

Heron Hill Primary School

Upper Junior Department Parents' Information Booklet 2023-2024



Former Year 5 Pupils' Advice

'It's not as scary as you think moving into the Upper Juniors, because time flies when you're having fun and you have lots of it!' Jenson

'The residential was my first trip away from my family so I was a bit worried but it was the best time of my life!' Max

'I loved the Enterprise project, we learnt loads about making our ideas into money, serving customers and persevering.' Emmie

'We loved learning about Space - the gigantic scale, incredible history and different features of our solar system blew our minds!' Tristan and Ollie

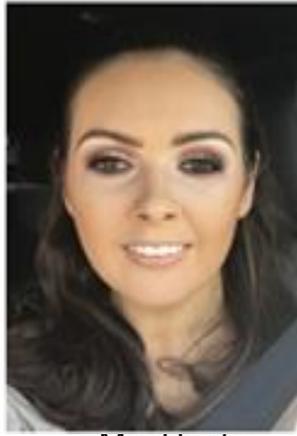
'I thought the work might be too hard in Year 6 but it was fine. The teachers give you lots of help and you can talk to them about your problems if you need to.' Abi

'My highlight of Year 5 was learning about the Vikings; we learnt lots of cool and funny facts and on our Viking Experience Day we were given Viking names and had a really exciting battle.' Florence

Meet the Year 5 Team



Mrs Altounyan
Catstycam
Class Teacher



Mrs Hunter
Fairfield
Class Teacher



Mrs Harper
Fairfield
Class Teacher
(Thursday afternoons)



Mrs Lawson
PPA Teacher



Miss Hildrew
PPA Teacher



Mr Napper
Catstycam
Class Teacher
(Thursday afternoons)



Miss Powell
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Little
Pastoral Learning Mentor

Meet the Year 6 Team



Mrs H Hudson
Scafell Class Teacher



Miss Hildrew
Helvellyn Class Teacher
(mornings)



Mrs Osborne
Helvellyn Class Teacher
(afternoons)



Mrs Wilkinson
Department Lead,
Maths Intervention



Mrs Lawson
PPA Teacher



Mrs Harper
Outdoor Learning



Mrs Smith
Senior Teaching Assistant



Mrs Little
Pastoral Learning Mentor

Welcome to Upper Juniors! The Upper Junior team are very much looking forward to getting to know your child in September and are already enthusiastically preparing exciting learning opportunities for them to ensure a thoroughly enjoyable year ahead.

This booklet will provide you and your child with information about their new class so they feel prepared and relaxed about the year ahead. They have already had a transition morning with their next year group teachers and have some idea of the many fun experiences they can expect to encounter over the coming year.

Start and End of the School Day

Children should arrive on the Upper Junior Yard at 8.45 am for 8.50 am start time. The school day ends at 3.15 pm.

On the first day, your child will be met by their new teacher on the yard, so they need not worry. We will ensure they know where to go and what to do as new Year 5s get used to being in Upper Juniors and Year 6s get used to new classrooms.

We will begin the year very gently, settling the children in, focusing on their well-being and establishing routines so that children are happy and relaxed in their new classes and get to know their new teachers.

Equipment Required

We ask that every child has a book bag to protect their home-school book, library books and homework books from the perils of the Cumbrian weather. Children are supplied with all other stationery they use in class, which stays in school, so nothing else is required. They may bring their own pencil case if desired, but we do also supply these, so having their own is not essential.

Children are encouraged to wear a simple, inexpensive watch. Smart watches and Fitbits must NOT be brought into school. If accidentally brought into school, they should be handed into the office immediately and collected at the end of the school day.

School fully understands that, on occasion, there is a need for some pupils to bring their mobile phone to school, however, we would like parents/carers to carefully consider whether this is the case for their child/ren. When a child needs to bring their mobile phone to school, we ask that they take their phone directly to the office at the start of the school day and collect it at the end.

