



[www.heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk)

[admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk)

 @heronhillschool

# HERON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NO. 9

**4th MAY 2018**



Dear Parents and Carers

I wish to share some great news for those who cycle or scoot to school and for the rest of us on the playground. On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May work will begin in the school car park to create a dedicated cycle and scooter parking area. There will be space for over 60 bikes and 80 scooters, so there will be no more need to store them against fences, no more tripping over them by the front door and no more dodging rogue riders speeding across the playground.

A new gate will be fitted from the pavement through the hedge to access the storage racks and of course, the area will be safely fenced off from the car park. The facility is intended for all to use; parents, siblings young and old, grandparents etc are welcome to leave bikes for the day if they need to so that they can cycle home with children after school.

The area will be covered by CCTV and overlooked by Nursery staff but we would still like you to lock your bike or scooter with your own locks too.

I hope this new facility will make it easier for cycling and scooting to and from school and alleviate the congestion on the playgrounds and even lessen the number of cars out in the road. Building on the success of the Big Pedal, please consider leaving your car at home and using the new bike park to safely store your alternative mode of transport.

*Peter Hicks*

## Big Pedal 2018

Well done everyone who took part in the Big Pedal. You are all superheroes indeed. The final results take several weeks to be confirmed, we will let you know when we get them. We are delighted that Heron Hill School has won a £100 voucher for taking part, to be spent on cycling resources. Has the fortnight helped you to work out ways your family can keep cycling and scooting?



## Dates for your Diary

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed for May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Construction of the bike and scooter park begins
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Assembly, 10.00 am. Family and friends welcome
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs Week begins
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	FoHH Disco
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Walk to School Week begins; walk, scoot or cycle to school for 5 days
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 Assembly, 2.30 pm. Family and friends welcome
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Sponsored Walk
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term holiday begins, 3.15 pm
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Return to school
<b>Sports Days</b>	
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Years 3-6, from 9.30 am
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception, 1.15 pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Nursery, 1.30 pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Years 1 and 2, 1.15 pm

## New Starters in Nursery

Welcome to our seven new starters in April! They are settling in well and enjoying our lovely outdoor space in this gorgeous spring weather. Please be assured, Heron Hill Nursery is thriving and we have no plans, unlike other Nurseries, to close.



## Very Little Kickers

Last term, children attending Nursery on Tuesday mornings enjoyed a series of football skills sessions run by Scott McCormack from Little Kickers.



Our Junior Beekeeping Certificate pupils are learning the skills needed in order to pass their exam later this term.

Year 1 pupils have had a lovely visit to Bowness and Haverthwaite, travelling by coach, boat and steam train and learning about other forms of transport too. No storm on the lake and sideways rain this year!



## Book Review by Reading Champion Hannah Peacock, Year 6

'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom' by Louis Sachar

I think this is a great book with a wide sense of humour. I would recommend this to 8+ year olds. The main character is Bradley Chalkers, who likes to talk to his stuffed animals to get their opinions. He struggles at school and finds it hard to learn. He is a bit bad at the beginning of the story but gets help, so it is a feel-good story. And he does go into the girls' bathroom but other people do something similar! It is an odd story and it makes you think. Read the book to find out more.



## Parents, Grandparents, Carers



## Sticker Givers during 'Walk to School Week'

To encourage pupils to walk, cycle or scoot to school, we are joining other schools across the country in 'Walk to School Week' during the week 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> May. This is when we need an army of willing and happy volunteers to stand at strategic points on the journey into school, in the morning (8.30 am-8.50 am), to hand out stickers to those taking part. If you can help one or more mornings, please let Mrs Lehane in the school office know.

## School Angel



The easiest way you will raise money for Heron Hill School is to shop online via the school's page on School Angel. School Angel is a not-for-profit organisation so schools benefit fully from the income School Angel receives. See all the major brands that can be accessed via School Angel at: <http://www.schoolangel.org.uk/heron-hill-primary-school-kendal.html>

## Parent Governor Vacancies

Formal notice of parent governor vacancies is being sent by letter to parents today. Mrs Jacqui Cottam's term of office as a parent governor will come to an end on 9<sup>th</sup> May. Miss Jo Yates has tendered her resignation; we thank both parents for being willing to take on this valuable role (Mrs Cottam will continue as Chair of Governors, under a different designation of governor). Both parent governor places on the Governing Body are soon to be vacant and parents are asked to consider if they would be willing to fill the spaces. The closing date for nominations is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

If you would like more information about what is involved in being a governor, please contact Mr Hicks, Mrs Cottam or Dr Hibbins. Information about how to apply to be a governor is in the letter.

