



Newsletter No 23

harlandsprimaryschool.org

Friday, 13th March 2026

2025-26

In this week's newsletter:

- **World Book Day**
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- **Toy Museum (EYFS)**
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- **Diary Dates**

World Book Day Writing

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, every class from EYFS to Year 6 enjoyed the book **'Tuesday'** by David Weisner.

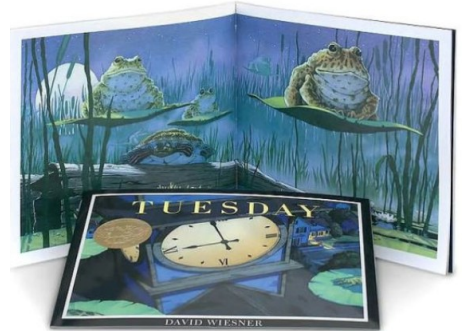


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World Book Day Writing

This superb, virtually wordless book, captured the imagination of all of the children in Harlands, no matter how old they are! It tells the story of an army of frogs who suddenly find themselves flying through a town one night.

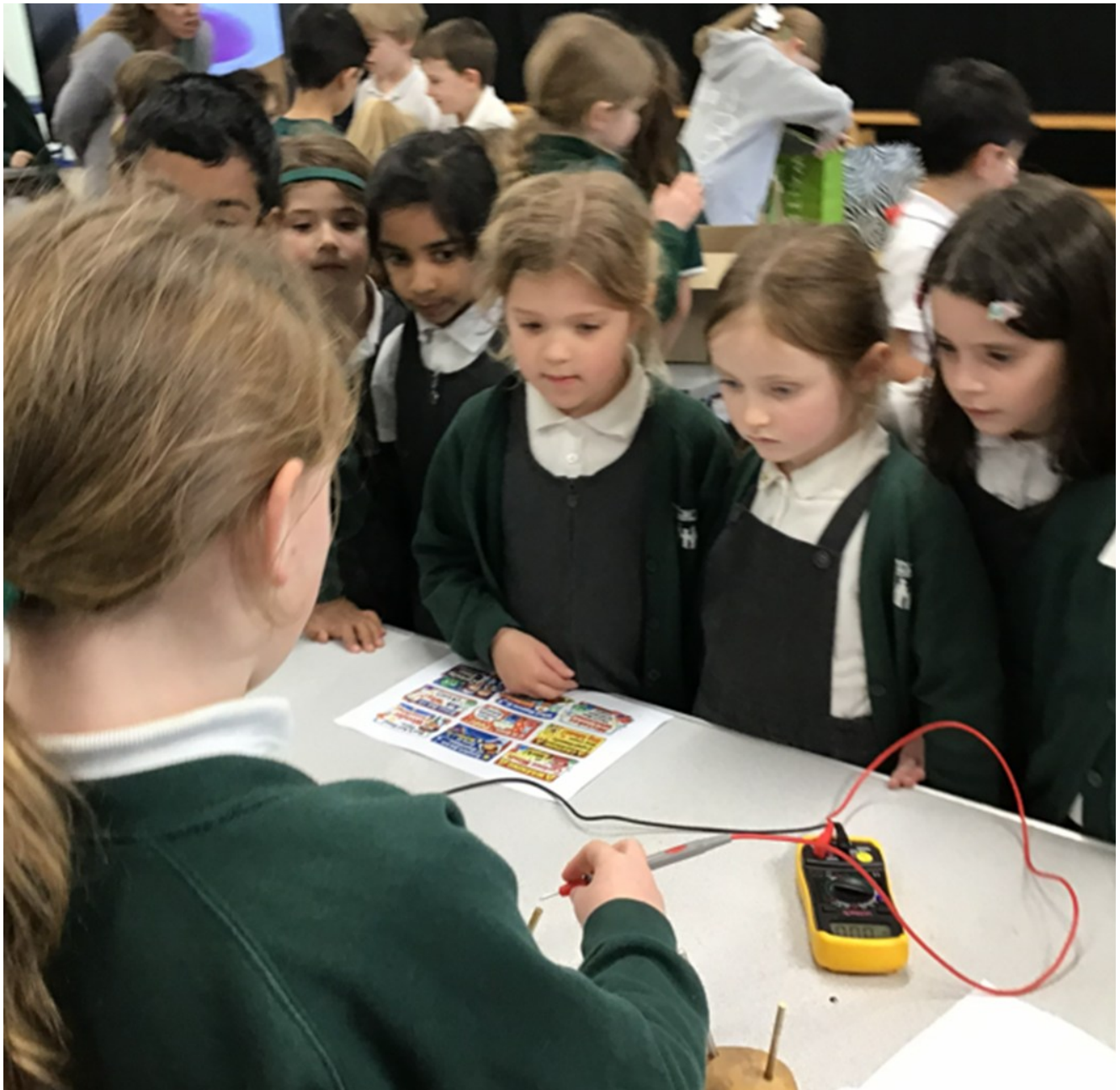


The book takes the reader through the night and some of the adventures that the frogs get up to. Every class produced some fantastic creative writing, using the book as a stimulus; above are just some examples. Classes then paired up with a different year group class to share their writing, which was such a wonderful activity for all of the children to be able to do.

