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 @heronhillschool

**HERON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**NEWSLETTER NO. 5**

**31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2023**



SCHOOL MEMBER



Hello everyone

It was great to be able to welcome so many families into school this week for our Parents evenings. We hope this was useful and informative. Please remember if you do have any questions or concerns about your child, staff are generally available for a quick chat after school or you are always welcome to contact the office to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet with your child's teacher.

Things have been busy as usual in school this term with the *Aladdin* pantomime for Reception and KS1, Wood Matters Stone Age Workshop in Year 3, plus three year groups have been out on trips to the Viking Museum, Quaker Tapestry and Planetarium. Thank you so much to all of the parents and carers who accompany these trips.

Reception class returned after half term to a beautiful new classroom, following the flood damage before Christmas. We are still replacing furnishings in this classroom. A great amount of work has happened behind the scenes to make sure things have run smoothly.

### Kenya Visit



Two of our teachers visited our link school in Kenya over half term. I hope as many of you as possible were able to see their Kenyan assembly this week. Thank you for the money raised at the Kenya bake sale: £183.86. The staff learned so much by being there and it has hugely enriched our global understanding. Since the visit, Class 3 at Open Arms and Year 4 at Heron Hill have met on a Zoom call to share a song about caring for our planet, and ideas of what we could do in our schools to make a difference. Miss Ashworth and Miss Addison have also delivered key stage assemblies to share their experiences and teach our children about life and education at



Open Arms Academy, Kenya.

### Online Safety

Miss Watson is our Computing lead in school. She continues to develop links which can help you as parents protect your children whilst online. Some useful online safety resources can be found on our [website](#).

### Welcome and Thank you

We welcome Danielle Holmes as a Higher-Level Teaching assistant in Nursery. Meanwhile, we say a goodbye and thank you to Josh Briggs our school cook, who has served our children with heaps of food and cheerful banter for many years. He is leaving the area to pursue his career in sports. We also send very best wishes to Mr Haley and Dr Hibbins who have retired as governors and to Mrs Moorhouse and Mrs Ladds who have left this week to begin their maternity leave.

### School Council Business

The School Council have initiated a clay tile-making community-wide project with local artist Kerry Howarth, celebrating our school values of *respect, responsibility and relationships*. It has been a pleasure to see many parents, governors and community partners coming into school to make a tile for the mural which will eventually adorn our hall. The School Council have also been busy discussing the new school meals menu with their classes and will be giving feedback to our school meals provider, Orian, in the summer term.

I hope that you all enjoy the Easter break and that there are opportunities for you to spend time together with families and friends. We will look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 8.50 am.

With thanks for your continued support.

*Trish Merritt*

Headteacher

### Y5 Visit to the Quaker Tapestry

Year 5 used this visit to find out more about the history of the Quaker movement in our locality, and to meet practising Quakers from Kendal.



### Traffic and Parking

Thank you to everyone who is choosing to park safely around school during drop off and pick up times.



We ask everyone to think carefully about where you choose to park your car and whether this could potentially put other families at risk. We are extremely concerned for children's safety and wish to be as considerate as possible to our neighbouring homes.

### Accelerated Reader

Congratulations to the class winners of this term's competition for the most Accelerated Reader points: Year 4 Thornthwaite (Key Stage 2) and Year 2 Outerside (Key Stage 1).



### Year 4 pupils visited the Parish Church to explore the meaning of the Easter story.



### Y3 Gooseholme Visit

Year 3 visited Gooseholme to study the River Kent as part of their geography studies.



### World Book Day: Book Cover Design Winners

We had some creative and thoughtful entries in our World Book Day book cover/book reviews and the children whose entries particularly caught their teacher's eye are below:

Reception Latrigg	Grace L, 'Tiberius goes on Holiday' by Keith Harvey
Reception Mellbreak	Maisie H, 'Little Raindrop' by Joanna Gray
Year 1 Angletarn	Freddie N, 'Hulk' by Stan Lee and co (Marvel)
Year 2 Outerside	Erin S, 'The Tiger who came to Tea' by Judith Kerr
Year 2 Yewbarrow	Oliver D, 'The Owl and the Pussycat' by Edward Lear
Year 3 Glaramara	Evie G, 'Willow Wild Thing' by Gill Lewis
Year 4 Blencathra	Josie W, 'The Rescued Puppy' by Holly Webb
Year 4 Thornthwaite	Sam G, 'The BFG' by Roald Dahl
Year 5 Catstycam	Finlay R, 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' by Rick Riordan
Year 5 Fairfield	Dillon A, 'What Monster?' by Tom Gates
Year 6 Helvellyn	Ayda H, 'Matilda' by Roald Dahl
Year 6 Scafell	Nyla H, 'A Series of Unfortunate Events' by Lemony Snicket

### Brewery Arts Centre Dance Platform

A Year 5 dance troupe took part in the Brewery Arts Centre's showcase of school talent in March. Our pupils produced a wonderful performance of a Viking dance in the show. The children were amazing and all staff and parents are very proud of them. Thank you to Mrs Towe for her choreography and work with the children.



