



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

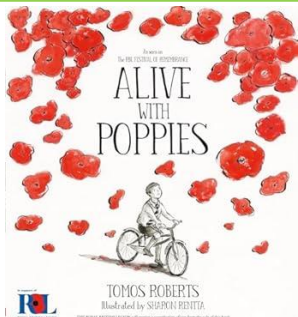
This week began with a whole-school assembly marking the importance of Remembrance. Our Heron Hill pupils showed high levels of respect and reflection throughout this. Well done everyone! I know they are all looking forward to a second whole-school assembly this Friday. In aid of Children in Need, Mr Corrie will be hosting a fun, fundraising assembly that will include the soaking of a teacher! Voting boxes are located outside my office for anyone wishing to make a donation and nominate a teacher for a soaking.



Last week was a real privilege for me as I hosted our Reception intake open events for prospective parents. It was truly an honour to be showing people around our school, sharing the future vision and answering questions about what our school can offer. Our EYFS team did a brilliant job of welcoming children into the environment and shared what makes Heron Hill special with visiting parents. The addition of a Saturday open event was popular; it is so important to me to ensure that we are able to meet as many working patterns as possible. Choosing a school for your child is a HUGE decision after all!

I will be out of school on Thursday and Friday this week for a Cumbrian Headteacher conference. School will be in the capable hands of Mrs Wilkinson and I look forward to seeing you all on the gates again when I return on Monday. Have a fantastic rest of the week!

Mrs Middleton



ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK....

Focused on our school values: **RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – RELATIONSHIPS** We talked specifically about respect and focused on remembrance. We talked about the significance of the Royal British Legion annual poppy appeal and learnt why the poppy is used as a symbol of both remembrance and hope. Our storybook this week was an illustrated poem called 'Alive with Poppies'. A beautiful poem that pupils listened to respectfully and with interest.



HANDWRITING AND PRESENTATION PRAISE

Our special Remembrance and Pudsey assemblies this week mean that our usual assembly routine has not been followed. There are no presentation praise certificates this week but they will return next week. Thank you 😊

SOCIAL MEDIA:

It has been great to see parents interacting with our X page and keeping up to date with our school news feed. You can join in by following **@heronhillschool** on the X platform/app.



VACANCIES ADVERTISED:

Since arriving at our school in September, I have been working with our governing body to review Heron Hill staffing and ensure that all classes have consistency in their teachers.

We are looking forward to welcoming some maternity leave staff back from having their babies in February, meaning that some temporary contracts will be coming to an end. Several gaps in staffing need filling so we have advertised several staffing positions this week.

This is nothing for parents to be alarmed by – all permanent staff remain in school and are very committed to our school in this new chapter. I am so lucky to lead such a dedicated and supportive team.



ATTENDANCE:

Attendance to school is important for all pupils. Primary-aged pupils rely on adults to get them to school each day and on time. Please ensure you do all you can to get your child into school daily. If you are experiencing any challenges, please let a member of the senior leadership team know so that we can endeavour to help you.

OUR 8:45AM STAGGERED DROP-OFF IS HAVING A REALLY POSITIVE IMPACT ON PUNCTUALITY EACH DAY. THANK YOU TO OUR PARENTS, CARERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS FOR EMBRACING THIS TRIAL CHANGE.

REMINDER:

- Pupils no longer line up on the playground to be collected by class teachers at 8:50am.
- Our school doors now open at 8:45am with registers being taken by teachers at 8:55am prompt.
- Your child needs to therefore be in school and through their allocated doors by 8:54am.

Well done to the seven classes highlighted GREEN below who met or exceeded the 96% target last week.

Registration Form	Class %
Reception - Latrigg	92.3
Reception - Mellbreak	99.2
Y1 Angletarn	95.2
Y1 Whinlatter	98.0
Y2 Outerside	97.9
Y2 Yewbarrow	95.2
Y3 Kentmere	92.5
Y3 Glaramara	98.5
Y4 Thornthwaite	93.4
Y4 Blencathra	92.5
Y5 Fairfield	97.7
Y5 Catstycam	98.6
Y6 Helvellyn	95.4
Y6 Scafell	98.1



PARENTS' EVENING:

Our staff are really looking forward to meeting with you to discuss how your child has settled into their new school year and their achievements so far.

Our parent consultation meetings are scheduled for:

- Thursday 21st November 2024
- Tuesday 26th November 2024

A variety of times are available to support the working patterns and commitments of our school community.

To book an appointment with your child's teacher, you will need to log into our online booking system. This will go live on Friday 15th November XXXXXX



ENGLAND ROCKS COMPETITION:

Pupils across KS2 have been excited to join in with a national times table competition this week. The Times Tables Rockstars platform has been asking schools to compete with leaderboards for highest scores, fastest answers and best average scores too.

At various points across today and yesterday Heron Hill have been spotted on the leaderboard. We are super proud of our mathematicians! Keep up the great work!



SOMETHING EXCITING AND CHRISTMASSY IS COMING:

Next Monday, we will be having a special online assembly with Mrs Middleton in all classes across school.