A big thank you to Mrs Simmonds for coordinating this highly successful whole-school initiative.

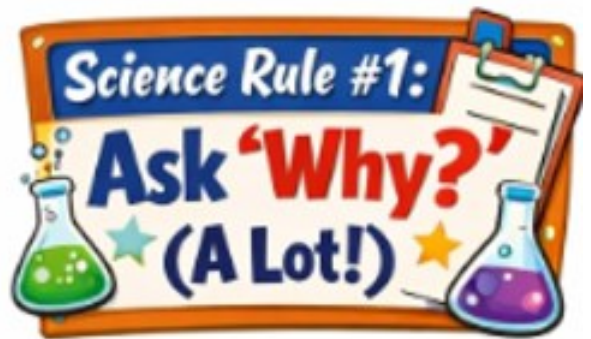
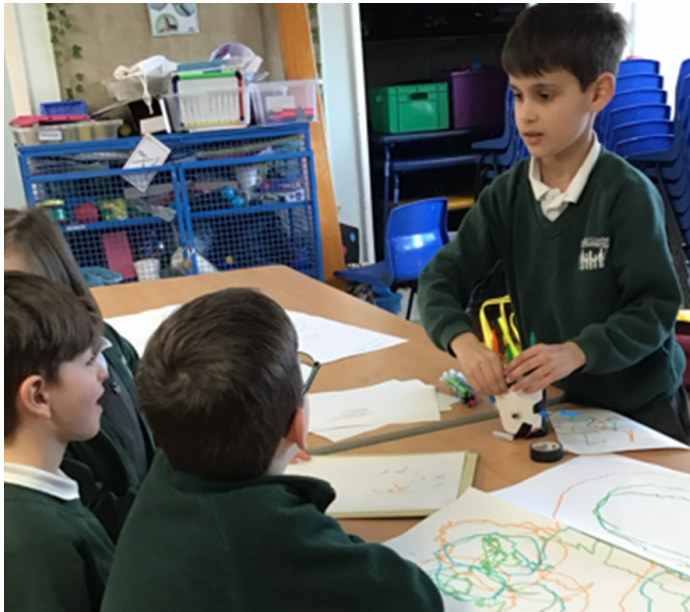
Science Fair 2026

On Wednesday, we also held our annual Science Fair, where around 50 children proudly presented their scientific enquiries across a wide range of fascinating themes.



Science Fair

A huge thank you to all the children who confidently shared their work, to the parents and carers who supported them in preparing for the event, and to everyone who engaged so enthusiastically in celebrating science together.



Science Fair Questions explored included:

How do rockets achieve space travel?

Can you make electricity using a potato?

Can a robot make art?

What happens when you put a pencil in water?

Does the surface of a road affect speed?

How does water affect little things? How do you make music?

Why do things fall? How does slime work?

Why does the moon have craters, but the earth doesn't?

Why do rainbows form? What does this confusing planet look like?

How do rockets blast off? Which plant filters water the best?

How do bees make honey? Why do leaves change colour?

What happens if you put an egg in vinegar for days?

Why do cats have tails? What sinks and floats?

