

The Harbinger Chronicles

July 2023

Volume 2, Edition 6

Your Voice Matters!



www.harbinger.org.uk

Learning · Well-Being · Togetherness

The Harbinger Primary School newspaper is written by the children, for the school community; our newspaper is published every half term.

Well-Being

Faculty: Harbinger Says Goodbye

by Nicole

As some of you know, many members of the Harbinger community have announced that they are leaving the school.

For example Neil, the teacher of Jet class, is leaving to go and teach in Thailand. Emily, the teacher of Jade class and assistant headteacher, is moving to Leicester to teach other children. Luke who teaches Ruby class, is moving to Kent. Vera, a midday lunch supervisor, is moving to Luxembourg.

Thankfully, Megan, year 5/6 teacher, isn't going to another country. She's going to have a baby! How exciting!

Some people are sad about this change and feel worried... BUT.... It's fine! You should speak to an adult!

additional **Goodbye** coverage, p. 5



Learning

Year 6 Get SATS Results

By Madeeha

On the 12th of July 2023 Yr 6 received their SATS results. Some people were happy with their results; others not so much.

Fiona reminded us that it's just a score and it does not define you. She also advised us not to tell other people your score because it could make them self-conscious.

Editorial



Before the Easter holidays, 80% of school parents voted in favor of a school uniform.

Fans of uniforms believe they promote school spirit and prevent bullying. They also believe uniforms ensure children are always wearing appropriate clothes for school.

Opponents of uniforms believe that they stifle expression and creativity. Uniforms can also be expensive. Others believe that a focus on uniforms takes attention away from finding genuine solutions to a school's problems.

Question of the Issue:

What is your opinion on wearing a school uniform?

Asiya:

I am really excited to wear school uniform as I think that it makes us look smarter, and it represents our school well! We would look very good in uniform. In my opinion, wearing our own clothes can be a bad thing as some people cannot afford expensive clothes so this will be an opportunity for others to make fun of that person. If we wear uniform we will all be the same in clothes, but we will still all be very different as it's our personality not our clothes!

Joud:

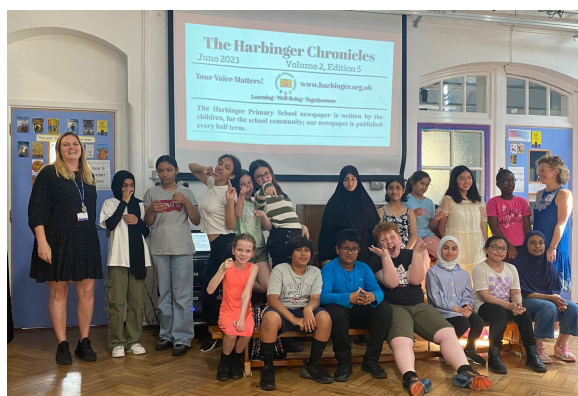
I'm excited for school uniform. I won't need to use a lot of my time to find and pick clothing. In addition, I'm used to wearing uniform so I'm not bummed out about it



Harbinger Chronicles' staff wishes you all a restful and happy summer. See you all back at school on 5 September

Madeeha:

I don't think we should have uniforms because not having them makes our school unique and makes people stand out. Also, if everyone wore uniforms, you wouldn't be able to tell the difference between people.



Mia:

I don't think we should wear uniforms. Because of cost of living, it could be a lot of money for some families. I also like how we are a different school which I like. Pretty much every other school wear them. The school uniforms could also be uncomfortable. Some girls do not like to wear dresses and it may discourage them from coming to school because it could be uncomfortable and weird for them.

Shakiba:

I think we should not wear school uniforms despite the disagreements and controversy as, it truly shows our form of style in fashion and design. And whilst, it's helpful to wear the same thing every day, as Mia explained it costs additional amounts of money to purchase a uniform, as many are sinking in the cost of living crisis in the UK.

Eadie:

I think that wearing a school uniform, although it might make you look smarter and feel prouder (because you're showing you attend school), takes away from the uniqueness of you choosing your own clothes and doing your hair. It's a part of everyone's morning routine to make those choices for ourselves and decide what we feel like wearing. It's important to express yourself and show your creativity. I believe that uniforms prevent that.