The only clues that can be given are that this is the launch of a new festive countdown and that everyone will be involved!

More information will be revealed in next week's newsletter so watch this space!

Friends of Heron Hill School
CHARITY
Race Night
@ The Heron
Saturday 23 November
First race 7.30pm
8 races - £1 per horse
+ Play Your Cards Right

FOHH FUNDRAISING:

The next fundraising event from our Friends of Heron Hill is a social event for parents, carers and wider family members. This will take place at The Heron on **Saturday 23rd November**. We thank The Heron for offering to support our school fundraising with one of their popular race nights.



ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Our pupils access a wide range of activities and opportunities in school. Their curriculum has been carefully planned to make the most of our amazing grounds and at break and lunchtimes there are lots of different resources to access. Our afterschool club offer also enhances these opportunities further.

Our pupils are also extremely lucky to be supported with their passions and interests outside of school by their parents and carers. There are so many amazing groups, clubs and teams to join in and around Kendal. This section of our newsletter will celebrate achievements outside of school and enable us to congratulate pupils on their contributions.

If there is something you'd like to highlight and celebrate for your child. Please email admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk with the subject 'F.A.O Mrs Middleton – Newsletter' to ensure your email makes its way to me.

NB: By submitting photographs, you are consenting to your child's image being added onto the newsletter which is shared via ParentMail and online.



Kindness is magic and these girls are super kind! Erin and Bonnie raised £30 on a craft stall at the weekend at a charity Christmas fair. They spent loads of time making crafts and teaching themselves to crochet and then ran the stall themselves. Well done Erin and Bonnie! We are so proud of you!

During half term Oakley from Y5 took part in a half-time performance at the England vs Samoa rugby game at Wigan Stadium. What a brilliant, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! Well done Oakley!





CHRISTMAS AT HERON HILL:

Christmas really is the most wonderful time of the year and being in school with pupils is always a complete joy around such a magical time. I spend most of December more excited than the children! We have lots of lovely plans for this year and want parents, carers, governors and family members to have as much notice as possible of these dates so that you can join in with the festivities. Please see the current Christmas dates that are booked in below. If other events are added, we will let you know in plenty of time.

Wed 27th/Thurs 28th Nov	Usborne Book Fair
Friday 29th November	Friends of Heron Hill Christmas Fair
Monday 2nd December	Christmas card post boxes open
Tuesday 3rd December	Y2 dress rehearsal 2:15pm
Tuesday 3rd December	FoHH Christmas Wreath Making 7-9pm
Wednesday 4th December	Y2 Christmas Production 2:15pm and 5:30pm
Monday 9th December	Year 6 to Box Theatre, 10.00 am, 'Peter Pan'
Monday 9th December	Reception Christmas Craft afternoon
Monday 9th December	Y1 Carols under the Canopy, 4.30 pm
Tuesday 10th December	Year 3 Christmas party
Wednesday 11th December	Nursery stay and play Christmas craft afternoon
Wednesday 11th December	Year 4 Christmas party
Thursday 12th December	Reception Christmas Craft morning
Thursday 12th December	Year 2 Christmas party
Friday 13th December	Year 3-Year 6 Carol Service at the Parish Church, 2 pm
Friday 13th December	Reception Christmas party
Monday 16th December	Year 1 Christmas Party
Monday 16th December	Last day for Christmas card post boxes
Tuesday 17th December	Years 1 and 2 Carol Service at the Parish Church, 10 am
Wednesday 18th December	Nursery and Reception Nativity Service at Parish Church, 10 am
Wednesday 18th December	Nursery Christmas party (afternoon)
Thursday 19th December	Years 5 and 6 Christmas parties
Friday 20th December	End of term, 3:15 pm

CALENDAR DATES FOR THE AUTUMN TERM (Any added dates are highlighted in yellow)

- Thursday 7th November** - Sept 2025 Reception New Starters Open Afternoon 2:00-6:00pm
- Friday 8th November** - Individual and family photographs
- Saturday 9th November** - Sept 2025 Reception New Starters Open Morning 10:00-11:00am
- Tuesday 12th November** - Reception Zoolab workshop
- Friday 15th November** - Children In Need mufti day (dress in non-uniform, spots and Pudsey-themed attire for a £1 donation to this important charity.)
- Friday 15th November** - Parents evening online booking system goes live
- Thursday 21st November** - Parent consultation meetings afterschool
- Friday 22nd November** - Y5/Y6 Kendal Mountain Festival at Leisure Centre (AM)
- Monday 25th November** - Athletics parent session 2:30-3:10pm (In school hall, come along to find out more about this excellent resource!)
- Tuesday 26th November** - Parent consultation meetings afterschool
- Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th November** - Usborne Book Fair
- Friday 29th November** - FOHH Christmas Fayre afterschool
- Monday 2nd December** - Tree planting afterschool (all families welcome!)
- Monday 2nd December** - Christmas card post boxes open
- Tuesday 3rd December** - FOHH wreath making workshop 7-9pm

