

# The Harbinger Chronicles

December 2022

Volume 2, Edition 2

**Your Voice Matters!**



[www.harbinger.org.uk](http://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.

## *Togetherness*

### **CHRISTMAS! Jumpers, Lunch and the Fayre**

By Vicki and Hana R

Are you ready because winter is here! Put your hats, boots and scarves on because it will be chilly.

**Christmas**, cont'd p. 11



## *Learning*

### **School Council Visits Parliament**

By Gaia

This term, the Harbinger school council made the journey to Westminster to the Houses of Parliament during UK Parliament week.

We met some MPs that look after our local area (such as Tower Hamlets and Bow).

**Parliament**, cont'd p. 10



# Editorial

## Get to Know Us

By Hana R and Ayra

Coming back from the summer holidays, everybody was in new year groups and we welcomed both new students and teachers. *Harbinger Chronicles* welcomed a new class of reporters after saying goodbye to last year's year six journalists.

**Top Tip:** Be very helpful and kind to all new students. Everyone has upgraded their learning and we should be all be proud. It might be hard with new expectations but we will get through it together.

### What did you find challenging about fall term?

"I found maths hard because rounding is my weakness."  
-Shakiba, Amber Class

"Guessing everyone's names and personalities."  
-Gaia, Amber Class

"I found handwriting hard because it was hard to make it neat."  
-Hana A, Amber class

"What I found hard about last term was making friends."  
-Jay-J, Amber Class

"Working with new people was hard."  
-Fiona, Amber Class Teacher

"I found science hard last term."  
Asiya, Opal class



### Time to take a break

Are you ready for break from the piles of homework and new learning? Well the first holiday for this year has happened and it is time for the second.

What did you do for October half-term? Did you leave the United Kingdom? Did you have slumber party or go to the seaside? Whatever you did we hope you had a great time (and that you did all your homework.)

### How was your half term break?

"Good, I went to Spain."  
Jay-J, Amber class

"My holiday was nice. No studying. AAAY!"  
-Gaia, Amber Class

"Good! It was nice to have a break. It helped to relieve stress."  
-Shakiba, Amber Class

"My holiday was good; I went to Scotland to visit family"  
Briana, co-editor of the *Harbinger Chronicles*.

"My holiday was good because I hung out with my cousins."  
-Yusuf, Turquoise Class

"My cousins came over and we went out."  
- Zara, Opal class

"I played with Zara and I love eating, it was the best part of the holiday."  
-Madeeha, Amber class

"I started my tour of the UK coast adventure, I toured the coast of Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex."  
-Fiona, Amber Class Teacher





## Allies

### Don't Throw Playground Equipment

Aayan and Jay-J

In the EYU there has been some commotion between the EYU and the older children. The older children have been throwing playground equipment over the fence and commanding the little children to get it.

It is true! It is very unfair that the younger children can be bossed around by the older children. To the people who did this, think about it. Was this the right choice to do? Did this scare or hurt the EYU's feelings?

I hope the older kids understand and stop doing this because it hurts the EYU's feelings. I hope the Ks1 and the Ks2 understand this. To stop this from happening, the adults will have their eyes peeled and will definitely catch someone bossing the EYU and throwing school equipment to the EYU fence.

We don't think that throwing around school equipment is a good. A) this damages the school equipment which is not good and B) this is rude to the EYU and can hurt their feelings. I feel after writing this article that some people will stop doing this.

## Invaded

### Let The Birds Be

By Shakiba

Recently, as you might have realized, birds have been coming in and out of our school. A large majority of the student body have been chasing after these sly birds. I have even tried chasing them!

But due to the situation the birds may gain power of obtaining our school and shred it to pieces! So, beware of these sly birds and their crumbs but do not chase them and let them be, just be aware of your surroundings. One Harbinger staff member, Vira has claimed that pigeons can cling onto your head so BEWARE!

Fiona Keogh has stated that the "Birds are just trying to live their best lives" looking for food and I agree that they deserve to have food and to have peace like everyone else. Therefore, I have realized that it is unfair to keep chasing them so I will not anymore. Sometimes, I just really wanted to do it and feel a bit tempted. I am not going to chase them from now. How about you?

In seriousness I respect them and will be more aware of not just humans and animals, also other living things and will have more gratitude towards them hopefully you will too! Thank you!

