Playing sports and taking part in regular exercise not only helps our pupils become stronger and healthier it is also widely acknowledged that regular physical activity can also increase self-esteem and reduce anxiety.

Sport England agrees saying; *'The benefits of sport and physical activity on our mental health are endless: improved mood, decreased chance of depression and anxiety, and a better and more balanced lifestyle ... Any kind of physical activity can boost mental wellbeing – from swimming to walking and yoga to dance.'*

At Hendon Prep, we acknowledge that not every child enjoys competitive sports and so we introduce our children to a wide variety of Sports and physical activities to enable them to find one that inspires them; laying firm foundations for a healthy lifestyle from a very young age.

Reception children love their weekly yoga class with Mrs Platt, where they learn the importance of breathing and stretching and Year 1 really enjoy both the warm up exercises with our Head of Sport, Mr Kavanagh, and also practicing the footwork skills that they have been developing this week.



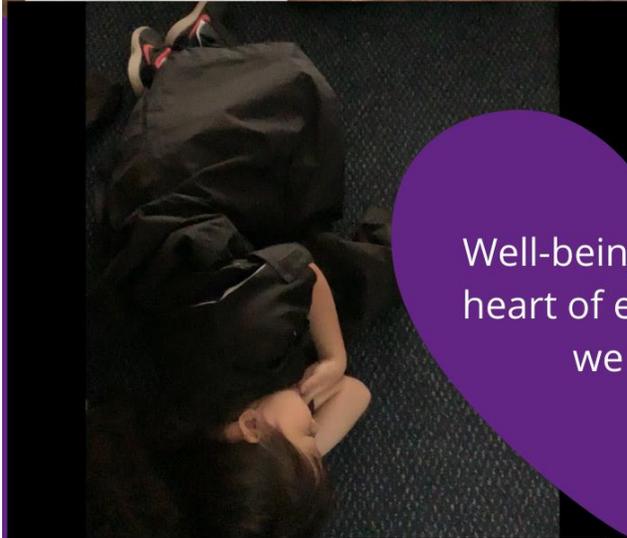
Celebrating Global Be Well Day



Music assembly



Mindfulness



Sleep



Art & creativity



Nature appreciation



Pilates