



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

When I was interviewed for the post of headteacher last February, one of the tasks was to outline my plans for 'the first 100 days'. Today marks my **100th day** as headteacher at Heron Hill Primary and what a 100 days it has been! I knew that I was moving somewhere special with a dedicated team of staff, supportive parents and fantastic children but even I wasn't prepared for the welcome and joy that Heron Hill has brought me since taking up my role.

I have spent the past 100 days learning as much as possible about our school, listening carefully to people's views and ideas for the future, completing appropriate checks and reviews of the provision in place, and ensuring that our school values are embedded in the daily diet of all who are part of Team HH. It has been busy, fulfilling and exciting. The future for our school looks very bright indeed and I cannot wait to continue the journey for the next 100 days and beyond!

I would like to extend my thanks to the staff, parents, pupils and governors of Heron Hill for your contributions, support and hard work. I wish all members of our school community a restful half term break. Thank you for your continued support.



Mrs Middleton (Proud HT of Heron Hill)

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.



HANDWRITING AND PRESENTATION PRAISE

We continue to celebrate achievements, progress and effort in all things presentation during our weekly headteacher assemblies. This week, the children below have been praised for their super efforts. Well done! 😊



NSPCC NUMBER DAY FUN

We had so much fun last Friday celebrating Mrs Wilkinson's favourite subject, Maths! We took part in NSPCC's annual 'Number Day' to show our support for the charity and showcase our love of numbers. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of the parents and carers who supported their children in dressing up for this occasion. We were so impressed by the wide range of ways that pupils dressed as their favourite digits.



Class:	Pupil:
Y1 Angletarn	Kade K
Y1 Whinlatter	Ezra H
Y2 Outerside	Carter W
Y2 Yewbarrow	Roza M
Y3 Kentmere	Aubree M
Y3 Glaramara	Layla T
Y4 Thornthwaite	Kaden H
Y4 Blencathra	Ozric A-M
Y5 Fairfield	Lola I
Y5 Catstycam	Arlo M
Y6 Helvellyn	Reggie B
Y6 Scafell	Esme A



COMING SOON...

Our wraparound care will relaunch after half term as **'Happy Herons'**. This name has been chosen by the children who attend the provision and a new logo has been designed by Isla B in Year 5. We are really excited to launch our new, improved provision with new resources, toys, activity themes and access to multiple areas inside our main school building. A detailed letter about the changes was sent via ParentMail last week so please read this to find out more.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

The last day of a half term can mean only one thing... Celebration Assembly is coming! Mrs M and Mrs W are really looking forward to dancing, happiness and praise galore!

We have newly designed certificates and values-linked categories to launch this week so we cannot wait to celebrate with the pupils those who have been chosen.



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 two ways to help parents see the impact of absence on a child's learning. The table below shows the number of school days missed in each class this half term and the overall class % for attendance this half term.

Registration Class	Class - Number of days missed	%
Reception - Latrigg	33.5	95.2
Reception - Mellbreak	30	95.7
Y1 Angletarn	24	96.8
Y1 Whinlatter	20.5	97.5
Y2 Outerside	39.5	94.6
Y2 Yewbarrow	20.5	97.4
Y3 Kentmere	23.5	96.3
Y3 Glaramara	15	97.9
Y4 Thornthwaite	31.5	96.1
Y4 Blencathra	28.5	96.2
Y5 Fairfield	24	96.4
Y5 Catstycam	14.5	98.1
Y6 Helvellyn	27	96.3
Y6 Scafell	37.5	94.9

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

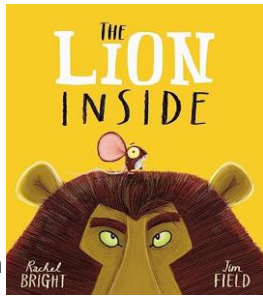


ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK....

Focused on our school values:

RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – RELATIONSHIPS

This week, we shared the story of a lion and a mouse who didn't fit the characteristics and behaviours that we expected of them. Mouse was so scared of Lion but desperately wanted to learn how to roar to increase her bravery. When she finally met Lion, it turned out that he was scared of her!



Zooming in on our **RESPECT** value, we considered how we should not make assumptions about others and that no one can be anything ALL of the time. We act differently, feel differently and think differently at different times and in different experiences.

HERON HILL IN THE PRESS AND ON BLUE PETER!

Aubree from Y3 was featured in the Westmorland Gazette online last week and will be in this week's printed edition. She also appeared on Blue Peter last Friday as part of a video montage for their orange BP badge competition winners. She was very impressed when her favourite presenter, Joel, mentioned her invention idea as his favourite during the show! Well done Aubree – we are all very proud of you for flying the Eco flag for Heron Hill School!

You can read the article here: ([Kendal schoolgirl's eco invention wins her Blue Peter badge | The Westmorland Gazette](#))



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 14 th February	End of half term, 3.15 pm. Return to school on Monday 24 th February
Monday 3 rd March	Usborne Book Fair after school in main hall
Thursday 6 th March	<p>World Book Day, To celebrate WBD, we offer you a choice, please do ONE but it is not necessary to do both of these things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child can come to school dressed up as a book character OR Your child can decorate an item related to a book, e.g. a paper plate, pebble, potato, wooden spoon, shoe box, paper lantern, pillowcase, t-shirt, poster, the options for creativity are endless! Children who choose this option are welcome to wear Mufti/own clothes. <p>There will be prizes for the best costumes and the best decorated items in the following ages groups, Nursery/Reception, Years 1 and 2, Years 3 and 4, and Years 5 and 6. Throughout the day, there will be special activities in class aimed at inspiring love of reading. Lots of fun will be had!</p>
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)
Monday 31 st March	Bring in Easter egg entries for the Easter Egg Competition (more details to follow)
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 3.30 pm. Mufti - dress as a bunny/Easter costume
Friday 4 th April	Break up for Easter Holidays, 3.15 pm
Tuesday 22 nd April	School reopens after the Easter Holidays





Please help us raise money to buy beds for children in Kenya who have to sleep on the floor!



This month, we are excited to be part of **February on the Floor** for the first time, an initiative of Stand By Me, the charity that now runs **Open Arms Academy**, our partner school in Kenya.

This is our chance to give a **direct hand-up** to some of the pupils for whom life is a real struggle. We are hoping that many children and adults in our school community will embrace the idea of being sponsored to **sleep on the floor for one night or more** during the month of February, so we can raise money to buy beds, breakfast, uniforms and bags for children in need. When they visited Kenya last year, Mrs Lawson (Music teacher) and Mr Stanger (Governor) were able to witness first-hand the **life-changing impact** of pupils receiving a bed and no longer having to sleep on a dirt floor.

Pupils have heard all about the project in assembly from our amazing School Councillors. We hope that many of them will take part, maybe with their parents or carers, over the half-term holidays or any time during February, and **help us reach our minimum target of £380**, which will **fund two beds** for children who need a good night's sleep.

There are two ways you can get involved:

1. **Create your own fundraising page** as part of our [school team fundraising page](#) on the Stand By Me website. You can share the link for this with your friends and family, who can donate directly to your page and this will be added to the Heron Hill Team pot!

If you choose this route, we advise you to use your child's first name only, and remember that if you add a photograph you are consenting for it to be seen by other school community members and all those with whom you share the link. Where address details are requested, this is for Stand By Me's use only, in order for them to send thanks.

2. If you prefer, just **donate directly** to our Heron Hill fundraising pot by clicking on the same link above and select the 'donate' button. Please encourage your friends and family to do the same. We have also produced some flyers in school that children can give out to those who might want to donate in this way.

Thank you so much for your support!