## Well-Being

### Use Your Emotion Regulation Chart

by Shakiba

Every day, you may switch emotions. One day you may be extremely (over the moon) happy and another day you may be in tears.

So, as you can see emotions can switch extremely quickly! But there are several ways to make you feel cheerful and merry once again (surprisingly fast!)

One of these numerous ways are using an emotional regulation chart, if you have one in your class already, fabulous! This can help you with your emotions and feelings, students, teachers, school staff, etc What you do is simply select in which of the four zones you are feeling like that day. And hopefully, you will be in the one and only green zone! (Very, very soon!)



# ***Togetherness:* Harbinger Welcomes Island Youth**

By Shakiba

On a rainy Saturday in early November, the Harbinger PTA welcomed Island youth and families to a Youth Skill-Up Event. This free event was co-sponsored by many local groups, including Streets of Growth and the Island Community Network. In addition, the mayor of London contributed as well! The purpose of the event was for people to come together and enjoy the day as a whole community and to help older children and young adults prepare themselves for adulthood.

## **Make Your Own**

An extensive range of activities and stalls for everyone to enjoy together were offered! For example, courtesy of Streets of Growth, you could make your own graffiti spray t-shirt. They had an assortment of colours of spray paint to choose from to decorate your plain white t-shirt with. But the faint smell of spray paint that tingled up my nose, was not a pretty smell! People crowded this stall from the very beginning mainly because it was the first stall that caught your eye.

## **International Flavor**

When you entered the bottom hall, there were stalls all around, set up in different rooms all looking incredibly unique and different from one and each other. There was a station where you'd be interviewed about the countries around the world. Different topics about the world, like where you would like to visit, and a delicious food of your choice around the world were asked. Which is your favourite country? Mine is Germany.



## **And So Much More**

In addition to this there was a sweet stall where you could buy a small bag of sweets like flying saucer, gummy bears, lollipops all for one pound! For a higher price you could purchase a sweet box that came with large chocolate bars; it was be worth it! Another classroom held three stalls all focused on beauty. You could get nail designs on one. At a different table someone would do Mendhi designs too and at the last one you could make your own jewellery with a variety of beads in different forms and designs!

In another room was a small fidget shop with a variety of colourful fidgets to play with like bungee bands or putty/slime to play with. Sensory toys are always so fun and help you to relieve stress! Aswell, there was a good trade in for five can or tinned food items for just a pound! There were many different stalls so I can't list them all.

But to all the staff and separate groups who worked at the youth event or volunteered for the Youth event did a fabulous job and were all exceedingly kind and friendly! Thank you!







## Learning

### Swaps

## Secondary School Comes to Primary School

By Madeeha and Ayra

### JOKES

- What is the best way to throw a party on Mars? You planet!
- Where do pencils go for holiday? Pencil-vania
- What do pigs put on their dry skin? Ointment
- What do you call it when Snowmen throw a tantrum? A meltdown
- Did you hear about the guy who created knock knock jokes, I heard he won the no-bell prize?
- What did the fish say when he banged into the wall? 'Dam'
- Why do you tell actors to break a leg? because every play has a cast
- What do you call a messy hippo? A Hippopota-mess!

On Harbinger Primary School's top floor, many children go in and out of classrooms, for a good reason. They're switching classes.

In year 6, there are two classes: Opal class (a mix of Year 5 and 6 pupils) and Amber class (only year 6.)

For the two main subjects: Maths, English (which includes reading), all of year 6 has been split into two groups for each subject, as one class has way more year sixes than the other – Opal class has 17 year sixes whilst Amber class has 30.

This has been done to make it fair to the year 6 teachers, Fiona and Meghan, to have an equal amount of pupils in each class and for the students to get an equal amount of teacher time. The english curriculum is the same for both groups.

In Maths, there is a different reason for the split. Many people work at different speeds and at different levels, so the students are split into a quicker pace and slower pace, with the idea that the learning is still the same. Meeting individual needs is important at Harbinger.

Additionally, it also prepares us for secondary school since for each subject, you have a different classroom and teacher.

# FIFA WORLD CUP Qatar 2022

It's official, everyone at Harbinger School has World Cup fever.

To celebrate England and Wales first World Cup matchup *ever*, our lunch ladies cooked up a celebratory feast! Both chicken and veggie sausage hot dogs were served alongside caramelised onions. Sides were crispy potato wedges and salad followed by a delicious jam and coconut sponge.

