



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

And just like that, the first half of the spring term is almost complete. It has been busy (as usual) but there has been much to applaud and celebrate. Mrs Wilkinson and I are both looking forward to our Celebration Assembly on Friday where we will no doubt be shining a light on many wonderful achievements!

Today's newsletter has a section dedicated to a common issue at our school: traffic and parking. Please take the time to read this carefully and to reflect on the current situation and any ways in which you may be contributing to this (both positively and negatively). Mrs Lehane is very happy to have received 88 responses to the travel survey already! Please do take a few minutes to fill this out and share your views on this important matter.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half term; thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Middleton

NO NUTS IN SCHOOL

Please remember, we are a NO NUTS school.



HANDWRITING & PRESENTATION PRAISE

Each week we celebrate how practice makes progress in pupil work, handwriting and presentation. A child from each class is chosen and their names shared here on our newsletter.

Well done to this week's superstars! Their work is proudly on display in our school hall.



ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK

Focused on our school values:

**RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY
– RELATIONSHIPS – RESILIENCE.**



We've had two assemblies this week: our values assembly with Mrs W on Monday and a safeguarding assembly focusing on Safer Internet Day on Tuesday with Mrs M.

The values assembly zoomed in on our RELATIONSHIPS value and encouraged children to think about how friendships can change with the picture book 'There is No Giant in this Story'.

The internet assembly looked at how all 4 of our school values can be applied to keeping ourself safe online.

Class:	Pupil:
R Mellbreak	Odhran F
R Lattrigg	Harry C
Y1 Angletarn	Fabian M
Y1 Whinlatter	Kenzie V
Y2 Outerside	Meredith R
Y2 Yewbarrow	Joshua T-E
Y3 Kentmere	Matei P
Y3 Glaramara	Emily T
Y4 Thornthwaite	Francesca L
Y4 Blencathra	Josie G
Y5 Fairfield	Erin S
Y5 Catstycam	Theo O
Y6 Helvellyn	Holly B
Y6 Scafell	Harley K

TRAVEL PLAN WORKING PARTY

Our school has a Travel Plan working party which meets regularly across the school year to create and update our school travel plan for the local authority.

The group tries to think creatively and critically about the issues faced in/around school with transport, traffic and parking. A key part of this is seeking feedback from our wider school community and this is done via a **survey**. The information was shared last week by Mrs Lehane via email and the survey can be found in your **SCOPay app**. Thank you to everyone who has completed this already!

OPTIONS FOR CAR USERS

We understand that many of our parents have onward journeys after the school run and therefore need to drive.



There are some options to do this whilst also supporting to reduce congestion outside school. Have you considered any of the following?

- Car share/lift sharing with other working parents.
- Parking at Kendal Leisure Centre.
- Using our designated drop off zone.

A DANGEROUS NEAR-MISS

School received notification from a very shaken Heron Hill mum last week about a near miss for them and their son on the way to school:

"At about 8.40am, we were walking up Hayfell Ave and had just stepped off the curb to cross Dunmail Drive. A woman driving a dark SUV turned left in front of us. She was looking straight ahead, waving at her friend on the opposite side of corner, and did not turn her head before she made the turn. She has no idea she came within inches of hitting my son."

Please, please, please ensure that you are driving sensibly and with due care and attention outside our school. We do not want any member of our school community to be injured on their way to or from school.

TRAFFIC AND TRAVEL

SPOTLIGHT ON... CYCLING TO SCHOOL

Once a month in our school newsletter, we will be shining a spotlight on a mode of transport to school and asking a family that use this method regularly to share their experiences of forming good habits with getting to and from school.

The first family we are featuring are the **Reid family** who have been **cycling to Heron Hill for 7 years** since Harrison first joined the school and used to sit on the child's chair on the back of dad's bike! As more children were added to the Reid crew, the older children began cycling as the youngest took their turn in the child's seat.

Mrs Middleton spoke to Mr Reid about the positives of cycling to school. He explained that the health focus was the biggest benefit as it has got his 3 children into brilliant, healthy habits and their day starts well with physical exercise. Cycling has become the norm for their family now and the children are also aware of the positive impact this is having on the environment. Mr Reid shared that they try to cycle whatever the weather and a good pair of waterproofs for each of the children means that regular Cumbrian rain doesn't put them off!

When asked about the challenges faced, the biggest one came from pedestrian and vehicle traffic near to school. Pedestrians on their phones can be a hazard so he has had to teach Harrison, Samuel and Juliet to look out for this. With regards to vehicles, inconsiderate parking is the biggest challenge as this makes the cycle route harder where they need to squeeze through gaps to overcome this.





ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

We'd love to continue celebrating any out-of-school achievements on our weekly newsletter and had so many things to celebrate last year!

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 ScoPay and online.



Livi B (Y1) attended her Razzamatraz awards evening and she was awarded a very special “Mini of the Year” award. The principal of Razzamatraz described Livi as “the shyest student they have had” when she went to her first class last year, but her confidence has soared week on week. We are so incredibly proud of Livi. Well done superstar!!!



Well done to Alfie G, Jayden B, Harry H and Amelia S for their amazing teamwork and kindness to each other at the Panathlon Ten Pin inter-school event in Morecambe today. The children were a credit to our school, showing great sportsmanship to other teams as well as being super polite when they received their medals during the ceremony.

~ Super proud Mrs Jones

HERON HILL SCHOOL'S CROSS-COUNTRY ACHIEVEMENTS

Here are our magnificent results from the Cross Country trials at Sedbergh on 28th January. The top 16 in the Year 5 and 6 races have qualified automatically for the Nationals which are to be held at Stoneleigh on Saturday 21st March. Positions 17-20 will be named as reserves. Finlay B and Alfie T-C from Y5 and Harrison R and Flynn O from Y6 were all in the top 16 and will be representing team CUMBRIA in this event. Well done boys!