How do Year 5 feel About Moving to Year 6 ?

by Humaira and Mia

I feel kind of nervous and excited. I feel nervous because when I'm in year 6 I am going to be in the oldest year group in the whole school but at least I am going to be with my friends.

I am excited about year 6 because FUNDRAISING! I have been looking forward to fundraising since year 3.

I am also excited about sitting on the bench during assembly, being in Newspaper club, the leavers show and of course Chessington and Waterstones.

To the year 4's who will be year 5 in September: You are going to love it.

-Humaira

I feel sad because I feel like I am getting old but I am going to have so much fun and love it. When you go in to year 6 you will adore it so I hope I have a lot of fun!

-Mia



Year 5s special 'Pollution Solution' Workshop

Farewell to Harbinger From a Harbinger Lifer

by Aimée

This is probably my last *Harbinger Chronicles* article ever (insert tears) and it has been a lovely experience that I will never forget.

I will miss having to remind my dad to come at 4:30 on Fridays to collect me and I will miss telling Jay-J off for playing on the Chromebook.

Currently, Fiona is telling me off for still writing this article, so I don't have much time. Don't get me wrong I am very excited for this new chapter of my life, but I will miss Harbinger dearly and will cry bucket loads on the last day.

Farewell Harbinger, I'll miss you.

P.S. Wow I might need to regulate my emotions, this is getting a bit emotional. (If you have our leavers show script you'll know)



Bespoke Comics Anyone?

by Joud

Recently, a group of children (including me), have been making funny comics - which people enjoy a lot.

Now, almost everyone in my class is always saying "can I be in a comic?"

In my opinion, I find it really annoying, meaning that you should not request "can I be in a comic" (I know, you will probably ask me about it now).

It's really fun for me to make a comic because I enjoy brainstorming ideas! In addition, I love making it with friends – the reason for this is that it makes it more exciting and amazing.

Do you like making comics? You should try, It's nice!



Best Rides. Hint: Not the Coach

by Aamina

After a long, sickening coach ride, the year 6's finally arrived in Chessington.

Everybody was split into groups with their friends to go explore and go on rides.

There was a store where you could buy drinks, key chains, and teddies.

Many people's favourite rides were Cobra, Tiger's Rock and Vampire.

Cobra swung in fast circles and went left to right rapidly. Tiger's rock was a boat ride with no buckle, so it feels like you are going to fall off, but don't worry, nobody did. There was a drop near the beginning of the ride that started off bumpy, but at the end there was a massive drop that sprays water on you.

Vampire was one of the scariest rides at Chessington because it flew super-fast and even goes upside down

The Experience and the Aftermath

by Aimée and Eadie

On the 23rd of June, Year 6 got on a large coach where they heard Sharian and Jay-Junior making loads of weird noises.

Finally, they arrived at Chessington and felt happy. After a quick run through security, they were in the park!

They broke into their groups (after taking hundreds of pictures) and finally set off on the scream worthy rides in Chessington. Fortunately, the adults had them on a leash (not literally) and stopped them from making (excuse my language) dumb decisions.

Many favorites were the Cobra, Dragons' Fury, the swings, and bumper cars.

The Full Experience

by Shakiba

Chessington is a theme park outside of London and has many spectacular rides. Chessington world of adventures also has a sea life resort and a zoo.

Year 6's were allowed to bring up to £15 of money to buy souvenirs, ice cream or candy or any thing and were informed they'd be leaving in a coach at 8.30 am and be arriving home at 6.30pm.

Children were allowed to bring playing cards, a fidget, books, paper, pencils, and other things to entertain themselves on the coach ride.

One child asked if play dough was allowed on the coach and another asked aka (me) if clay would be allowed. Fiona said, "I don't think the coach driver would be very happy if I agreed to that."

Students were to write their height and what friends, rides, or places they wanted to go to. Only one ride required you to be over 1.4.

On the day of Chessington the year 6's began their journey to the theme park at 8:30 am. They went into their groups, and started their exciting day of adventures, get it.

The rest of the day was fun, and we went on many rides and some Year 6's including me bought snacks or drinks though we were encouraged to bring our own meals and snacks, as the cost of snacks in Chessington is expensive.



The Vampire ride at Chessington

Harbinger Says Goodbye

by Aleena, Suhana and Mariya

As many people may know, Neil, Emily, Vera, Meagan and Luke are sadly leaving Harbinger once school ends.

Emily has been working at Harbinger for nine years and is the teacher of Jade class and is sadly moving to Leicester because most of her family is in Leicester and who wouldn't want to be able to see their family at least every week?

Vera is a lovely TA and has been working in Harbinger for a few years or so, but sadly is going to leave Harbinger so lets make the best out of it.

Luke is the teacher of Ruby class. He is sadly leaving because he has to move to Bromley in Kent, but as we all know he was a lovely teacher and we will remember him fondly.

Meagan is the teacher of Opal class and is going on maternity leave as she is having a baby soon and we wish her all the best with her baby and motherhood and we will hope to see her again soon.

Experience, cont'd from p. 4

Although many kids were looking forward to the vampire ride, the victims of the roller-coaster said the 1 hour and 30 minutes of waiting was NOT worth it. After 6 hours of screaming, sweets, vomit and tears, our trip came to an end, and we arrived back at school one coach ride later.

EXTRA!

You'd think that the story would end but um no. After most kids had left the strict security of the Harbinger Staff, many kids who go home alone and one kid (me, Aimee) who needs a helmet to go home were unable to get their keys and phones as the office was closed.

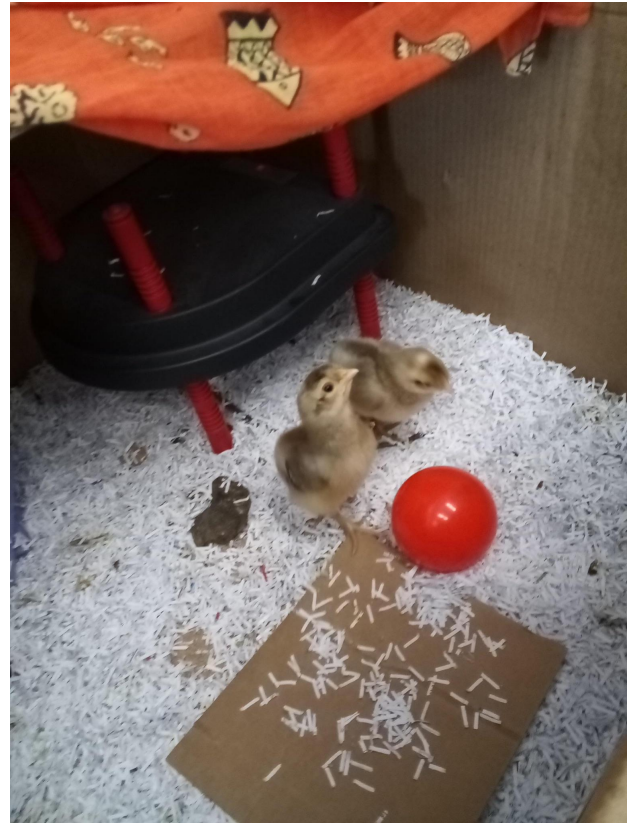
Calls were made by Nimesha to George, our school premises manager and pretty much the glue of the school, but he was all the way home and was unable to come to school.

One kid bawled their eyes out at the thought of not having their phone for three days (which is a HUGE pain for pre-teens) and two kids including me got a ride by Fiona and Jubeda, you know because we're so cool.

Anyways, I won't say the kid's name because I wouldn't want to embarrass him (I would but I'd get in trouble...) so let's call him Steve.

Ruby's Eggs Hatch

by Hana R



What are the chicks?