Uniform and Uniform Swap

A full description of the school uniform is on the school website. Sweatshirts and cardigans purchased through the school cost £8.00 but we are running down stock kept in school and moving to an online purchasing system. Please visit the school website and the link to Coniston can be found on the 'Uniform' page. Book bags £4.50 and PE bags are £4.00 and can be purchased from the school office throughout the year. Please ensure that your child's name is written clearly, in permanent pen or on labels, on their coat, uniform and PE kit to help your child's clothing to be easily identified and returned.

In order to promote recycling and re-using uniform, *Friends of Heron Hill* run a uniform swap on a termly basis. Items are **free** but if you wish, you may choose to make a small donation (which goes towards funding school visits and special events for children across the school). This is a very popular way to keep uniform costs down; watch out for information via Parentmail. You can also request items by emailing admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk If we have uniform items in stock, we will be delighted to pass them on. If you have uniform items which are in good condition but too small for your child, please donate them to the uniform swap.

Snacks, Lunch, Water and Milk

Please provide your child with a water bottle, clearly labelled with their name on it. Only water should be in the bottles, no juice/squash, etc. Research supports the need for water to refresh the brain.

Morning break snack can be fruit, vegetables or cheese – no sugary snacks, please. Snacks should be taken into class at the beginning of the day so that children are not tempted to raid lunchboxes at break time!

School meals should be ordered online by 9.30 am on the day and can be booked up to 2 weeks in advance via School Hub. Our school kitchen prepares hot meals on site, providing 3 meal choices each day, including a vegetarian option. Meals cost £3.00 per day, but please see information about the Pupil Premium Grant on page 7. Please remember to cancel your child's school meal by 9.30 am if they are unwell or you will be charged for the meal. Contact the school office if you have lost or forgotten your log-in details.

Please put a cool pack inside packed lunch boxes during warm weather and clearly label the lunch box with your child's name.

School milk is available at a cost of approximately £18 for a term. Coolmilk supplies the milk; to order your child's milk contact www.coolmilk.com

Pupil Premium Grant

You may be eligible for Pupil Premium Grant due to your level of income or through other circumstances. We distribute a leaflet every year with more details, please ask at the school office if you have not seen one, it is also on the school website. It is worth applying for Pupil Premium; if granted you receive many benefits including free school meals, uniform vouchers and fully funded visits and some clubs. Please contact the office if you would like more information, or apply via

https://ems.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

Indoor and Outdoor PE Lessons

	Year 5	Year 6	PE Kit needed:
Indoor PE lesson	Tuesday afternoon	Wednesday afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain white t-shirt• black shorts• socks
Outdoor PE lesson	Friday afternoon	Friday afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain black or dark blue sweatshirt, fleece or jumper• tracksuit bottoms• trainers• socks

- Indoor and outdoor kit required; children should wear their kit to school on their PE days. For personal hygiene reasons, school sweatshirts and polo shirts, lycra shorts, tight fitting shorts and tights cannot be worn for PE. No skorts and no designer labels or logos on kit, please.
- For safety, hair must be tied up – no headbands for PE.
- Trainers are not acceptable footwear for school other than for PE. Black school shoes, please. Plain black, white or grey socks. **Everything has to be named please.**
- Children are only be allowed to miss PE if the teacher receives an email or note signed by a parent.

Year 5 Swimming Lessons

Some Year 5 pupils may have catch-up swimming lessons in the summer term if they cannot swim the minimum distance required by the National Curriculum (25 metres). If they do swimming lessons, they will need a towel and swimming costume/trunks. Girls should wear a one piece suit; boys should wear swimming trunks, not long, loose shorts. Long hair must be fastened securely; it is better if a cap is worn. If your child has to wear goggles then a permission slip must be completed, signed by yourself and returned to school before the first session. All

equipment must be named and carried in a waterproof bag/carrier. You will be informed in the spring term if your child will be having catch-up lessons.