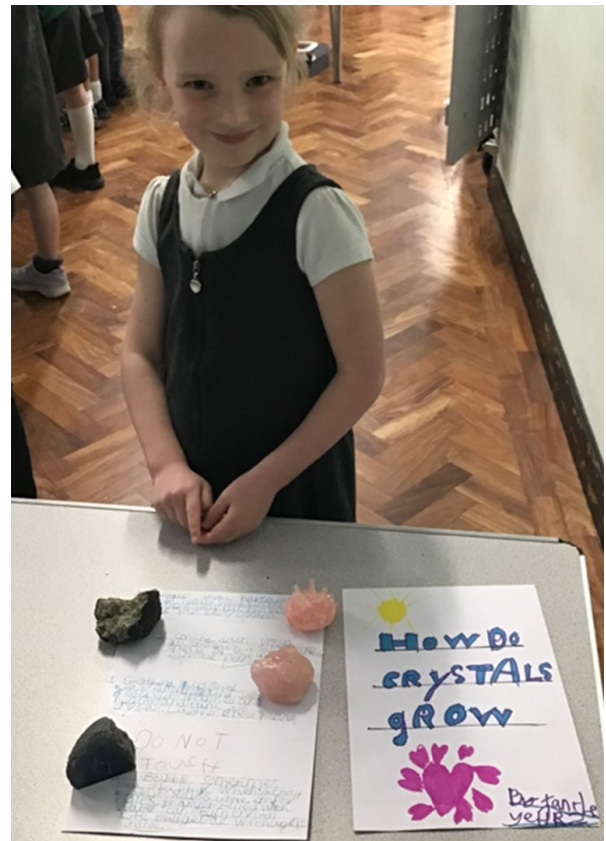
How do crystals grow? How do birds fly aerodynamically?

How do volcanoes form? How do you melt an ice cube?

What are mushrooms? How are gases created?



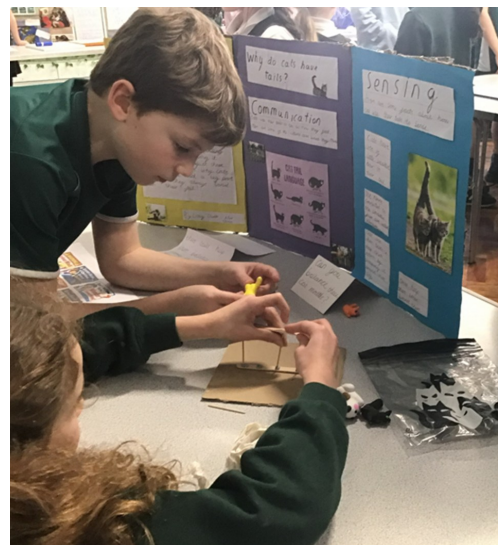
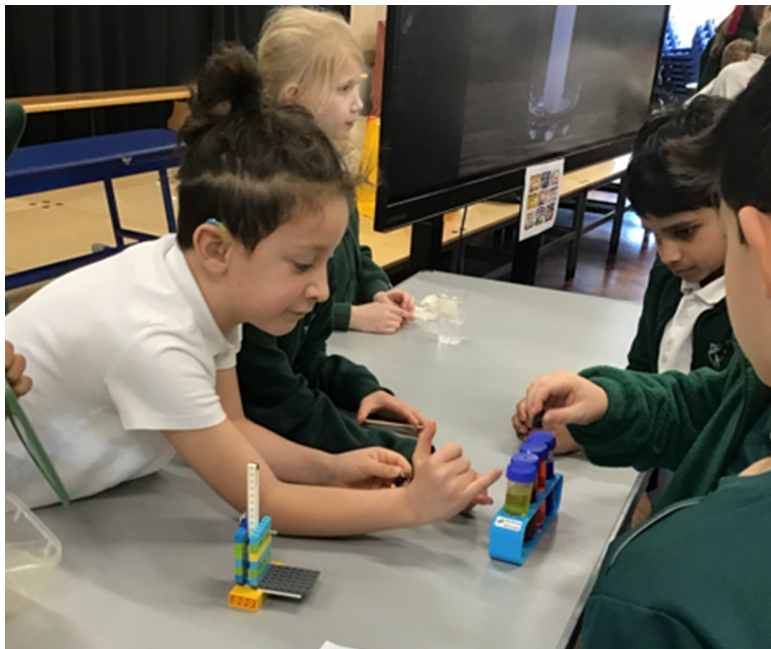
Science Fair



Science Fair



Science Fair



Toy Museum (EYFS)

As part of the EYFS topic '**Teddies, Toys and Time**' we had a visitor from a museum who brought in some old toys.

The children had so much fun playing with the toys and working out the timeline of how old they were!



Fire Service Visit (Y2)

Linking in with their topic looking at the Great Fire of London, all the Year 2 classes have benefitted from visits from the local fire service to talk about fire safety. The children also had the opportunity to look in detail at a fire engine, and see how various pieces of the equipment were used.



