

8<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Dear Parent/Carer and Learners

**W**elcome back. I hope you enjoyed the half term break. We look forward to the forthcoming weeks leading up to the festive period. With the dark evenings now upon us please remind your son/daughter to return home quickly after school and to keep you informed if they are going to be taking part in any after school activity.

#### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

##### **Medical appointments**

As stated on page 8 of your son's/daughter's planner, we request that parents/carers adhere to our request to make GP and dental appointments outside of school hours. Should this not be possible, we ask that you or a responsible adult collect your son/daughter from school. Kindly advise the school in writing of any appointment made in order that unauthorised absences are not incurred. Learners must not leave site without authorisation and must be issued with an 'Exit slip' from Welfare prior to leaving.

##### **School Planner**

Please ensure that you check and sign your son's/daughter's planner each week. Thank you.

##### **Essential works in school**

Next week contractors start essential gas maintenance which will mean some disruption to the school. From Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November all learners are requested to enter and leave the school grounds via the Sports Hall entrance. No one can gain access to the school or sixth form building via the Sheepcote Road side of the school. Please check our website for updates.

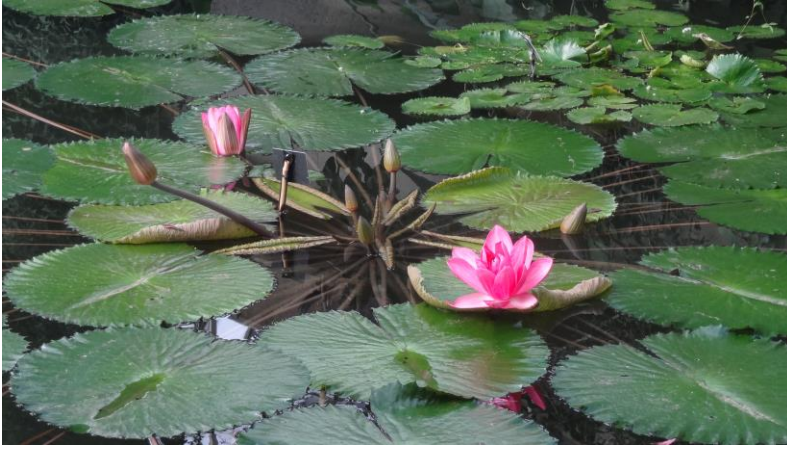
##### **BRITISH MUSEUM YR 10 TRIP**

On 24<sup>th</sup> October Yr 10 visited the British Museum with Ms Abnousian and had a wonderful time.

*"It was very nice and the 'Mummy' section was interesting. Because you want to know how they are made."*

*"Thank you and I hope you can organise another trip."*

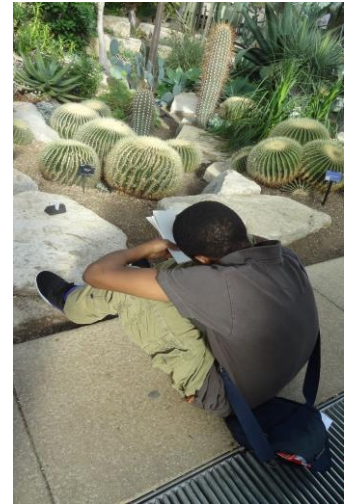
## KEW GARDENS YEAR 10 TRIP



On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 22 Year 10 learners, along with Mr Benjamin and Ms. Chohan, visited the Royal Botanical Gardens in London, better known as Kew Gardens.

**Kew Gardens** is home to glasshouses, aquariums, a lake and fantastic displays of flora and fauna from around the world.

There are two galleries which display art which have been inspired by nature. **The Shirley Sherwood Gallery of Botanical Art** is the only gallery in the world dedicated to botanical art. **The Marianne North Gallery** houses the work produced by the 19th century artist of the same name and is an interesting and inspirational place to visit.



The learners were particularly impressed with the Minka House near the Bamboo Gardens. This is a traditional 18<sup>th</sup> century Japanese rural dwelling made from natural materials used in some Japanese districts today. We spent time in the beautiful Palm House drawing, taking photographs and enjoying the beautiful plants and trees as well as the aquarium and the glasshouse marine display.



The learners, whose behaviour was exemplary, were a credit to themselves and the school. Staff at Kew Gardens commented "Harrow High School were one of the best behaved school parties we have had".

## REMEMBRANCE DAY – SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

All staff and Learners participated in the Remembrance Day Service held in the school Foyer on Friday morning 8<sup>th</sup> November by holding a 1 minute silence. More details next week.

## SPORTING FIXTURES

### Year 10 Girls' Football Tournament



A big well done to all the girls who did the school proud on Tuesday night participating in the U15 Girls' 6 a-side football tournament. It was a bitterly cold evening but the girls all soldiered on with some exceptional performances almost preventing a strong Hatch End team from reaching the final. We hope to put out another strong squad for the next event.

## HONESTY AND KINDNESS

A big thank you to Wael Al-Gafagi who handed in a 'Guess' bag which had been dropped just outside the school gates on Monday afternoon 4<sup>th</sup> November.

## KS3 EAL EVENING THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER – 6 – 7.30pm

We look forward to meeting invited parents/carers to a meeting which will take place at Harrow High School, in the 'Village', room V4, on **14<sup>th</sup> November, 2013**. (please see letter sent by Ms Holyszko). The meeting will start at 6.00pm and finish at about 7.30pm. Tea and coffee will be served.



## DEAR - (DROP EVERYTHING AND READ)

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November was the commencement of a whole school programme to develop a community of reading which involves all Learners and Staff. The programme is called **Drop Everything And Read** and involves Learners together with staff, stopping to read a book for 15 minutes every day. 'DEAR' is an established recognised literacy strategy which encourages independent reading. 'DEAR' has been introduced at Harrow High School to enhance Learners' literacy skills in all subjects and is in addition to the regular timetabled English lessons and visits to the school library. We would like your support with this to ensure your son/daughter comes to school with a book to read and has a daily diet of reading at home.



## AUTHOR VISIT TO SCHOOL

We were delighted to welcome author Matt Dickinson to school on Thursday who gave a talk to Year 7 Learners. Matt Dickinson has climbed Mount Everest and filmed in Antarctica and Malawi. His presentation was enjoyed by all who attended and we hope will encourage budding authors of Harrow High School.

A black poster with a pink banner at the top that says "Festival of Lights". Below the banner is a horizontal line of orange dots. The text on the poster reads: "Diwali, Hanukkah and Tazaundaing are festivals of lights and signify the triumph of good over bad. They also represent the fact that the nights are drawing in." followed by "To celebrate these religious festivals we'll be serving fantastically good cultural foods 11th to 15th November to brighten up your taste buds!". A list of food items follows: "Chicken Curry", "Vegetable Biryani", "Vegetable Samosa", "Singapore Noodles", and "Indian Rice Pudding". At the bottom is an image of a hand holding a lit Diya (oil lamp) with rays of light emanating from it. The Harrison logo "HARRISON food with thought" is in the bottom right corner.

**Festival of Lights**

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To celebrate these religious festivals we'll be serving fantastically good cultural foods 11th to 15th November to brighten up your taste buds!

**Chicken Curry**  
**Vegetable Biryani**  
**Vegetable Samosa**  
**Singapore Noodles**  
**Indian Rice Pudding**

**HARRISON**  
food with thought

**Telephone system**

Our apologies for the phone system being out of order briefly on Thursday evening. The upgrade was successful and the system is operational. Please remember to keep us informed of any changes to your mobile or landline numbers so we can keep in touch with you.

Best wishes



Paul Gamble  
Headteacher