So, you know that Ruby class have eggs but, not eggs you make with your toast, the ones where they grow and turn into chickens. This chicken breed is called crested cream legbar. The Cream Legbar breed is a British chicken breed virtually a hundred years old. They are known as hardy, great characters, very friendly and active foragers and frugal eaters.

Chicks

So, the chicks have hatched. There are only two a week after the eggs have been there. Only two eggs were said to have chicks inside.

When Nimesha offered to drive Steve home as he didn't have his keys or phone so he cried, so Fiona drove Steve around like a free Uber until they arrived at Steve's just to find out that Steve's mother wasn't there.

And Fiona phone was running out of battery. But that's a story for another day...

Parent and child were reunited - all's well that ends well!



Year 6 Takes Over

W

Waterstones

by Fateha

Last week, year 6 went to Waterstones to get their graduation gifts and if you are wondering what Waterstones is: here are answers from year 6!

Ahmed: Waterstones is a trip that year 6 go on to buy a book for their graduation ceremony and a picnic at Greenwich Park

Vicki: Waterstones is a bookshop where the year six go for their gift and they can pick any book by side out of their age range

Gaia: It is an amazing book shop with a large variety of books; romance, thriller, manga/mahwa, adventure etc. You get to choose out a book and can play in a nearby park while waiting for others to finish choosing their books

Eadie: Waterstones is a large bookstore with a variety of terrific books from romance to baby books. Upstairs there is a café where you can enjoy tea while you read.

Shakiba: Waterstones is a shop where they sell books and have other types of merchandise related to book characters from various books.

Mahdi: Waterstones is an exciting and enjoyable place. It is a vivid experience I will remember.

Year 6 Achieves: Fundraising for Chessington

by Aamina, Anas, Oskar

Two weeks ago, year six arrived at Chessington to celebrate the end of SATs. They fundraised to earn enough money to pay for the coach and their tickets for Chessington. With all their hard work, they raised a grand total of £2,100, more than enough for the trip. The goal was £1650.

If you are in year 5 you will get to go Chessington next year only if you raise enough money, we enjoyed it more because of the arduous work we did!

Year 6 Performs

by Yusraa

The stress was REAL. Prior to their final performance of the Leaver's Show, year 6 performed it for the entire school in a dress rehearsal and they did well.

They worked hard on their props and transitions; however the question remained: would they be able to perfect their acting to impress the toughest crowd – their parents.

They also had their graduation ceremony after the show where they received a certificate and the book they chose from Waterstones

Year 6 Goes to **CapitalOne**

by Aimée

On June the 13th, Year 6 Amber went on a trip to Capital One (a bank that specializes in credit card information) and they – well we – *HAD THE BEST TIME.*

We had a tour of the bank and they let us go on the roof where we saw across London, or at least most of it.



We also had a robot building competition. Broken into groups of five, with only recycled materials brought from home our robot had to benefit the workers. The prizes were exciting to everyone- 3rd and 2nd were a box of Hero chocolates and 1st was a £10 amazon gift card!

At third place, me (Aimée) Eadie, Gaia, Layla and Poppy won with our Jack the Helper robot, Abrar's group won second place with a credit helper robot.

Finally, last but not least, Hana R's group won first place with a positive affirmation robot that specializes in mental health and brightening workers days.

Sports

*Together*ness

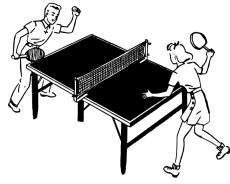


Table Tennis Assembly Attracts World Champion

by Yusuf

Today has been a big day for Harbinger as they met Will Bayley, yes Will Bayley, the British professional Paralympic table tennis player, ranked world number 1. He was the 2016 Summer Paralympics Games gold medallist and the 2014 World Champion.

He visited to show and tell us about his passion for Table Tennis. As part of the assembly, he played against Tim, a person who used to go to Harbinger Primary School, beating Tim 11-7.

Tim is not just any former Harbinger student. He is a table tennis coach and teacher for the Birmingham Table Tennis Club and he taught Will's kids for about five years.

Will also played Harbinger students Terrell, Aimee, Teja and Maheeba, as well as Year 2 teacher Tom. Teja even won a medal.

