

HENDON NEWS

27TH NOVEMBER 2020

Headteacher Message

Dear parents, carers and children,

It is a core belief at Hendon Prep that we are preparing all of our children to be global citizens; kind, intelligent and inclusive. We have initiated a number of innovations from this term to underpin this ethos.

This week we were absolutely honoured to have Iniquilipi Chiari, the founder and first president of the Guna Youth Congress speak with Year 6 and Year 2s about mola art and traditional Guna objects, as well as convey cultural and geographical differences between the UK and Panama.

Our children could not have been more interested or excited by the learning, which was beamed straight into Hendon from the Panamanian jungle. They were eager to ask questions which also explored their understanding of Nature and the world we live in.

We want all of our children to extend their knowledge about the world we live in and to appreciate the importance of plants, people and animals co-existing in harmony. Enterprise and creative expression are building blocks which will inspire our students and their higher-level thinking. I am committed to developing global connections and more opportunities such as this for our children.



Please stay safe and well; and enjoy the weekend.

Mrs Gorasia

School News

Mr Donovan's vocabulary challenge

Mr Donovan has challenged many of our Prep pupils to extend their vocabulary by creating their own vocabulary list. These pupils have tried to learn three new words a day. Children with the determination to succeed in this task have made unequivocal and accelerated progress in the English curriculum and Mr Donovan is now extending the challenge to all pupils from Year 3 upwards.

To take part just follow these simple steps:

1. When reading, record three words that you did not know (if you cannot find any, maybe you could try a more challenging reading book).
2. Use a dictionary to define these words.
3. Write three sentences and include the new words in each sentence.
4. Try to include your new words in your writing.

Example:

- 'congregate'
- Gather into a crowd or mass
- The army congregated under the cover of the forest.

By the end of the year, you will have a bank of over one thousand new words!

This simple, yet effective method will support all pupils, including those who aspire to some of the best schools in the country. If you have the determination to be successful, then give it a try. Don't forget to share some of your new vocabulary with Mr Donovan.

Here are some examples of amazing new vocabulary that can be used to create vivid descriptions from Year 4:

- Jessica – azure
- Taha – assiduous
- Eva – destitute

You can use these words to get you started. Unlike our weekly spellings, this is not compulsory. However, if you want an advantage in class and you have the motivation to independently extend your knowledge, then give it a try. *Good Luck!*

Enhancing Our Curriculum

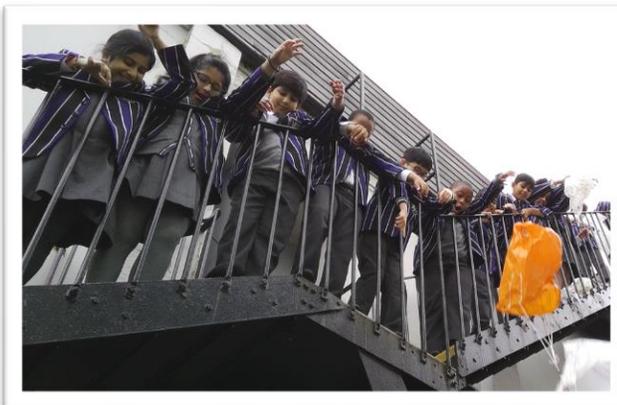
Blending Technology and History

Our Year 5 children put their new laptops to excellent use during their History lesson this week, when they used them to research Roman chariot races. They used their findings to describe a typical day in Circus Maximus, the famous Roman entertainment venue, and then compared Roman entertainment to modern entertainment around the world.



Science in Action

In Science this week, Year 5 continued learning about forces, this time looking at air resistance. They made a variety of parachutes to test whether the size, material or length of string would have the biggest impact, and enjoyed testing them even more than making them!



Problem-Solving and Teamwork starts early

The children in RP listened to a story called 'Q Pootle 5' by Nick Butterworth this week and were so excited when then received a letter from Q Pootle 5 himself, asking for their help. The children used a variety of construction pieces, tools and small parts to build a spaceship for Q Pootle 5. They worked together, shared their ideas and used their problem-solving skills to get the job done. Great work Reception.



Enhancing Our Curriculum

Young Composers

After listening to Prokofiev's *'Peter and the Wolf'* during their music lesson this week, Year 3 were inspired to compose their own theme for the main characters. They used their new personal laptops to access an online music programme to create these new masterpieces.



Global Connections

Hendon Prep are taking part in a fabulous art competition, *Global Canvas*, which is an annual competition run by the *David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation*. The theme of this year's competition is 'Healing Nature – A Planet on the Edge'.

The children will work in groups on their entries and are creating drawings, paintings and prints to submit. If successful, pupils' work will be displayed in the Natural History Museum.

The Year 6 students have decided to create large scale sculptures for their entry and, as part of their research and utilising the power of technology, they had a wonderfully informative 'visitor' from Panama during their Art lesson this week. Inick Chiari, the Chairperson of the indigenous Guna people, talked to the children about the Panamanian rainforest and how we can protect it.

