



HALTON LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER 24

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It's been another incredibly busy week in school. Thank you to everybody who was able to come along for their child's Parents' Evening appointment and we hope you found the opportunity to look through your child's school work books very rewarding and useful.

Today the children in Year 3 are in Chester – learning about The Romans (in what looks like being an incredibly fun packed day)!

Throughout the school, the children have been focusing on developing their historical enquiry skills – and are looking forward to showcasing these to the other children (in the other classes) next week in a series of history exhibitions.



These will involve the children in Year 6 sharing their knowledge about World War Two – which will include the fascinating facts and knowledge that they acquired on their class trip to The Imperial War Museum, in Manchester, yesterday.

The children saw lots of real artefacts from World War 1, World War 2 and more recent conflicts. These included military uniforms, aircraft, shells and ration books. They also watched a short film on the War Effort At Home During The Second World War (which they really enjoyed as it included film clips from the time, as well as interviews with people who lived through the war). The children also spoke with war veterans – to find out about them and their lives – including somebody who was deployed in Cyprus during the war years and another who was in the US Marines for 24 years.

Although the children in Year 5 will begin their study of The Tudors next week, they will be showcasing what they have learnt about Medieval Britain earlier this term during the exhibition.



This will include timelines of British History up to this point in history, what they now know about the local area during the Middle Ages – based on what they have discovered about Norton Priory and Halton Castle – and the newspaper reports that they have written about The Battle of Hastings, what they have learnt from studying the Bayeux Tapestry and what they know about The Black Death. They have also become adept at evaluating the reality of different sources of evidence; and only using the most reliable to inform their knowledge of this key period of British History.



Yesterday the children were visited by a Viking Lady who told them all about what life was like for The Vikings!

She brought along a huge range of artefacts for the children to study and examine; and shared

with them lots of information. The children also learnt how to draw a sword, hold a shield and march during battles. They also made some clay models, played a Viking game (called Nine Man's Morris) and wrote their name using the runic alphabet. They even learnt how to manoeuvre a viking longboat – and how much hard work was needed to travel across the seas and oceans to explore the world at this time.

Obviously the children in Year 3 will be building up a bank of knowledge from their trip to the Dewa Centre in Chester, which will link to their lessons on The Romans next week, in preparation of sharing all of this in the exhibition next week.



In Year 2 the children have been focusing their history lessons on The Great Fire of London. In addition to learning various songs – including how to sing London's Burying as a round – they have become experts at finding out about what happened in the past, using pictures, diary extracts and maps. They have drawn tudor houses and have used these to create a collage of a fire scene – and have used Samuel Pepys diary entries to learn how to write a diary. They have so much that they can't wait to share.

In The Fawns the children have been learning about how transport has changed over time. They have studied boats, including The Titanic, old cars (and how these have changed over the years) and are moving on to studying trains and locomotives. They will be creating models of some of the vehicles that have most interested them next week; and will be sharing everything they have learnt with the other children in school.



In Year 1 the children have been examining 'How has the world changed since my grandparents were children?'. They have focused on communication, toys and transport and have developed lots of questions to ask their grandparents – to find the answers to the many questions they would like to know the answer to. They have been fascinated to learn about carrier pigeons, how telephones have changed since their invention and can't believe the difference in toys children played with 'back in the day'. They have produced some stunning work which we are sure will impress the children throughout the school.

Our Reception children are learning 'All About Me' – and looking back at how much they can remember about their lives to date. They can remember so much – and it has been wonderful to hear them share their stories (and memories). They will begin to develop a greater



understanding of the world as they go to visit the different exhibitions next week.

The exhibitions will be taking part on different days throughout the week (with children taking turns to explain what they have learnt in their history lessons this term). If successful, which we really hope this will be, we aim to invite parents to our next curriculum exhibitions – so you can find out more about what the children learn in school.

School Meals Update

Thank you to everybody who has responded to our request to 'gift' any unused free school meals to a family who currently has to pay.



Based on the number of agreements that we now have in place, we can confirm that we can reduce the cost of school meals, from the start of the Summer Term (Tuesday 19th April) to £1.50 per child. (This is a saving of £1 per meal).

School meals purchased this week and next week will still need to be charged at £2.50. However, the cost of school meals will be reduced from £12.50 each week to £7.50 each week next term. (If more families sign up to the agreement, we should be able to discount the cost of meals further – so, if you received a Studybugs message asking you to consider gifting a meal to another child, it is not too late to respond).



Inter-House Sporting Competitions

Following the conclusion of the most recent inter-house sporting competition – which involved the children taking part in a series of indoor athletics competitions (with the exception of the children in Reception who took part in a series of multiskill activities against each other instead) - the current standings for this term are:

Mersey - 33 points
Bridge - 32 points
Priory - 31 points
Castle - 24 points

It is still incredibly close – and this afternoon the children in Year 5 & Year 6 will compete against one another in a netball tournament. The points for the netball competitions, along with the results of next Friday's Year 1 & Year 2 throwing, catching and shooting challenges, will be added to these scores, to determine the winning house for this term.

Priory were leading the competition at the start of the Spring Term, so it will be very interesting to see which house takes the lead into the final term of competitions – and which house goes on to win this year's Inter-House Cup!

Free Easter Holiday Activity and Lunch at St Bert's Church, Windmill Hill, Runcorn



Are your children interested in learning acting skills, story making and creating props?

If any child in your family is in receipt of free school meals (or your children have special educational needs and are between 5 and 11 years of age) you can book your children into a free performing arts and creative arts club taking place over the Easter holidays at St Bert's Church, Windmill Hill, WA7 6QE.

With funding from Halton BC, St Bert's Church will be preparing a hot meal for lunch and 'Community Objectives' will provide a workshop involving the children working together to create a performance around the theme of food.

Throughout the 5 days the children will create props, write the script, story making and acting. The scheme will operate from 9:00am to 3:00pm on the following dates:

Monday 4th April
Wednesday 6th April
Thursday 7th April
Monday 11th April
Wednesday 13th April

Children will benefit most if they can attend all five sessions. They have spaces for 30 children so please book early to guarantee your child's place.

To obtain a place for your child please email warden-stbertschurch@outlook.com by Wednesday 30th March. On your email please provide your contact details including phone number, name and age of children and school attended. A member of our volunteer team will contact you to complete your booking and registration process.

If you have any difficulty with booking please ring the following number 07516 971528 and we will assist

On registration you will be asked to provide information that is required by their funders

We will also need to know when you register about allergy requirements or vegetarian requirements.

Miss Hunt's Easter Raffle



We will be making the draw on Monday – so the lucky winners have time to collect their prize before the school closes for Easter. Thank you to everybody who has helped raise money for World Vision and Miss Hunt's volunteering experience. Miss Hunt is extremely appreciative and humbled by the level of support and encouragement that she has received.