




The Parliamentary Review
BEST PRACTICE REPRESENTATIVE

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

 @heronhillschool

HERON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO. 4

26th NOVEMBER 2019

National Support School
designated by
 Department for Education



Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin Advent and the countdown to Christmas, school becomes even busier! You will see below the events coming up and you may have already started your Christmas preparations by attending the fabulous Friends of Heron Hill shopping evening. As the days get shorter and the weather gets gloomier, please remind your children to take extra care on the roads and wear bright clothing in the dark – especially if riding their bikes. I will also remind you that there is no school supervision in the mornings until 8.50 am and so children younger than Year 4 should not be left outside school or alone in the playgrounds until school staff collect them. Not only is this frightening for the children, it simply is not safe.

I do hope you will be able to join us for at least some of our Christmas celebrations this year, it means a great deal to the children to have parents and grandparents in the audience; the church services are always wonderful and who can resist a school nativity?

I would like to mention one event not mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter; the Year 5 World War 2 Tea Party. The children prepared food following war time ration recipes, learned how to dance the Lindy Hop and to sing wartime songs and welcomed family, friends and residents from Kendal Care Home, including a World War 2 veteran, to the party. Teachers and pupils did us proud.

Peter Hicks

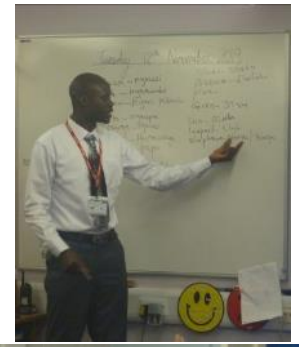
Relief Mid-Day Supervisors

We like to have a bank of relief Mid-Day Supervisors who can cover absences; they look after lunchtime play for 1¼ hours Monday to Friday and the rate of pay is £9.36 per hour (term time only). If you are interested in being a relief MDS, please come and see Mrs Roberts in the office.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 28 th November	Bags2School collection date (bags can be brought in tomorrow)
From Monday 2 nd December	This is the last week for most after-school clubs
Wednesday 4 th December	Family morning; pupils will work together in mixed-age classes
Wednesday 4 th December	Nursery Open Afternoon for April 2020 starters, 1.00 pm-3.00 pm
Friday 6 th December	Year 4 Biscuit Sale, 3.15 pm
Monday 9 th December	Reception Nativity dress rehearsal, 10.00 am
Monday 9 th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity dress rehearsal, 2.15 pm
Tuesday 10 th December	Choir to Kendal Care Home, afternoon
Tuesday 10 th December	Reception Nativity performance, 2.15 pm
Tuesday 10 th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity performance, 6.00 pm
Wednesday 11 th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity performance, 2.15 pm
Wednesday 11 th December	Choir to Westmorland Shopping Centre, afternoon (note: not Elephant Yard)
Thursday 12 th December	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas party
Friday 13 th December	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas party
Monday 16 th December	Nursery Christmas party, morning
Monday 16 th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas party
Tuesday 17 th December	Nursery Crib Service at Kendal Parish Church, 9.45 am
Tuesday 17 th December	Reception Christmas party
Wednesday 18 th December	Reception-Year 2 Carol Service at Kendal Parish Church, 9.45 am
Wednesday 18 th December	Year 3-Year 6 Carol Service at Kendal Parish Church, 2.00 pm
Thursday 19 th December	FoHH 'Wear your Christmas Jumper' Day and bring in a £1.00 donation
Thursday 19 th December	School Christmas Lunch
Thursday 19 th December	Friends of Heron Hill Christmas Fun Event, 3.15 pm-5.00 pm
Friday 20 th December	End of term, 2.00 pm

Kenya Day, 12th November



Year 6 Reporters

Our visitors were very polite and kind, looked at all our classrooms, playgrounds and taught us Swahili. I think during this time our visitors got to know us better and we got to know them better. I learnt during Kenya week just how important the Global Goals are and how much of a difference they will make when we all help to achieve them in 2030, such as the first one, No Poverty. This will make it so that everyone has a home and everyone can afford essentials for a good, healthy life. There are 17 Global Goals, so we have around 0.6 years to achieve each one. That is not a lot of time, so let's start helping.

