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THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

Friday 8th December 2017 – Issue 131



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was such a busy, fun packed weekend with the Christmas Fayre and Cross Country, that the past two weeks seem to have merged together.

Thank you all so much for your hard work and support building up to, during and after the Fayre. It was a gorgeous school community event and I know the children in particular, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. I'm afraid I may have looked a little disconcerting in my reindeer costume which looked more like a 'meer deer' (half meerkat, half reindeer) - I was hoping it was the thought that counted! Special thanks must go to Liz Mackereth and Liz Spall for co-ordinating everything, to Mrs Fallon and Mr Bassett (who took time out of his very busy schedule), to the Junior Choir for their lovely performance, to Santa and of course to all of you for coming and supporting it.



Congratulations to all the Year 1 and 2 children and staff for their amazing Christmas performance at St Andrew's Church on Tuesday and Wednesday this week and a big thank you to Nigel Jones, the Vicar at the Church for hosting us.



Reception

This week we've been talking about our 'houses'. We've written descriptions of them, drawn what our favourite house would look like and then made them out of junk modelling. We've been working hard with our friends to build a den together and are really enjoying practising for our Nativity performances next week. We can't wait to perform it to you all.

Year 1 and Year 2

We have had the most amazing week practising for and then performing our Christmas Concert. It was pretty awe-inspiring performing in St Andrew's Church to our grandparents and then parents but we think we pretty much took it in our stride. We had a giggle teaching Mrs Edwards the Elves Dance on the tarmac on Thursday lunchtime.

Speaking of the tarmac, Mrs Edwards and the office staff were thrilled with the arrival of the new trolley that we'll be using to carry the interlocking scooters, ropes, football etc between the school and tarmac. Clearly we had to check that it was sturdy enough to take all the equipment.

Back to Year 1 and 2...



Year 1

In Year 1 we've continued to make our houses ready for our re-enactment of the Great Fire of London next week.

Year 2

In Year 2 we've been busy completing different assessments in Reading, Writing, Maths, Spelling and Grammar which has been hard work, but we've also been really creative making Christmas calendars and trees and creating washes using watercolours for the background. We are really excited about our Chocolate topic next term and are having a cake sale after school on Monday 18th December to raise money for a Chocolate Workshop. We do hope you'll be able to support the sale on the day.



Year 3

This week we've been focussing on our fractions in Maths and adding them up to make a whole. We enjoyed story mapping our journey to home from school and creating our own poems. We've also been working on our Egyptian Death Masks and looking at the process for making bread in preparation for making our own bread.

Year 4

We've had more end of term assessments, this week in Maths and have added new parts to our Milo LEGOWEDO robots, giving him new instructions for his mission to find plant life. In Literacy we took inspiration from the John Lewis advert and have been writing stories about 'Moz' the monster to help us revise our use of nouns and pronouns. We've continued with our Mayan theme this week and had great fun making tortilla bread from a Mayan recipe and making our own fillings. In RE we continued our focus on Islam and looked at the Muslim creation story and compared it to the Christian creation story and the Big Bang Theory.

Cross Country

Congratulations to all the children who ran in the Chiltern Edge Cross Country competition on Saturday. We were delighted when the Year 3 girls came 2nd in the team event!



Staffing

Mrs King and Miss Reynolds will be on their 6-week placements in other schools as part of their teacher training so we wish them lots of luck. We also welcome Claire Nott who is joining us in 1VH for 6 weeks on teacher training.

Reading Family Aid - Heights 'Elves'

Our Heights parents continue to take our ethos as a community focussed school to heart, with a group of 14 Heights mums volunteering with Reading Family Aid's Toys & Teens appeal this week. Reading Family Aid is one of the school's chosen community charities, and its Toys & Teens appeal runs each Christmas to collect toys from across the borough to re-gift to disadvantaged children living locally. For the past three years our school has collected gift donations, and this year we organised a team of 14 mums (or Heights Elves as we like to think of them!) to help with the sorting and packing of the toys. Thank you to our wonderful Heights 'Elves': Nicole Aherne-Conroy, Susan Jones, Anna O'Regan, Lisa Aslam, Emma Sanigar, Helen Morgan, Hannah Smith, Lisa Bramley, Jo Childs, Vanessa Mann, Dawn Rosser, Catherine Kiely, Emma Boutell and Michèle Pattison, who volunteered their time to represent the Heights in supporting this really worthwhile local charity!

PUPILS OF THE WEEK:

Reception - Alekh, Rioghan and Wilf (RED), Bella, Theo, Ramona and Cara (RSR)

Year 1 - Matthew, Robbie and Quinn (1AP), Samuel, Isaac and Quinn (1VH)

Year 2 - Ishan, Tula and Sam (2HK), George, Rishi and Zuhair (2SB)

Year 3 - Darcey and Matilda (3AM), Sammy, Tara and Ruby (3SW)

Year 4 - Daniel and Rose (4CT)

Spotlight

What an incredible week for achievements outside of school!

Joshua was asked to become a leader at Beavers and being Star of the Week at Stage Coach.

Ruby made her Brownie Promise.

Learn to Swim Level 1 - Elspeth

Learn to Swim Level 2 - Lucy

Swimming Duckling Level 2 - Rowan, Hayden

Swimming Level 3 - Oscar, Alex, Harry T, Thom, Amelie and Ava

Swimming Level 4 - Zak

Swimming Level 5 - Natalia

Swimming Level 6 - Tom

Swimming 20M - Audrey

Swimming 25M - Roshni

Swimming 10M - Rishi and Joe

Swimming 5M - Lucy

Gymnastics Level 2 - Roshni and Rhys

Gymnastics Level 4 - Anna, Audrey and Ruby

Gymnastics Level 5 - Daisy, Lily and Jack

Gymnastics Level 6 - Quinn, Frances and Rishi

Ben and Eddy for playing two duets on an amazing Steinway piano with other Heights children.

Piano Fest 2017 - Aaron, Rishi, Emily, Mira, Sammy, Ben, YingGe, Eddy and Roshni.

And... finally congratulations to everyone who took part in this year's annual Santa Run - well done!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 13 th December	Reception Christmas Performance (Grandparents) - 9.30am
	School Christmas Lunch
	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 14 th December	Reception Christmas Performance (Parents) - 9.30am
Friday 15 th December	Pantomime at The Hexagon (whole school)
Monday 18 th December	KS2 Christmas Songs in the Park - 3.45pm
	Year 2 Cake Sale - Fundraiser for Chocolate Workshop
Tuesday 19 th December	Last Day of Term - School Closes at 1.30pm
Wednesday 3 rd January	Return to School - Start of Term 3



Karen Edwards
Headteacher