



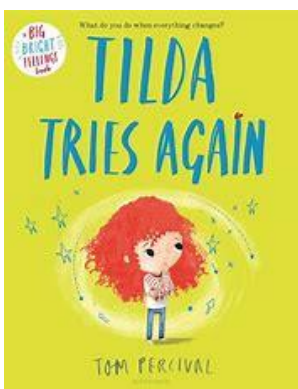
MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Well after all the excitement of snow being forecast on Monday evening, we were greeted by not a single flake! Instead, I've been introduced to the freezing temperatures of Cumbria and have been digging out my warm coat, woolly hat, scarf and gloves! I love this time of year though; when the final autumn leaves cling on for dear life whilst the world around them welcomes winter... beautiful. Please ensure that your child has all they need for outdoor play and outdoor learning in the weeks ahead. We'd recommend full tracksuits on PE days now that the cold has kicked in. Hats, scarves, gloves and coats are all needed daily.



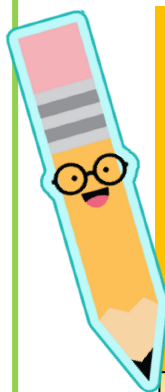
The second half of the autumn term is now in full swing and we are really looking forward to sharing your child's successes with you at our parent consultations this Thursday and next Tuesday. No one knows your child better than you so partnership with you is such an important aspect of our collaboration. We want the best for your child so please come forward with any questions or comments you have for school during these meetings. Our staff are on hand to help in any way we can. I hope you enjoy reading about the latest goings on in school via this week's newsletter. Grab a cup of tea and take five minutes, there is much to celebrate!

Mrs Middleton



ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK....

Focused on our school values:
RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – RELATIONSHIPS We talked specifically about responsibility and why this is important. Building on our learning from 'Finn's Fibs' last half term, we shared the story of Tilda. This concentrates on taking responsibility when things go wrong or feel uncertain, picking yourself up and trying again. If we had a 4th 'R' for our school values, it would probably be 'resilience' so this was a great book to share with pupils this week.



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 ☺

Class:	Pupil:
Y1 Angletarn	Kade K
Y1 Whinlatter	Ellie N
Y2 Outerside	Freya L
Y2 Yewbarrow	Hugh J
Y3 Kentmere	Theo C
Y3 Glaramara	Lily N
Y4 Thornthwaite	Kai F
Y4 Blencathra	Millie G
Y5 Fairfield	Flynn O'D
Y5 Catstycam	Louie B
Y6 Helvellyn	Luke M
Y6 Scafell	Evie McA

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.



LITTER PICK CHALLENGE



ECO TEAM – LITTER PICK:

We are pleased to inform you that Heron Hill are joining in some litter picks as part of 'The Big Hog Friendly Litter Pick Challenge'

We will be doing 2 litter picks. This week's litter pick will be on site with School council on Friday lunchtime and then we will do one off site with Eco-council next Thursday (28th). Parent volunteers would be welcome to join...all you need to do is turn up at 12:10 at the School office in warm layers (including gloves).

RECEPTION'S ZOOLAB WORKSHOP:

Last week was a memorable day for our Reception classes as the ZooLab team came into school with some very curious creatures. Pupils were able to learn about, interact with and hold many different animals including a Corn Snake, Giant African Land Snail and a Degu! They were so brave and inquisitive throughout the session, showcasing our Heron Hill values of RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY throughout. Well done Reception!

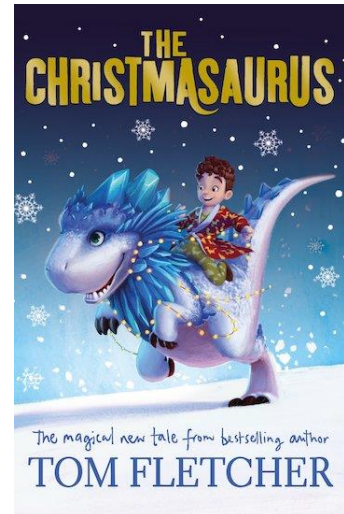
The workshop was **funded in full** by our FOHH group who have funded multiple learning and enrichment opportunities since September. On behalf of all of the staff and pupils at school, I send our sincerest thanks to all who support FOHH. The fundraising you do supports school immensely!



PARENTS' EVENING:

During our parent consultation meetings, me and the senior leadership team will also be on hand to answer any questions or hear any feedback you have on school and this new chapter we have begun.

There will be a short electronic survey (accessible via a QR code). Can I please encourage as many of you as possible to complete this... your feedback really matters and is highly valued by me and the team in school. Thank you!



THE CHRISTMASAURUS IS HERE!

On Monday, every class in school joined an online Teams meeting where we launched our whole-school Christmas countdown book – The Christmasaurus by Tom Fletcher.

Prefects donned some Christmas accessories and delivered a copy of the story to every class and then at 3pm, the story-reading began!