Will brought his gold and silver medals to school and some students got to wear them. Will has a condition causes curvatures in both his hands and his feet.



Learning

Turquoise class swimming

by Charlie

Last term Turquoise class did swimming and they all did amazing.

In the shallow end they were learning how to kick while swimming and they all managed to do it.

In the middle of the pool, they were learning how to do the stuff the best swimmers do, and they supported each other amazingly.

The best swimmers had to do what pro swimmers do. Also, they had to swim like a dolphin. At first, they struggled a bit but eventually they figured it out.

At last, they completed their tests and they all tried their best. For the test, they had to do front crawl, back crawl, dolphin, lifesaving, front crawl, and could not touch the floor.

Discussion:

Year 6 Critiques the Leavers' Show

By Aimée and Gaia

Aimée: Leavers Show, how should we start describing the AMAZING time we had?

Gaia: I don't know. Maybe we should start talking about the iconic duo Sharian and Ijaz playing Nimesha and Fiona?

Aimée: No, I think that we should start with the first scene *in* the leavers show; The sports scene.

Gaia: OH YEAAAA, I remember that one. Apparently, you spotted something at the bottom of the pool?

Aimée: I was pretty sure it was a piece of dirt, the swimming pool wasn't the cleanest to be honest. What about when Imad slide tackled Jay-j?

Gaia: We don't slide tackle that much...

Aimée: I wouldn't know, imagine playing football in 2023, like imagine

Gaia: Oh shush. Do you want me to mention the dance that Saira described as 'Simply Perfect'?

Aimée: YOU. DON'T. EVEN. DARE!

Gaia: Don't worry, I was part of the dance too, unfortunately. I said I would be part of the dance if you became a narrator with me. Guess who became a narrator and who didn't? YOU GOT THE JOB AND NOT ME!

Aimée: Wait, what?

Gaia: Oh well... The Hautbois scene was great too. When Nahida ran on stage wearing all green and quickly scampering off really reminded the school about the thing in the attic.

Aimée: Oh, and when we mentioned all nighters, I immediately thought about the noise that you guys were making in your room at, like, 3 AM.

Gaia: Vicki was yelling at Seher and Nahida to shush and go to bed. She started threatening to hit them with her slippers!

Aimée: Back to the leavers show, ok?

Gaia: Right, Leavers show. The EYU group were good too!

Aimée: You played a very good Layla

Gaia: You played a good Zaiton, but your impression was nowhere as good as mine.

Aimée: Hey!

Gaia: Next scene, Fundraising

Aimée: When Madeeha was acting out cutting her finger, it wasn't exactly accurate. She was more; head lying on the table, arms covering her face, finger leaking bright red liquid causing it to pool around her, Veins-

Gaia: TOO MUCH INFO! You know there might be year 1 / 2 reading this, Aimée!

Aimée: Oh yea...

Fabulous Fish Rule

Turquoise Class

by Susan

Goldfish fans, this is dedicated to you! Why are we talking about this? Find out! Last year in September of 2022 Jeanette Myers brought in three goldfish. Their names were:

- Tico
- Turquoise
- Bubbles

In addition, each day Jennette lets other children feed the fish. In conclusion, to know more about the fish ask Sultana or Jeanette.



Learning

Tower Hamlets Creative Writing Competition: Best in School

by Eadie

I (Eadie) attended a VERY important... WRITING COMPETITION AWARDS CEREMONY, the Tower Hamlets Library Services Writing Competition! The theme for our writing was 'A Brighter Future.' The ceremony was held at the newly renovated Tower Hamlets Town Hall, Whitechapel and I was one of the prizewinners.

There were 100's of children there to collect awards. Me, my mom, my dad AND Fiona came to watch anxiously to see what place I came in, I came in second for year 5 poetry and 'best in school' which I'm happy about!

As they called my name, I ran down the weirdly long stairs and I was given my certificate and an Amazon gift-card.

A Brighter Future

When I was little my parents told me
That dreams really don't come true
Especially for children like me
I lived by that for 16 sad years
Hoping that was not true
Hoping children now do not live by that
Hoping their dreams do not have to be crushed
Hoping for a brighter future.

