

Message from Mrs Horton

I hope all of our families had a good break over half term.

I know that staff valued the time to rest and re-charge!

New themes for the new half term have started and displays inside and outside of classrooms have been refreshed. In the hall and shared learning areas we can see the outcomes of the first half term's learning – and I have been very impressed with the quality on display.

All of the boards reflect how the children have demonstrated their learning in a creative way – Mayan masks; self-portraits in clay; monsters in Nursery and wonderful cave paintings in lower key stage 2.

There is a real sense of pride in the final outcomes – a big thank you and well done to everyone!

This week we had our first Reception Open Morning for September 2025! There was a good turnout of prospective parents and - after a brief presentation from me - they were taken on a tour of the school by our Ambassadors. Feedback from all of our visitors was glowing. They were impressed with the children's confidence in talking about their school and responding to questions.

Thank you Ambassadors – we are very proud of you 😊

Our Science Ambassadors have also been busy this week – leading experiments and assemblies with the support of our Science Lead – Miss Cottington.

In this newsletter you will see some of the wonderful work celebrating Black History Month, as well as some information about the upcoming Anti-Bullying Week next week.

Last, but not least – a huge thank you to our Friends of Hargrave Park, for a spectacular 'Spooky and Sparkly' Disco. As ever – we were amazed and impressed by the quality of the costumes. Thank you to parents and staff who supported such a successful event. The noise levels were extraordinary!! – and the children loved it.

Upcoming events

Week beginning 11th November: [Anti-Bullying week](#)

Mon 11 th	Maamulaha Football Competition
Tues 12 th	Odd Socks Day – celebrating difference
Wed 13 th	Violet Class Assembly
Thur 14 th	Sophie Izzard from Bright Futures in school

Week beginning 18th November

Mon 18 th	Winter cupcake sale
Wed 20 th	UKS2 Dance Workshop
Thur 21 st	Fire Fighters to visit Reception & KS1

Week beginning 25th November

Mon 25 th	KS1 Fire Safety Workshop
Tue 26 th	Lime Class to Clip 'n' Climb
Wed 27 th	Green Class Assembly
Wed 27 th	Orange Class to Clip 'n' Climb
Thur 28 th	Purple Class to Clip 'n' Climb

Week beginning 2nd December

Wed 4 th	Indigo Class Assembly
Thur 5 th	Sophie Izzard from Bright Futures in school
Fri 6 th	Nursery to Little Angel Theatre
Fri 6 th	Red and Green to Little Angel Theatre

Week beginning 9th December

Wed 11 th	Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner
Thur 12 th	KS2 to Hackney Empire – 5pm return
Fri 13 th	Pink and Blue to Little Angel Theatre

Week beginning 16th December

More Christmas events – see page 10

In the Newsletter today:

P1- Message from Mrs Horton, dates;
P2, 3 and 4 - Black History Month; P5 – Friends of Hargrave Park; P6 – Handwriting and presentation;
P7 – Book Recommendations; P8 - A message from Mr Bond; P9 – Working with families; P10 – Christmas events – dates for your diary