Jacob Carradus

Kenya Day was a remarkable day! I loved how Brian and Joab, the Kenyan teachers, could stay for a whole week! They were both very funny. We also learned a lot of Swahili. I am so glad that they could come. It was very upsetting when they had to go. We all hope they can come back soon. On Kenya Day we learned about the Global Goals and we made our own global goal poster. Brian and Joab also sang us their school song. At the end of the day, we had a big Kenya assembly which was very fun. One lunch time, Brian came onto our playground and did some dances which was very very funny! I loved Kenya Day/week and I wish it never ended. *Toby May*

Governor Insight: Andy Blackman

I had the delight of accompanying 2 teachers from Open Arms Academy, Kenya, during their week long visit to Heron Hill School. Joab Sifuna and Brian Wachiya shared an enriching experience observing and participating in lessons throughout the age groups from Nursery through to Year 6. Joab and Brian were mightily impressed with the quality of teaching and learning in the school and in particular, as teachers of 12-14 year olds, were drawn to the learning achieved through the continuous provision in the early years. They brought with them an effervescent joy and their presence resonated through the school all week long; they will leave an indelible mark on Heron Hill. They have returned to Kenya with experiences of classroom practice and school leadership that they hope to adapt and develop in their school, taking into account the basic nature of their school building and its meagre resources and equipment.

This visit was funded by the British Council Connecting Classrooms initiative and is an encouraging stepping stone on the journey of an enduring partnership with Open Arms Academy which will benefit children in both Heron Hill and the community in and around Open Arms International Village.

From a personal point of view, the prolonged time I spent in the school reminded me that there is no better place to spend your working days than in the environment of a successful primary school where the personal and social relationships between staff and children, and child and child, demonstrate a love and respect for one another. Thank you to all the staff who made this visit so heartwarming for all concerned.

Inconsiderate Parking



A concerned parent has passed on a photograph of cars parked up on the kerb of the dropping-off layby. Please do not do this, it is a 'no stopping' zone and

along with parking on double yellow lines, hinders the free flow of traffic and creates a danger for pedestrians.

Plea from Mrs Hudson and Gardening Club

The paths in the school Quiet Garden have in the past been covered in bark but unfortunately over time this has rotted away. We would like to replace the bark with gravel as it will be harder wearing and last longer. We appeal to any parents who have spare gravel lying around that is no longer needed who are willing to donate this to school, so we can improve the standard of the paths and avoid children getting muddy shoes.

Thank you in anticipation,

Chris Hudson

Zoo Lab

Giant millipedes, spiders and snails, along with rats and snakes, visited Reception last week. The children could look at, stroke and handle the creatures according to their willingness to do so. Reception have used this experience to bring alive the Gruffalo story. They have also been into our woods, despite the rain, to make their own stickman.



Charitable Donations

£334 for Open Arms Academy on Kenya Day.
£360 for Children in Need on 15th November.

Year 4 Visit to Preston's Hindu Temple and Muslim Mosque

Hindu tea-light dancing and sand art, Muslim washing routines and calligraphy - the visit to Preston had everything!



Year 2: Bay Search and Rescue

The current topic in Year 2 is 'Zero to Hero'. The children have been excited to learn about people who have become heroes or heroines under different circumstances in the past and to the present day. They have learned that absolutely anyone can become a hero and have been using vocabulary such as bravery, courage, success, perseverance and selflessness.

On Friday morning Mr Ali (Aria's dad) came into Year 2 to talk to us about his work as a volunteer for Bay Search and Rescue and the different kinds of rescues they have carried out. The children were enthralled and asked some very pertinent questions. Mr Ali's response to Grace German asking 'Can you tell us which rescue made you most proud?' was rescuing young children from the floods in South Yorkshire in recent weeks.



