



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

We enjoyed a very busy start to the week when our main Reception area looked a little like the Next Sale queue! We were in high demand with both Phonics workshops and our community 'Messy Play' sessions both taking place from 9.00 am. It is always wonderful to see so many adults engaging with life in school; thank you to everyone who attended. Mrs Hudson and the team in school have worked so hard on creating the new Phonics home learning packs that came home recently. I do hope you are finding them useful when supporting your child with their early reading at home.

Our 'Messy Play' sessions are proving so popular that the Valentines one sold out in less than 24 hours! I would like to say a huge thank you to Miss Storey for her leadership of this initiative – it continues to be a huge success for our school.

It is hard to believe that we are just a week and a half away from February half term. It has been another wonderful half term at Heron Hill and we continue to be SO PROUD of our pupils for their hard work and commitment to our school values of RESPECT – RELATIONSHIPS – RESPONSIBILITY.

I have almost run out of Headteacher awards and stickers! I'll get onto ordering some more now. Have a super week and thank you for your continued support.



Mrs Middleton



COMING SOON...

Your chance to make a difference for children at our partner school in Kenya! More details to follow!



HANDWRITING AND PRESENTATION PRAISE

The afternoon Phonics workshop and a Young Carers assembly took the place of my Headteacher assemblies this week but do not worry; our presentation praise awards will return next week!

SOCIAL MEDIA

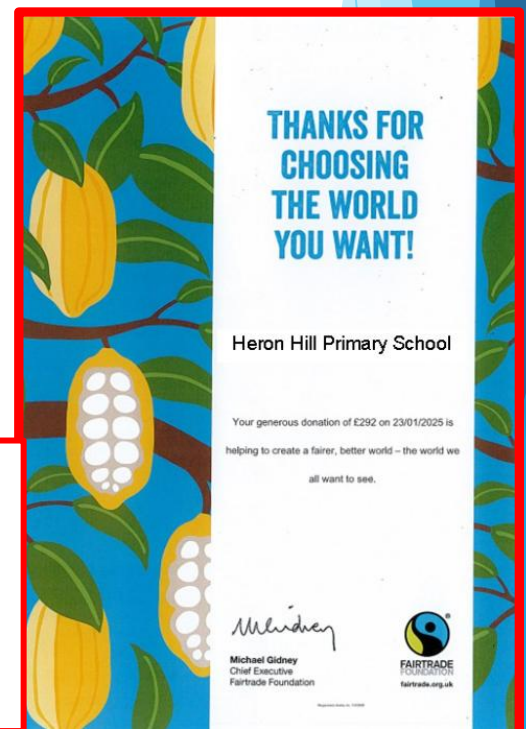
Our X page showcases daily school news and things happening in school. You can join in by following **@heronhillschool** on the X platform/app.



FAIRTRADE CHARITY DONATION:

Thank you to everyone who visited our charity Christmas tree at Kendal Parish Church last festive season. In total, we raised £292.00 which can be seen on the donation recognition to the right.

What a superb final total! A special shout-out goes to Reception for their wonderful elf artwork that adorned our tree and caught the eye of so many visitors. Well done!



NHS
Parent Workshop

FUSSY EATER?

Support for trying new foods and encouraging healthy eating

WED 12TH FEB 2025 2pm - 3pm
Led by Sam Hill, Public Health Practitioner

Pre-school children and babies are welcome!

YOUNG CARERS

Heron Hill has an excellent relationship with the 'Young Carers' organisation and today they've been in school to lead a special assembly with Years 3-6.

Mrs Little is happy to be the point of contact for any parents who wish to discuss this further or want their child to get involved; please contact her at school to find out more.

Young carers also have a website that parents and carers can explore for more information too:

<https://www.carersupportsouthlakes.org.uk/young-carers/>



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.

This week's attendance is presented in a different way to help parents see the impact of absence on a child's learning. Instead of sharing class percentages, the table shows the number of school days missed in each class last week.

Registration Class	Class - Number of days missed
Reception - Latrigg	9
Reception - Mellbreak	2
Y1 Angletarn	7
Y1 Whinlatter	1
Y2 Outerside	7
Y2 Yewbarrow	3
Y3 Kentmere	1
Y3 Glaramara	6
Y4 Thornthwaite	4
Y4 Blencathra	2.5
Y5 Fairfield	4
Y5 Catstycam	3
Y6 Helvellyn	3.5
Y6 Scafell	7.5

Missing just one day of school means missing:

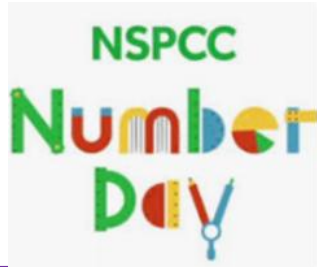
- Phonics/ Reading
 - Writing
 - Maths
- At least 2 of the following: Geography, RE, Music, PE, History, Science, Art, DT, German, PSHE, Computing
- Social time with friends



NSPCC NUMBER DAY – THIS FRIDAY!

To mark NSPCC Number Day this Friday, children are warmly invited to take part in our Number puzzle challenges: Four Fours (Y3-Y6) and How Close to 100? (Y2-Y6). Your child can collect challenge sheets from opposite the ICT suite in school at any time. The activities may need some adult input at home and are a great way to explore, make predictions and simply 'play' with numbers. If they wish, children can return their challenges to Mrs Wilkinson up to the end of half term.