**EASTER EGGS:** The number and standard of entries has been greater than ever. So much talent! Thank you to everyone who entered, you all deserve a prize...

1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>

...However, these are the children who *did* get prizes:

Nursery/Reception

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Harry T
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Joshua T-E
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Dylan G



Year 1/Year 2

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Harriet O'K
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Leo G
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Imogen V



Year 3/Year 4

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Harrison R
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Luke M
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Isla B



Year 5/Year 6

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Ayda H
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Lucas R & Isabell K
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Zeplyn A-M



**Friends of Heron Hill Easter Bake Winners**



Mayor Rathbone judged the Friends of Heron Hill Bake Sale entries. He declared that all the cakes and bakes were wonderful but the cakes of William and Hudson in Reception and Luke in Year 4 were the best of the best, so they were given their prizes in today's Celebration Assembly. The cake sale raised a fantastic £218.70. Thank you **everyone**.



**Year 2 Easter Baskets**

Year 2 have been practising some of the skills they have learned in Design and Technology to make baskets.

They have learned about using a template and have been practising various skills including cutting, folding, glueing flaps together and using a stapler. The end result was a basket ready to house a little chick in time for Easter.



**School Meals Price**

Due to Orian's increased charges, from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April the price of school meals will be £3.00 a meal for Years 3-6. Nursery school meals will be £2.20 each.

If you would like to check if you are entitled to Free School Meals you can apply online at <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/freeschoolmeals.asp> or by telephoning the Free School Meals office on 01228 226105. If you think you are eligible, please apply as soon as possible.

## Sports News

### Swimming

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 19 children in 4 teams took part in the annual sponsored Rotary Club Swimathon. The magnificent team of Harrison, Maisey, Gracie, Lyla and Estela totalled 136 lengths in their 50 minute swim as a relay team. Our second team swam 80 lengths in 50 minutes. Well done to them all!



### Windermere Cross Country Event, 8<sup>th</sup> March

Our cross country runners were amazing at the Windermere School event. They were determined and gave their all, even though it was hard going. *Janette Foster*

### National Cross Country Championships, Leicestershire

Two of our pupils, Oliver and Silvie, represented Cumbria in the national finals. The course was a very fast course, not hilly like we are used to, but with some sneaky inclines and was very muddy. They both represented the county well and we are all very proud of them.



## Dates for your Diary

Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	End of term, 3.15 pm
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to school for summer term
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Nursery and Reception parents: Outdoor Maths Family Learning begins (3 week course) 9.15 am-11.15 am
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Bags 2School collection day, 9.00 am (bring in donations from 19 <sup>th</sup> April)
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Yoga and wellbeing workshops for Reception-Year 6
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	'Start Talks Online Safety' parent workshop - information to follow.
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Class photographs
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Spring music concert, 4.00 pm
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	School closed for Bank Holiday
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Rec-Year 2 Coronation drama day workshops
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	King's Coronation celebration, 1.00 pm
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed for Coronation Bank Holiday
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs
w/b 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2 SATs begin
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Friends of Heron Hill disco (more information to follow)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	World Bee Day, Fairtrade cake sale and annual sponsored walk
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	End of half term, 3.15 pm

### Sports Days (advance notice, dates may change)

Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception (morning), reserve - Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> June
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 and Year 2 (afternoon), reserve - Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 5 and Year 6 (all day), reserve - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3 and Year 4 (afternoon), reserve - Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July

## Governor Insight: Dr Rob Hibbins

After seven years as a governor, it is time for me to hang up my lanyard at the end of this term. The children who were in Reception when I joined the governors at Heron Hill have now moved on to secondary school. Stability in the Governing Body at a school is important, but so are new faces and the new ideas they bring to the Board. If you (or a family member, work colleague or friend) have a professional skill (eg legal, financial, HR or property management), are interested in becoming part of the team that oversees the strategic direction of the school and can volunteer a small amount of time to bring skills and enthusiasm to the role of governor, then you (or they) could talk to Mrs Lehane (Clerk to Governors) or Mrs Merritt (Headteacher) in the first instance. It is a rewarding role through which you really can make a difference to the school and to the opportunities and life chances of all the children who attend Heron Hill.



*Have a very happy Easter holiday!*