Manjushri Kadampa Buddhist Meditation Centre and Temple

On 14th November, Year 3 visited the Buddhist meditation centre in Ulverston where they met people who practice Buddhism on a daily basis. The visit enhanced their new curriculum topic 'A World of Difference', which focuses on the 5 major world religions. They had a wonderful time and learnt a lot about others' beliefs. Our pupils showed true compassion, understanding and kindness and asked excellent questions throughout the day. They were amazed by the beautiful temple and grounds and are now writing up their recounts in English. Mrs Corbett and Miss Dawson thank the centre for welcoming them and all parents and carers who joined the visit and continue to support Year 3.



Sports Reports: Netball District Finals at Queen Elizabeth School, 13th November

Our netball team had the chance to take part in the district finals and played very well. Their first game against Staveley showed their nerves as they settled into a noisy sports hall with very strict referees! This game they lost 2-1 with a brilliant goal from Oakley. In the second game against St Mary's Kirkby Lonsdale, they found their game with a 4-1 win (2 goals from Olivia, 1 from Fynlay and 1 from Grace). The third game was close with a 2-2 draw against Levens (2 more fantastic goals from Olivia). Finally, the team ended with a tremendous win against Allithwaite – 3 amazing goals from Oakley with the backup and final goal from Zoe to win 4-0! The total score for Heron Hill was, unfortunately, just 1 point from the play off matches, but we left with our heads held high! Well done all.

Janette Foster



Dodgeball Festival, 18th November

A group of 17 Year 4 children took part in an exciting afternoon of Dodgeball at Vicarage Park School. The children enjoyed taking part in a skills-based session first and then played 5 games against other local schools. Great teamwork meant the children won 4 out of their 5 games. Impressive stuff!

Carly Dodd-Hemingway

Boxes of Hope Cumbria

Thank you to everyone who donated to the shoebox appeal, Heron Hill School's contribution was **185** boxes!!



8th Annual Charities Christmas Tree Festival at Kendal Parish Church

Opening times in December

Friday 6th, 13th & 20th 3.30pm - 5pm	Sunday 15th & 22nd 2pm - 4pm
Saturday 7th, 14th & 21st 11am - 4pm	Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th 11am - 4pm

Concerts

Burnside Brass Training Band Saturday 14th at 2pm
U3A Recorder Ensemble Saturday 21st at 11am

For further information:

www.kendalparishchurch.co.uk • @KendalTreeFest
vicar@kendalparishchurch.co.uk • 01539 721248



Entry £1, children free.
Refreshments available

Please visit and look out for Nursery's Elmer Christmas Tree!

Friends of Heron Hill News

FOHH would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came to the Shopping Event. It was a wonderful evening and we hope you enjoyed it. Thank you also to those people who donated raffle prizes, bought raffle tickets or shared the event on social media. A big thank you to the brilliant stallholders too. We are pleased to announce that we raised almost £3000 which will all go back to enrichment activities in school. Look out for our other events and as always we would love to have your help! There is a planning event tomorrow, Wednesday 27th November at 8.00 pm in the Heron, for the Christmas fun event on Thursday 19th December; please come along if you would like to be involved.



New logo by
Grace Irving

Wrap Around Care

The Hive after school session on the last day of term (Friday 20th December) will start earlier at 2.00 pm. There will be an additional charge of £3.00 (total cost £9.50 for the full session/£5.95 for the shorter session); please contact the school office if you would like to book this session. Regular users of Friday afternoon sessions will be booked in unless you notify the office that you do not require this session (7 days' notice required).

Christmas Holiday Club – the Hive is open on Monday 23rd December, Thursday 2nd January, Friday 3rd January and Monday 6th January (INSET Day). Please book your places by Monday 9th December; we cannot guarantee places will be available for bookings made after this date.

Urban Mermaid

Whilst learning to free dive in Indonesia, Lyndsey Cole discovered she was surrounded by hundreds of tiny pieces of plastic out in the middle of the ocean, miles from shore. To highlight the issue of plastic pollution in our waterways she has swum the length of the Thames dressed as a mermaid.

Lindsey came into Heron Hill to talk to our Years 3-6 pupils to inspire them with her love for our planet. She is also writing a children's book about rescuing a drowning cow!