**England won 3-0**

**Argentina won the World Cup**



## New Faces

### Neil Joins Harbinger School

By Zara and Madeeha



We interviewed Neil on a Wednesday afternoon after school. We asked him questions about himself, including about his background, and what he thinks about the school.

We think he is an enjoyable person to have a conversation with. One of his best qualities is that he is always cheerful.

#### Why did Neil choose this school?

Neil chose this school because he liked the attitude on the school website and thought it was inspirational.

#### Did Neil always want to be a teacher when he was younger?

When he was younger, he wanted to be a football trainer like every single boy in most years. When he realised, he was not able to be a football trainer, he decided to be a teacher instead. So no, he did not want to be a teacher when he was younger.

#### Neil's exciting events!

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 Neil and his class went ice skating in Canary Wharf for their class trip! Prior to the trip, Neil told us, "My class is probably more excited than I am."

#### Does Neil like his new class?

We asked Neil if he likes his new class currently, he smiled while saying "I really enjoy my new class, they are quite enthusiastic." He also enjoys his new experience at this new school.

#### How does he help people with special needs?

The way Neil helps people with special needs, is he goes up and talks to them and sees what they need help with and gives the child what they need.

## Meet Lloyd

By Ayaan and Yusuf



We sat down with Lloyd, a new addition to Harbinger Primary, for an interview and asked him the following questions.

- How old are you?
- Why did you choose this job?
- Have you worked in other schools?
- What do you think of this school?
- Do you like working here?
- Why are you a football coach (what was last job being a football coach?)
- What inspired you to be a football coach?
- What is your main job?
- What is your favourite sport?
- Did you want to be a football coach?
- Are you good at football or do you just coach it?
- What do you like most about of this school?
- What is your favourite football team?
- Who inspires you?
- What do you like most?
- What is your favourite book?

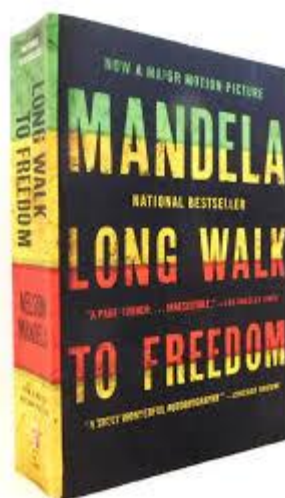
First, we found out that he was 48 years old and he was told that he was good with children so he came to this school.

We also learned that he was in two dance classes before coming to Harbinger.

He explained that, "I like this school a lot because of all of the different talents."

We also asked why he is a football coach and he said he loves football. His main job is for the BBC and his kids inspired him to be a football coach.

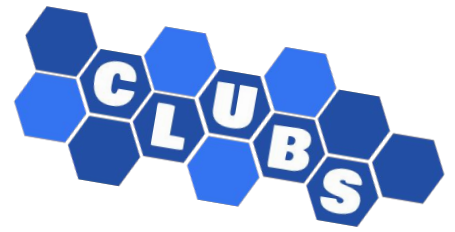
His favourite sport is kickboxing and likes watching football. He likes Arsenal which is clearly the best team. He is also inspired by Nelson Mandela so much so that his favourite book is A Long Walk to Freedom, Nelson Mandela's autobiography.





# After School Clubs

## Step Outside Your Comfort Zone



By Asiya and Aimée

We all love clubs, sports clubs, art clubs and even more! The majority of students in Harbinger like football and other sports. The people who like other things, have you considered trying something different? Football lovers could end up liking coding. Coding lovers could end up liking football and so on. If you want to know more about the clubs on offer at Harbinger School, read on!

As you probably know *Harbinger Chronicles* is a newspaper club, which is held on Wednesdays. Full of passionate writers, we have the opportunity to share opinions in editorial pieces and can share news happening all over the school.

It's important to try new things and if journalism is something that interests you, this club is perfect for you.

Netball club is a popular club throughout years 4 and 6, it takes place in the football pitch, and can improve your aerobic fitness, stamina, strength and balance. As Gaia from Amber recalled "Netball club is really fun especially because they are a variety of age groups." It's hosted by Anna, who also leads PE at Harbinger and St Luke's.

I, myself, was in Netball club last year and I have to say it was one of my favorite clubs EVER!

So even if you prefer football, coding, table tennis or anything, try different clubs such as netball and it'll either be something you'll love or something you'll absolutely hate, but as Fiona always says 'You got to fake it 'until you make it'.



