



HERON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO. 6

19th JANUARY 2016



Dear Parents and Carers

It seems a little late to wish you all a Happy New Year, as we have now been back at school some time. You will see inside this newsletter just some of the things the children have been doing in this already busy term and there is much more to come.

The new website has been visited many times and we have had many positive comments about the content and layout. You may have used the website to check if school was open due to the flooding and, this weekend, snow. We will always try to place a message on the home page by around about 5.00 pm-6.00 pm if there is any event which may affect school opening. However, our intention is that we will always be open!

I was joined today by some esteemed educators from Moscow. They are visiting Kendal to look at the workings of the town's 'Teaching School', of which we are a part. They chose Heron Hill to visit as we have been successfully involved in interviewing prospective students, the training of them (in school and out) and have employed a former student to the staff. It is nice to know our school, and the great things we do here, will now be discussed in Russia's most prestigious teacher training school!

Peter Hicks

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 19 th January	Visitors from Moscow State Pedagogical Institute
Friday 22 nd January	Y1J (Mrs Jones) Class Assembly, 10.00 am. All family and friends welcome
Monday 25 th January	Bring filled 'Bags2School' bags. More bags are available from the office
Wednesday 27 th January	Nursery Open Afternoon, 2.00 pm-5.00 pm. For parents of children starting Nursery in September 2016
Thursday 28 th January	Fairtrade Tuck Shop (see price list below)
Thursday 28 th January	Momo Theatre Group visiting (see page 4)
Friday 29 th January	Bags2School collection. All bags to be in school by 9.00 am
Monday 8 th February	Year 4 Residential Visit to Liverpool
Thursday 11 th February	Year 3 (Miss Hildrew and Mrs Haddath) Assembly, 2.30 pm. All family and friends welcome.
Friday 12 th February	End of half term, 3.15 pm
Monday 22 nd February	Return to school. Brownies Thinking Day
Monday 29 th February	Year 4 (Mrs Lawson and Mrs Dodd-Hemingway) Assembly, 2.30 pm. All family and friends welcome

Fairtrade Tuckshop

Orange Juice	60p
Apple Juice	60p
Pineapple fruit pot	60p
Chocolate raisins	60p
Yoghurt raisins	60p
Chocolate buttons	50p
Flapjack 85g bar	50p
Chocolate Wafers	30p
Ginger cookies	20p
Chocolate cookies	20p
Raisins	20p
Apricots	20p
Rice cake	15p

World Book Day: Thursday 3rd March 2016
Dress Up as a Book Character Competition!
See Page 2 for details.

School Angel

Shopping on-line for a holiday or a weekend away?
Last gasp January sales bargains on the internet?
Go in via Heron Hill's page on School Angel and Heron Hill shares your joy: you get your holiday or bargain, Heron Hill gets a small share of the company's profits. Win win.



<http://www.schoolangel.org.uk/heron-hill-primary-school-kendal.html>

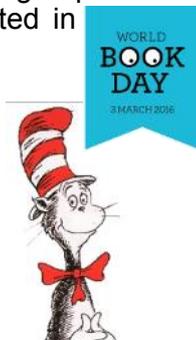
World Book Day

This year World Book Day is on Thursday 3rd March.

We are inviting all pupils, staff, helpers and governors to dress up as a character from a book. We have a book list from The Times 50 Best Children's Books and ask that characters be taken from this list.

Prizes will be awarded to children wearing the best **homemade** costumes within the four different age groups: Nursery and Reception, Years 1 and 2, Years 3 and 4 and Years 5 and 6; there will be an additional prize for siblings dressed as characters from the same book.

We are combining World Book Day with a Family Morning and the children in Reception to Year 6 will be working in their family groups on a theme based on Reading for Pleasure. Each group will focus on one of the books listed in the top 50 list.



