



Heron Hill Primary School

Whole-school newsletter -
Week beginning
23rd June 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Our school hall was rocking on Monday with the launch of Rock Steady Music School at Heron Hill. This alternative approach to music tuition was a real hit with the children who had great fun singing along to live music and watching their teachers form a rock band!

The end of the academic year is rapidly approaching and last week saw the launch of the annual parent survey for our school. We are pleased to have received around 60 responses so far but want to hear from as many people as possible so please do take a moment to log into SCOPay to complete an electronic return or dig through your child's school bag to find your paper copy. Staff and pupils are also being surveyed to give a full insight to how all stakeholders feel about life at our school. All feedback, views and suggestions are welcome. It is so important to me as headteacher for us to hear about the things you think we are doing well, the things you are grateful for and the things you would like us to focus on or think about next. Our aim is to be the very best school we can be for all pupils so every response is important.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Middleton (Proud HT)



HANDWRITING AND PRESENTATION PRAISE

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

ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK....

Focused on our school values:

RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – RELATIONSHIPS – RESILIENCE.



In our picture book this week, Badger felt lost; no one in the forest seemed to like the same music as him and he couldn't find a choir, group or band where he felt accepted. We loved hearing his story and felt like he would definitely fit in with Rock Steady! Sharing this book celebrated the joy in finding people with similar interests as you and being able to be your authentic self when you do. The children loved it!

Class:	Pupil:
Rec- Mellbreak	N/A
Rec- Lattrigg	N/A
Y1 Angletarn	Regan T
Y1 Whinlatter	David D
Y2 Outerside	Freya L
Y2 Yewbarrow	Leo Al
Y3 Kentmere	Lawson S
Y3 Glaramara	William S
Y4 Thornthwaite	Theo O
Y4 Blencathra	Mollie H
Y5 Fairfield	Alfie G
Y5 Catstycam	Dylan G
Y6 Helvellyn	Mikey W
Y6 Scafell	Matilda C



DICK VINY ATHLETICS EVENT AT QKS

On a very wet, dreary evening our spirits were raised by 12 children representing Heron Hill School successfully in a variety of events such as the 80m sprint, chest push and under arm throw (both with weighted balls). Events were a little restricted due to the weather and the athletes' need to be safe! After participating competitively in all 3 events, the 2 Heron Hill teams did themselves proud.

80m Sprint Final

Y4 girls – Ella D, Gold medal

Y5 boys – Flynn O'D, Bronze medal



Chest push

Y4 girls – Ella D, Bronze medal

Y5 girls – Sienna R and Emily F, Bronze medals

Under arm throw

Y5 girls – Sienna R, Bronze medal

Y6 boys – Max C, Bronze medal



Well done to them all and thank you to Ben S for a last minute substitution!

Mrs Foster and Miss Wilson



YEAR 6 ENJOY A DAY OF ADVENTURE AT CONISTON WATER PARK

Last week it was the turn of Y6 to conquer some fears and try something new at Coniston Water Park. They had an absolutely brilliant time and were extremely proud of themselves for "feeling the fear and doing it anyway!"





CLASSES IN SEPTEMBER

The table opposite outlines our staffing plan for September 2025. Children will soon find out who their class teacher is and will spend some time with them next Thursday for our annual transition morning.

We also have a new Early Careers Teacher joining us, Miss Hubble. We are so excited that she is launching her teaching career with us and know she will be an excellent addition to the team. (She is introduced below.)

A little while ago, I wrote to parents about classes for September. At this point several parents were asking teachers about classes, class changes and who their child's next teacher might be. I wrote to parents explaining that we had not yet begun conversations in school about September but that I would be seeking the views of our teaching and learning staff before making any decisions.

I am blessed to be leading a school of talented, experienced staff who are exceptionally committed to doing the best by the children they serve. Collectively, a decision has been made to make **some** class changes in September. As a result, our current Reception, Y2 and Y4 classes have been carefully and considerably mixed to create new classes.

Adopting this new process each year enables teachers and leaders to respond appropriately to any emerging needs, academic gaps, pastoral challenges or imbalances between classes at these 3 key points in the primary journey. We will not be making class changes in every year group as we do not believe this is necessary.

Mixing classes has many benefits for pupils and encourages a range of friendship groups. We ask that all parents trust in the professional judgements of our team and embrace this change. What is best for all children is always front and centre in our decision making.

Year group:	Teacher(s):
Nursery	Miss Storey
Reception	1) Mrs H Hudson 2) Mrs Metcalfe
Year 1	1) Mrs C Hudson 2) Mrs Foster
Year 2	1) Miss Wilson 2) Mrs Lowther & Mrs Moorhouse
Year 3	1) Miss Watson 2) Miss Hubble
Year 4	1) Mrs Corbett 2) Mrs Dodd-Hemingway
Year 5	1) Mrs Altounyan 2) Mrs Hunter
Year 6	1) Miss Hildrew & Mr Corrie 2) Mrs Patrick
PPA	Miss Hildrew Mrs Lawson Mrs Osborne

INTRODUCING MISS HUBBLE

Hello! My name is Miss Hubble. I am very excited by this new chapter at Heron Hill School.

