



www.heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk
admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk

 @heronhillschool

HERON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NO. 3 14th NOVEMBER 2017



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to all who sent in Christmas shoeboxes, donations of box contents and who gave their time this year. We are unlikely to match our record high number from last year, but every gift will make a difference to a child in Romania this Christmas.

This newsletter illustrates some of the activities which have taken place recently and give you notice of performances and carol services to come. Please make a note of the dates as our visits to the Parish Church and in-school productions are always very special.

Today, we had a famous guest (see inside) and tomorrow another will be here; Yakkers from Lakeland Radio will be in school to hear from our pupils about the exciting and interesting activities they get up to at Heron Hill School. Then, every day next week Lakeland Radio will play a recording of their conversations. Tune in each day at 7.30 am for 'Yakkers back at school'.

We have not forgotten about the morning run. We are waiting for the field to dry out a bit before we are able to use it again. The 'summer' was a bit wet! Once the ground is dry enough we will let you know, and then we will be off once again!

Peter Hicks

RECEPTION OPEN AFTERNOON For children starting school in September 2018

Wednesday 22nd November 2017
1.00 pm-5.00 pm



Come and see our newly remodelled and refurbished reception unit and the wider school, meet our friendly staff and take the opportunity to view our exciting and rich environments.



If you would like to visit on an alternative date please contact us:

Tel: 01539 721276 admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk www.heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk

Children in Need

This Friday, 17th November, is Children in Need Day. To support this charity, the School Council has asked that all pupils and staff come in brightly coloured clothes, stripes and/or spots and donate £1.00 per person.



They also want to have a cake sale at the end of the school day, so if you are able, please donate cakes, traybake, biscuits and cupcakes on Friday, which the School Council will sell from 3.15 pm. If it is dry, the sale will take place on the Infant/Lower Junior playground. If it is raining, the sale will take place under the Reception playground canopy.





PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY



Year 3 Stone Age Topic

Handling stone age tools at Keswick Museum, visiting Castle Rigg stone circle and making tools and art in a stone age workshop in our woods have all greatly enhanced our Year 3 pupils' understanding of Stone Age times.



Photography Competition

Congratulations to the winners of the *Kendal Windows on Art 'Every Picture Tells a Story' Heron Hill Family Challenge*. At a school assembly the four age category winners were presented with framed copies of their photographs. Everyone who entered the competition was rewarded.



Comic Art Festival

Year 4 pupils decorated the windows of Highgate Vets during the Comic Art Festival. Inspired by comic animals including Tom and Jerry, they created comic animals on their way to the vets with various complaints and injuries!

Year 1 Autumn Walk

As part of their science topic, Year 1 pupils have been studying 'Seasonal Change' and took an autumn walk in the school grounds to look for signs of autumn and to identify some common plants and trees.



Pudsey visited Heron Hill School today!



On-Line Payments

We are pleased to inform you that we will be trialling an on-line payments system in the spring term. Orian Solutions, our catering provider, has developed the Lunch Shop system to enable payments for other school activities. We are planning to offer parents the option of paying for school visits and workshops etc via Lunch Shop from January and we will be sending out further details in the next few weeks.

FOHH Update

This year we have new faces on the Friends of Heron Hill Committee! At the AGM on 18th October, Richard Williams was elected as the new Chair of FOHH. The role of Deputy Chair will be shared between Sarah Hartley and Beth Wright, and Caroline Airey will take over the Treasurer's role from Mark Matthews. Tracy Simpson will continue to play an active part in FOHH, and, together with Julie Williams, will be supporting Richard in his new role.

Last year, thanks to the generous support we received at our events, Friends of Heron Hill was able to contribute over £5,500 towards some fantastic school activities, trips and equipment.

We have already seen a flying start to fundraising this year. The first disco was a huge success and raised over £500, and the Bags2School collection weighed a whopping 310kg and generated £124! That is 70kg heavier than last time. Thank you!!