Y4 Girls: Martha G 14th, Josie G 53rd out of 90.

Y5 Girls: Mia G-Y 67th out of 91.

Y5 Boys: Finlay B 5th, Alfie T-C 9th out of 90.

Y6 Girls: Evie G 63rd and Sophie H 64th out of 91.

Y6 Boys: Harrison R 7th, Flynn O 15th out of 96.

In every event, our runners ran for the South Lakes – who were the FIRST team in each race! Well done all! They were amazing!

Mrs Foster



ATTENDANCE

Our attendance table for last week is shown below. This shows the number of days missed in each class last week:

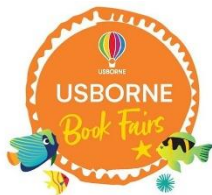
Registration Class	Class - Number of days missed
Reception – Latrigg	3.5
Reception - Mellbreak	3
Y1 Angletarn	9.5
Y1 Whinlatter	3.5
Y2 Outerside	3
Y2 Yewbarrow	7.5
Y3 Kentmere	2
Y3 Glaramara	3.5
Y4 Thornthwaite	3.5
Y4 Blencathra	10
Y5 Fairfield	2
Y5 Catstycam	7
Y6 Helvellyn	4.5
Y6 Scafell	1

Thanks to a range of winter bugs and some requests for leave, none of our classes had 100% attendance last week. Fingers crossed this will pick up and improve as the warmer spring months approach.



USBORNE BOOK FAIR

A date for your diary for the first week back after the half term break; on Thursday 27th February the Usborne Book Fair will be taking place in the main school hall. There will be plenty of high-quality books for you to browse and purchase. Every book purchased adds to school's total fundraising for books too!



PREFECT PRAISE

Our Prefects have been out and about at lunchtimes looking out for children who are playing nicely, being good friends to others and showcasing all 4 of our school values during their lunchtimes. This week, they'd like to say well done to these children:

Name:	Year group:
Ella	Y1
Evie	Y1
Corey	Y1
Leo	Y3



FOHH FUNDRAISER

Amy Holland is hosting a 'Paint & Sip' evening to raise money for FOHH. Tickets can be purchased here: <https://cornucopia-creative.co.uk/products/paint-sip-fundraiser-event>

PAINT 'N' SIP

JOIN ME FOR AN EVENING OF PAINTING AND PROSECCO! TICKETS INCLUDE PAINTS & BRUSHES CANVAS, CLOTHES PROTECTOR, AND A DRINK

Friday 13th March 2026

6.30-8.30pm

Kin, Kendal, LA9 4QB

cornucopia-creative.co.uk/products/paint-sip-fundraiser-event

£30



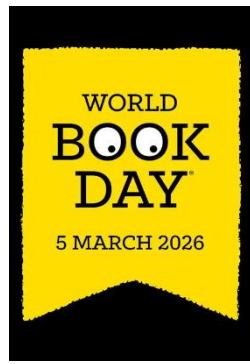
WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day is coming soon and will be a fun-filled, book-loving day at Heron Hill.

As per our calendar events information, pupils are invited to dress as their favourite book character OR in pyjamas to celebrate bedtime reading.

Pupils who do not wish to dress up should come in normal school uniform please.

All pupils will receive a £1 book token on this day and TNS Catering will be planning a special book-inspired menu at lunchtime too.



INTERNET SAFETY POSTERS

Mrs Middleton has encouraged children to use their learning from Tuesday's safeguarding assembly to create some new internet safety posters for us to display around school. Entries should be popped into the box outside Mrs M's office by Wednesday 26th February please.

Safer Internet Day 2026



FEBRUARY ON THE FLOOR

As part of our link with Open Arms Academy in Kenya, we are excited to be part of February on the Floor again this year! Last year our pupils did a fantastic job of fundraising through this scheme and we hope to do this again.

Stand By Me say: our hope is for every child in our care to get an excellent education and pursue their dreams. Our kids are getting a quality education, but we know that having a good day of learning starts before arriving at school. Through February on the Floor our dream is to provide beds so our kids can wake up full of energy, breakfasts to prepare them for the day ahead, and school uniforms and bags to help them make the most of their education.

February on the Floor is open to any age and any fitness. You simply have to be prepared to take on a night or two of uncomfortable sleep in order that our Stand by Me kids can receive what they need to pursue their dreams! Everyone's challenge will be different and you can decide how difficult you want to make it.

By giving up your bed, your fundraising will directly help children head off to school with everything they need to start the day. For every £281 raised, you will be providing uniforms, school bags, breakfast and beds for our wonderful Stand by Me kids.

We do hope many of our school community would like to get involved. If you would like to gather sponsors for your challenge, all you need to do is sign up to our team fundraising page here: www.standby.me/heronhill. You can also use the same link to donate. Thank you in advance – and have fun!

Mrs Lawson



Remembering Romeo's

NEARLY NEW BABY & CHILDREN'S SALE

Sunday 1st March 11am - 1pm

Ibis Sports & Social Club, Kendal LA9 6DE

Nearly New Baby & Children's Toys, Clothes, Books and much more!

Tables: £10 each (payable in advance) Entry: £1 (children FREE)

Refreshments available

In loving memory of Romeo Mackenzie Horn

Abigail's Footsteps

An illustration of various children's items including a teddy bear, a toy train, blocks, and a stack of books.

To book a table or for more information: 07833 556637