# Heron Hill Primary School

**Whole-school newsletter - Week beginning 2nd November 2026**

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Autumn has well and truly arrived and both our caretaker and gardener are battling against the leaf-fall on a daily basis! But, how wonderful do our school grounds look with a plethora of reds, yellows and oranges greeting us each day?

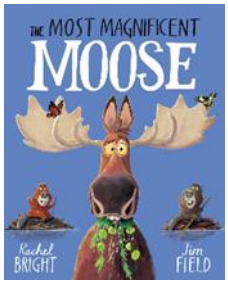
Autumn term 2 has now begun and it promises to be a busy one! From Remembrance Day to Y6 residential to Children in Need to Christmas Magic; it's all happening in the next 7 weeks! Please remember to keep an eye on our calendar dates/Dojo calendar for all the information you need.

Last night, our parent group 'Friends of Heron Hill' met for their AGM. This group will be led by Rebekah Jamieson as Chair and Kathryn Walker as Vice Chair for the year ahead. They are joined by 4 other committee members: Derek Annand, Natalie Greenwood, Lisa Bethom and Amy Holland. There is still plenty of room on both the committee and volunteer teams for anyone who is interested in getting involved. Please just email fohhteam@gmail.com to get in touch.

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.**




This week's assembly focused on the story 'The Most Magnificent Moose' and is written by one of my favourite children's authors, Rachel Bright. We have enjoyed many of her stories during my time at Heron Hill and this latest release didn't disappoint.

Morris the Moose overhears some beavers talking about who might be the most magnificent moose and begins to doubt himself. He worries he might not be strong enough, handsome enough or clever enough to be crowned the most magnificent.

This story linked well to our RESPECT value and taught us that comparison is the thief of joy! Instead, it encouraged us to think about how we are all unique and all magnificent!

## WELLIES AND WATERPROOFS:



Thank you for washing your child's waterproofs over the half term break. With the autumnal weather well and truly here, it is important that all pupils have waterproofs and wellies in school each day. Please ensure these are named too!



## 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** | Seren T |
| **Y1 Whinlatter** | Heidi M-C |
| **Y2 Outerside** | Millie L |
| **Y2 Yewbarrow** | Esme H-B |
| **Y3 Kentmere** | William S |
| **Y3 Glaramara** | Reagan T |
| **Y4 Thornthwaite** | Leo A |
| **Y4 Blencathra** | Elizabeth B |
| **Y5 Fairfield** | Cathy P |
| **Y5 Catstycam** | Maya H |
| **Y6 Helvellyn** | Matylda B |
| **Y6 Scafell** | Kai F |

## CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON - MAYOR'S PARADE





We are so excited to reveal that we have been invited by the Mayor of Kendal, Helen Ladhams, to be part of her Christmas parade for the Kendal Lights Switch On.

**This will take place on Friday 27th November, beginning at Abbot Hall Park from 4:15pm**.

There is a limit to the number of children who can parade and each child will need to be accompanied by an adult who takes responsibility for them throughout the procession.

Light-up clothing/accessories are encouraged and we also have some Heron Hill flags to fly too!
If you are interested, please complete the following form: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/XVj1xskaGE

The first 20 children will be offered places. This is a fantastic opportunity to represent our school in the local community and get into the festive spirit!

## DRIVING AND PARKING ISSUES




We have received several emails from concerned residents (and parents) relating to both parking and driving of our school community members during drop off and collection each day.

We continue to hear reports of fast or erratic driving whilst children are walking to school, and of blocked driveways due to inconsiderate parking.

The reputation of our school is built not just by the staff and pupils who attend but by EVERYONE associated with our school.

Please think twice before behaving in a way that brings our school's reputation into disrepute and remember that you as adults are role models to the young people we serve too.

## ATTENDANCE:

Our attendance table for October is shown here. This shows the total attendance for each class since the start of the new academic year.

***96% is the minimum national expectation for school attendance across the academic year.***



| Registration Class | Class % for October: |
|---|---|
| Reception – Latrigg | 98.1% |
| Reception – Mellbreak | 98.1% |
| Y1 Angletarn | 97.2% |
| Y1 Whinlatter | 99.1% |
| Y2 Outerside | 97.6% |
| Y2 Yewbarrow | 98.2% |
| Y3 Kentmere | 98.2% |
| Y3 Glaramara | 98.3% |
| Y4 Thornthwaite | 98.1% |
| Y4 Blencathra | 96.6% |
| Y5 Fairfield | 97.8% |
| Y5 Catstycam | 98.1% |
| Y6 Helvellyn | 96.7% |
| Y6 Scafell | 98.1% |

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY LETTERS

As we have now been in school for a full half-term, Mrs Little and Mrs Middleton have been busy reviewing attendance and punctuality data for all children across school. In line with our policy and statutory duties, letters will be sent home this week to the parents of any child who has fallen below 90% attendance or has a sequence of concerning late marks.