The highlight of this term is the Christmas Fair on Friday 8th December, and planning is already underway. I hope you have got the date in your diaries! It promises to be a fun evening and there may even be a special visitor from the North Pole!

However, we would LOVE more helpers! FOHH events do take time and effort to organise, co-ordinate and run, and we could really do with more pairs of hands. If you can spare a little time, even if it is just 30 minutes or an hour to help on an occasional basis, then it would be great to hear from you. Alternatively, if you are interested in a more active role on the committee then new members are always welcome. If you would like to get involved, in any capacity, please chat to any member of the committee, or pop into the office and leave your details.

Caroline Airey

Governor Insight: Andy Blackman

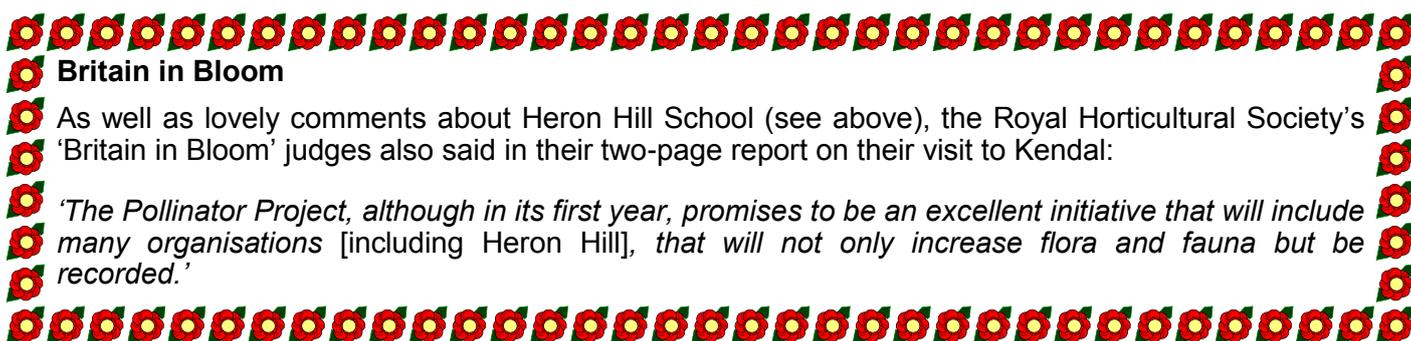
As Kendal's Mayor, I recently attended the Britain in Bloom Awards ceremony in Llandudno at which Kendal received a Silver Gilt Award. Amongst the written feedback from the two judges who assessed the many elements of Kendal's entry was the following statement:

'The gardens and numerous on-going projects at Heron Hill School were fantastic. The work and enthusiasm of Head Teacher Peter Hicks and Head of Parent Governors Jacqui Cottam was so infectious; to be a child at that school must be a real pleasure. The huge, successful tree-planting programme and the new bee initiative was so impressive.'



We were also informed that Heron Hill was one of a very small number of schools nationwide that was considered for a Discretionary Award for 'engaging with, supporting and inspiring younger members of the community.'

As a Governor of Heron Hill I was delighted that the school was being recognised in this way. Well done to all the children and staff involved in the many gardening and related activities around the school, and a special thanks to Mrs Hudson for her enthusiasm in nurturing children's interest in the school garden throughout the year.



Britain in Bloom

As well as lovely comments about Heron Hill School (see above), the Royal Horticultural Society's 'Britain in Bloom' judges also said in their two-page report on their visit to Kendal:

'The Pollinator Project, although in its first year, promises to be an excellent initiative that will include many organisations [including Heron Hill], that will not only increase flora and fauna but be recorded.'

Christmas shopping on-line? Remember to use 'School Angel'.

Sports Reports

Girls' Football Festival

On 3rd November we took 2 teams (from Year 4 and Year 6) to the football tournament at Vicarage Park School. The Year 4 children tried really hard and showed excellent team work during the afternoon. They played very well and had some good attempts at goal but were unsuccessful in getting any past the other teams.

