



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the summer term, our third and final term of this academic year! I hope that you all enjoyed a restful Easter break with your loved ones; I was fortunate to have my parents visit from the Midlands so was very grateful for the quality time we had together making memories.

This first half term of the summer is a short but sweet one! There may only be 5 weeks in it but we have lots of wonderful things planned (as always!). This week's newsletter gives you a heads up on some upcoming dates and shines a spotlight on our amazing new lunchtime provision from TNS Catering. Launching just two weeks ago, we can already see a huge improvement in the food quality and variety available to our pupils each day. Usual features of our newsletter like the attendance scores for each class, out-of-school achievements and 'Presentation Praise' awards will all return next week.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mrs Middleton



INTRODUCING OUR NEW PREFECTS:

Each term, 4 pupils from Y6 are chosen to represent our school and fulfil the important role of 'Prefect'. The final 4 children for this academic year were announced in the Celebration Assembly last half term.

Mr Corrie and I are really grateful to **Olivia P, Max C, Evie M and Oscar W** who did a BRILLIANT JOB of being Prefects last term. They had some great ideas about how we could bring back 'Houses' to Heron Hill and elevate our annual sports day event too. Watch this space to find out more about what they have planned!

It is now the turn of 4 new children and I am proud to announce that our next Prefects are: **Poppy C, Neeru S, Sophie A and Luke M**. Congratulations to them all for being selected; they consistently showcase our school values in all they do and are excellent role models to their peers. Well done!

HANDWRITING AND PRESENTATION PRAISE

Our pupils have all returned to school trying their very best with their presentation and handwriting. Teachers are looking carefully at their efforts and will choose names for next week's assembly.

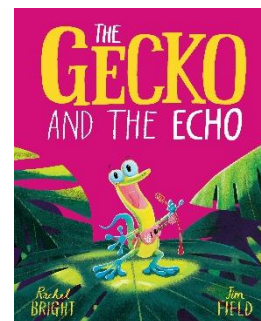


ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK....

Focused on our school values:

RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – RELATIONSHIPS.

This week, we shared the story of a gecko with attitude who learns that being the loudest, proudest gecko is not always going to lead to happiness and friendship. The story was called 'The Gecko and the Echo' and is written by Rachel Bright.



Zooming in on our **RELATIONSHIPS** value, we discussed how we need to ensure we consider how our actions, thoughts or words can affect others around us. We also talked about shared success, kindness and compassion... all very important aspects of building positive relationships with others.

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.



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.



KENDAL SNOWSPORTS CLUB PRIMARY SCHOOLS FUN SKI RACE

Join us on Thursday evening at the Kendal Snowsports Club to cheer on our Heron Hill Primary School teams in this annual event.

We have 3 teams competing:

- Flying Herons
- Heroic Herons
- Hercules Herons

These teams are made up of: George E, Harry E, Savannah R, Ethan J, Riley J, Mia G, Lottie A and Taylor J.

I am sure you join me in wishing them lots of luck for their races! I will report on their successes next week in my newsletter.



SWIMMING SUCCESS FOR HERON HILL PUPILS

On 3rd April a team of eight Year 3 and Year 4 swimmers competed in the Panathlon event at Kendal Leisure Centre.

They took part in team games collecting floating objects, sunken objects, pushing a ball and many more games to earn points for their school.

As this event was aimed at nervous swimmers, I was very pleased to see the smiles on their faces while they were in the water as well as at the end as they all collected a medal. When children say, "This has been the best day ever" they really mean it!

Well done to Kai, Raquel, Zach, Sophie, Darcie, Bradley, Joshua and Kamo. The pride they showed was a pleasure to witness.

Mrs Foster

MARIGOLD MUFTI DAY

On Friday 2nd May all children are invited to wear mufti for the day. They can wear whatever they wish. Please can they bring in a marigold plant or any other yellow, orange or blue bedding plant (such as primulas, coreopsis, petunias, calendulas, pansies, polyanthus, viola, lobelia, etc.) on this day.

All of the plants will be used to fill the '50' that was established last summer as part of Heron Hill's golden anniversary. We will also use them to produce beautiful visual displays around school to attract pollinators. Our pupil gardeners are very much looking forward to planting your donations all around school. We hope that parents and carers will enjoy seeing the results when joining us for sports days, Pollinator Sponsored Walk afternoon, our summer fair and other events that will take place in school this term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank B&Q, Kendal which has kindly donated lots of seeds and compost and is always a great supporter of our school. Thanks to B&Q, we are already growing a wide range of vegetables, flowers and herbs, hoping for a bumper year! Combining what we can grow with your plant donations will mean that school will look magnificent this year, attracting a wide array of valuable wildlife.

Sincere thanks to everyone for your kind contributions,
Polytunnel Gardening Club & Mrs Wilkinson



LUNCHTIME GETS A MAKEOVER!

Our new TNS lunchtime menu and wristband system has now launched and is an immediate success!



We listened to your feedback about lunchtime offerings, the limited menu and the lack of quality your children were reporting. TNS have hit the ground running with a varied, delicious, daily menu.

The children have been excited about this launch for some time and so far, have not been disappointed. We've seen an increase in school meal uptake already and hope that this will continue.

