



HERON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO. 1

9th SEPTEMBER 2016



IT IS TORCHLIGHT NIGHT TONIGHT!!

We have a heroic troupe of children and parents who are going to be dressed as frogs, crayfish and wildlife while supporting our magnificent heron on our float at the Torchlight Parade tonight. Our water wildlife theme is very appropriate for the weather. If you are taking part, have a fabulous evening, all the costumes come with their own water repelling invisible umbrella. If you are not taking part, please come and cheer on our float! Our float is number 34, do not miss it! Thank you to Nicki Smith, the 'Chit-Chat Group' and the volunteers who have worked so hard to bring the ideas together.

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after what I hope has been a lovely summer for you all. Our summer has been really busy with all of the building and decoration works and we now have an amazing new Reception department; it is so bright, spacious and colourful. Do take a peek if you are able. The kitchen too is now much larger and the new servery at the rear of the hall has already made lunchtimes a little smoother. The new servery will also give us space for our long-awaited salad bar and allow us to keep improving the lunch menus and service.

We have some exciting plans to help our children to do their best in learning too. You may be aware that in the past, children were given a National Curriculum level based on their general understanding of different subjects at the end of each year. This was based on teacher assessment, plus national tests at the end of Year 2 and Year 6. Levels were based on a "best-fit" judgement giving a general indication of the level at which the child was working overall in relation to broadly *where they should be for their year group*.

However, over the past two years this approach to assessment has changed for all children across the country. Children are now assessed against whether or not they have met the required standard against the **entire** curriculum for their year group. This means that, in order for us to be able to report that children have reached the required standard, they must have done so against **every** National Curriculum objective. If they do not, we must report that they have not met the required standard for their year group for the subject. Obviously we want to avoid this ever happening and so if any child does not quite understand some of their work or needs a little extra input, we are putting a number of measures in place across the school to support these children. Two of the most exciting of these we are calling *pre-teach* and *reactive review*. For *pre-teach* Mr Murphy, Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Cooling are now timetabled to work with Years 1 to 6, giving children a basic understanding of National Curriculum objectives the week before the unit is taught to the whole class. These fun and interactive sessions will usually last for around 15 minutes and will be delivered to groups of no more than five children at a time. This 'head start' should mean that children will feel more confident in their learning and have the very best chance of meeting their objectives when they are taught by the class teacher. *Reactive review* will take place after a lesson if a child has not quite grasped what was taught or would benefit from a little extra consolidation or practise. Again, these sessions will be short and in small groups or 1-1 sessions.

With complete coverage of every National Curriculum objective now a requirement for children to be awarded "working at the expected standard" at the end of the year, it is obviously more important than ever that children are present at school every day and arrive on time. If they are absent, teachers will need to liaise with you about how your child might catch up on the sessions they missed, or where an absence is planned, what activities you should get your child to complete whilst they are away. If you would like to know more about this, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Peter Hicks

Classes and Teachers 2016-2017

Headteacher Mr Peter Hicks
Deputy Head Mr Ian Murphy
Assistant Head Mrs Michelle Wilkinson

	Teachers	Teaching Assistants
Nursery	Mrs Metcalfe	Mrs Ormrod, Mrs Greenhough, Mrs Robinson, Mr Westwell
Reception	Mrs Foster and Mrs Barber	Mrs Robinson
Year 1	Mrs Jones and Mrs Knipe	Mrs Smith
Year 2	Mrs Hudson and Mrs Ladds	Mrs Turner, Mrs Chaplow and Mrs Broomby
Year 3	Mrs Haddath and Miss Hildrew	Mrs Scott
Year 4	Mrs Curry and Mrs Patrick	Mrs Wilson
Year 5	Mrs Lawson and Mrs Wilkinson	Mrs Quilliam, Mrs Gorst
Year 6	Mrs O'Neil and Miss Reid	Mrs Jones, Mrs Pritchard, Miss Powell

Mrs Cooling is Inclusion Manager and along with Mrs Dodd-Hemingway, Miss Grimbley, Mrs Harper, Mrs Osborne and Mr Murphy, teaches in school to provide non-contact and PPA (planning, preparation and assessment) time. Mrs Roberts is our Business Manager, with Mrs Lehane, Mrs Higgins and Mrs Butler providing additional clerical support. Lunch time supervision is provided by our team of Mid-day Supervisors.

