Heron Hill Primary School

Whole-school newsletter - Week beginning 19th October 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The first half term of this new academic year has flown by, despite it being an 8 week one! I started my first newsletter talking about how we were expecting Ofsted this term and looking forward to showcasing the journey we have been on as a school these past two years. I'm ending this half term with a huge thank you to everyone involved in that journey and with a great sense of pride in all that we've achieved so far this year.

As the nights draw darker and the autumn leaves fall all around us, I hope that all members of our school community enjoy the half-term break ahead. I am looking forward to some quality time with my family, some long dog walks with our dog Reggie and some downtime too. We will return well rested and ready for the excitement of autumn term 2. Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs. Middleton, Proud Headteacher of Heron Hill Primary

ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK



This week's assembly was a special 'Harvest Festival' assembly and we were joined by Andy from Kendal Parish Church.

We focused our thoughts on gratitude and shared the story 'Thank you' by Jarvis. This story reminds us of the importance of being grateful for even small, everyday things like toothbrushes, trees for shelter, sunshine for warmth and even spoons to eat jelly!

Andy then built on this by asking our pupils what they were grateful for whilst our Y6 prefects added these to our gratitude pumpkin. This real pumpkin is now outside my office and is full of things children feel grateful for in their lives including school, clothes, food, shelter, friends, hobbies and TV!

OPAL WATERPROOF WASHING



Our first half term of OPAL lunchtimes has been a huge success and being outside whatever the weather has been great for our pupils emotional health and wellbeing.

Their waterproofs tell a story of fun, memory-making and muddy adventure so these will be sent home on Friday for washing! Please make sure they come back into school with your child on Monday 2nd November so that the fun can continue! Thank you!

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY AND PRESENTATION PRAISE



Due to our Harvest Festival assembly there are no 'Presentation Praise' awards this week but this will return after the half term break.

On Friday, Mrs M and Mrs W are really looking forward to hosting the first 'Celebration Assembly' of this academic year. There will be certificates for each class for:

- Reading, Writing and Maths
- Respect, Relationships, Responsibility and Resilience
- The Heron Hill Way



STAFFING UPDATE



The wonderful Mrs. Powell who has been a Senior Teaching Assistant in our school for many years is soon retiring.

Mrs. Powell has worked with many children during her 28 years with Heron Hill Primary and has had such a fantastic, positive impact on everyone she has worked with. I know that Y5 (who she is currently working with) will really miss her and across school we will all miss her too. However, we wish her a long, happy, healthy retirement and hope that this next chapter is full of memory-making with those who she loves most.

As her resignation date falls during the half term holiday, Friday will be her last day working with us. We will of course be celebrating her during our assembly on Friday morning.

CHRISTMAS SUPPORT



Although often a magical time, Christmas can also be extremely stressful for families with rising costs of living.

If there are any Heron Hill families who are struggling this Christmas you might be able to get some help with toys and supermarket vouchers through the Salvation Army.

Please contact Mrs Little directly if you would like to explore this support. (This will be treated with the upmost confidentially). Please speak to her by Monday 16th November.

DONATIONS FOR OPAL

We are still seeking some resources for our OPAL playtimes.
If you have any dressing up clothes or any items that would be suitable for our Fairy Garden, please could you drop them in the OPAL donation box. This is located on the inside of the KS1 playground next to the big blue gates.
Thank you for your continued support of our OPAL playtimes.





















FOHH PUMPKIN WALK:

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our annual FOHH Pumpkin Walk last night. It was amazing to see so many families joining in with the spooky fun and with just over 150 pumpkins to explore, none of which were the same, it was a fantastic display of the creativity of our pupils! The event also raised just over £400. THANK YOU!