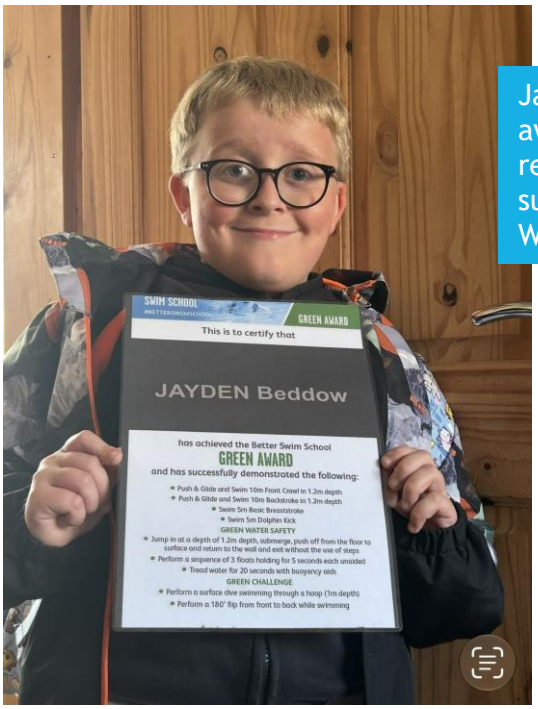
Please read this letter carefully if you receive one; primary aged children rely on adults to get into school each day and on time, they cannot do this alone. Thank you for your attention and support in this matter.

## 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.*




Jayden B (Y5) has earned his next award in swimming. He worked really hard for it and we are super proud of our little dolphin! Well done Jayden!



Lexi-Mae P (Y2) has had a lovely week with her daddy making and designing her model 'Great Fire of London' house in the half term. Its been lovely to watch them and she's super proud of what they have done together. Well done Lexi!

## OUR OFSTED REPORT

We've had lots of interest in our recent Ofsted inspection and it is fantastic to hear that our school community are keen to read our report.

It is normal process for the report to take around 15 days to pass through Ofsted's quality assurance process before making its way to the headteacher in draft form. It then has to be checked and agreed before being made available to the wider school community and online.

Our draft report has not yet arrived but we will share it with all parents and carers as soon as we can. Thank you for your support and encouragement with this process.

# Other information, events and community initiatives:

**DALLAM RUNNING CLUB**

## THE ARNSIDE KNOTT

## DAVE SHINN MEMORIAL RACE



| AGE CATEGORIES | U10 | U12 | U14 | U16 | U18 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MAX DISTANCE | 1.5K | 3K | 5K | 6K | 8K |
| AGE ON 31.12.2026 | 8,9 | 10,11 | 12,13 | 14,15 | 16,17 |

**FUN RUN FOR UNDER 8—APPROX 11:30**

## SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2026

**FIRST JUNIOR RACE STARTS AT 11:00 AM REGISTRATION FROM 10:00 AM**

From Hollins Farm, Far Arnside, Cumbria LA5 0SL....A scenic course around Arnside Knott overlooking Morecambe Bay and the Kent Estuary...

Cakes will be available to buy on site.

Hot drinks from Holgates.

**Seniors Race Starts at 12:15 PM**

**6 miles/ 1093ft ascent**

Google maps link

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**Westmorland and Furness Council**

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One of Kendal's busiest junctions will be upgraded and will allow for better and safer access for road users and pedestrians alike

Work is set to start soon on crossing improvements at the Burton Road/Oxenholme Road/ Heron Hill junction in Kendal.

The scheme to install signalised pedestrian and cycling crossings is due to commence on Monday 9 November and expected to take approximately three weeks to complete.

These improvements aim to make the junction safer and more accessible for everyone, helping to create a more welcoming environment for pedestrians and cyclists.

The project will be funded through the Local Transport Grant with an investment in the region of £280,000 which will include upgrades to the existing traffic signal infrastructure, alongside the installation of three toucan crossings and one puffin crossing. Ward members, residents and the nearby school and surgery have campaigned and worked with the council to make this happen.

During this time, temporary traffic signals will be in place to help manage traffic safely through the junction and ensure the safety of the workforce and wider public. We appreciate this may cause delays and disruption to journeys and thank everyone for their patience and understanding while these improvements are carried out.



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