



Harrington Hill Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week was the first full time week for our Reception children, who have settled into school life fantastically. Look to the right for photographs of their first full week at school!

On Wednesday, we had a photographer in school to capture the children's wonderful learning experiences for our school website. Despite the grey skies on the day, we now have some fantastic photographs of the children enjoying school life and we all look forward to seeing them on the website soon.

Some parents have asked whether their child should stay home if they have cold symptoms. **Government advice is very clear: if your child has a cold they can still attend school** (as long as they are well enough to do so). The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A high temperature
 - A new continuous cough (this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
 - A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.
- If your child has any of these symptoms, you should get a coronavirus test as soon as possible. If you are having difficulties obtaining a test, please contact the school office and we will do our best to help.

We currently have one vacancy on our governing body for elected parent governors. If you are interested in becoming a parent governor, please see the advert and application from page 3 of this newsletter.

This week marked the beginning of Autumn and there is a noticeable shift towards much cooler weather. Please ensure your child comes to school with a waterproof coat/jacket that is labelled with their name and class.

The children have been working hard and enjoying their learning in school this week. Our motto, 'striving for excellence, achieving together', has been very clear to see in all the classes from Nursery to Year 6! See below for some pictures of excellence

Have a wonderful weekend.
Rebecca Kennedy
Acting Headteacher



Learning in the Early Years!

The change in weather hasn't stopped the children in Reception from enjoying their learning outdoors this week! It was great to hear such wonderful talk from the children as they explored their environment through imaginative play.



Key Dates

AUTUMN TERM

Topic Homework Projects Due In
Monday 12th October

Half term:

Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

INSET Day (school closed to all children):

Monday 2nd November

Children Start Date:

Tuesday 3rd November

Parents' Evening Phone Calls:

Week beginning Monday 9th November

Well-being Week:

Monday 23rd November – Friday 27th November

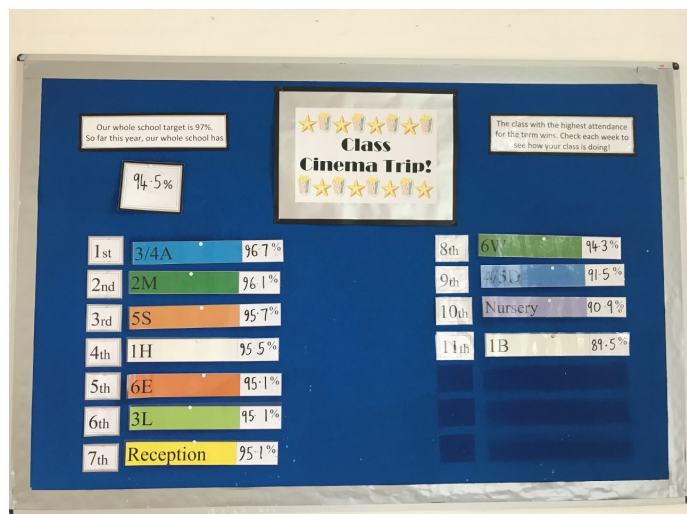
End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 18th December

Attendance

This week, our attendance as a school was **92.2%**.

Overall, since starting in September, the attendance is **94.5%** (see display board below). This is above the Hackney average of just below 90%.



A big well done to **Nemiah (2M)**, **Xylem (4/5D)** and **Taslima (6E)** for winning this week's 100% attendance prize draw!

Early Reading

Meet our new Early Reading Lead, Farhana Parvin! Farhana is an experienced teacher, who taught in Newham for 4 years before joining Harrington Hill in 2018. She has taught a range of age groups and has provided 1:1 tutoring and English lessons to students throughout her career. Farhana is passionate about inspiring a love of reading in children and is a self-confessed super fan of Read, Write, Inc. for teaching phonics! Farhana will be working closely with Dani King, our English lead, and 'The English Hub' team at New Wave Federation this year. Welcome to the reading team Farhana!



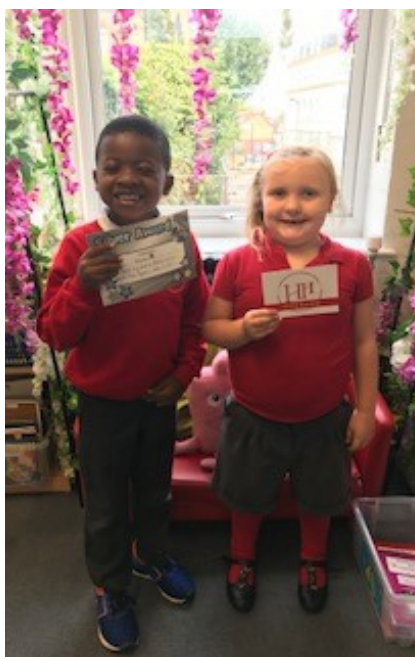
Striving for Excellence, Achieving Together!

Every Friday, each teacher awards certificates to children who have shown excellence in class throughout the week. Here are just a few of our winners this week!

Lia and Ria in 5S



Ahmadu and Rose in 1B



Zen and Maya in 6W



Thank you for helping us keep the school community safe by adhering to the new drop off/collection times and one-way system.