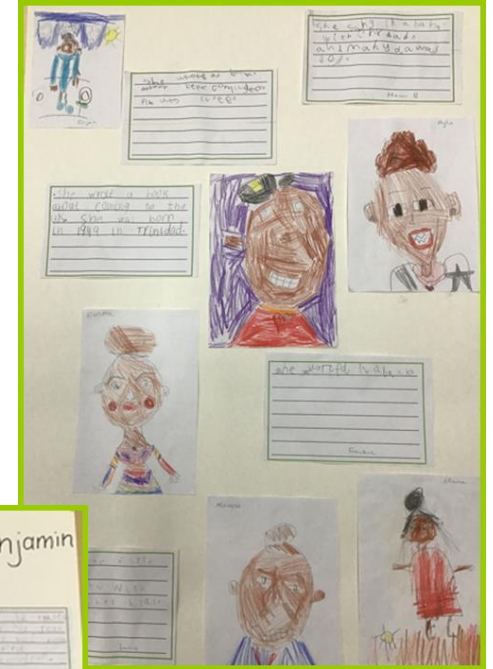
B:IM2024

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

Floella Benjamin's story

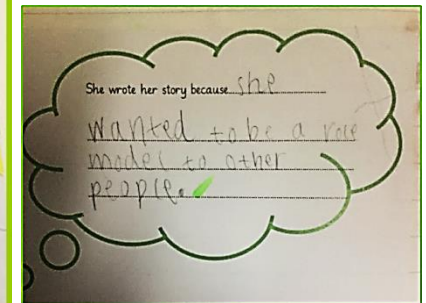
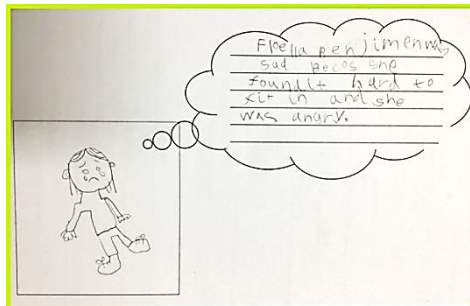
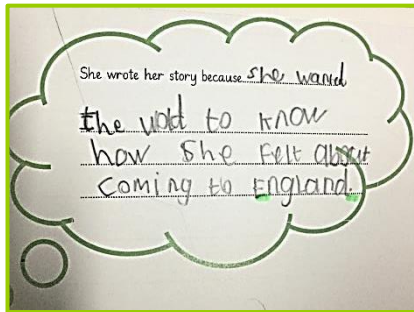


She is a singer presenter, politician and author who was born in Trinidad, but moved to England when she was 10 years old.



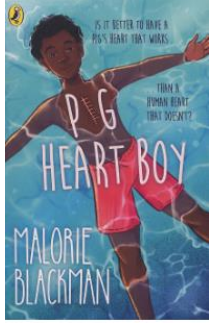
During Black History Month we explored the writing of presenter, activist and writer Floella Benjamin. We read three of her stories; Coming to England, My two Grandad and My Two Grannies. We love finding out about Floella's life and discussing how her experiences were similar and different to our own.

We found it interesting to listen to Floella speak about what inspired her to write her books.



B:M2024

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER



We explored the life of Malorie Blackman. We discovered that as a child, when reading books, she could never relate to a character as they did not reflect her! Malorie started to write her very own stories with characters and plots loosely based on her own life experiences. After 2 years and 82 rejection letters she finally found someone who would publish her work.

We discussed the movement of Black people into Europe and focused on the language we use to describe people from different African or Caribbean countries. For example, Malorie Blackman is from Barbados and therefore, she is Bajan or Barbadian. We learned about Malorie Blackman's family journey to England and asked insightful questions. Later, we explored Malorie's book 'Nought and Crosses' and discussed how racism and injustice made us feel.



"Books should be mirrors as well as windows"

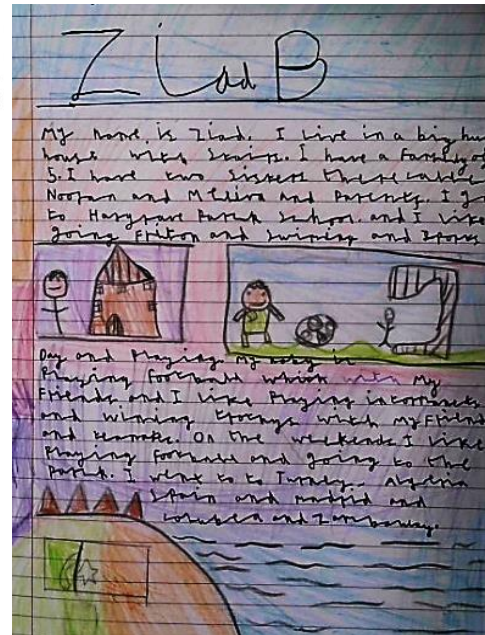


RECLAIMING NARRATIVES

Amara tells us of her life in America before arriving in the U.K. her love of dance and traditional food such as oxtail!



Frida tells us about having a mum and dad of two different races but how she loves that this has given her beautiful light brown skin and extremely dark hair which she is proud of!



BIM2024

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

FUN FACTS

He nicknamed Handsworth 'the Jamaican capital of Europe'. His father was a postman from Barbados and his mother was a nurse from Jamaica. Growing

Benjamin Zephaniah



This is one of Zephaniah's most famous poems, and is often taught in schools. It is a humorous and irreverent take on the traditional Christmas turkey, with Zephaniah using his wit and wordplay to criticize the consumerist culture of the holiday season.



