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@heronhillschool



## HERON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

### NEWSLETTER NO. 1

12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the new year and a very warm welcome to all the children and parents starting at Heron Hill for the first time, in our Reception and Nursery classes and across the other year groups.

The children have settled into their new classes very well already and it is lovely to see the rooms full of smiling children (instead of builders). On that note, the roof works are almost finished and we are looking forward to getting our school back to normal next week.

Mr Murphy and I have had an interesting start to the term. We were invited to the House of Commons last week; you may have seen our tweet? The invite was to attend an evening gala celebrating great leadership. The evening marked the launch of this year's publication of the "Parliamentary Review, A Year in Perspective" which highlights best practice in education, health and industry nationally. I was invited to write a piece for this publication about Heron Hill School and what we do to support our children to achieve great things. A link to the article is on our website, or click [here](#). We were treated to speeches from Julie Hartley-Brewer, broadcaster and newspaper columnist, Amber Rudd, MP and recent home secretary and from Eddie Jones, head coach of the England rugby team, celebrating great leadership; his speech focused on inspirational leadership. Lord Eric Pickles and David Blunkett, MP, were also in attendance. It is quite special that we were invited to contribute to this publication which is sent to tens of thousands of people across the country and a great honour to be invited to an evening at the Houses of Parliament. This demonstrates that Heron Hill has been recognized as a forward thinking and great school. It made both Mr Murphy and myself feel very proud of the children and excellent staff we are lucky to work with at school.



BEST PRACTICE REPRESENTATIVE

*Peter Hicks*



## Torchlight Night - come and cheer on Heron Hill Aliens in Underpants!



### Dates for your Diary

Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception parent/carer information meetings, Mrs Foster's at 8.50 am, Mrs Barber's at 2.45 pm
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 4W swimming lessons begin
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5 and Year 6 at the Westmorland County Show
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Helper session preparing Torchlight float, afternoon
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Nursery Open Afternoon, 1.00 pm-3.00 pm (for January 2019 admissions)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Prepare Torchlight float and take part!
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Y1/Y2 Family Learning begins (see inside)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Lunchtime and after-school clubs and activities begin
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Kirkbie Kendal School open evening for Year 6 pupils, 5.45 pm-8.00 pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Queen Katherine School open evening for Year 6 pupils, 5.15 pm to 8.15 pm
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5 Cyclewise training begins
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Closing date for January Nursery applications
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception parent consultation meetings begin (see sign-up sheets)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Family and individual photographs
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Half term holiday begins, 3.15 pm

Year 4 parents and carers please note the residential visit will take place 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019, so please do not book holidays in that week!

## Classes and Teachers 2018-2019

Headteacher Mr Peter Hicks (Designated Safeguarding Lead)  
Deputy Head Mr Ian Murphy (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)  
Assistant Head Mrs Michelle Wilkinson

	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Teaching Assistants</b>
Nursery	Mrs Metcalfe	Mrs Ormrod, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Bennett, Miss Dalzell
Reception	Mrs Foster and Mrs Barber	Mrs Robinson, Mr Westwell, Mrs Drayton
Year 1	Mrs Jones and Mrs Knipe	Mrs Dyer, Mrs Turner
Year 2	Miss Dollard and Mrs Hudson	Mrs Broomby, Mrs Scott,
Year 3	Mrs Corbett and Miss Hildrew	Miss Powell, Mrs Smith,
Year 4	Mrs Lawson and Miss Watson	Mrs Wilson, Mrs Quilliam
Year 5	Mrs Patrick and Mrs Wilkinson	Mrs Gorst (Miss Cadas will be Y5P's class teacher later in the year)
Year 6	Mrs Hunter and Mrs Ladds	Mrs Jones

Mrs Cooling is Inclusion Manager and Deputy Safeguarding Lead, and along with Mrs Dodd-Hemingway, Mrs Harper, Mrs Osborne, Mrs Robinson 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.

## 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 23p 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.



## Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

Today we have distributed to each child, a leaflet about Pupil Premium funding which is for children of parents who receive Income Support, Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Universal Credit and other benefits, as listed in the leaflet. If you are in receipt of any of these benefits and have not claimed Free School Meals, you are missing out on the following for your child: free milk, uniform and bookbag, subsidised music lessons and fully paid-for after-school activities and class visits, including residential visits. Even if you are in receipt of benefits for a very short period of time, these school benefits continue for the next 6 years so it is worth applying for free school meals as soon as you receive benefits. Contact the office for more details if this may apply to you.

## Pumpkins, Sunflowers and Runner Beans

We hope you managed to nurture your vegetables through this summer's drought. Have you got the winning flower and/or vegetable? Take a photograph of your child beside their vegetable/flower in its garden/growing location and send it into school, with your child's name and (for sunflower and bean entries) the height or length of the flower/vegetable clearly written on the back of the photograph. Please do this by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

Actual pumpkins, along with a photograph, need to be brought into school for the pumpkin competition and the closing date for this is Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October. Mrs Lehane has grown a collection of miniature pumpkins. Prizes will be awarded at the celebration assembly.

## Appeal for Empty DVD Cases

If you have empty DVD cases, please could you donate them to the school, for Year 6 to use? Thank you.



Reception children are now in school full time and are busy playing and learning!



