Heron Hill Primary School

Whole-school newsletter - Week beginning 9th November 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dare I say it yet?! Christmas is coming! We love making a big fuss of Christmas at Heron Hill and have some returning favourites like the new Christmasaurus story to look forward to and, of course, an inflatable costume or two for gate duty. This week's newsletter includes information on the FOHH Christmas fundraiser which is slightly different to the usual Christmas Fayre but promises to be great. We were pleased to receive our draft Ofsted report at the end of last week so are hopeful that we will be able to share it with you all VERY soon. It is now back with Ofsted for final checks before being published. We know many of you are keen to read this and see the final outcomes for our fabulous school.

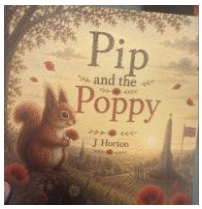
Thank you for your continued support, **Mrs. Middleton, Proud Headteacher of Heron Hill Primary**

HERON HILL REMEMBERS



On Monday, our whole-school assembly focused on ***Remembrance Day***. We learnt about the annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and why the Poppy has been considered an important symbol for over 100 years.

We then listened to a beautiful picture booked called 'Pip and the Poppy' by J. Horton. This helped us to understand the meaning of the Poppy as a symbol of hope, respect and remembrance.



As we always do, we finished assembly with a quiet moment of reflection; considering how grateful we are to those who work to keep the world we live in safe for us all.

In Art lessons last week, all year groups created amazing poppy art which has been proudly displayed in our hall this week. Different year groups attempted different styles and used different media; the finished pieces are truly stunning. A small selection of photographs are included here for you to enjoy.

















CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON - MAYOR'S PARADE





Thank you to everyone who has responded to the electronic form to be part of the Mayor's 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 are 4 spaces remaining! 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

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.

Y5 STEP INTO OPAL PLAY LEAD ROLES

With Y6 out of school for the first half of this week for their residential, a team of Y5 nominees stepped up to be OPAL Play Leads at lunchtime. They have done a brilliant job of supporting and encouraging play in the different OPAL zones, showcasing our school value of 'responsibility' brilliantly throughout!
Well done to Layla, Ruby, Alistair, Harrison, Martha, Wren, Evie, Aubree, Freya and Freya. Thank you for all of your hard work this week – you have been superstars!





CHILDREN IN NEED – FRIDAY

Friday is the annual Children In Need fundraiser and Heron Hill are pleased to be joining in with this worthwhile cause. We will be accepting cash donations for this, with a suggested donation of £1 for non-uniform.



As shared on Class Dojo and our annual school calendar dates, all pupils are invited to wear spots or Pudsey-themed clothing on Friday.

Y4 will also be hosting a cake and biscuit sale at morning break for all year groups. Pupils will be able to purchase home-made/shop bought goods for a small donation of 20-50p. Please note that exact change would be extremely helpful to Y4 and that no nut/peanut products are permitted due to severe allergies in school.

LOST PROPERTY

Thank you to our school office team who have ensured the HUGE amounts of lost property accumulated since just September have been put on the playground each evening this week for parents to check. We can't believe how many school jumpers, cardigans, hoodies and coats have been lost in such a short space of time! With the cost of living rising we encourage all parents to check this stock before buying Replacements. Lost property is located in the main school entrance.



STORM DAMAGE TO RECEPTION'S TREE

We'd like to say a huge thank you to Mr Middleton (our school caretaker) who identified some possible tree issues following the storm that struck during half term. Tree surgeons were called to perform a tree survey and identified a large crack in one of the huge trees in the outside area for Reception. A local team worked quickly to pollard the affected tree and remove any possible risk to our school community. This was fascinating for our Reception children who loved watching the branch removal process and the chipping of the wood too; we now have several pupils aspiring to be tree surgeons when they grow up! We'd also like to thank our Reception families for your cooperation when we made amendments to drop-off and collection during the tree works. Your patience and understanding was much appreciated.







RESPECT	RELATIONSHIPS
We show respect and consideration to all members of our school community; this is important. We look for role models to inspire us to be the best we can be. We also know that we can be role models; we aim to set a good example to others.	We value the chance to work together on new learning, new challenges or new experiences. We are all important parts of the Heron Hill jigsaw puzzle. We encourage each other to do the best we can; practice makes progress!
RESPONSIBILITY	**RESILIENCE**
We recognise the responsibilities we have as members of our school community. We take responsibility for our actions, especially when something goes wrong. We learn from our mistakes; we say sorry and change it.	We know that things at school aren't always easy; from challenging learning tasks to tricky friendships, we value the chance to keep trying when things get tough. We celebrate little steps along the way to progress and (with the help of school staff) focus on what we can do and what we can control.







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. Just one week after his last... this time 25m. Well done Jayden!



Arthur A(Y1) got his 10m swimming medal this week in his lessons. He and his parents are extremely proud. Well done Arthur!



It's a double celebration for Vihandu M (Y2) who has achieved his 10m badge in swimming and completed his model house from the Great Fire of London too. Well done Vihandu!





Diniru M (Y6) has achieved his amber award at swimming this week. Great swimming Diniru - keep it up!



Amelia S (Y5) is so proud of her solar system that she made at home as part of this terms' space lessons. We are so proud of how well its turned out!



Evie C, Harriet & Livi (Yr2) represented 2nd Kendal Rainbow's and Brownies in the Remembrance Parade through Kendal on Sunday. We are very proud of them for being very respectful and responsible.