He was a professor of poetry and creative writing before he died

Growing up, Benjamin struggled with dyslexia. He ended up leaving full time education at the age of 15 not being able to read or write. However, in spite of his dyslexia, he began performing poetry at age 11. His first performance

A biography by Cierdi, Ruzgar and Marcelo.



By Amalia

Some of Zephaniah's values show he is passionate about human rights, justice and equality including animal rights.

BIM 2024 RECLAIMING NARRATIVES

We read some of Benjamin Zephaniah's poems. Our favourites are 'Talking Turkeys', 'Who's who' and 'Body Talk'. We discussed Zephaniah's values and how these are linked to themes in his poems.

By learning about Benjamin Zephaniah, his beliefs and heritage, we were inspired to discuss and write about our own stories including where we are from.



I'm Eli. I have a annoying eight year old brother named Jack who he's taller than me and in two years older. I support Arsenal football club and my hobbies are sport and building stuff but my favourite are football, horse riding and climbing. My favourite subjects are PE, D.I and History. I like learning about ancient civilisations, for example the Greeks. I dont have a pet but I do want a horse, snake or dog. I do alot of clubs after school this is what they are: on Monday I do football training (West Ham), on Tuesdays I do football training (Pre Revet) or karate, on Wednesdays I do football training (LFS or London Football School), on Thursdays I do West Ham again, on Fridays sometimes I do matches for LFS. Finally, I do West Ham again and LFS matches on Saturdays. I think I'm English, an eighth Australian and an eighth Polish but I'm not sure. My parents are both doctors but I want to do something to do with sport when I'm older.



Anisa, myself is taller than the average height...atleast thats what people say.

I LOVE PLAYING WITH ELISA MY SLAY BESTIE!

I am from a south asian country called 'Bangladesh' but people don't know about but I respect it!

Yes, I am a muslim. Not only do I have one amazing brother, but I have two! They are so amazing which makes me frustrated.

Just because I wear a hijab dont mean im a terrorist!!

I support Arsenal!!

My super preppy majestic bestie is Elisa!! She is from Turkey (which I REALLY want to go to!) and she is turkish! (I have heard her speak in turkish!!)

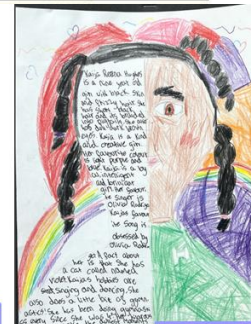
I AM 15 YEARS OLD



Iman



Zainab



Kaija



Ivan



Tristan

In literacy, we focussed on the Black History Month theme of 'Reclaiming Narratives'. We thought carefully about what this meant and why it was important to tell our own stories.

Our Parent and Staff Association

Friends of Hargrave Park School

Want to get in touch? Email us at: friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com



FRIENDS OF HARGRAVE PARK PRESENTS
HARGRAVE PARK SCHOOL'S
WINTER FAIR
Tuesday 17 December
3.30pm - 5.00 in the middle hall
Santa's Grotto ★ Raffle ★ Games
Class Stalls ★ Cupcakes ★ Tombola
Pre-loved Uniform Sale

Friends of Hargrave Park School is the school's parent staff association that aims to enhance the education of our children by fostering cooperation between parents and staff, and building a supportive community for all at Hargrave Park School. Join the committee or become a class rep by emailing the team on friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com

Calling all Star Bakers

Our Winter Cupcake Sale is on Monday 18 November from 3.30 on the playground.

Bake your best cupcakes, biscuits or pre-sliced traybake for your chance to be our 'Star Baker'.

Cupcakes can be dropped to reception in the morning or brought to the playground at 3.30.

No nuts please.



HARGRAVE PARK SCHOOL
WINTER CUPCAKE SALE
Monday 18 November 3.30pm
In the playground

Bake your best cupcakes, biscuits or pre-sliced traybake and be in with a chance to be crowned 'Star Baker' by judges Mrs Horton and Miss Baverstock

Deliver your bakes to the playground at 3.20pm, or drop them off to reception in the morning

Please label your cupcakes
Absolutely NO NUTS, thank you

Cupcakes £1 each

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BE PART OF THE WINTER FAIR TEAM

We need more parents and carers to join Flo, Maria and Tracey to help plan our Winter Fair. If you would like to be involved email friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com

If you own a local business or work for a company who would like to support the school consider donating a prize to the raffle and help us raise more for the children.