### Mobile Phones in School

Our school policy is that children are NOT ALLOWED phones in school. This is both to safeguard all children and to avoid loss or damage. The children have all been reminded of this and that if they do bring a phone into school by mistake, eg they left it in a bag or coat pocket, it must be given to their class teacher immediately. We ask that you support this policy to help to keep our children safe.

### 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 28<sup>th</sup> September in a sealed envelope with your child(ren)'s name on. Please make cheques payable to 'Heron Hill Primary School'.

### School to Home Communication

We try to distribute paper copies of letters via your child on Tuesdays and Fridays, so please check bookbags on these days. Sometimes, we do have to send a late letter out, which may come to you on any day, but we will try to avoid this if possible and will send the letter by ParentMail as well so that you can look out for it. Please sign up for ParentMail if you have not already done so, as most school communication is sent via ParentMail.

### Safeguarding

We take safeguarding your child seriously at Heron Hill School and once your child is in our care, we do all we can to keep them safe. Therefore, we ask that parents do not try to catch their child's attention when they are passing by the school and see children in the playground. Staff cannot let children go up to adults who call to them from the school gate and cannot let adults walk into the playground to talk to children. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please come straight to the school office and we will collect your child for you. Any safeguarding concerns should be reported to Mr Hicks, Mr Murphy or Mrs Cooling, or follow the instructions on our website.

### Free Course for Year 1/Year 2 Parents and Carers

To help Year 1 and Year 2 parents, carers (and grandparents) become more familiar with approaches to teaching mathematics, we invite you to a 10 week course we are running on Mondays from 9.00 am-12.00 noon, starting on 17<sup>th</sup> September. The course is completely free, plus we can fund childcare costs whilst parents attend. You will work with a very experienced tutor for half the morning, then your child will come along so you can both engage in a range of fun maths activities together. The courses are always very popular and have a very relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Please return the flyer we have sent out, or contact the office or Mrs Wilkinson for further details.



### Charity Heroes

On the 14<sup>th</sup> July Joshua Burney completed the Three Peaks Challenge. He walked 26 miles, and climbed 1585m in ascent of Pen-y-ghent (694m), Whernside (736m) and Ingleborough (723m), in 12 hours. On the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> August, Holly Burney cycled from Romney Bridge in Kendal to the Shard Bridge near Blackpool. She cycled over 80km in two days with an elevation gain of over 780 metres.

Holly and Joshua's completion of these challenges meant that they have raised £254 in sponsorship which is to be split equally to their two chosen charities, Friends of Heron Hill School and Sightsavers. A big thank you to everyone who supported and sponsored them in their challenges.

Diane Burney

## 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 4 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 4 weeks notice.

## Proposed Visits, Activities and Costings for 2018-2019

We will continue to use 'Lunch Shop' for online payments for visits and activities, but we can also accept cash or cheque payments. This chart is an indicator of contributions we will ask you to make during the year:

Year	Visit/Event	Date	Cost	Total
Nursery	Christmas Gift	December	£5.00	£19.50
	Pantomime	January	£4.50	
	Summer Visit (to be confirmed)	Summer term	£10.00	
Reception	Zoolab	Autumn term	£5.00	£26.50
	Pantomime	January	£4.50	
	Travelling by Tuba Performance	Spring term	£1.00	
	Summer Visit	Summer term	£13.00	
	Swimming	Summer term	£3.00	
Year 1	Pantomime	January	£4.50	£22.00
	Travelling by Tuba Performance	Spring term	£1.00	
	Haverthwaite	Summer term	£16.50	
Year 2	Pantomime	January	£4.50	£18.50
	Travelling by Tuba Performance	Spring term	£1.00	
	Leighton Moss	Spring term	£12.00	
	Owl Visit	Summer term	£1.00	
Year 3	Trip to Keswick Museum and Castle Rigg	Autumn term	£13.00	£38.00
	History Workshop	Autumn/Summer term	£6.50	
	Travelling by Tuba Performance	Spring term	£1.00	
	Craft Workshop	Spring/Summer term	£2.50	
	Vindolanda	Summer term	£15.00	
Year 4	Preston Visit	Autumn term	£10.00	£18.80 (+£60.00 residential visit)
	Recorders	January	£7.80	
	Travelling by Tuba Performance	Spring term	£1.00	
	River Walk Residential	Spring term	£60.00	
Year 5	County Show	13 <sup>th</sup> September	£5.00 (paid)	£26.00 + £10 optional spending money (+£125.00 residential visit)
	Say Two Theatre (tbc)	Autumn term	£4.00	
	Manchester Residential	16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> October	£125.00 (paid) + optional £10 spending money	
	Box Theatre Visit	Autumn term	£1.00	
	Travelling by Tuba Performance	Spring term	£1.00	
	Castle Visit	Summer term	£15.00	
Year 6	County Show	10 <sup>th</sup> September	£5.00 (paid)	£25.50 (+£225.00 residential visit)
	Ingleton Residential	September/October	£225.00 (paid)	
	Say Two Theatre	Autumn term	£4.00	
	Travelling by Tuba Performance	Spring term	£1.00	
	Electricity Workshops	March	£5.00	
	Viking Workshop	June	£10.50	

### Possible Optional Costs

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

### Donations

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

### Friends of Heron Hill (parents' choice)

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