The Top 50 Children's Book - Pick a Character

1. The House At Pooh Corner – AA Milne
2. The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe – CS Lewis
3. Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone – J.K. Rowling
4. Where The Wild Things Are – Maurice Sendak
5. Charlie and The Chocolate Factory – Roald Dahl
6. The Wind in the Willows – Kenneth Grahame
7. The Very Hungry Caterpillar – Eric Carle
8. A Bear Called Paddington – Michael Bond
9. The Gruffalo – Julia Donaldson
10. The Hobbit – J R R Tolkein
11. The Cat in the Hat – Dr Seuss
12. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland – Lewis Carroll
13. We're Going on a Bear Hunt – Michael Rosen
14. Little Women – Louisa May Alcott
15. Dogger – Shirley Hughes
16. Pippi Longstocking – Astrid Lindgren
17. The Tiger Who Came to Tea – Judith Kerr
18. Finn Family Moomintroll – Tove Jansson
19. The Tale of Peter Rabbit – Beatrix Potter
20. Journey to the River Sea – Eve Ibbetson
21. The Story of Tracy Beaker – Jacqueline Wilson
22. Kensuke's Kingdom – Michael Morpurgo
23. Goodnight Mr Tom – Michelle Magorian
24. Rooftoppers – Katherine Rundell
25. A Monster Calls – Patrick Ness
26. The Railway Children – E Nesbit
27. Millions – Frank C Boyce
28. The Snowman – Raymond Briggs
29. The Arrival – Shaun Tan
30. The Snow Queen – Hans Christian Andersen
31. Black Beauty – Anna Sewell
32. Five on a Treasure Island – Enid Blyton
33. Just William – Richmal Crompton
34. Holes – Lewis Sachar
35. Stig of the Dump – Clive King
36. The Boy in the Dress – David Walliams/Quentin Blake, illustrator
37. I Will Never Ever Eat A Tomato – Lauren Child
38. The Jolly Postman – Alan and Janet Ahlberg
39. Horrid Henry Gets Rich Quick – Francesca Simon
40. How to Train Your Dragon – Cressida Cowell
41. The Wee Free Men – Terry Pratchett
42. Stormbreaker (Alex Rider) – Anthony Horowitz
43. Mortal Engines – Philip Reeve
44. The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson–Burnett
45. Just So Stories – Rudyard Kipling
46. This Is Not My Hat – John Klasson
47. Fortunately The Milk – Neil Gaiman
48. Charlotte's Web – EB White
49. Diary of A Wimpy Kid – Jeff Kinney
50. Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson

Children's Book Festival at Wray Castle

To celebrate Beatrix Potter's 150th birthday, the National Trust is hosting its first Children's Book Festival Weekend at Wray Castle on 4th-6th March 2016.

There is also an opportunity to meet authors and illustrators including Axel Scheffler, Philip Ardagh, Benji Davies, Sophy Henn and Steven Lenton. You can even meet Peter Rabbit himself. Entry for National Trust members is £3, non members £5; there is an additional charge for entry to author/illustrator workshops.

Further information is available from <https://wraycastle.cloudvenue.co.uk/home>



Year 4 Writing

Inspired by a visit to the school woods, Year 4 children have been writing stories. Here are the opening paragraphs of Sammy Birch and Ryan Teasdale's stories:

'It was the middle of the night when the prince cautiously walked through the gloomy forest. Was he going to survive? His heart was thumping like never before. The twigs were jagged and old. He was nervous at the sound of every movement.'

'The prince cautiously and carefully snuck through the black, dark night. Overcome with fear, his pulse started to race. Had he made the right decision? The moon shone, showing him a route through the gnarled and twisted branches.'



Hugo

Year 3 pupils spend some time studying the book 'The Invention of Hugo Cabret', written and illustrated by Brian Selznick. A part of their studies includes acting out aspects of the story.

Biz Quiz Brainboxes

If you listen to daytime BBC Radio Cumbria you may have heard over the last few months that Mrs Wilkinson, Mr Hicks and Mr Murphy have taken part in the 'Biz Quiz', which is on Tuesdays at approximately 10.30 am. Mr Murphy was our most recent participant and did very well, getting 6 out of 6 answers right. This means we will get a call to take part in the next round, which will take place in a week or two. Who will represent the school this time?!