Don't forget, you can join in with school dinners at any time by booking and paying on SCOPay.

Toby - Y1
"This is the best meal I've had!"

Bradley - Y5
"The new school dinners are really good!"

Evie - Y5
"I like that you can add extra veggies on the side. You can help yourself to as many cucumber sticks as you want!"

Kade - Y1
"I really like the garlic bread!"

Aubree - Y3
"I love them because I like that there is better quality and choice. The old dinners didn't taste nice but these ones taste like home-cooked meals."

Harriet - Y3
"I like that you can choose your own pudding now."

Reggie - Y6
"The new school dinners are much better quality and the wristband system makes it more fun."

Josie - Y6
"It's a lot nicer than the old dinners. There are better choices and every meal has been great!"

Ollie - Y6
"It's actually really tasty! It's better because less food is wasted, no one throws this away!"

Hello from TNS Catering!

We are really looking forward to getting to know everyone and finding out your food favourites.

Food is our passion; locally sourced, freshly prepared, innovative and honest. We will continually bring you new and exciting food concepts to tickle the taste buds, complemented with all the traditional favourites.

TNS are an award winning independent catering business, established in 2003. We are committed to provide a different kind of catering; professional, caring and dedicated.

To introduce everyone, parents and children alike, to the food we are cooking up at Heron Hill, we would like to invite you all to an open food tasting afternoon/evening.

FOOD TASTING
Friday 9th May
3.00pm to 4.30pm

We will showcase some of our lunches and food we offer on our menus for all to sample. We look forward to introducing ourselves and meeting you all then!

The Catering Team

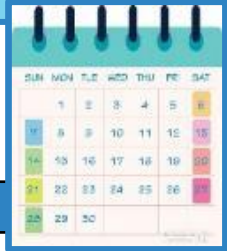
If you would like information on which foods contain allergens please ask a member of the catering team who will be happy to help

ADULTS NEED AROUND 2,000 CALORIES A DAY

SUMMER TERM DATES

Below are the main dates currently in the calendar until the end of May.

We update these dates in this weekly newsletter and highlight any changes in **YELLOW** so that they are easy for you to track.



Date	Event
Friday 25 th April	Non-uniform day to raise funds for Young Carers: come to school wearing anything you would wear for your 'me time'. This could be a football kit, Brownie or Beavers uniform or even your pyjamas! Suggested donation £1 (in cash, in a named envelope). All money raised will go to Carer Support South Lakes to support Young Carers in our school and local community.
Friday 25 th April	Y1 visit (morning)
Tuesday 29 th April	Y4 outdoor ed visit with Kendal College (Langdale)
Wednesday 30 th April	Y4 outdoor ed visit with Kendal College (Langdale)
Wednesday 30 th April	Summer Music Concert 4-5.15 pm in main school hall
Thursday 1 st May	Class photographs
Tuesday 6 th & Wednesday 7 th May	Y5 Ancient Greek Workshop
Tuesday 6 th & Wednesday 7 th May	Y4 residential visit
Friday 9 th May	TNS Food Tasting for All – 3.00 pm-4.30 pm
Week beginning 12 th May	Y6 SATS week
Wednesday 14 th May	Y1 Wood Matters workshop
Friday 16 th May	Pollinator Sponsored Walk (pupils invited to dress as a pollinator) 9.15 am-10.15 am: Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. 2.00 pm-3.00 pm: Years 3-6
Tuesday 20 th May	Year 2 day visit
Wednesday 21 st May	Y6 Scafell day visit
Wednesday 21 st May	Fischy Music workshop and whole-school assembly (morning)
Thursday 22 nd May	Y6 Helvellyn day visit
Friday 23 rd May	Celebration assembly (9.00 am). Break up for half term at 3.15 pm

GOVERNOR'S SPOTLIGHT

We are lucky to have a dedicated team of 12 governors working to support our school and ensure we are providing the best opportunities to the pupils we serve. Douglas Rathbone chairs our Finance committee and shares some insight into his role below:



As a Governor, possibly the most difficult thing to make sound interesting is the finance side of things, but given that I'm Chair of the Finance Committee at Heron Hill, it is something that takes up a considerable amount of my attention. The committee constantly looks to provide the best for children's education, care and their growth & development as young people, but we only have a finite amount of money to work with – mostly coming from the Department for Education via the Council. Mrs Middleton has a strategic plan and operational control of the school but must report to Governors for agreement on the way forward and, in my case, to check that payment procedures are being followed and we have enough money for crucial things. It is a strategic battle for Governors to work within limited finances; there's always more we want to do for our children!

We have careful financial control on large ongoing items such as staffing costs to keep them within acceptable limits and we have recently invested in IT (tablets), dining tables and an exciting outdoor development; watch out for it shortly. I try not to sound like a misery guts every time we have a meeting on finance as it is exciting, working together to improve what we offer to the children, but we have to live within the budget that we are given and so have to be careful – like we all do at home. It's a challenging but rewarding role and we couldn't do it all without the tireless work of our Business Manager, Mrs Harte, as well as our Headteacher, the staff and the rest of the governors. Thanks guys!