Jewellery

No jewellery should be worn for PE. In line with Westmorland and Furness Council's policy, children must remove their own earrings before PE lessons, or remove before school please. If you are going have your child's ears pierced, please do this at the start of the summer holiday, as new earrings cannot be removed for up to 6 weeks initially.

Year 5 and Year 6 Homework

As well as reading for pleasure, we use Mathletics, Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) and Spelling Shed (see below for more information on each) every week to help the children practise our learning in school. Please log into these platforms each week to find your child's assigned home learning tasks. Your child will bring home a laminated sheet with all of their logins and passwords at the beginning of the year.

- Year 5 and 6 are set two Mathletics tasks per week to consolidate current learning in class. They are also expected to earn 1,000 Mathletics points per week by practising number work and problem-solving in order to build confidence and deepen learning of previously-taught concepts.
- Year 5 will have *Learn Its* facts to work on which can be done via TTRS or by playing Mathletics Live. Children should play on TTRS for 5 minutes 3-4 times a week. Working on them *little and often* is the most effective way to secure essential number facts.
- Year 5 and 6 have weekly Spelling Shed assignments which should take no longer than 20 minutes.
- Year 6 children are set weekly CGP SAT Busters tasks linked to current learning: Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPaS), Maths, Arithmetic and Reading Practice questions to complete. Your child needs to bring these books into school each Friday because teachers mark and discuss them with the children and issue Lost Chances Slips if the books are forgotten.
- Year 5 and Year 6 are expected to read for 20 minutes at least 4 times a week. We use Accelerated Reader to monitor reading and comprehension.

If you require a device to access home learning, please contact school and we will be delighted to help. Children know they can use devices in school to do homework if they choose to. Children attending The Hive breakfast or after school club are welcome to complete homework whilst there and staff are on hand to help if needed.

Of course we recognise that children are busy with other commitments outside of school, so it is a very good idea to help your child to establish a routine with a timetable for their weekly homework tasks.

Mathletics

The school subscribes to Mathletics for Years 3-6. This is a fantastic resource and evidence demonstrates that regular use leads to significant improvements in children's mental agility. It is fun to use and very informative – topics covered within class are also accessible on the site, together with help and advice sections. We strongly recommend regular use at home.

Times Tables Rock Stars

Children simply love playing rock music whilst aiming to become rock legends by securing their recall of addition, subtraction (Numbots), multiplication and division facts. This online programme is intuitive and will give your child regular exposure to the facts they need to build automatic recall of. It is also LOTS of fun!

EdShed

We do not send spellings home to rote learn as research suggests this is not an effective way to secure spelling skills. Instead, we have recently introduced Spelling Shed which is an online platform with games based on your child's spelling age to help practise and recall different spelling rules and patterns. It is best for your child to do the activities with the sound on, to help them to hear and remember the words they are practising.

Reading/Accelerated Reader:

We use Accelerated Reader data to monitor the children's reading choices and to enable us to guide and support your child's reading development. Accelerated Reader also recommends books to children so they are never stuck for what to read next. Even though your child is older now, we strongly encourage you to discuss storylines, characters and events in books they are reading to support your child to build a full understanding of texts. Children may *appear* to be fluent readers but can fail to grasp the many deeper meanings in texts. Please encourage your child to read a wide range of genres: poetry, historical fiction, mysteries, biographies and non-fiction.

Do recommend your favourite childhood reads and try to read and share special books together. Children should read for a sustained period of 20 minutes at least four times a week. Keeping up reading over holiday periods is important too.

Our 'Star Reader' tests in school will generate a child's 'Zone of Proximal Development' (ZPD) at intervals during the year. Children will use this ZPD as guidance for choosing books in the library. Following their completion of a reading a book, they will complete a quiz in school, which will assess their comprehension skills and provide information on their reading skills. Please use your Accelerated Reader Home Connect log in to monitor your child's success. Feel free to come

and ask any further questions about our Accelerated Reader and watch out for your child's Accelerated Reader certificates. Parent logins and passwords have already been sent home.