Harrington Hill Primary School

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Harrington Hill Governing Body Governor Information Sheet

What Do Governors Do?

The role of governors is set out in law as "to conduct the school with a view to promoting high standards of education achievement at the school".

As governors, we are responsible for three core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

In practice, as a governor you might get involved in:

- Helping to agree a vision for the school and checking that we are on track to achieve it.
- Agreeing and monitoring implementation of the School Development Plan.
- Monitoring how well children are doing overall.
- Agreeing the school's budget, making sure we have the right resources.
- Linking the school with the local community.

Governing Body

Harrington Hill Governing Body (HHGB) has 12 members:

- Two elected Parent Governors.
- One elected Staff Governor.
- One Governor nominated by Hackney Learning Trust and agreed by the HHGB.
- Seven Co-opted Governors, identified and agreed by the members of HHGB – these might be parents, members of staff, members of the local community, or anybody who can bring particular skills and experience we might need.
- The Executive Headteacher.

What Sort of People Are We Looking For?

HHGB members have agreed that, to be effective, governors must:

- Have the ability and willingness to learn about the school and the local community.
- Not be intimidated by jargon and unfamiliar environments, but rather be willing to do the necessary to learn.
- Have the availability and commitment to contribute actively, including by attending meetings.
- Understand the importance of being well-prepared for meetings and being organised.
- Be prepared to engage in meetings and processes and HHGB business.
- Be willing to listen to others and understand their viewpoint, and willing and able to express their own views
- Be prepared to challenge and question and bring in new ideas.

We also created a list of useful skills, knowledge and experience. Not every new governor would be expected to have all of these, but they must be prepared to develop them.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numeracy to deal with basic data • Managing relationships • Appreciating different points of view • Active listening • Investigation and asking good questions • Team working • Personal organisation • Presenting information • Focusing on strategy and outcomes 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Knowledge</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the role • Education policies and latest developments • The local community • The day to day operation of the school <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Experience</u></p> <p>(useful, but not essential from the start)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing data • Budgeting and financial efficiency • Performance management and recruitment • Chairing meetings • Taking minutes • Being on panels (recruitment, disciplinary, etc)
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The Practicalities

- HHGB meets once every term to deal with business matters (5.00-7.00pm). We are currently meeting virtually rather than in person due to the Covid-19 outbreak.
- In addition, we operate two committees, with all governors being a member of at least one committee. The committees meet once a term on the same day, with 15 minutes cross over to deal with cross-cutting issues:
 - Curriculum Committee: 5.00-6.15pm
 - Resources Committee: 6.00-7.15pm
- Every governor is a 'Partner Governor', getting to understand and report back on a key aspect of the school's work (e.g. a particular year group). Each Partner Governor visits the school at least once a year to speak to key members of staff, sit in on lessons or take 'learning walks' through the school.

Questions?

If you have any questions or want to discuss your suitability as a governor, please contact:

- Rebecca Kennedy (Head of School)
- Sophia Parkinson (Chair of Governors – governors@haringtonhill.hackney.sch.uk)



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Harrington Hill Primary School Governing Body - Parent Governor Vacancies

25th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We currently have one vacancy on our governing body for elected parent governors. I am writing to invite you to consider standing for the role. Any parent with a child enrolled at our school (including the nursery) may nominate themselves by completing the form on the reverse of this letter and returning it to the school office by 9th of October 2020.

School governors are people just like you. They are volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds, each bringing different skills and experience, who want to help the school reach the highest standards in education and pupil care.

You do not need specialist skills or knowledge of the education system to be a governor – just an ability to listen, ask questions and be part of a team that helps to decide what's best for the school. Governors at Harrington Hill work with the Executive Headteacher, Head of School and the Senior Leadership Team to make sure that the school supports every child to achieve.

The role of the parent governor is exactly the same as that of the other governors but also to bring a parent's perspective and voice to discussions. You will not be expected to represent the specific views of other parents. There is training available and you will get plenty of support from your fellow members.

We have set out more information about the governing body and the requirements of the role on the attached Governor Information Sheet. Please read it carefully, as it's important you understand what we are looking for and the time commitment involved. You need to be able to contribute fully to the governing body's work and to attend meetings regularly and promptly.

If you would like to discuss the role in more detail, you can speak to me, Sophia Parkinson (Chair of Governors) at governors@harringtonhill.hackney.sch.uk

If we receive more than one nomination, we will need to hold an election by ballot during the week beginning w/c 12th October 2020

Sophia Parkinson

Chair of Governors and Returning Officer

Harrington Hill Governing Body
Parent Governor Self-Nomination Form
September 2020

I wish to nominate myself as a parent governor.

Name	
Address	
Tele/Mob	
Email:	
Name & Year of Child(ren)	

Statement
Looking at the skills and qualities on the Information Sheet, please tell us below what you would bring to the role? The governing body will use this statement to consider your suitability for the role, and it will be circulated to all parents if we have to hold an election.

Signed		Date	
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Please return this form to the School Office by:

9th of October 2020