Here's a little bit of information about me: I love spending time outdoors; climbing, running, mountain biking, or open water swimming (even when it's chilly!). I have two adventurous dogs who join me on all my outdoor adventures—they certainly keep me on my toes! I also love reading and sing in a choir.

I can't wait to meet everybody and look forward to meeting my new class next week on transition day.



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.



Harrison from Y4 achieved his 600m distance badge in swimming last week. AMAZING! Well done Harrison!



Ayla W (Y1) has also achieved a swimming distance badge. This time for 200m. Great swimming Ayla – keep it up!

Last Saturday Matylda B (Y4) took part in an annual show for her gymnastics club. This year the theme was Gymnasts in Space. The show is a big fundraiser for the club and it's a fantastic opportunity for the girls to show off their skills. Matylda and her friends did amazingly!



NUT-FREE SCHOOL

Please, please, please remember that we are a nut-free school! This includes all tree nuts, pine nuts and peanut products.

We have recently seen an increase in products containing nuts being sent into school for snack or lunch time. This is extremely dangerous as we have multiple children in school with severe, life-threatening nut/peanut allergies. Luckily, we have been able to intercept these items before they have been opened or consumed.

Please check and double check any items you are sending into school for consumption by your child.

SUMMER TERM DATES

Below are most of the main dates currently in the calendar until the end of term. 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 26 th June	Reception New Starters' Evening – Parents Information Meeting, 5.30 pm
Friday 27 th June	Reception day visit
Friday 27 th June	Four of our Eco-Councillors at the Youth Climate Summit
Monday 30 th June	Year 6 induction days at KKS, QKS and QES
Wednesday 2 nd July	Year 5 and Year 6 sports day, all day (reserve date Tuesday 8 th July, all day) 9.30 am – Year 6 track races, Year 5 team events; 1.15 pm – Year 5 track races, Year 6 team events
Thursday 3 rd July	Moving up morning – transition morning with new teacher
Friday 4 th July	Friends of Heron Hill Summer Fair. Volunteer here: https://volunteersignup.org/7AKCL
Wednesday 9 th July	Year 5 visit in the afternoon, early lunch
Wednesday 9 th July	Year 6 production, 2.00 pm and 5.00 pm
Thursday 10 th July	Year 5 visit, morning
Friday 11 th July	Reports to parents
Friday 11 th July	Nursery family BBQ
Friday 11 th July	Year 3 Adventure!
Tuesday 15 th July Thursday 17 th July	Optional Parent Consultation Meetings, 3.30 pm-6.00 pm. Telephone or email the school office if you wish to book in to discuss your child's report. Ten-minute appointments.
Friday 18 th July	End of term, 3.15 pm



SWIMWEAR DONATIONS

We have been contacted by our local councillor, Helen Ladhams, regarding swimwear donations for children. There are a number of children in our locality unable to access council-funded/subsidised swimming this summer due to them not having a costume/swim shorts.

If you have any pre-loved swimwear that your child has grown out of that you are happy to donate to this cause, please send it into the main school office. Mrs Lehane will collect donations and ensure they make their way to Councillor Ladhams. Thank you in advance for any donations Heron Hill School can give.



Westmorland & Furness Family Hub.

Local Offer Drop-In

Informal drop-in sessions for parents, carers and families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

The SEND team, Children with Disabilities team, SENDIASS and the SEND Engagement and Development officer will be there, along with other service providers, to answer your questions and offer information and advice.

South Lakes Area:
 Thursday 10th July - Kendal Library - 1pm - 3:30pm
 Friday 5th September - Ulverston Family Hub - 10am - 12pm
 Monday 10th November - Ambleside Library Community Room - 12 - 2pm
 Monday 12th January - Kendal West Family Hub, LA9 5PP - 10am - 12pm
 Wednesday 18th March - Milnthorpe Family Hub, LA7 7QF - 12 - 2pm

Visit our **Westmorland and Furness SEND Local Offer**, where you will find help, advice and information about services available to children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities and their families.




YEAR 5 ENTERPRISE FAIR

On Wednesday 18th June 2025, we in Year 5 held an Enterprise Fair on the upper junior yard.

A few weeks earlier, we were all lent £5 to learn how to set up a business to make as much profit as we could. Everyone did a fabulous job and thought up a range of entrepreneurial ideas to make money at the fair.

Our stalls included cocktail lemonades, homemade bracelets and earrings, games and competitions, lucky dips and tombolas, homemade pizza and cakes and much more! Our hard work and support from Heron Hill's community raised a grand total of £1,145 profit which we proudly counted the next day.

We have chosen four different recipients of our fundraising: Cancer Research, Make a Wish (for children with chronic illnesses), the RSPCA and Lend with Care (which supports other entrepreneurs around the globe). Some children have been so inspired that they are continuing their small businesses outside of school.

A huge well done to all of Year 5 and a big thankyou to everyone who supported our efforts.