Kendal Library has recently been revamped and is an excellent resource that we strongly recommend.

Meeting with Staff

If you want to speak to a member of staff, please telephone or email the office. Staff will not be able to meet with parents to receive messages on the playground before school. Please allow up to 2 working days for staff to respond to questions, issues or concerns.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Parents receive written school reports and are able to book consultations with their child's class teacher, as follows:

Term	Report and parent consultation date
Autumn	Mid/late November, with parent consultations following.
Spring	Parent consultation meetings, no report.
Summer	Late June, with optional parent consultations following.

Communication

Please inform the school, by telephone or e-mail before 9.30am, if your child is unwell and will be absent. If you take your child out of school for medical or dental appointments, please provide evidence (show the office staff the text or letter), if available. Give at least 4 weeks' notice, if possible, if you are taking your child out of school for a holiday; work will be provided for your child to complete during their absence. Term-time holidays should, of course, be avoided, as children miss valuable teaching instruction and curriculum content and often feel unsettled on their return.

SATs

Year 6 SATs will take place during the week beginning Monday 13th May 2024. You will receive further information about this during the spring term. It is **essential** that you do not request time out of school during the week before and this week (7th-17th May).

Bicycles and Scooters at School

The expectation is that parents/carers decide if their child is safe and confident enough to ride a bike independently to school and are asked to sign a consent form before their child can do so.

Please be aware of the following rules:

1. Bicycles must be in a roadworthy condition and cyclists must ride sensibly at all times.
2. Children must wear a cycle helmet. If your child is seen regularly without a helmet, the right to cycle to school will be removed. Closed off-road motocross style helmets are NOT suitable as they restrict children's view.
3. Children should walk with their bicycles *on the pavement* between the school entrance and the Spar shop; this is because of the hazards associated with parked cars.
4. Bicycles should be padlocked when in the bike/scooter park.
5. It is advisable to take out insurance cover, as the school's insurance does not cover bicycles.
6. Children should not ride their bike or scoot within the school grounds.

School has arranged for Bikeability training for Year 5 children from 18th-22rd September. Year 5 children should not ride their bikes independently to school until they have taken this training.

Transfer to Secondary School for Year 6

Year 6 parents are requested to apply online for their child's secondary school place by Monday 31st October 2023. Additional information will be available from the school office.

Independence

The children will be encouraged to take much more responsibility for organising themselves and looking after their belongings. We want them to take great pride in everything they do, showing resourcefulness and maturity in their conduct, approach to learning and ability to take responsibility.

Many Year 5 and 6 children walk independently with their friends to and from school. The decision when your child is able to do this is yours of course. Your child needs to be fully road-safety aware and must behave appropriately on their journey to school or home.

Rewards and Sanctions

Please refer to our Behaviour Policy on the school website under 'About Us/Policies and Statements'. All staff employ a positive approach to managing behaviour.

Our hope is that your child will have a very happy start to Years 5 and 6. We are really excited about the year ahead and working in partnership with you to ensure the very best for your child.

Year 5 Curriculum Overview

Please refer to the Heron Hill website for more detail about each subject.

