



HANDSWORTH NEWS

**BRANCHING OUT, GROWING TALL
HAND IN HAND, ONE AND ALL**



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had an enjoyable half term break, it was lovely to see the children back at school on Monday. On Tuesday morning, we were treated to a wonderful Year 4 assembly where children celebrated their learning with parents. What wonderful singers we have in Year 4! Year 6 had their Greek WOW day on Wednesday, they took part in various activities, the salads they made were delicious!

As I mentioned in the newsletter a few weeks ago, staff and children have been reflecting on the feedback and marking that takes place at Handsworth. Our children are at the centre of everything we do here and they have been involved in the process. We believed there was a better way; a more effective way; that utilises our time and energy to have a greater impact on our children. As a result of our research, background reading and professional collaboration we have made changes to ensure that the children receive consistent, useful feedback which addresses the questions: "Where am I now in my learning?" and "Where next?" We came to the conclusion that in most situations, instant verbal feedback is the most effective as this addresses misconceptions straight away, allows children to learn from mistakes and creates a culture where we can challenge and improve in a supportive, safe environment. As a result of this our philosophy on feedback can be distilled to this: when a teacher thinks written feedback is the best form of feedback, they'll use it. When they don't, they won't.

I am looking forward to seeing you at parents evenings on the 12th and 13th November, we will be serving complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits in the foyer, so please do come and have a chat with myself, Miss Addai and some of the governors. You will have an opportunity to give us feedback and discuss how we can continue to improve.

Good luck to the cross country runners who will be running tomorrow morning, I will be there to cheer you on. Don't worry, we will be taking iPads so the children will still be able to watch the rugby!

I wish you all a lovely weekend,

Mrs Nairne



"Our assembly was so much fun because we got to sing lots of different songs which were not just Roman songs. It was good to learn a lot of new facts and knowledge about the Romans and this is what we shared with our audience. When I was doing the assembly I felt a bit nervous because there were lots of people there but afterwards I felt happy and proud. They seemed to really enjoy it. During our Roman WOW day we took part in food tasting, made mosaics, learnt about numerals and completed crosswords. We shared these projects in our assembly.

Our parents, teachers, Mrs Nairne and Miss Addai said it was great and they were so proud of us. Some of our parents cried with pride and happiness! We put a lot of work into this and we think it showed. Thank you to our amazing teachers who helped us to put this together!

Next week we are going to the Verulamium museum."

From Meera, Aiza and Tekin





Year 6 wow day!