By Austin T, Ethan J, Holly B and Evie D.



School Transitions Group 2025

BARNARDOS Changing children's lives. Changing lives.

Ulverston Family Hub
22nd July 1-2pm for
4 weeks

Kendal West Family Hub
23rd July 1-2pm for
4 Weeks

- Reduce anxiety and increase confidence about secondary school
- Promote emotional wellbeing and resilience
- Develop emotional regulation and coping strategies
- Strengthen social skills and friendships

REFER TO US



SCAN ME

To find out more join us for an interactive information workshop on Tuesday 1st July:

For Professionals: 12-1pm

For Parents: 4-5pm

To book a place please email
pmhw.mytime@barnardos.org.uk

Friends of Heron Hill SUMMER FAIR DONATIONS NEEDED



Please bring any pre-loved toys, games, puzzles, gifts & books to reception by Weds 2 July

Cakes also welcome on Friday 4 July!

But with NO NUTS in please!

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.

The table shows the number of school days missed in each class last week.

We will soon be sharing annual attendance figures - will your child meet the 96% national target?

Registration Class	Class - Number of days missed
Reception - Latrigg	5
Reception - Mellbreak	6.5
Y1 Angletarn	2
Y1 Whinlatter	6
Y2 Outerside	5
Y2 Yewbarrow	6
Y3 Kentmere	4.5
Y3 Glaramara	6
Y4 Thornthwaite	8.5
Y4 Blencathra	11.5
Y5 Fairfield	6
Y5 Catstycam	1.5
Y6 Helvellyn	6.5
Y6 Scafell	7

None of our classes were here every day last week to secure a 100% attendance score. 😞 Hopefully this week will be better!



TERM-TIME HOLIDAYS

THIS INFORMATION WAS SHARED ON LAST WEEK'S NEWSLETTER BUT IS REPEATED HERE IN CASE ANYONE MISSED IT.

As the time of year approaches when families begin to plan or book holidays for next year, please be reminded of the Westmorland and Furness Council expectations/procedures for absence during term time. You can find it in full here: [WAFC ATTENDANCE](#)

At Heron Hill School we continue to receive a high number of requests for term-time leave for family holidays and, in line with policy, this cannot be authorised. So far, 39 referrals have been made for Heron Hill School term-time absences. In total, over 1,300 fines have been issued across Westmorland and Furness this year. Fines escalate to a larger value in year two of absences and by year three increase significantly.

Please avoid booking any term-time holidays. To support with this, I have included key term dates for next academic year in this newsletter. It is worth highlighting that there are two additional INSET days next year: a Friday in October and another in May. These both provide an excellent opportunity for a long weekend break that will not incur any fines or lead to any missed schooling for your child.



NEW TERM DATES 2025-2027

Recent alterations are shown in red font

Summer Term 2025

Last Day of School Year Friday 18th July 2025, 3.15 pm

2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025

INSET DAY (school closed)

Monday 1st September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

First Day of School Year

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

NEW INSET DAY (school closed)

Friday 24th October 2025

October Half-Term

School closes – Thursday 23rd October 2025, 3.15 pm

School opens – Monday 3rd November 2025

Christmas Holiday, last day of term

Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

INSET DAY (school closed)

Tuesday 6th January 2026

First Day of Spring Term

Wednesday 7th January 2026

February Half-Term

School closes – Friday 13th February 2026, 3.15 pm

School opens – Monday 23rd February 2026

Easter Holiday, last day of term

Friday 27th March 2026, 3.15 pm

Summer Term 2026

First Day of Summer Term

Monday 13th April 2026

NEW INSET DAY (school closed)

Friday 1st May 2026

May Day (school closed)

Monday 4th May 2026

Whitsun Half-Term

School closes – Friday 22nd May 2026, 3.15 pm

School opens – Monday 1st June 2026

Last Day of School Year

Friday 17th July 2026, 3.15 pm

2026-2027 These dates are subject to change

Autumn Term 2026

INSET DAY (school closed)

Tuesday 1st September 2026

NEW INSET DAY (school closed)

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

First Day of School Year

Thursday 3rd September 2026

October Half-Term

School closes – Friday 23rd October 2026, 3.15 pm

School opens – Monday 2nd November 2026

Christmas Holiday, last day of term

Friday 18th December 2026, 3.15 pm

Spring Term 2027

INSET DAY (school closed)

Monday 4th January 2027

First Day of Spring Term

Tuesday 5th January 2027

February Half-Term

School closes – Friday 12th February 2027, 3.15 pm

School opens – Monday 22nd February 2027

Easter Holiday, last day of term

Thursday 25th March 2027, 3.15 pm

Summer Term 2027

First Day of Summer Term

Monday 12th April 2027

NEW INSET DAY (school closed)

Friday 30th April 2027

May Day (school closed)

Monday 3rd May 2027

Whitsun Half-Term

School closes – Friday 28th May 2027, 3.15 pm

School opens – Monday 7th June 2027

Last Day of School Year

Friday 16th July 2027, 3.15 pm