Upcoming Event Dates for your Diary

Monday 18 November
Winter Cupcake Sale

Tuesday 17 December
Winter Fair & Santa's Grotto

Monday 10 February
Valentine's Cupcake Sale

Thursday 17 July
Summer Fair

Coming up
★ Friends Quiz Night
★ School Lottery
★ Dare to be Different Day



Handwriting and Presentation @ HP

At Hargrave Park, we want children to be proud of their work as this feeling is linked with having confidence in themselves as independent, ambitious learners.

The language of letter formation!
Did you know we use set language to support letter formation? This week's letter is **I**.

I: Down.

i: Start at the top. Go straight down, and flick. Lift your pencil and put a dot at the top.

Practice at home!

The school uses the Nelson Handwriting scheme from Oxford Owl. Take a look at the videos below for tips on practice at home and fine motor warm-up exercises. Encourage children to verbalise what they are doing to understand their thought processes as they write.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/oxford-owl-videos/handwriting-videos--1/>

Positive Presentation!



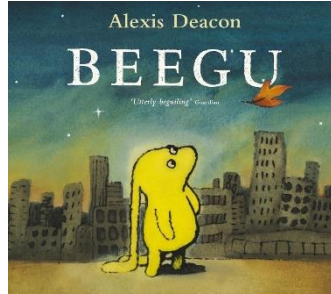
Liban in Year 3 created a whole scene for our new theme of Extreme Survival in LKS2. The closer you look, the more detail you see – with creative use of resources and a carefully considered design.

Amalia, Year 6, has written a thought-provoking poem on family and togetherness. Aside from her neat, joined writing, her ideas are full of imagery!

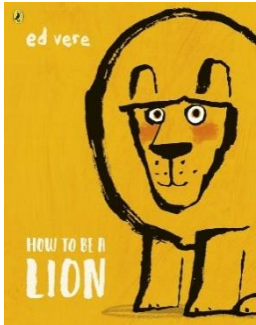
Family:
No relative stands alone,
Like a tree in a forest,
Like a rain-drop in the rain,
Like a cloud as it moves,
Not one gets left behind,
Not one gets ahead,
When one rains so do the others,
Because they support each other.

If a leaf falls off a tree, so do the others,
The move together, as a pack, as a pride, as a flock,
There all puzzle pieces to the same puzzle,
Because once they're together they connected.

Books that support our core values at Hargrave Park:
Independence, Respect, Kindness, Ambition, Resilience
These books can be found in the school library

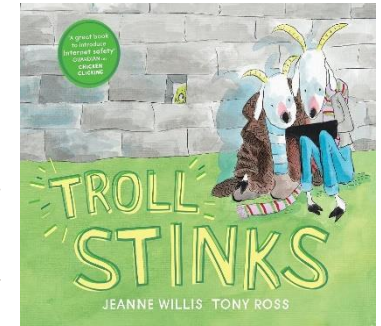


A small creature from outer space lands on Earth accidentally. She finds the Earth creatures unfeeling and unfriendly, until she finds a box of unwanted puppies.
Recommended for KS1

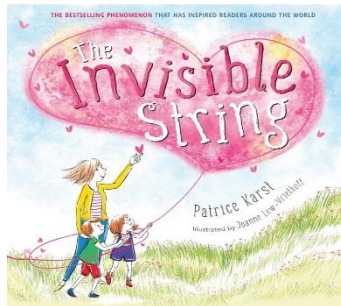


You don't have to ROAR to be heard...
Meet Leonard - a lion like no other

Billy Goat and his best friend Cyril are messing about with the farmer's mobile phone, taking selfies and playing games... until they discover the number for a troll.
Recommended for LKS2



A mother tells her two children that they're all connected by an invisible string.

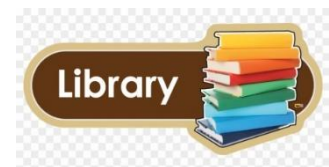


It sensitively explores what it's like to live with a stammer and will help readers to develop empathy and understanding.
Recommended for UKS2

Recommended for EYFS and Year 1



Don't forget to return your borrowed books to the library so others can enjoy them.
Thank you



Anti-Bullying Week 2024

MONDAY 11TH TO FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER



Anti-Bullying Week 2024 is happening from Monday 11th to Friday 15th November and has the theme “Choose Respect”. It is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, which is based at leading children’s charity the National Children’s Bureau.