We look forward to a whole day of number fun and seeing the children in their 'dress as a digit' mufti on Friday!



PHONICS HOME LEARNING PACKS:

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 brought home Phonics learning packs just over a week ago. These were also discussed in the phonics workshops on Monday. The packs are designed to support regular, fun phonics practice at home and will support your child in recalling and remembering the phonics sounds they have learnt at school.

Some children have been very keen to get started on using these excellent resources, much to Mrs Hudson's delight!

Charlie in Year 1 has been using his phonics pack to make words and write them down. Charlie we are so proud of you!



SPRING TERM DATES:

Spring term is here! Below are the main dates currently in the calendar until Easter. As we did last term, we will update these via the weekly newsletter and highlight any changes in **YELLOW** so that they are easy for you to track.



Date	Event
Friday 7 th February	NSPCC Number Day – wear clothes with a number on or come as a digit; please support https://www.nspcc.org.uk
Monday 10 th February	Nursery open session for September 2025 intake, 1.00 pm-2.00 pm
Tuesday 11 th February	Nursery open session for September 2025 intake, 1.00 pm-2.00 pm
Tuesday 11 th February	FOHH cake sale, 3.00 pm. Please donate cakes, biscuits etc, no nuts
Weds 12 th February	Do you have a Fussy Eater in the house? Parents' Workshop, .2.00 pm, come along
Friday 14 th February	End of half term, 3.15 pm. Return to school on Monday 24th February
Monday 3 rd March	Usborne Book Fair in the main hall from 2.45 pm
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day! (Mufti day - dress as your favourite book character)
Monday 17 th March	Year 5 half day visit
Thursday 20 th March	Year 4 day visit
Friday 21 st March	Red Nose Day - Mufti - wear something odd (e.g. odd socks, t-shirt inside out/back to front)
Monday 31 st March	Y5 residential visit (one night)
Tuesday 1 st April	Break the rules for April Fools - Up to £2.50 for 5 rules
Thursday 3 rd April	FOHH Easter Treasure Hunt at 3.30pm. Mufti - dress as a bunny/Easter costume
Friday 4 th April	Break up for Easter Holidays



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.



To celebrate her 40th birthday, Mrs Metcalfe organised a country and western evening attended by 150 people, who helped her to raise £1000 for charity. A great night was had by all. Well done and happy birthday, Mrs Metcalfe!

PREFECTS PRAISE

Our Prefects have been on duty during lunchtimes supporting pupils with their play. Olivia, Max, Oscar and Evie have been keeping an eye out for children who are being kind, building relationships and helping others. This week, they would like to say well done to the following children:



Pupils who have been noticed:

Jack B – Y3

Molly P – Y6

Max N – Y3

Zara R – Y6



PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

The reputation that our school has in the wider Kendal community is everyone's responsibility. School has seen a time of significant, positive change since September and this is great news for our school. Our community has come together to work in the best interests of your children, hear your thoughts on how we can improve further and make some positive changes to the lived experiences of our pupils – your children. This has included improved traffic conditions during morning drop off. We are really pleased with the impact our staggered drop off time has had and are so grateful to parents and family members for your support.

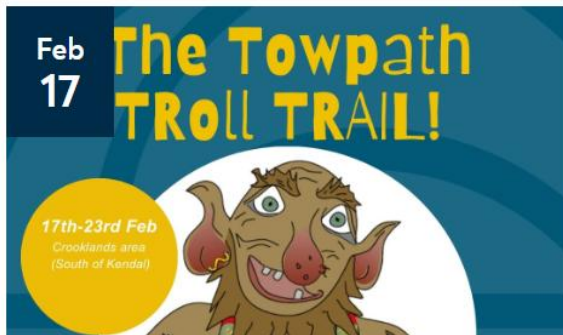


Sadly, at the end of last week school received an email complaining about inconsiderate, illegal parking by a small number of people in our school community. This damages our reputation in the local community and puts our pupils at increased risk on their journey to and from school. It specifically referenced parking on the double yellow lines outside school and the danger this poses.

Please do not park on any double yellow lines outside school. We should not need school staff to police this. We would much rather be greeting our pupils on the gate or wishing them a safe journey home than being confronted by angry, illegally-parked adults. Please play your part and park legally, safely and with due care for others. Thank you.

LANCASTER CANAL TOWPATH REDEVELOPMENT

In celebration of the works that have been done on the canal's towpath trail, there are some amazing events for families to get involved in during the forthcoming half term. Shown below are snippets of some of the activities on offer, find out more by visiting: [Enjoy It - Lancaster Canal Towpath Trail](#)



The Towpath Troll Trail!

Find our friendly Towpath Trolls and collect your free Troll sticker! Collect your Troll Trail Map from Crooklands Hotel, Millness Carpark or download via the button below. The Trolls will be on the Towpath Trail

Date: February 17 2025 - February 23 2025

Cost: FREE!



Guided Bike Rides with Lakes Gravel Gang!

Your guide is Emily Wormald, a British Cycling level 3 guide and founder of the Lakes Gravel Gang! Each ride will be fully guided, with riders supported, encouraged and looked after along the length of



Nature Connection Workshop

Join the brilliant Ruth Kirk, founder of 'At Natures Pace' and trusted Nature Connection Guide and Outdoor Educator on a doodling workshop to slow down and reconnect along the beautifully biodiverse Towpath Trail. It's not