As always, playing with the water hoses proved a big hit!



Dame Kelly Holmes

In assembly this week we learned about Dame Kelly Holmes—one of Britain's greatest athletes and a wonderful example of what can happen when you dream big and never give up.



Even though she faced injuries, disappointments and difficult times while balancing life in the British Army and training as a runner, she kept believing in herself and working hard.



Her perseverance paid off at the 2004 Athens Olympics, where she won two gold medals, showing us all that determination can help turn dreams into reality.



Indoor Cricket Success

Last Friday, the girls' indoor cricket team were successful in their area competition and are now through to the finals, which will be held after Easter.





PTA NEWS AND UPDATES

Love Our School Day - Saturday 18 April

Join the PTA and school staff for a fun, family-friendly day of community work at Harlands School. Love Our School has been a fantastic day the last two years and it's a great chance to meet other families, all while improving school grounds! The school have been incredibly grateful for all the amazing work done by volunteers.

The day is open to both adults and children, with a variety of tasks available, including DIY, gardening and clearing, painting, cutting back greenery, sorting the PTA shed and much more! And will finish with a BBQ gifted by the PTA.

If you are planning to attend, please register at this link so the organisers can ensure there's enough refreshments:

<https://forms.gle/NzFJsTMcDVkjnyP9>

FINAL CHANCE TO PURCHASE:

Harlands Quiz Night! 21 March 7 pm for 7.30 pm. Tickets are still available and it would be great to have lots of teams! Link to PTA online store to purchase tickets at £5 per person: [PTA Quiz | Harlands PTA](#)

PTA news continued on next page

NEW PTA ROLES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The PTA committee will be undergoing some changes in the coming weeks and **now, more than ever, your PTA needs new people to join!**

Communications Officer - there's plenty of scope to make this role your own! Time commitment is around 1-2 hours a week. Tasks include creating weekly school newsletter (with input from the PTA Committee), designing flyers, social media posts using Canva, helping with event communications including briefings, volunteer info. **New Comms Officer required after Easter.**

PTA Secretary - again, you can make this role your own. Time commitment is around 1-2 hours a week. Tasks include keeping an eye on PTA email inbox, taking action points for meetings (thorough minutes not required!) and supporting with the general administration ahead of events. **New PTA Secretary required to start immediately or as soon as possible.**

Treasurer - look out for more information in the coming weeks regarding this role. There will be a thorough handover ahead of the AGM in the Autumn term. **New Treasurer required Autumn 2026, but available for handover before then.**

For all of these roles, there's a wealth of information on the PTA shared drive from previous events and initiatives, so that's all available to use - you don't need to come up with anything from scratch! A handover can be arranged and you'll receive support from the central PTA Committee.

If any of the above roles don't appeal, but you would be interested in getting involved, please get in touch and we'd be happy to discuss!

If you're at all interesting in finding out more please speak to anyone from the PTA or contact HarlandsPTA@Gmail.com

Your PTA depends on volunteer involvement!

Diary Dates / Reminders

Tuesday, 17 March

Y1 Wheels Day

Wednesday, 18 March

5.30pm—Y4 Performance, *Go for Gold*

Thursday, 19 March

Last swimming for Chestnut

Last swimming for Hawthorn

Friday, 20th March

Most clubs finish except

Monday, 23 March

Final session for Monday clubs

Tuesday, 24 March

Final session for Engineering & Art Clubs only

Monday, 23 March

Y4 Greek Workshop

Tuesday, 24 March

9.15am—EYFS/KS1 Spring Performance

(this event will be weather dependent)

Friday, 27 March

Last day of Easter term

Monday, 30 March-Friday, 10 April

Easter Holidays

Monday, 13 April

Children return to school

Monday, 4 May

Bank Holiday

Monday, 11-Friday 15 May

KS2 SATS

Monday, 25 May-Friday, 29 May

Half-term

Monday, 1 June

INSET Day

Monday, 8 June-Friday 12 June

Y6 Residential to Barton Hall

Wednesday, 17 June

Open Day

Friday, 19 June

Leavers and Class photos

Thursday, 25 June

Sports Day

Wednesday, 22 July

Last day of Summer Term

Term dates for 2026/27 will be shared soon

Payment/paperwork reminders:

Y6 ongoing instalments for residential trip

Our School Values