Across the week, classes will engage in different activities to explore the relevant themes, and their work will be displayed around the school by our Pastoral Care Team and School councillors.

Please see link below which is a resource put together by the Anti-Bullying Alliance for parents and carers, as a tool to support conversations with children about bullying.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/ABW%20Parents%20Pack%202024.pdf>



Tuesday 12th November
during Anti-Bullying Week 2024



Next Tuesday, staff and children will have the opportunity to wear odd socks for the day to celebrate Anti-Bullying week and help represent that we are all unique. It is an opportunity to spread awareness of the core values that Anti-Bullying week promotes.



Next Thursday (14/11/24), our Bright Futures Link Worker, Sophie Izzard, will be onsite from 9-12PM. If you would like a drop in consultation with her, please email to request this and Mr Bond will be in touch.



Over the last two years, the staff team here at Hargrave Park have been working towards the 'Inclusion Quality Mark'.

<https://iqmaward.com/>



The process has supported us to enhance our inclusive provision, developing best practice for all.

The assessor will visit on Friday 22nd November .

She will meet with a group of parents at 2:50pm.

Please email parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk and mark it for the attention of Miss Baverstock if you are interested in joining that meeting.

If you wish to discuss anything or raise any concerns, we are happy to listen and take action. You can:

- send the teacher a message on Tapestry or Seesaw
- speak to a member of staff in the playground in the morning or afternoon
- speak to the teacher at home time
- email parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk

If you would like to raise a concern at the end of the day, please talk to a member of the leadership team on the playground or wait for the teacher to dismiss all children safely.

If you have a concern about the behaviour of a child who is not your own, please speak to a member of staff about it. Do not approach other parents or other people's children directly.

Ex HP pupil running for the Islington Youth Council Election!

We are very proud of our ex-pupil Thomas Brown who is a candidate in the Islington Youth Council Election this month.

He says 'I will be campaigning for better sports facilities for young people. I also want to make the area feel safer to live in. I will support your ideas and be a real voice for the young people in Islington.'

Voting is open 12th – 21st November

You can vote by text – send 'VOTE THOMAS' to 62277

More info here: [Islington Youth Council](#)

After school club booking arrangements

If you register your child for After School Club, you will be charged even if your child doesn't attend. This is because the school ensures appropriate staffing based on places booked. If you have booked a place, it has been staffed accordingly and therefore must be paid for, whether used or not.

If you wish to remove your child from the register, you must inform us by email.

Christmas is coming... Here are some key dates for your diary...

Friday 6th December – Theatre visits – Nursery, Red and Green

Morning show - Nursery to Little Angel Theatre to see 'Rosie Robin and the Christmas Post'

<https://www.littleangeltheatre.com/whats-on/rosie-robin-and-the-christmas-post/>

Afternoon show – Red Class and Green Class to Little Angel Theatre to see 'The Singing Mermaid'

<https://www.littleangeltheatre.com/whats-on/the-singing-mermaid/>

Wednesday 11th December – Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 12th December – KS2 to Hackney Empire for the Pantomime.

This year it's Dick Whittington and his Cat! The children will return to school at approximately 5pm.

<https://www.hackneyempire.co.uk/events/dick-whittington-and-his-cat>

Friday 13th December – Theatre visits – Pink and Blue

Pink and Blue Classes to Little Angel Theatre to see 'Rosie Robin and the Christmas Post'

<https://www.littleangeltheatre.com/whats-on/rosie-robin-and-the-christmas-post/>

Monday 16th December – 3pm – Nursery families invited to a Nursery Christmas sing-along

Tuesday 17th December – Winter Fair 3:30 – 5pm

Wednesday 18th December – Reception to year 6 cinema visit

'Moana 2' at Holloway Odeon as voted for by our outgoing school council members and house captains.

[Moana trailer on YouTube](#)

Wednesday 18th December – 3pm – Under 3s families invited to Under 3s Christmas sing-along

Thursday 19th December – Winter shows – parents invited:

9:15am – Pink and Blue Class

1:30pm – Green and Red Class

2:15pm – Lower KS2

3pm – Upper KS2

Friday 20th December – last day of term – 2pm finish