## Mathlete of the Year Feedback

This year's *Mathlete of the Year* competition ran from 12<sup>th</sup> March until 29<sup>th</sup> April. Years 4, 5 and 6 collectively scored well over 1¼ million – yes million! – points; a spectacular 1,274,260 activities points to be exact. Over the 5 weeks, the children gained 441 bronze, 100 silver and 12 gold certificates. Most importantly of all, they improved their speed of recall of number facts and deepened their understanding of concepts in maths. The overall winner and 'Heron Hill Mathlete of the Year 2018' will be officially announced in the Celebration Assembly. There will be a special trophy for the winner and prizes for the winners with the most activity points in each Year 4, 5 and 6 class.

Although the competition is now at an end, please continue to encourage your child to use this excellent resource which is proven to accelerate progress and build confidence and enjoyment of maths.

## Sunhats, Sun Cream and Sunglasses

Please make sure your child has a sunhat with them at school and that you apply sun cream before they come to school. We still need your child to bring a light raincoat to school with them; this is Cumbria.

If your child suffers from hayfever or their eyes are particularly sensitive to strong sunlight, they are allowed to wear sunglasses at playtimes if it helps them, but please write a note giving permission for your child to wear sunglasses.



## Free School Meals

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018, the government introduced a Universal Credit earning threshold of £7,400 per year for Free School Meal eligibility. Children who were eligible for Free School Meals before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 will continue to receive them until at least 2022, without the need for further eligibility checks while Universal Credit is rolled out across the country. All children who currently receive Free School Meals are not affected and do not need to apply again. They will continue to receive Free School Meals and clothing vouchers until at least 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

To ensure children continue to receive clothing grants it is crucial that all parents update any change of personal details, i.e. address, name, parent/guardian status during this period to March 2022. Failure to do so may result in delays in receiving clothing grants. Personal details can be updated online or contact the Free School Meal Service by calling 01228 606060.

Parents/guardians who may be eligible for Free School Meals are encouraged to apply [online](#), checking the eligibility criteria before submitting their application, to help to avoid disappointment and unnecessary applications.

<https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/freeschoolmeals.asp>

Please note: **All** children in Reception to Year 2 are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM), which is a different provision and this confuses many. If you are eligible for Free School Meals, benefits include more than free school meals (visits, uniform and some after school clubs/music lesson provision are subsidised or completely free) and is for all children in Reception up to the end of secondary school.

## Kendal Snowsports Centre Schools' Race Evening

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April, the Heron Hill Ski teams set out for the Kendal Snow sports Primary Schools' Race day. The 2 teams; Years 5 and 6 (Jack Hodgson, Chloe Procter, Libby Clement and Isla Mason) and Years 3 and 4 (Ned Postlethwaite, Oakley Walton, Logan Mason and Edward Nelson) all competed brilliantly and nobody fell even once. The races were all slalom courses and were very hard but everybody pushed through stiff competition and did their best. Heron Hill did not bring any trophies home but they had a great time.



## Be Healthy at Heron Hill

A number of fitness/lifestyle groups meet at Heron Hill in the evenings, offering opportunities to our parents to become a 'new you':

- Tracy Dixon exercise classes 5.00 pm-9.00 pm on Mondays.
- Tai Chi, Chi Kung and meditation on Tuesdays, 7.30 pm-8.45 pm.
- Weightwatchers, 6.00 pm-7.00 pm Wednesdays.

(Circuit Training on Thursdays has stopped until the autumn term.)

## School Council Winners!

A banner to promote cycling, scooting and walking to school, designed by our School Councillors, has won a county-wide competition. The banner will be printed up and distributed to Cumbrian schools. Our prize is a performance by Histrionics Theatre Company which will take place in May. Well done our School Councillors!

## Spare PE Kit Donations

If you have PE kit which your child has outgrown, please donate it to the school so we can offer it to children who have not brought their kit to school for their lesson. After a child has worn loaned kit, we will send it home for the child's family to clean and return.

## Boxes of Hope Cumbria

During May please donate pencils, crayons, pens, rubbers/rulers/pencil sharpener. We have a collection point in the entrance hall and can still accept toiletries, hair items and paper/notebooks etc.