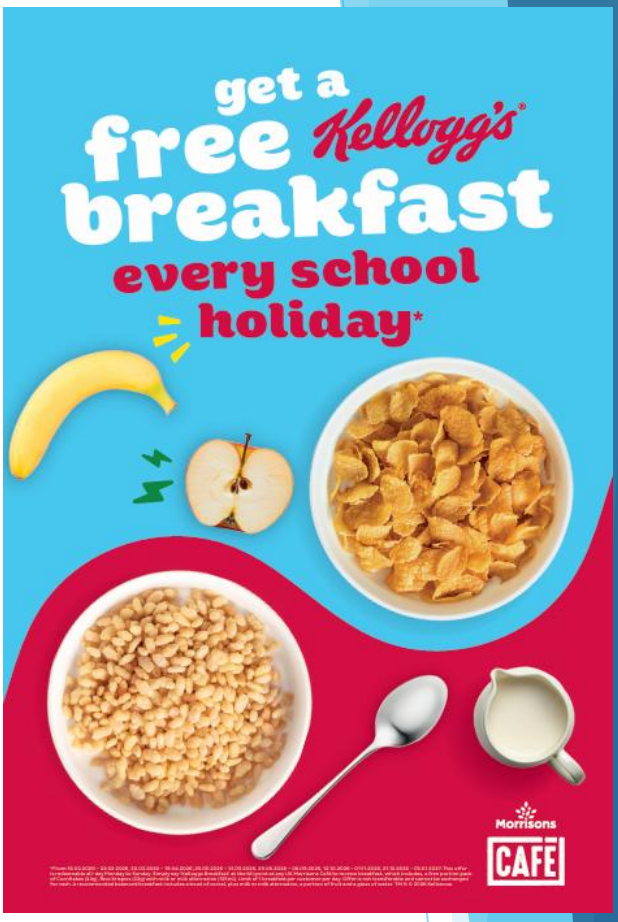














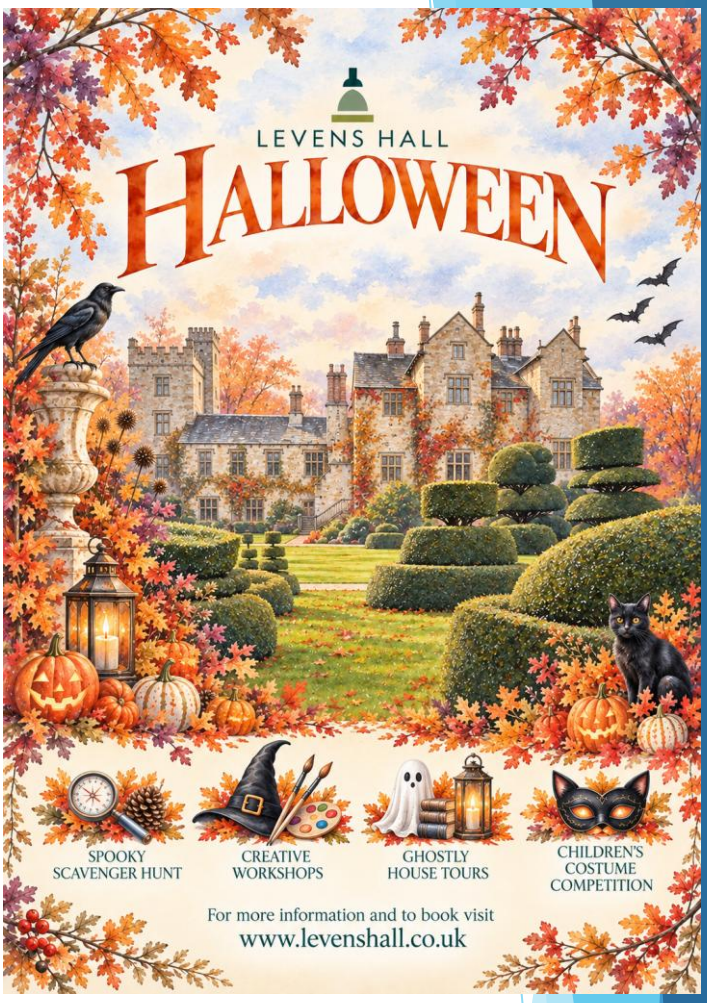
Other information, events and community initiatives





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New FREE kids trail at Low Sizergh Barn, opening on Thursday 22nd October - until the new year!

The Elf Chloe's Surprise Trail invites children to explore the farm trail, solve a secret message, and discover ideas for cutting waste, repairing toys, and giving pre-loved presents.

Families can pick up a free activity sheet from the farm shop before setting off from the top of the lane next to the car park and following the farm trail towards the pond. Once they have worked out Elf Chloe's secret message, children can return to the shop to collect a sticker.