



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Unfortunately, I've been unwell since Monday afternoon so have missed being in school the past two days. However, it was great to be back on gates this morning and greeted by so many smiling faces!

We've made a brilliant, positive start to the new academic year and pupils are working hard, both on their learning and their behaviour choices too. Our school values are on display daily and we've been zooming in on our 'respect' value since September. This includes simple acts like asking someone if they'd like to join in with play, holding doors open for people in the school corridors and offering help in classrooms. I am so proud of our pupils for the kindness and care they are showing each day.

Thank you for your continued support, **Mrs. Middleton, Proud Headteacher of Heron Hill Primary**

ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

Focused on our school values: **RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – RELATIONSHIPS – RESILIENCE.**



Mr Corrie (also known as Mr Opal) took the reins of assembly this week and shared a brilliant picture book called, "I Can't Do It...Yet!"

This book normalises things being tricky or hard and encourages children not to give up too quickly; they may not be able to do it... yet, but with a little bit of practice (and maybe some help from others too) anything is possible. It linked brilliantly to our RESILIENCE value and was enjoyed by all the children who loved joining in with the "yet!" chant on each page.



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.

Class:	Pupil:
Y1 Angletarn	Ivy H
Y1 Whinlatter	Jimmy K
Y2 Outerside	Erin S
Y2 Yewbarrow	Zara M
Y3 Kentmere	George J
Y3 Glaramara	Chloe K-C
Y4 Thornthwaite	Kayra Y
Y4 Blencathra	Lucas K
Y5 Fairfield	Joshua G
Y5 Catstycam	Josie G
Y6 Helvellyn	Erin S
Y6 Scafell	Lola R



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

A reminder that we will be celebrating all children with medals for this summer reading challenge in assembly on **Monday 28th September**. Please ensure your child brings their medal along on this date. Thank you.

STAFFING UPDATE

Following a period of absence from school, Mrs Lawson has resigned from her teaching post and will therefore not be returning to Heron Hill Primary. I am sure you will all join me and the team in school in wishing her the very best for the future.

BIKEABILITY



Our Y5 pupils will be taking part in Bikeability training next week. Detailed information about how this programme works and what your child needs has been shared by Mrs Altounyan and Mrs Hunter on Class Dojo.

If your child is taking part, please ensure you have read this information carefully and that your child arrives prepared to join in on Monday.

With an increasing number of children choosing to ride their bikes/scooters to school, we are really proud to be working with Bikeability to ensure the highest level of understanding and safety for our pupils. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

RECEPTION 2027

We have recently welcomed 58 families into the Heron Hill family via our new Reception cohort. They are settling into full-time school well and we are thrilled to see so many families choosing Heron Hill for their child's primary journey. The autumn term is the time where schools open their doors for open events for prospective parents. We are therefore planning multiple dates to welcome parents and carers for children due to start Reception in September 2027. Please share the dates opposite with any friends you have who will be looking for school places next year.

To express interest or book onto one of these time slots, they simply need to contact our friendly school office team by calling 01539 721276 or by emailing admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk

WEBSITE UPDATES



If you weren't able to make our 'Meet the Team' event during week 2 of the term, you will find all of the relevant information shared on our school website under the 'Parent and Pupil Home Learning' tabs for each year group.

You can also find important policies such as the Local Authority Attendance Policy, our Behaviour Policy and our updated Homework Policy. Other useful documents on here include our school menu, information about wraparound care and how to apply for school places.

SCHOOL DROP OFFS



Around 18 months ago, we implemented a 8:45-8:54am drop off time to try to alleviate the high volume of traffic on Hayfell Avenue each morning. This has been very impactful and on the whole, has significantly impacted on the safety of our pupils each morning. It does depend upon sensible, safe driving and parking outside of school though.

Since returning in September, we have already had 2 reports from parents of irresponsible driving and parking that could have been really dangerous to children. Please ensure you have plenty of time for drop off, that you are alert and extra cautious on the roads around our school. We have 430 pupils who we care for deeply and who we work hard for to protect from harm.

- Tuesday 20th October 9:30-10:30am
- Thursday 22nd October 2:30pm
- Friday 6th November 10-11am
- Saturday 7th November 10-11am
- Monday 23rd November 4-5pm



FOHH PUMPKIN WALK



We are pleased to announce that this annual event will be returning in October and promises to be a wonderful evening of pumpkin creativity! All families are invited to create pumpkins over the weekend of 17th/18th October for the event on Monday 19th. Each year we are so amazed by the many different creative ideas that you come up with so we look forward to seeing your creations!

