



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Yesterday, I turned 40 and took a moment to reflect on how lucky I am to be spending my 40's as the headteacher of our school. I really am so grateful for the life my family have been able to build here since September and for all of the joy that Heron Hill brings into it. It has been a busy start to the week and sadly I have been out of school both yesterday and today on some training courses. I have really missed gate duty, corridor conversations, celebrating great work and spending time with the team. I will be very glad to return tomorrow!



This week we have hosted some pupils from Kendal College who have been filming a special project linked to our collaboration with the Open Arms Academy in Kenya and our Eco-Schools focus. We love collaborating with others and sharing the amazing global learning taking place in our school. Talking of our Kenya partnership, thank you to everyone who took part in our 'February on the Floor' fundraiser. This week's newsletter includes information about who got involved and how much they raised; well done to you all!

I hope you all have a brilliant week. 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

There are no handwriting and presentation praise awards this week because Mrs M's usual values-led assembly has been replaced with our annual World Book Day assembly instead. Presentation Praise winners will be back next week.



## FEBRUARY ON THE FLOOR

We initially set a target of £380 for this Kenya fundraiser but are so happy to share this has been exceeded; a grand total of **£723** has been raised by Heron Hill pupils. Wow!

Well done to Teddy and Frankie, Livi, Emily, Caleb and Luke for their superb fundraising efforts.

These pupils committed to a weekend of sleeping on the floor to help change thousands of kids' lives. We are so proud of you all!



## THE USBORNE BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everyone who came to support our spring book fair on Monday after school. The Usborne books are always popular as they are such high-quality and cover such a wide range of interests, hobbies and fiction genres.

Every book purchased on Monday turns into credit for school to spend on books for our year group libraries and reading tents.

**Our grand total for Monday was £1062 which turns into £600 worth of books for school!**

**THANK YOU! 😊**

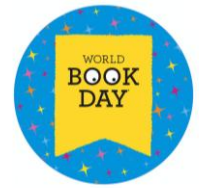


### **A NEW CATERING PROVIDER**

We've listened to your feedback regarding the quality and options available to pupils for hot school dinners each day. After much research and deliberation, we are pleased to announce that TNS will be our new catering provider and will be taking over provision from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025.

We are confident that this will lead to a wider variety of meal choices, better quality of food and increased meal uptake each day. TNS worked with Mrs Middleton in her last school in Birmingham for over 5 years and this was a great success, so we know they will deliver a much-improved service to the pupils of Heron Hill.

More information (including the delicious new menu) will follow next week so watch this space!



### **WORLD BOOK DAY**

***IS TOMORROW!! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SPEND THE DAY CELEBRATING THE WONDER OF BOOKS AND READING WITH YOUR CHILDREN.***

To celebrate WBD, we offer you a choice, please do ONE but it is not necessary to do both of these things:

- 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.
- Prizes will be awarded for costumes and decorated items, in 4 age categories.



### **YEAR 3 ATTEND THE KENDAL MIDDAY CONCERT**

Our pupils in Y3 experienced the magic of a string quartet this morning at the Kendal Schools' Midday Concert. Taking place at the Town Hall, pupils watched the amazing Villier's Quartet perform. Music is an integral part of our school offer so it was fantastic to be able to offer this opportunity to our young musicians and enthusiasts.

We were so proud of the respect and responsibility shown by all pupils. Well done Year 3!

### **OUR STUDENT TEACHERS**

Heron Hill are proud to support future teachers in their initial teacher training. In addition to the 3 students shared in last week's newsletter, we also have an EYFS student teacher based in our Reception class with Mrs Metcalfe. If you see them around school and on the playground, please do say hello.



My name is Miss Martin and I am a first year student at University of Cumbria studying Primary Education and Early Years. I am super excited to be back in Reception this term and I can see the progress the children have made since I was last here in November. I can't wait to get stuck in with my placement and build on the experiences from November.

## 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.

**WE WERE PLEASED TO SEE MOST CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL LAST WEEK AFTER THE HALF TERM BREAK. ATTENDANCE FIGURES WERE MUCH IMPROVED ON PREVIOUS WEEKS THIS TERM, WELL DONE!**

**This week's attendance table shows the number of school days missed in each class last week.**

Registration Class	Class - Number of days missed	Registration Class	Class - Number of days missed
Reception - Latrigg	10	Y3 Glaramara	2.5
Reception - Mellbreak	7.5	Y4 Thornthwaite	2
Y1 Angletarn	4	Y4 Blencathra	4
Y1 Whinlatter	2	Y5 Fairfield	6.5
Y2 Outerside	3	Y5 Catstycam	4
Y2 Yewbarrow	0.5	Y6 Helvellyn	3
Y3 Kentmere	2	Y6 Scafell	3.5



## 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
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day (see information on this newsletter)
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 1. Rec-Y2: 3.30 pm-6.30 pm. Y3-Y6: 2.40 pm-6.00 pm <b>(not Y4 Blencathra)</b>
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Heron Hill Squad in the Rotary Club Swimathon – Go Team HH!
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 visit (afternoon only)
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Parents' Evening for Reception Latrigg, Y3 Glaramara and Y4 Blencathra</b>
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 2. Rec-Y2: 3.30 pm-6.00 pm. Y3-Y6: 3.30 pm-6.30 pm <b>(not Rec Latrigg or Y3 Glaramara)</b>
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 day visit
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Red Nose Day - Mufti - wear something odd (e.g. odd socks, t-shirt inside out/back to front)
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Brewery Dance Platform performance – Smash it Y5 Dance Cru!
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3/Year 4 Production 'You Are Special'
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Year 5 residential visit (one night)
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Start to bring in Easter egg competition entries (closing date Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April, 9.00 am)
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Break the rules for April Fools - Up to £2.50 for 5 rules
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	FOHH Easter Treasure Hunt at 3.30 pm. Mufti - dress as a bunny/Easter costume
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Break up for Easter Holidays
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	School reopens after the Easter Holidays

## Y5 STAFFING UPDATE

We were pleased to welcome Mrs Hunter back to school earlier this week after taking time out of school to support her poorly daughter. It is brilliant to see her back in school, doing the job she loves so much! Our chosen supply teacher, Mr Cross, has done an excellent job of looking after Fairfield during her absence and we are very grateful for his hard work and commitment during this time. I am sure you will all join me in wishing him well.

## USBORNE BOOK ORDERS

If you missed out on our Usborne book fair on Monday, do not worry! We now have a handy way that you can order high-quality books all year round. Our Usborne seller, Marie, has a website which you can browse at your leisure and any purchases made here will also support our book fundraising total for Heron Hill. In terms of delivery, you can choose to have it shipped direct to your house (£3.50 charge) or have it sent via Marie for free. (Marie will deliver to school for you, usually within 14 days.)

Follow this link to browse the whole Usborne collection:  
<https://usborne.com/gb/uevent?event=da1ff3c46a943c51922e844b2a4ce305>



## 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](mailto: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.*



Noah H attended another competition this weekend, this time in Scotland. Noah was awarded a GOLD MEDAL in the Strathkelvin Open. Well done Noah!

Harry Eastham (Y4) and his team won the Gold medal this weekend at the winter league ski racing at Pendle ski club, where ski racing teams from the north of England take part. We are so proud of you Harry!