Relief Mid-Day Supervisors

We like to have a bank of relief Mid-Day Supervisors who can work on an as-needed basis to cover absence, but there are not many people in the bank at present. Please contact the office if you are interested. Hours of work are 1¼ hours over lunchtime Monday to Friday and the rate of pay is £8.0377 per hour plus a supplement to increase the rate to the 'UK Living Wage' rate of £8.25 per hour.

Food Information

We would like to remind you that morning break snacks should only be fruit, vegetables or cheese for children in Years 3-6. Processed foods containing concentrated fruits which have a high sugar content are not acceptable. Younger children are provided with fresh fruit and vegetables via a government scheme.

Children up to 5 years old and those in families eligible for Free School Meals can be registered to receive a free carton of milk each day. Parents of children 5 years and older can register to buy milk for their child each day at a cost of approximately 22p a day. Contact the office for more information.

We have children in school with severe nut allergies, so please do not send your child into school with nuts or foods which contain nuts, including Nutella sandwiches.

Donations of Play Equipment Request from Year 1

If you have or know of an unwanted play kitchen, table, chairs and/or dressing up clothes in good condition, Year 1 would be delighted to take them off your hands.

Pumpkins and Sunflowers

We hope your sunflowers and pumpkins have had a great summer. Have you got the winning flower and/or vegetable?

Sunflower Competition

The closing date for the sunflower competition will be Friday 30th September. Entrants must bring a photo of themselves beside their sunflower and the final measurement to the office by then. Prizes will be awarded at the celebration assembly in October.

Pumpkin Competition

The closing date for the pumpkin competition will be Wednesday 19th October. Pumpkins need to be brought into school along with a progress photo in situ with the child. Prizes will be awarded at the celebration assembly.

Voluntary Contributions

We would be grateful if you could make a £5.00 contribution per family for the year. This will help to cover the cost of the wide range of class activities we provide, such as baking, art, craft and gardening, which benefit all the children. Please send your contribution into school by Friday 30th September in a sealed envelope with your child(ren)'s name on. Please make cheques payable to 'Heron Hill Primary School'.

Twitter and Tweet

Heron Hill School tweets every now and then. If you have Twitter, please follow us to get regular updates of life in the school, or sign up to join Twitter; see our website. See our Year 6 County Show photographs on our Twitter feed.

Proposed Visits/Visitor Costs 2016-2017

Year	Visit/Event	Date	Cost	Total
Nursery	Christmas Gift	December	£5.00	£19.50
	Pantomime	January	£4.50	
	Holme Farm	Summer term	£10.00	
Reception	Pantomime	January	£4.50	£17.80
	Brockhole	Summer term	£11.00	
	Swimming	Summer term	£3.00	
Year 1	Pantomime	January	£4.50	£21.00 + donation
	Marie Curie Pots of Care	Spring term	donation	
	Haverthwaite	Summer term	£16.50	
Year 2	Pantomime	January	£4.50	£17.50
	Leighton Moss	Spring term	£10.00	
	BeeBot Workshop	Spring term	£2.00	
	Owl Visit	Summer term	£1.00	
Year 3	Trip to Keswick Museum, Castle Rigg & Pencil Museum (Tbc)	Autumn term	£12.00	£36.00
	Craft Workshop	Spring/Summer term	£3.00	
	Vindolanda	Summer term	£15.00	
	History Workshop	Autumn/Summer term	£5.00	
Year 4	Recorders	September	£8.00	£17.00 (+£60.00 residential visit)
	Liverpool Residential	Spring term	£60.00	
	Coach visit to Kentmere/Arnside	Summer term	£8.00	
	Reward Morning	Summer term	£1.00	
Year 5	Ration Come Dine with Me	October	£1.00	£22.00 (+£120.00 residential visit)
	Say Two Theatre	Autumn term	£4.00	
	Manchester Residential	3 rd -5 th November	£120.00 (paid)	
	Skipton Castle	Summer term	£15.00	
	Reward Afternoon	Summer term	£2.00	
Year 6	County Show	10 th September	£4.50 (paid)	£26.00 (+£200.00 residential visit)
	Ingleton Residential	September/October	£200.00 (paid)	
	Say Two Theatre	Autumn term	£4.00	
	Electricity Workshops	March	£5.00	
	Viking Workshop	June	£10.50	
	Reward Afternoon	July	£2.00	

Possible Optional Costs

Voluntary Contribution - £5.00 per family
 Maths Toolkits (Rec-Year 3) - £4.00
 Christmas Cards (parents' choice)
 Individual Photographs (parents' choice)
 Class Photographs (parents' choice)
 Fair Trade Big Brew Coffee Afternoon
 Enterprise Projects in Years 4 and 5