The event will be free to attend with donations welcome and a variety of snacks and drinks also available for purchase. If you would like to offer your time to support our 'Friends of Heron Hill' team with this event, please contact chairoffohh@gmail.com New members and volunteers are always welcome.

OPAL UPDATES

Our OPAL play provision at lunchtimes is proving to be a huge hit with pupils. We will shortly be extending the provision further and with the Cumbrian autumn weather making a full appearance, **wellies are now compulsory for outdoor play** at lunchtimes. We've asked for these for several months now (early heads-ups were on last year's newsletters) but some children still don't have a pair in school. Please send in a named pair of wellies ASAP if this applies to you.



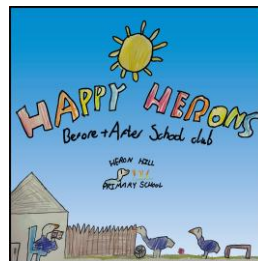
If you have any of the following at home, we would be grateful of them for OPAL provision:

- Dressing up clothes/costumes/accessories
- Fairy garden items
- Wheeled items (suitcases, small prams, sit on toys. Please no scooters or bikes.)

Our OPAL Play donation box is still on the infant playground for easy drop-off.

THANK YOU!

HOLIDAY CLUB - OCTOBER HALF TERM



We have now met with the Local Authority and know the extent of 'snagging' building works that will be happening during October half term. This does mean that the main school building is not accessible to staff or pupils during the half term break.

However, to support our working parents, we have arranged for the Nursery building to be used for Holiday Club instead. The children attending will use the nursery building, upper junior yard and far field for provision that week. Contractors and workmen will use the infant yard and main school building, separate from the children.

A letter was sent to all parents via SCOPay yesterday. Please follow the instructions in this letter to request a space for your child if needed. Thank you for your support and patience as we awaited confirmation of building works. It is vital to me as Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead that any provision we offer enables children to be happy, healthy and safe.

HOME-GROWN DELIGHTS!

Polytunnel Club are reaping the rewards of their labours with a glut of potatoes, sweetcorn, tomatoes and green beans. Our pumpkins are doing wonderfully well too! The children are loving digging up and picking the produce they have grown over the spring and summer months.



FRIENDS OF HERON HILL AGM

The AGM for our parent/family group 'Friends of Heron Hill' will be taking place on Tuesday 3rd November at 7pm. It will take place in school and we are keen to see as many parents, carers and family members there as possible. We are keen to hear new fundraising ideas and get some key dates in diaries for FOHH events.

Please do join us if you can!





ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Our pupil community have many different talents and interests outside of school and we love to celebrate these on our weekly newsletter. Please continue to send any achievements, awards or proud moments 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.



Jessica A (Y6) came 2nd place in the girls 50m Freestyle at Kendal Swimming Club's Gala on Saturday. Another swimming medal for the collection - well done Jess!

Last week Amelie (Rec) swam 200 metres & got a new swimming badge! We're super proud of her - well done Amelie!



Other information, events and community initiatives:

Westmorland
& Furness
Best Start

Family
Hub

Understanding Big Feelings

Supporting positive parent-child relationships.
Starting in September - join our friendly Family Practitioners for an informal chat about any worries or challenges you may be facing. Share experiences, learn practical strategies, and receive advice and support to help you and your child navigate big emotions together.

- First Wednesday of each month - Minthorpe Family Hub (LA7 7SP) 1.30pm - 3.00pm
- Second Wednesday of each month - Flookburgh Family Hub (LA11 7LE) 1.30pm - 3.00pm
- Second Monday of each month - Ulverston (LA12 9BE) 1.30pm - 3.00pm
- Third Wednesday of each month - Lakes Family Hub (LA23 2JX) 1.30pm - 3.00pm
- Fourth Wednesday of each month - Kendal West Family Hub (LA9 5PP) 1.30pm - 3.00pm

No booking required
For more information contact South Lakes Family Hub on:
southlakesfamilyhub@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk
01539 719030

BACK TO THE
GARDEN

KENDAL NATURE RECOVERY
FESTIVAL

Saturday 26th September 2026
9:30am - 4:30pm

Westmorland Campus of Kendal
College and in Kendal's Market Place

Book into
Festival £5
Children
Free

www.naturalkendal.org.uk

Scan the QR code
for more details

- RESPECT - RESPONSIBILITY - RELATIONSHIPS - RESILIENCE -