

# HENDON NEWS

23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2020

## Head of School

Dear parents, carers and children,

We have so quickly come to the end of our first half term and I want to thank you all for making the full reopening and transition back to school go so smoothly.

The challenges of running a school and keeping our children and staff safe has never been greater. I am proud that we have worked together to establish our 'new normal' at Hendon Prep. The daily routines of keeping bubbles separate, socially-distanced drop-off and pick ups, COVID-safe lunch times and so on are all logistical feats which have taken a real team effort; along with ensuring that our children are academically challenged whilst always pastorally nurtured and supported. Well done all!

It is a daily joy for us being back at school and continuing face-to-face teaching and learning again with our students. Watching them learn, grow and smile is a wonderful thing and I am filled with confidence when I speak with our engaged and interested students who embrace their learning across the curriculum with such enthusiasm.

Some of us are understandably that bit more emotional than usual due to the anxiety and relentlessness of this pandemic. These have been difficult times for a number of our Hendon Prep families and staff and my sincere thanks goes to all of you who are working so hard and doing the very best you can day by day. Please know that we are here for you all of our families.

I hope that you will all be able to enjoy half-term and that the weather is on our side for outdoor activities and plenty of fresh air. It is important to allow children to take this one week break to relax, to read/listen to stories, to play and so on. They will return to school on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**, more ready to learn with a balanced break.

Wishing you all a safe and happy half term. I look forward to welcoming you back soon,

Mrs Gorasia

## School News

### Harvest at Hendon Prep

At this time of year, Hendon Prep usually celebrates Harvest Festival in different ways, culminating in a special Harvest Assembly with Reverend Julie. We reflect on how grateful we should be to have food in abundance, particularly during this time of global pandemic, we have been blessed with the provision of fruits and vegetables grown and harvested by farmers. Pupils in Reception to Year 6 at have prepared some songs and poetry based on this theme and this will be shared with you via Cognita Connect very soon.

### NHS flu vaccinations - Final Reminder

The NHS will be at school on **10th November** for the flu vaccination (a quick and simple spray up the nose). This year the consent process is electronic. Hendon Prep School's unique code is CL101368. Please can parents complete the form regardless of their consent choice as the NHS are collating reasons why parents choose not to vaccinate their children. The deadline for submitting your form is **1st November**.

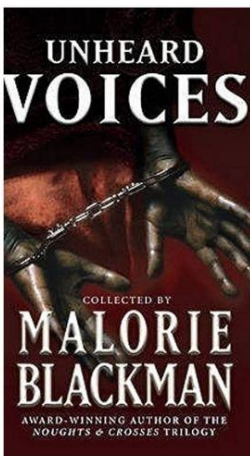
### Creative Pumpkin Design Competition

To celebrate Halloween, Cedars House will be running a creative pumpkin competition. Pupils from all houses are invited to take part and can enter by submitting either a photo of a carved pumpkin or by submitting a picture they have drawn/painted. Deadline **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November**.

Entries can be submitted by emailing [parents@hendonprep.co.uk](mailto:parents@hendonprep.co.uk), subject '**Pumpkin**', or by bringing your photo or picture into school after half term. The first winner will be awarded 50 House Points, the second winner 30 House Points and the third winner 15 House Points for your House. The winners will be announced in week beginning **Monday 9th of November**. Remember **no** real pumpkins to be brought into school this year, just photos or posters please. Good luck everyone!



Diversity and inclusion are embedded into our curriculum and teaching style, and whilst we celebrate inclusion throughout the year, Black History Month provides a fantastic opportunity for us to recognize the outstanding contributions people of African and Caribbean descent have made in all areas of our society.



"In class we are reading the book 'Unheard Voices' by Malorie Blackman and we are re-enacting events from the life of black heroes who helped eventually to reach the civil rights movements. Learning about the black culture and the struggles they have been through has been a very special topic to us."

Danyal & Ruqayah 6T

**"YES WE CAN"**

1G have been studying the life and career of Barack Obama and wrote their own 'YES WE CAN' statements



**Year 5 have been studying the Maasai tribe in Geography. They created and decorated their own Maasai bead jewellery and practised the Maasai jumping dance**



This October, Year 6 have been studying and reflecting on inspirational people who have fought for their rightful equality. We have looked at Black Heroes including Rosa Parks and Mary Seacole. Year 6 believe whatever your skin colour or culture, you should celebrate yourself throughout the year. In History we have been studying the Triangular Trade and have learnt about the terrible conditions the slaves were forced into.

Danyal & Ruqayah, 6T