When I was little, I wanted to go to space
When I was little, I believed in fairies
When in was little, I read about pirates
When I was little, I wanted a bright future

Now I work in a school as a 1st grade teacher
It makes me sad when I see such happy children
That is all I have ever wanted
Will these kids have a bright future?

When I was little a brighter future was all anyone
ever talked about
But what is a brighter future?
Does it mean getting off this dreadful planet?

Tymon: Harbinger Says Goodbye

Special event in school to celebrate the life of Tymon,
Monday 26th June



Does it mean shooting up into space?
Or does it mean getting a job?
I do not know.

When I was little, I wanted to go to space
When I was little, I believed in fairies
When in was little, I read about pirates
When I was little, I never understood that was a brighter
future.

When I was little this is not how I pictured my life to turn
out
When I was little a brighter future was all anyone ever
talked about
But what is a brighter future?
I still do not know...

Jubeda Takes a Hike....Up Mount Ben Nevis

By Aayan

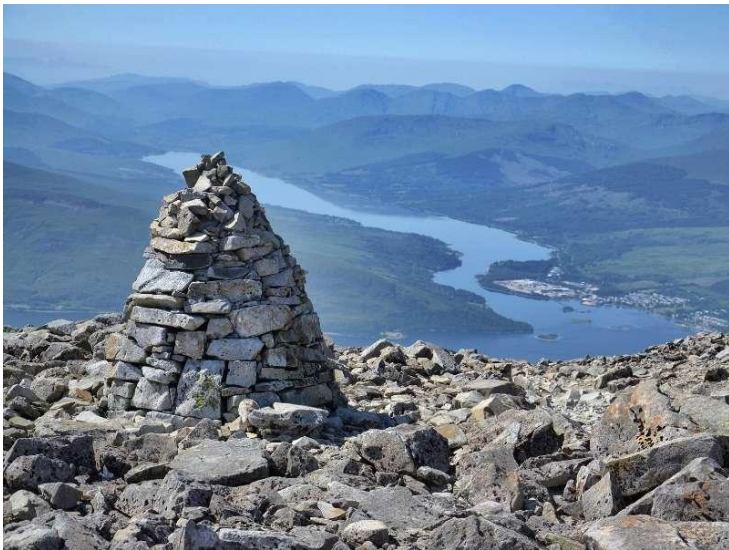
Jubeda (the deputy head teacher at Harbinger school) has kindly given her own time for a charity!

She hiked up the highest mountain in Scotland the United Kingdom and the British Isles, Ben Nevis! Can you imagine that!? It's amazing how Jubeda did that, Ben Nevis is 4411 feet tall!

Jubeda went with a few other people, and they all hiked up the sky-scraper-like mountain. They managed to raise over £1500 pounds for the charity. It looked like they had a fun time there. Also, it took them four hours to climb the mountain and reach the summit and even longer to come back!

They started the hike at 6:00 in the morning and reached the summit at 10:00 which is amazing how much time they have given for that charity.

I hope they had a wonderful time at Scotland, and everyone should thank Jubeda.



Together

Wear Your Pajamas and Donate

by Aayan



Friday, the 16th of June was Pyjamarama Day and people arrived at school in their Pyjamas! Everyone looked amazing with them on; unique dresses and the idea of Pyjamarama Day is to celebrate our own differences and books!

Thanks to donations, we have so far raised £113.11 for the Books Trust charity, helping buy books or young, vulnerable children.

It has also been genuinely nice that pupils have been donating to the school which is amazing how they really care about the school. Last year they made 150 pounds this year I hope they make even more!

This year has been remarkably successful for the school as it looks more than half of turquoise class has worn their Pyjamas on Friday this week.

Also teachers and children were bringing in their favourite books as well as teachers swapping classes and reading stories across the school.



Sports Day results

1st Place = Blue Team

2nd Place = Yellow Team

3rd Place = Green Team

4th Place = Purple Team

5th Place = Red Team

