Heron Hill Primary School

Whole-school newsletter - Week beginning 23rd November 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It may seem a little early but with 41 chapters to read in just 20 school days, we launched the new Christmasaurus book in assembly this week. Each day, we'll be reading two chapters from the book and every class in school will be following along. This provides an excellent opportunity for families, siblings and friends to enjoy quality 'book talk' about the story they are ALL hearing and enjoying. We would actively encourage dinnertime conversations about the story, the characters, predicting what might happen next and choosing favourite parts/characters so far. The remaining 3 full weeks of school are busy with lots to look forward to. Our calendar dates document has been added to this newsletter to support busy families in keeping on top of what is needed. Remember, this is also on our Class Dojo app for other helpful reminders.

Mrs. Middleton, Proud Headteacher of Heron Hill Primary

ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

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



This week's assembly was the live launch of our Christmas reading project, 'The Christmasaurus and the Naughty List.'

This is the 3rd book in the series by Tom Fletcher and reunites us all with the beloved Christmasaurus, William Trundle and Brenda.

In the opening chapters, we learnt that the naughty list is too large, that the Christmasaurus is not a fan of the dentist and that Santa likes eating hot buttered crumpets dipped in custard!

We will continue to read two chapters each day as we countdown to the Christmas break. On Friday 18th December, we will be reading the final two chapters together in our celebration assembly.

SENCO CONTACT

We wanted to ensure parents knew that our SENCO, Mrs. Jones, is currently absent from school. If you are needing to speak to anyone from our SEND team, please contact admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk and label your email FAO Mrs. Little. She, or a member of the senior leadership team, will then get back to you. Thank you.

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:
R - Melbreak	Georgie L
R – Lattrigg	Alex K
Y1 Angletarn	Freddie S
Y1 Whinlatter	Alfie G
Y2 Outerside	Theo A
Y2 Yewbarrow	Rylan-Lee D
Y3 Kentmere	Jack W
Y3 Glaramara	Jack B
Y4 Thornthwaite	William S
Y4 Blencathra	Samuel R
Y5 Fairfield	Joshua G
Y5 Catstycam	Bradley G
Y6 Helvellyn	Aila H-B
Y6 Scafell	Joel B

CHRISTMAS CARDS

A longstanding tradition at Heron Hill is our Christmas Post Service, which children use to send Christmas cards to each other. This service will return this year; and our post-box has had a makeover and is ready for action!



Please ensure that your child writes the full name and year group/class of the child they are writing to on each envelope. This really supports our Prefects in the sorting of cards each day. Thank you.

HERON HILL IN THE WESTMORLAND GAZETTE

You may have seen school featured in the online version of the Westmorland Gazette this week. You can read all about it here: https://www.thewestmorlandgazette.co.uk/news/26752854.heron-hill-primary-school-proud-positive-ofsted-report/

We should also be featured in the print version available in local stores this Thursday.

Thank you to our Prefects for agreeing to be in the photograph with Mrs. M and Mrs. W – a proud moment for our school!



HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD (HAF) PROGRAMME

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme: Bookings for the Christmas holidays will open on 19th November. Please visit https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/schools-and-education/holiday-activities-and-food-haf-programme for more information and to book places.

MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS PARADE





Thank you to the families who came forward to offer to be part of this festive celebration on Friday. An email has been sent to all attendees by Mrs. Middleton last week.

We will meet at Abbott Hall Park at 4:15pm on Friday. Please remember to wear sparkly, Christmas attire. Light-up accessories etc are also welcome!



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.



Theo V in Yr4 is a keen fell runner who has been working hard on his running. He came 12th overall in a frozen 'Sale Fell' fell race on Saturday. Well done Theo!

In the summer Ella donated 11inches of her hair to the Princess Trust and raised £298 for the charity. We haven't long had her certificates so she would like me to share them with you. We are so proud of her. Well done Ella - kindness is magic!





Poppy Swallow (Y2) achieved her 10m swimming award at her lesson last week. Poppy was very proud of herself and even prouder of her medal and certificate! Well done Poppy!



Abigail A in Yr 1 was awarded a certificate at Razzamataz this week for her creativity. Well done Abi!



Christmas Calendar Events Coming Soon:

When?	What?	Additional details:
Thursday 3rd December	Reception Christmas Craft with parents (PM)	Reception parents are invited into school to join their child in a range of festive themed crafts
Friday 4th December	Reception Christmas Craft with parents (AM)	Reception parents are invited into school to join their child in a range of festive themed crafts
Friday 4th December	Christmas Tabletop Sale 3:30-5pm	Please see this week's newsletter for information on how you can support. There will be a range of baked goods and refreshments available alongside the tabletop sale. Entry is FREE!
Monday 7th December	Y1 Carols Around the Campfire	4:30pm – all Y1 family members invited to attend and witness the festive singing by Y1.
Tuesday 8th December	Nursery Christmas Production (AM) (Kendal Parish Church)	Our Nursery children will perform their nativity service for parents and family members.
Tuesday 8th December	Reception Christmas Production (PM)	Our Reception children will perform their Christmas play for parents and family members, School Hall @ 2pm.
Thursday 10th December	Christmas jumper day Christmas dinner day	Pupils are invited to wear a Christmas themed outfit/jumper in exchange for a £1 donation to Save The Children. The TNS catering team will also be serving the annual school Christmas dinner on this day.
Friday 11th December	KS1 Carol Service (AM) (Kendal Parish Church)	Family members are invited to join us for this annual celebration of Christmas.
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas messy play (9:00-10:30am)	For babies and toddlers, and their parents. Led by Mrs Hudson and in our school hall.
Tuesday 15th December	Y2 Christmas poetry recital and carol concert 2:15pm performance 5:00pm performance	Y2 will be performing 'Twas the night before Christmas' and singing a selection of Christmas songs for family members.
Wednesday 16th December	KS2 Christmas Carol Service (Kendal Parish Church, usually a 2:00pm start)	Family members are invited to join us for this annual celebration of Christmas.
Thursday 17th December	Rock Steady end-of-term concert	Children involved in weekly Rock Steady lessons will perform for family members at 2:15pm.
Friday 18th December	Christmas Party Day	For all year groups – pupils are invited to wear a Christmas-themed outfit/party clothes for their year group parties.
Friday 18th December	Celebration Assembly	Mrs M and Mrs W will lead the school in celebrating achievements from this first half term. Awards will be given in every class for our school values, maths, reading and writing. School closes to all pupils for Christmas at 3:15pm

FOHH Christmas Fundraiser:



