



# Heron Hill Primary School

Whole-school newsletter -  
Week beginning  
23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It has been wonderful to greet our pupils and their families back into school following the spring half term break; the team here at Heron Hill hope you all had an enjoyable, restful half term, despite the very mixed weather we all experienced! Spring term 2 is now underway and we are officially halfway through the school year.... Wow! There may only be 5 weeks in this short half term before Easter but there is plenty packed into them with World Book Day, several year group day trips, the Y5 residential and some Easter celebrations amongst the plans we have. As always, I'll be writing my weekly newsletter to you and sharing the important information, dates and achievements happening in school. Thank you for your continued support and remember, my door is open if you need me.

**Mrs Middleton**

## **NO NUTS IN SCHOOL**

**Please remember, we are a NO NUTS school.**



## **HANDWRITING & PRESENTATION PRAISE**

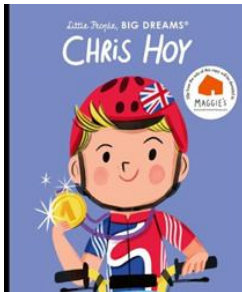
Each week we celebrate how practice makes progress in pupil work, handwriting and presentation. A child from each class is chosen and their names shared here on our newsletter.

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 zoomed in on the **RESILIENCE** value this week as we learnt more about the importance of role models and of keeping going when things get tough.

We listened to the story of Chris Hoy from the 'Little People, Big Dreams' book series and explored how his passion for sport and cycling began at a young age. The story of the life of British cyclist Chris Hoy links brilliantly to our school value of resilience and promotes aspiration too. Chris has a story of sheer determination and drive that extends beyond his cycling career and is an excellent example of the importance of keeping going when things are hard or when it feels like the world might be against you.

Class:	Pupil:
R Mellbreak	Alfie G
R Lattrigg	Jimmy K
Y1 Angletarn	Eden W
Y1 Whinlatter	Evie C
Y2 Outerside	Chloe K-C
Y2 Yewbarrow	Maia D
Y3 Kentmere	Martha J
Y3 Glaramara	Gabriel P
Y4 Thornthwaite	Layla T
Y4 Blencathra	Freddie W
Y5 Fairfield	Lotte A
Y5 Catstycam	Joel B
Y6 Helvellyn	Ella C
Y6 Scafell	Byron W



## 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](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 ScoPay and online.*



During half-term Isla B (Y6) competed in a Rob Rock Golf tournament in La Manga, Spain. She finished 4<sup>th</sup> just missing out on the top 3. The highlight for Isla was holing one from 90 yards on a huge par 5 championship course for a Birdie! She made lots of new friends and has been invited back next year; all good prep ready for the PING tour starting in the Easter holidays. Well done Isla!



Harriet O (Y4) spent her half term in Obergurgl, Austria. We are so proud of her because she decided to compete on race day and she got silver! Amazing skiing Harriet; you should be so proud!



Grace (Y3) and Evie L (Y1) came away from the annual Razz awards with an award each this year! Grace for most improved, with her teachers praising how much her confidence has grown this year, and Evie for her dance, saying she listens to her teachers brilliantly and always tries her best! Evie also got her 4<sup>th</sup> Swim England badge last week...these girls are on a roll! Well done girls; we are so proud of you both!



Corey H (Y1) had a fantastic time at his Razzamataz awards night. Lots of dancing, singing and acting. He got 2 certificates too!!!! One for just being amazing and a very special one for his singing; being the most improved and growing in confidence. Well done Corey, we are so proud of you!



Robert C (Y1) and his dad have planted oak tree saplings on the Helm; these have been grown from acorns collected in the year Robert was born. What a lovely thing to do.



## ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

So much to celebrate this week that we need 1.5 pages! We have a lot of superstars here at Heron Hill!!!



Another Razz superstar was also celebrated in their annual awards before half term. Martha J (Y3) won 'student of the year' at her Razzamatazz awards evening for doing amazing in her drama, singing and dancing classes. Great job Martha, well done!



Freddy N (Y4) got invited to play at the Man City academy in February. Freddy's team came out on top with a win against City. He got a couple of assists and scored the first goal of the game. Awesome work Freddy!



...and Freya J (Y6) and Evie G (Y6) have also garnered Razzamatazz awards.

Freya won 'The One to Watch' award and Evie won 'Performer of the Year' award.

So many rising stars at Heron Hill School, we are proud of you all!

## OPAL PROJECT – PARENT VOLUNTEER REQUIRED

We are really excited to be launching the OPAL play project at Heron Hill this term. This programme is designed to significantly enhance opportunities for play at lunchtime for ALL children in our school and is a 2 year project.

The project requires a set number of adults from our school community to ensure it works well and is impactful. There will be an OPAL team consisting of:

- The Headteacher
- A Senior Leader who is leading the project
- An OPAL coordinator within the lunchtime staffing team
- A governor
- **A parent**

**We are looking to recruit an eager parent who wishes to volunteer for this role and be a key driver in the OPAL lunchtime play project. There are several calendar dates next term that they would need to be available for as we begin to plan for the project and get things moving (Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 12.15 pm-3.15pm, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 1.00 pm-5.30 pm and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April, morning)**

You can find out more about OPAL here: [Introduction - Outdoor Play and Learning](#)

If you are interested in being involved, please speak to Mrs Middleton in person, via telephone or via [admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk). Thank you!



## STAFFING UPDATES

Earlier this week, parents of Nursery and Reception children received a letter regarding an EYFS staffing update. Miss Storey and Mrs Metcalfe will be swapping classes at Easter to allow for smooth transition for our newest Nursery children, ahead of Miss Storey's planned maternity leave.

In Year 6, Mrs Smith will be leaving us at the end of this half term as she begins her much-deserved retirement. We will be so sad to see her go after many years dedicated service to our school but do wish her the very best for a long, happy, grandchild-filled retirement. We will say more closer to the time but wanted parents to be aware of this upcoming change.

## Y2-Y6 MATHS WORKSHOP

Mrs Wilkinson was pleased to see so many parents at the Maths Workshop on 30<sup>th</sup> January; we hope all who attended found it useful. A pack of number games, home tasks and learning guides was prepped for each attendee and Mrs W has several spare copies. If you were unable to attend and would like one, please pop to the school office. Thank you!



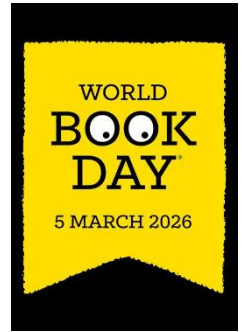
## WORLD BOOK DAY

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.

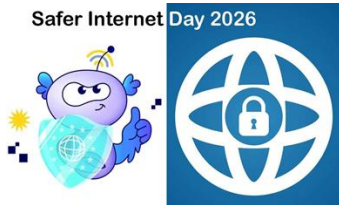
Pupils who do not wish to dress up should come in normal school uniform please.

All pupils will receive a £1 book token on this day and TNS Catering have a special book-inspired menu, bookable now via SCOPay.



## INTERNET SAFETY POSTERS

Last chance to enter our Online Safety poster competition! Please ensure all entries are posted in the blue box outside Mrs M's office by this Friday. There are some excellent entries so far!



## PARKING IN THE STAFF CAR PARK

We have noticed an increasing number of people driving into our staff car park and either using the disabled bays (without a blue badge) or blocking car parking spaces and preventing our staff members from being able to get into work.



It is essential that our staff are able to park quickly and report for duty, and it is essential that those with blue badges are able to access and use the disabled parking bays. We also need to limit the number of cars coming in and out of the car park as it is a dangerous junction.

If you are one of the people currently misusing this space, please stop. We do have CCTV on this space in school so will begin approaching individuals if needed. However, we do hope this will not be necessary.

## KENDAL STEERING GROUP REQUEST FROM CLLR HELEN LADHAMS

We have been asked to share the following survey link with our parents by Cllr Helen Ladhams. She is currently working as part of a steering group who are trying to get Kendal awarded as a 'Town of Culture'. The group would like to know; ***So, what makes Kendal really special? A good place to live? What would make it better? What would you like to see in a Year of Culture?***

You can share your thoughts via this link:

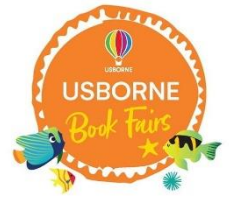
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KendalTownofCulture>

The survey has been open for a while and closes at midnight TOMORROW, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Please respond if you can, it only takes 5 minutes and there is a chance of winning £100!



## USBORNE BOOK FAIR

A reminder that our Usborne Book Fair will be taking place TOMORROW in the main school hall from hometime until around 4.30 pm. Please see the information below from our rep Marie:



*'To make the bookfair accessible to most families I have this year got more special offers and split up book bundles (which normally you are not supposed to sell singly but I feel this gives families a better choice and spreads the money they may want to spend) There is a mixture for each year groups.*

*Again I will be taking payment by cash or by card plus I have added a link plus a QR code that parents can buy books direct from my website, they can choose to pay £3.50 postage and have it delivered direct to them or have it put on the main book order postage free of charge and I will send them to school in the next couple of weeks. Link for online orders:*

<https://usborne.com/gb/uevent?event=e859fc57d6473383a358fd75bfacf0b8>

*I have added the QR Code which the school community can order books if they can't come to the bookfair or the book isn't available at the Bookfair.*

*Every £10 spent in person or online will give Heron Hill £6 to spend.'*



The link is live now and closes Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 10.00 pm.

You're invited to our  
**Usborne Book Fair**  
on Thursday 26th February at End of Day  
You'll find us in  
Heron Hill Primary School - Hall  
Our Independent Usborne Partner is  
Marie Wynn - Skiddaw View Books  
You can contact them on  
marie@skiddawviewbooks.co.uk  
07834832073

## SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES

To support our busy families we shared the majority of our calendar dates for the whole school year in July and again at the start of the new academic year. This document can be found on [our school website](#).

These original dates and any additional calendar dates and events (such as trips, visits and residential) have been added onto our Class Dojo platform. This means that you'll be able to see upcoming events quickly and easily at the click of a button.

We do hope this new approach is supporting family members to keep organised and on top of the things happening in school.

An event we are just adding to the calendar is COMIC RELIEF DAY, on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. More information about how we will support this fundraising and awareness raising day will be shared nearer the time.