We will gather daily to read a chapter or two in the countdown to Christmas. Everyone reads at the same pace so this is the perfect opportunity for some book talk between siblings, friends and family members:

- Who is your favourite character?
- What do you think might happen next?
- What is your favourite thing you've heard about the North Pole?

On the last day of term, we will gather in the school hall to share the final chapter together before heading home for the holidays. What a great way for us to collaborate and celebrate the most wonderful time of the year!



ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

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.



Huge congratulations to sisters Jessica and Sophia for their swimming achievements in the Kendal Swimming Club Gala last weekend. Jessica won a silver medal, gaining 2nd place in the 25m Butterfly.

Sophie won her heat in the 100m Girls Freestyle knocking over 10 seconds off her previous PB time. Both girls improved their PBs in all the races they entered. We are so proud of you!

Isla H was awarded 2nd place along with her team in the Cumbria Under 9s Floor and Vault Championship at the weekend. Well done on your silver medal Isla!



Evie McAvoy from Y6 also entered the Cumbria floor and vault gymnastics competition. She got 2 ribbons - 4th place for her floor routine and 6th place for overall marks. Team Kendal also won a silver medal for team overall marks. Well done Evie!

Sophie in Y6 has been scuba diving for two years and last weekend managed to achieve her next goal and she even got a 'high five' from her Instructor. She is so proud of herself as it's taken lots of courage and dedication to get to this point; it's also given her a real boost of confidence. Hopefully, Sophie will be able to do her first open water dive next Summer! How exciting! Well done Sophie.



Harry T is extremely proud of his latest swimming achievement – his 200m badge! That is impressive swimming! Well done Harry!

CHILDREN IN NEED – PADDY COMES TO KENDAL:

There was much excitement across school last week as we supported the annual BBC Children in Need campaign. Several members of our school community took to the streets to cheer on Paddy McGuinness as he committed to cycling 300 miles on a retro Chopper bike! What an amazing achievement! Freya and Rowan FW made special signs to cheer him on:



Friday saw the end of our teacher challenge with £97.44 being raised for 'soak the teacher'. Thank you to Mr Corrie, Miss Ashworth and Miss Wilson for being such great sports! Inspired by Paddy, Tommy from Y6 rode into assembly on his Chopper bike. Our School Council did an amazing job of hosting this assembly – we were all so proud of their confidence and presentation skills. Well done Team Heron Hill – another fantastic display of what happens when we work together, celebrate our successes and build each other's confidence.

You are all FAB-U-LOUS!



BATTERY RECYCLING:

Only 1/3 of all non-rechargeable batteries used in electrical appliances are recycled. The school has a battery recycling box through recycle-more.co.uk which you can use for your old batteries, just bring them to the school office.



You're invited to our

Usborne Book Fair

on **Thurs 28th November** at **3-4:30 pm**

You'll find us in
The School Hall

Our Independent Usborne Partner is
Marie Wynn - Skiddaw View Books

You can contact them on
marie@skiddawviewbooks.co.uk
07834832073

In partnership with
USBORNE

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





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.

Remember: Teachers close the door at 8:54!

Well done to the 8 classes highlighted GREEN below who met or exceeded the 96% target last week.

Registration Form	Class %
Reception - Latrigg	88.8
Reception - Mellbreak	89.2
Y1 Angletarn	96.2
Y1 Whinlatter	98.0
Y2 Outerside	99.3
Y2 Yewbarrow	97.9
Y3 Kentmere	94.3
Y3 Glaramara	97.7
Y4 Thornthwaite	95.2
Y4 Blencathra	96.1
Y5 Fairfield	97.7
Y5 Catstycam	99.7
Y6 Helvellyn	95.8
Y6 Scafell	93.0





Last week's TTRS 'England Rocks' maths competition was so exciting! Over 3 days, Y2-Y6 classes pitted their multiplication tables knowledge against pupils across England, played games against their friends and aimed to beat their personal best scores. Across the school, the children answered an incredible 130, 374 times tables questions with an average of 509 questions being answered per child - wow! We are very proud of everyone's participation. Here are some of the results we celebrated in assembly together this week:

Highest England Rocks Class Participation and points:

- 1st place: Thornthwaite Y4 with 1,381 average correct answers per child
- 2nd place: Catstycam Y5 with 988 average correct answers per child
- 3rd place: Yewbarrow Y2 with 752 average correct answers per child

Fastest tables recall (averaging well under one second answering times tables questions):

- Theo O. in Y4 - 0.73 seconds
- Edward S. in Y5 - 0.74 seconds
- Joen J. in Y6 - 0.77 seconds

Highest Lifetime points scored on TTRS:

- Joen J in Y6 - 688, 509 points
- Max M in Y5 - 623,856 points



The children had heaps of fun whilst building their confidence with recall of essential number facts. Remember: the most effective way to improve recall is by practising little and often: for just 3-4 minutes, five times a week. Many congratulations to everyone who took part - we are very proud of you all.

MRS WILKINSON, MATHS LEAD