Before Christmas, Year 5 pupils joined pupils from other schools at Kirkbie Kendal School to hear the RAF Swing Wing band play music from the 40s and beyond.



The Flying Scotsman will be going through Oxenholme at 3.40 pm on Saturday 23rd January.

Clean for the Queen: Poster Competition

In the run up to the Queen's 90th birthday, Kendal Town Council is joining the national campaign to tackle the blight of litter. One of the ways in which they are doing this is by encouraging school children to design a poster to encourage people not to drop litter and to take pride in their town, keeping it 'Clean for the Queen'.



CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN

All Kendal primary schools have been invited to enter the competition. There will be first and second prizes for each school and then there will be one overall winner; that school will also win a prize. All the winning posters will be displayed in the town.

Entries, on A4 paper, with your child's name and age clearly written on the back, need to be returned to Heron Hill on Monday 22nd February, so this will be a good activity for the half term holiday.

There are other ways to be involved in the 'Clean for the Queen' initiative, eg by joining a litter-picking weekend in March. See the website for further details: www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk

South Lakes District Cross Country Trials, 6th January, Sedbergh School, Casterton

Fifteen of Heron Hill's bravest runners competed in the South Lakes Cross Country Trials, hosted by Sedbergh School at their Casterton site. Although the weather conditions on the day were an improvement on last year, the course was still a demanding one with several very muddy patches. However the children all performed admirably and came away with some notable successes.

In the girl's U10 race, Sarah Smith ran a very strong race and was placed 4th overall in a field of some 60 girls. Maddy Loughlin, Eve Wood and Beth Hodgson also competed in this race and ran very well, although they found the course challenging.

In the U10 boy's race, Heron Hill was represented by 5 boys who similarly performed very well. It was a case of 'keep it in the family' for Oliver Smith who went one better than his twin sister and got amongst the medals in 3rd place! Joel Howell also ran a strong race to finish in 16th. Reuben Dyer, Lennon Bell and Jacob Hayton all finished strongly.

The girl's U11 race saw only one runner from Heron Hill, Abbie Jones. Abbie ran a very determined race, for the majority of which she had only one trainer on, the other falling victim to the sticky mud! Finishing in 17th place, Abbie should be very proud of her virtuoso performance and the fact she retrieved her missing trainer!

The final race of the afternoon saw the U11 boys tackle the what was by now very cut up course. A trio of boys stuck at their task and supported each other resulting in Jamie Looker, Seth Howell and Reece Irving finishing in 11th, 12th and 13th places respectively. Max Chaplow, Judah Hicks and Oliver Stephenson finished within the top 40 out of 81 runners. As a result, the first four boy's positions were combined to give a team score of 66, placing them second – only 6 points behind hosts Sedbergh Preparatory school. A courageous effort by all concerned. The races were followed by hot soup and delicious cookies and cake!

As a result of their fabulous performances, Sarah and Oliver automatically qualify for the county final, again hosted by Sedbergh Preparatory School, early next month. Similarly, Jamie Looker and Seth Howell also qualify automatically. Reece Irving and Joel Howell will be reserves for their respective races. A big well done to all who took part!



Momo Theatre

As a reward for our support of the Walk to School initiative, Heron Hill is one of four Cumbrian schools receiving a visit from the Oxford-based theatre company, Momo. They will perform their 'Carless Talk' show to all children in Reception to Year 6 on the afternoon of Thursday 28th January. The show promotes walking and healthy lifestyles in a fab and funny way and is free!

Flood Donations

From money collected at Christmas events, Heron Hill School passed on a donation totalling £717.51 to the Cumbria Flood Appeal. Thank you for your generosity.

Reminders

- Bags2School: Bring your filled bag into school in the week beginning Monday 25th January. More bags are available from the school office, but bin bags can also be used. The bags will be collected on Friday 29th January so please do not bring any more bags into school after 9.00 am that day.
- Cheques: If you write cheques to school please use black or blue ink pens and initial any changes that you have made. Please remember to sign the cheque and to date it 2016!