Friends of Heron Hill (parents' choice)

Christmas Fair/Raffle
 Sponsored Walk
 Summer Fair/Raffle
 Class Calendar
 Discos

Donations

Orange Day for Duchenne MD - £1.00
 Harvest Collection
 Shoe Box Appeal
 Sponsored Swim (Juniors)
 Children in Need - £1.00
 Comic Relief/Sport Relief - £1.00
 Talent Show/New Beginnings - £1.00
 Collections at Christmas/Lower Junior and Upper Junior Performances
 Collections at Parish Church Carol Services

Dates for your Diary

Monday 12 th September	Music lessons begin
Monday 12 th September	Yakkers of Lakeland Radio visiting the school
Monday 12 th September	Reception Parents' Information Meeting, 2.45 pm
Monday 12 th September	Lunchtime and afterschool clubs and activities begin
Tuesday 13 th September	Year 1 Parents' Information Meeting, 2.45 pm
Wednesday 14 th September	Y3JH swimming lessons begin
Thursday 15 th September	Y4C swimming lessons begin
Thursday 15 th September	Kirkbie Kendal School open evening for Year 6 pupils, 5.45 pm-8.00 pm
Friday 16 th September	Momo Theatre in school (postponed from last year)
Friday 16 th September	Year 5 residential visit last payment of £40 due
Thursday 22 nd September	Nursery open afternoon, 1.00 pm-3.00 pm
Thursday 22 nd September	Queen Katherine School open evening for Year 6 pupils, 5.15 pm to 8.15 pm
Friday 30 th September	Closing date for January Nursery applications

TERM DATES 2016-2018

Autumn Term 2016

First Day of School Year	Monday 5 th September 2016
October Half-Term	School closes – Friday 21 st October, 3.15 pm; school opens – Monday 31 st October
Christmas Holiday	School closes – Friday 16 th December 2016, 2.00 pm

Spring Term 2017

INSET	Wednesday 4 th January 2017
First Day of Spring Term	Thursday 5 th January 2017
February Half-Term	School closes – Friday 17 th February, 3.15 pm; school opens – Monday 27 th February
Easter Holiday	School closes – Friday 7 th April 2017, 2.00 pm (Good Friday – 14 th April 2017)

Summer Term 2017

First Day of Summer Term	Monday 24 th April 2017
May Day	Monday 1 st May 2017
Whitsun Half-Term	School closes - Friday 26 th May, 3.15 pm; school opens - Monday 5 th June 2017
Last Day of School Year	Thursday 20 th July 2017, 2.00 pm

2017-2018 (these dates are subject to change)

Autumn Term 2017

First Day of School Year	Monday 4 th September 2017
October Half-Term	School closes – Friday 20 th October; school opens – Monday 30 th October 2017
Christmas Holiday	School closes – Friday 15 th December 2017, 2.00 pm

Spring Term 2018

First Day of Spring Term	Thursday 4 th January 2018
February Half-Term	School closes – Friday 9 th February, 3.15 pm; school opens – Monday 19 th February
Easter Holiday	School closes – Thursday 29 th March 2018, 2.00 pm (Good Friday – 30 th March 2018)

Summer Term 2018

First Day of Summer Term	Monday 16 th April 2018
May Day	Monday 7 th May
Whitsun Half-Term	School closes - Friday 25 th May, 3.15 pm; school opens - Monday 4 th June 2018
Last Day of School Year	Friday 20 th July 2018, 2.00 pm

(A paper copy of these terms dates is available from the school office)

Requests for Leave of Absence

At Heron Hill we agree that missing school for any reason is likely to deprive a child of educational opportunities and hamper their progress at school. Although we acknowledge that parents may sometimes prefer to take holidays outside of school holidays, this has to be balanced against the effect on pupils' progress at school.

- Headteachers can only grant leave of absence for any reason if they are satisfied exceptional circumstances exist. The effect of this change means that the government expects it to be extremely unusual for leave of absence, including for holidays in term time, to be permitted by schools.
- If you do need to request leave of absence, please do so, in writing to the Headteacher, at least four weeks before the start of the proposed absence and include an explanation of why it is exceptional circumstances.
- Every request will be considered individually.
- Emergencies, funerals etc do not require four weeks notice.

EVERYONE CAN DO MATHS!

On Thursday 6th October at 2.30 pm you are invited to come to a parents' maths meeting where you will be given practical ideas for helping your child with maths at home. More information will be sent to you nearer the time.



Reminder: Lunch Shop

Please remember to book your child's school dinners for the next week, every week.