We went around the school and asked students what clubs they were interested in, now that clubs are finally back after a long break, due to Covid.

### Most Wanted Clubs

- Year 3 and 4 Football Clubs
- Baking/Cooking
- KS2 Gymnastics
- Art
- Drama
- Choir
- Basketball
- Sewing club
- Year 1 Clubs

If there are any other suggestions you may have, speak to the school councilors in your class and they can bring it up with Luke.





# Sport



## Swimming Opal Class Dives In

by Vicki

This past term, Opal class spent a lot of time at Tiller Leisure Center swimming!

For some children it was really nice having a chance to go swimming since we are a year 5 and 6 class. A lot of people like it because they find it fun or easy but others find it hard and difficult. Many people give up but others try their best and move to the deep end!!

When we improve we get to do jumps and sometimes dive as a learning game and it is so much fun.



## Jet Class Takes to the Ice

by Hana A

Recently, Jet class in year 4 have been able to go on 2 ice-skating sessions in Canary Wharf.

The children and adults both said that they had an amazing time, and that the class was incredibly brave and well behaved!

Here is an insight to what they had done. In their first of two sessions, many children were still getting their grip on the ice because it was their first ever time on a rink!





## Join The Restorative Journey

by Yusuf, Eadie and Ayra

You probably watched the assembly about the Behaviour Champions and the relaunch of the 'I - Statements' (otherwise known as Restorative Conversation – can you remember the actions?)

There are five members of Harbinger staff who have committed to leading the whole school on a restorative journey. They work on building positive relationships, resolving conflict when it happens and noticing your good behavior. These adults model and encourage others to look out for sensible choices and excellent behaviour, and also may give out a lot of dojos out in assemblies.

They are known as the Behaviour Champions in Harbinger school. In Harbinger school, the Behaviour Champions will be looking at everyone at break, lunch and our school assemblies. They will be looking around for good listening, good sitting, helping others and more.



### The Behavior Champions



Claire  
Norton-Steele:  
Nursery/Moonstone  
class teacher



Tom  
Bem-Hodgkinson:  
Sapphire class  
teacher, music lead  
and PSHE lead



Luke Shuttleworth:  
Ruby class teacher  
and science lead



Sultana Begum:  
Turquoise class  
teacher



Fiona Keogh:  
Newspaper club lead,  
writing lead, oracy lead  
and Amber class teacher

These adults model and encourage others to look out for sensible choices and excellent behaviour, and also may give a lot of dojos out in assemblies. If they notice your good behavior, they will give you a piece of plastic that showing a dojo icon that you can give to your teacher

for a dojo. They will also support everyone at Harbinger to understand the importance of forming positive relationships and restoring broken relations using restorative conversations, independently and with support from the other adults.

## *Togetherness*

### ***Experience an Oracy Assembly***

by Eadie & Jay-J

Most of you reading this article will have already experienced an Oracy assembly, we started having them this half term. If somehow, you haven't experienced one yet, let us tell you what we do.

Once we all get out of our classrooms and meet in the top hall, we get into a circle BUT we leave one space on either side of us so that someone from the other class (maybe your class) can sit in between the empty spaces that my class have left!

We typically watch a happy video and discuss the morals we learned in the video with the people on either side of us so we go into a trio. Also, when speaking, remember to stand up!

After you finish speaking, you choose the next person to speak and then sit down. At the end, the two oracy detectives, chosen every single assembly, will choose which students will get dojos (dojos are a point system that we use in this school) for their efforts with improving oracy skills.

#### **Parliament**, cont'd from p. 1

The school council summarized the trip as, "An Informational trip that helps understand the importance of politics."

Most people would be able to infer that they had a spectacular time at the houses of parliament.

Once the council arrived at the houses of parliament, they got a full tour of the halls and houses and were even invited to watch a live debate. It was about two missiles landing in Poland and was aired on BBC news, an adult version of News round.

In addition, they visited our school area's MP, Apsana Begum, MP for Poplar and Limehouse. She talked about her job and responsibilities as an MP during a workshop and the council asked questions about how she looked after our area.





## Halal Rainbow Cake

Recipe sourced by Jay-J & Eadie

### Ingredients:

- 170 g butter
- 150 g oreo biscuits (no cream)
- 150 g digestive biscuits (10 or 11)

### Filling

- 600 g Philadelphia cream cheese
- 170 g caster sugar
- 2 tbsp plain flour
- 5 ½ tsp vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 200 g soured cream
- various gel food colourings

### Topping

- 125 ml double cream



### Directions:

- Pre-heat the oven to 180C/ 160C fan/ gas 4.
- Wrap the outside of the cake tin with a large piece of foil.
- Butter the inside of the pan.
- Crush the digestive and oreo biscuits in a food bag with a rolling pin (or a shoe?).
- Melt half the butter in a saucepan, then turn off the heat and stir in the brown sugar and Oreo biscuit crumbs.
- Press the mixture into the bottom of the pan and leave to rest.
- Melt the remaining butter and stir in the digestive biscuits.
- Make a layer on top of the first, Press everything down firmly and bake for 10 minutes.
- Cool on a wire rack while preparing the filling.
- Increase the oven temperature to fan 220C/ 200C fan/ gas 7
- Mix the Philadelphia cream cheese until it gets softer, about 2 minutes. Then add in the sugar, flour and salt.
- After whisking for a minute, add the vanilla extract, eggs and sour cream. The batter should be smooth and and very thick.
- Divide the batter equally between 6 bowls and colour each one using purple, blue, green, yellow, orange and red.
- Brush the sides of the tin with melted butter. Spoon in the filling, starting with red and following the colours of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet) then bake for 10 minutes at gas mark 7.
- Reduce oven temperature to 110C/90C fan/gas ¼ and bake for 35-40 minutes more. If you gently shake the tin, the filling should have a very slight wobble in the centre, if it looks liquid, cook for a little longer and check again. Turn off the oven and cool with the door very slightly open.
- Chill the cooled cheesecake until you want to serve it.
- Decorate with the double cream before serving.

**Christmas**, cont'd from p. 1

But most importantly Christmas is here so don't be like the Grinch! Instead spread Christmas cheer like Cindy Lou. 😊

### What did you do

Did you go to the Christmas fayre? What part in the Christmas Show did you get? What did you have for the Christmas lunch? What colour jumper did you wear for Christmas jumper day? Wh-! Slowdown.... Harbinger School went in crazy into Christmas on December the 8<sup>th</sup>. Usually, schools will ease children gently into the spirit of Christmas, but not Harbinger... not this year!

### The 8<sup>th</sup> of December

Wow on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December it was sure busy with CHRISTMAS! Jumpers, lunch and the fayre. Sure, everyone must have been tired for sure. I'm sure you spent lots of your parent's money.

\*This is part four. For part one, see *Harbinger Chronicles Edition 2*. For part two, see *Harbinger Chronicles Edition 3*. Part three is in *Harbinger Chronicles Edition 4*.

## Fiction

# Hope

By Gaia

I felt so happy to be back in my own body, the air brushing my brown locks out of my face. I looked out into the distance, and saw a tall mountain, its peak brushing the top of the clouds. This is where I was going. This was one of the only things I was certain about. I could feel it.

I started my way to the foot of the mountain, trudging through the daisy meadows, the thick woods, and the peaceful bliss of the grass in between my toes. I took a break and collapsed on the side of a tree. My hair fanned out around my head as I looked up to the clouds.

I knew that Zeus was looking down at me. I could see his face etched into the biggest cloud in view. It was quite creepy, as I saw it blink at me and quickly breeze away.

Instantaneously, the sky turned an ashen grey, the clouds turned into slight skimmers of yellow dotted around the sky. This had only happened to me once before. But then, it could only be stopped by the gods.



It was Hades, with his undead minions. Zeus did mention tests during my time in Gaea. I just didn't realise that they were going to be this hard. I looked at myself, in a flimsy toga with no weapon to defend myself. As if hearing my thoughts, I was given two double blades, a glossy shield encrusted with drachmas, and iridescent armor. I mumbled a thanks as my first beast came up from the ground. By came up from the ground I mean came *up* from the ground. It was as if they were flying, oddly enough.

My enemy was some sort of snake-Ish, goat-Ish lion. I saw what was scarred onto its fur: *Chimæra*, property of *Typhoeus & Echidna*

I had no time to wonder how Hades had got his hands on Typhoeus and Echidna's child; The Chimæra charged, and I was lucky enough to just barely shove my shield in front of me. This dazed the Chimæra, giving some time to make a small attack. I slashed at the creature around the back of its head chopping its head off. It slowly decayed into ash and was blown into the air. Fortunately, the clouds turned back to white and the sky turned blue.