The Year 6 girls were at a slight advantage, having 4 county footballers in the team. They played 5 brilliant matches, keeping a clean sheet thanks to Olivia Heaward's excellent goal keeping. A fantastic amount of goals were scored by Eve Murray and Carla Butcher. I was particularly proud of the girls for stepping up and helping out Sandgate school who only managed a team of 4 players. The girls were kind and caring and made me very proud.

High Fives Netball Tournament

On 10th November we played host for the local schools' netball tournament. We had 2 teams entered in the competition and 13 teams in total took part. The afternoon started off in glorious sunshine and both our teams got off to great starts. They played 4 games each, with A team winning all 4 games and scoring 11 goals and the B team also winning all 4 games and scoring 6 goals. The top 2 teams would make it through to the next level at Cartmel Primary on 24th November and when the results were announced we were delighted - Heron Hill had the top 2 teams! Mrs Dodd-Hemingway is now busy planning the visit to Cartmel; letters will be going out this week with more details.

Carly Dodd-Hemingway



Dates for your Diary

Friday 17th November

Tuesday 21st November

Wednesday 22nd November

Tuesday 5th December

Friday 8th December

Thursday 14th December

Friday 15th December

Children in Need Day: wear stripes and/or spots, bring £1.00 to school

Reception-Year 6 Family Morning, 'Christmas' theme. Pupils will work in mixed year group classes with siblings in the same class

Reception Open Afternoon, 1.00 pm-5.00 pm (for September 2018 starters)

Mufti/Non-Uniform Day to collect bottles and chocolate for the Christmas Fair

Christmas Fair, 5.00 pm-7.00 pm

Choir singing at Elephant Yard, 1.15 pm, for The Children's Society

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Dates

Productions and Services

Monday 4th December – Nursery/Reception Performance (2.15 pm)

Tuesday 5th December – Nursery/Reception Performance (10.00 am)

Wednesday 6th December – Year 1/Year 2 Dress Rehearsal (2.15 pm)

Thursday 7th December – Year 1/Year 2 Performances (2.15 pm & 6.00 pm)

Thursday 14th December - Choir singing at the Elephant Yard (1.15 pm)

Friday 15th December - Parish Church Services:

9.45 am - Reception to Year 2 Carol Service

12.45 pm - Nursery Crib Service

2.00 pm - Year 3 to Year 6 Carol Service

Parties

Monday 11th December – Years 1&2

Tuesday 12th December – Years 3&4

Tuesday 12th December - Nursery

Wednesday 13th December – Years 5&6

Thursday 14th December - Reception



Leisure Centre Christmas Activity Day

The Leisure Centre has asked us to pass on this message:

'Get your little ones active while you get on with Santa business. Age 5 plus. 21 December, 10am - 3pm. Wear your Christmas Jumpers. £10 per child for the day. Please speak to Leisure Centre reception for discounted prices. Bring lunch and drinks. Children age 8 plus, please bring swim wear.'

Severe Winter Weather

If at any point over the next few months there is so much heavy snow, rain or wind damage during the night that we cannot open, we will inform parents via ParentMail PMX by 8.00 am and we will put a message on Lakeland Radio, BBC Radio Cumbria and our website. If there is severe weather while your child is at school and it will make their journey home at 3.15 pm dangerous, you can collect your child from school during the day. During periods of heavy snow, we will do all we can to make priority walking routes into school clear and safe. The priority routes will be the paths to the main entrance, to Year 2, to the Upper Junior doors and to the Nursery. Please keep to these paths.



If you are already on Twitter, please could you follow @heronhillschool and like/share our posts? There are a lot more photographs on there of our activities than we could ever get in this newsletter and they are up to the minute. If you wish to stay out of the Twittersphere, our Twitter feed can also be seen at the bottom of our website's front page.