Subject	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Maths	See Heron Hill website/Curriculum for detailed information					
English	See Heron Hill website/Curriculum for detailed information					
Science	Light	Electricity	Earth and Space		Animals including Humans	Properties & Changes of Materials
History	Vikings and Saxons (struggle for the Kingdom of England to 1066)		Who were the Lake District Vikings?		Ancient Greece (influence on the western world)	
Geography	Maps		Settlements		Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes	
Art & Design	Textiles		Painting (Space and Planets)		Collage (Elements)	
Design & Technology	Sculpture - Junk modelling		Food		Electrical Systems Programming	
Music	Exploring melody & harmony		Exploring rhythmic textures		Improvisation and jazz	
Computing	IT - research Relationships & Staying safe online	Computer science - website	IT – video and audio Internet safety day	Computer science – hardware	IT- data handling	Computer science – Scratch coding
	Online Safety	Families	Puberty		Enterprise – Money management	
PE (outdoor)	Basketball	Football	Lacrosse	Tennis	Athletics	Outdoor & Adventurous Activities
PE (indoor)	Gymnastics		Core strength & large apparatus		Circuits	Swimming (tbc)
German	Classroom commands- Numbers to >100 - Time	Daily Routines (link to time)	Classroom Objects	School subjects	Food & Drink (Bees/honey)	Ordering in a café Numbers & Euros
RE	Rules for living	Anti-racism and religion	Sacred texts 1	Faith in our locality	Faith in the face of suffering	

Year 6 Curriculum Overview

Please refer to the Heron Hill website for more detail about each subject.

Subject	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Maths	See Heron Hill website/Curriculum for detailed information					
English	See Heron Hill website/Curriculum for detailed information					
Science	Living Things & Their Habitats	Animals, inc. Humans	Forces		Living Things & Their Habitats	Evolution & Inheritance
History	Battle of Britain (British History that extends chronological knowledge beyond 1066)		How did the War affect our locality? War memorials, air raid shelters. WW links		Mayans (A non-European society that provides contrasts with British History)	
Geography	North and Central America		Local environmental issues (litter/water pollution)		Sustainability/climate change	
Art & Design			Painting (Jackson Pollock)		Drawing (Bees)	Printing – clay (Mayan tiles)
Design & Technology	Food			Mechanisms	Structures	Programming
Music	Rhythm patterns and structures		Exploring and Notating Melody		Musical contrasts	
Computing	Fake news Hardware	IT – emails	Programm- ing (game creation)	Internet safety day IT – data handling	Presentation with audio	Website
PE (outdoor)						
PE (indoor)	Circuit Training	Fundamental skill gymnastics	Street dance	Gymnastics- Shape and Balance Large Apparatus	Badminton	Circuit training - speed, agility, and quickness
German	Link to WW2 Topic – life in WW2 Germany, German Unity Day	Christmas in Germany	Valentine's Day	Easter in Germany	Comparison of UK & German buildings - link to Kendal & Rinteln	What I have learnt about Germany
RE	Terror and Forgiveness	Celebrating diversity and welcoming the stranger	Sacred Texts 2	Celebrating the natural world	Prayer	What comes next?

Year 5 and Year 6 Word List Checklist

Word	R	W	Word	R	W	Word	R	W
accommodate			embarrass			parliament		
accompany			environment			persuade		
according			equip(-ped, -ment)			physical		
achieve			especially			prejudice		
aggressive			exaggerate			privilege		
amateur			excellent			profession		
ancient			existence			programme		
apparent			explanation			pronunciation		
appreciate			familiar			queue		
attached			foreign			recognise		
available			forty			recommend		
average			frequently			relevant		
awkward			government			restaurant		
bargain			guarantee			rhyme		
bruise			harass			rhythm		
category			hindrance			sacrifice		
cemetery			identity			secretary		
committee			immediate(ly)			shoulder		
communicate			individual			signature		
community			interfere			sincere(ly)		
competition			interrupt			soldier		
conscience			language			stomach		
conscious			leisure			sufficient		
controversy			lightning			suggest		
convenience			marvellous			symbol		
correspond			mischievous			system		
criticise (critic + ise)			muscle			temperature		
curiosity			necessary			thorough		
definite			neighbour			twelfth		
desperate			nuisance			variety		
determined			occupy			vegetable		
develop			occur			vehicle		
dictionary			opportunity			Yacht		
disastrous								

Homophones are commonly misspelled words so they are a good thing to focus on when checking your child's writing with them:

Homophones: words that sound the same but have different spellings			
there	Sit over there.	quiet	Our quiet garden is lovely.
their	They have their own books.	quite	The jar is not quite full.
they're	They're (they are) reading.	accept	Please accept my help.
here	The ambulance was here.	except	All except Billy cheered.
hear	Did you hear the siren?	affect	Bad weather doesn't affect me.
see	I'll see you on Friday.	effect	Sweets have a bad effect on teeth.
sea	A weekend by the sea!		
bare	The room was bare.	berry	I ate a berry from the garden.
bear	The bear was cuddly.	bury	A pirate likes to bury treasure.
to	We are going to the park.	break	If you break it, you buy it.
two	We are leaving in two minutes.	brake	Pull the brake gently.
too	It was too much for Charlie.	grown	The kitten is almost fully grown.
be	I will be at Darcy's house.	groan	We all groan at bad jokes.
bee	A bee makes a buzzing sound.	mail	The mail is in the letterbox.
blue	Heron Hill has a blue uniform.	male	Boys are male, girls are female.
blew	She blew out the candles.	meet	I would like to meet your cousin.
night	It was a dark and stormy night...	meat	A dinner of meat and vegetables.
knight	The knight saw the dragon.	missed	I missed the last bus home.
new	New uniform leaves blue fluff.	mist	Mist over a lake is beautiful.
knew	You knew all the names.	piece	I have lost a piece of the puzzle.
for	This present is for you!	peace	We shook hands and made peace.
four	One, two, three, four, five.		
are	These are my friends.	plane	Jaz went to France on a plane.
our	Mrs Merritt is our Headteacher.	plain	I like my food plain, not spicy.
		weather	Cumbria's weather is always sunny.
where	Where is the SPAR shop?	whether	I don't know whether to go or not.
wear	Always wear black school shoes.		
one	One, two, three, four...	whose	Whose book is this?
won	Heron Hill won the prize.	who's	Who's (who is) last in the line?

300 High Frequency Words

Check your child is confident with spelling these words that are used all the time.

I	some	too	eat	found	feet	looked
Mr	so	by	our	live	queen	narrator
Mrs	not	day	two	say	each	thought
I'll	then	made	has	soon	book	through
I'm	were	time	yes	night	its	morning
I've	go	if	play	small	green	different
the	little	help	take	car	let	suddenly
and	as	called	dog	three	girl	something
a	no	here	well	head	which	everyone
to	mum	off	find	king	inside	grandad
said	one	asked	more	town	run	animals
in	them	saw	round	around	any	laughed
he	do	make	tree	every	under	couldn't
of	me	an	magic	garden	hat	there's
it	down	water	us	fast	snow	looking
was	dad	away	other	only	air	children
you	big	good	food	many	trees	shouted
they	when	want	fox	let's	bad	gone
on	it's	over	way	much	tea	hard
she	see	how	been	told	top	floppy
is	very	did	stop	another	eyes	really
for	look	man	must	great	fell	please
at	don't	going	red	why	friends	thing
his	come	where	door	cried	box	stopped
but	will	would	right	keep	dark	horse
that	into	or	sea	room	end	rabbit
with	back	took	these	last	than	white
all	from	school	began	jumped	best	coming
we	him	think	boy	because	better	he's
can	get	home	never	even	hot	liked
are	just	who	next	am	sun	giant
up	now	didn't	first	before	ever	looks
had	came	ran	work	gran	miss	use
my	oh	know	lots	clothes	most	along
her	about	bear	need	tell	cold	plants
what	got	can't	that's	key	park	dragon
there	their	again	baby	fun	lived	pulled
out	people	cat	fish	place	birds	we're
this	your	long	gave	mother	duck	fly
have	put	things	mouse	sat	wish	grow
went	could	new	bed	boat	eggs	wind
be	house	after	may	window	once	river
like	old	wanted	still	sleep	across	