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# HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



Achieving Success Promoting Individual  
Responsibility and Excellence

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Headteacher: Mrs Karen Edwards

Dear Parents and Carers,

Isn't it lovely watching the early signs and colours of Autumn touching the beautiful playing fields. It really is a magical time of year. It's also wonderful to watch the children make the most of this, before, during and after school, including enjoying Autumn walks and Forest School activities.

We were so pleased that nearly all of our Year 6 children were able to go on their Residential to Skern Lodge this week. They left early on Monday morning and should be back this evening, and judging by the photos and tweets from Mr Cook and Ms Rogers, have had the most amazing time.

It has been another challenging week with so many staff sadly out suffering from Covid, but we've worked hard and pulled together to ensure the children still have had the opportunity to enjoy really positive learning experiences throughout the week.

## **Farewell and Thank You to Nick Walden**

As you are all aware, Nick Walden is moving on as our Founding Chair of Governors, after 7 years of leading the Governing Body. Throughout that time, he has worked tirelessly and selflessly, planning for the opening and development of the school on both our temporary and permanent sites. We are eternally grateful for this commitment, dedication and support for the pupils, staff, parents and all stakeholders and thank him for all he has done and helped us to achieve.

After nearly 2 decades volunteering as a Chair of Governors, both at The Heights and before that, at Gillotts Secondary School, Nick is finally retiring from Governance. He will be sorely missed and we hope he now can make time to enjoy some well deserved rest and travels with his wife Helen.

We are delighted that Anne Bajorek has agreed to be his successor and look forward to working closely with her in her new role. We also hope you will be able to join us at the Christmas Fayre on 27<sup>th</sup> November when we will belatedly celebrate the opening of the school, say thank you and farwell to Nick and warmly welcome Anne.

## **Reception**

In Reception this week, we have been revising, writing and saying different phonemes and learning to blend them together. We've also been writing the tricky words 'the' and 'to' and loved taking our phonics books home. We have been



looking at so many different things linked to 'Harvest', including learning the story and actions to the story of 'The Little Red Hen'. We've made Harvest Soup, and shared this cooking experience, learning to chop, take turns and enquiring about what was happening whilst we made it. We also made bread in the shape of Hedgehogs and Little Red Hens from handprints. In Maths, we've been looking at more and fewer, comparing towers, heights, lengths, weights and capacity. We've also been ordering the size of objects, for example bags of flour. We're really excited about our upcoming trip to Bucklebury Farm on Monday. Thank you to Mrs Bentley and her team for organising it and to all the parents who have volunteered to help on it.

## Year 1

This week, we've been sharing and learning the story of 'The Enormous Turnip', and writing about the characters within it. We've learnt how to form the next set of pre-cursive letters, known as ladder letters and have been using different resources in Maths to help us to add and subtract to 20 and beyond, including some games on the iPads. We've been continuing to learn to sing and sign the 'London's Burning Song 1666' and Mrs Edwards was so impressed with the singing she heard that she joined us in Beech class to learn and sign the song too!

## Year 2

This week, our Zog work focused on the book 'Zog and the Flying Doctors'. After reading it, we had fun creating our own potions to help Princess Pearl and the writing a recipe for it. We were so excited about going on our trip to Warwick Castle today and can't wait to share all our experiences in next week's Highlights. In Science, we've been consolidating our knowledge about what classifies an object as being 'living' and 'non-living' and 'never been alive'. We sorted these objects into these categories and used some of the items to make our potions.

## Year 3

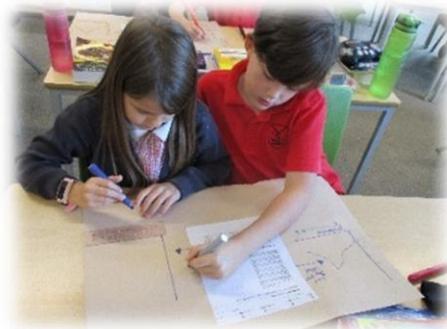
In our 'Fantastic Pharaohs' topic work this week, we've been exploring the different clothes and jewellery that the Ancient Egyptians wore and why they were important to them. We then had fun designing our own Egyptian necklace/collar. We continued to learn about magnets in Science, focusing on the different magnetic poles. We enjoyed exploring what happens if you put two opposite poles together and what happens if you put two of the same poles together, using the vocabulary 'repel' and 'attract'. In English, we completed our first independent write of Year 3, and learnt a new written method for subtraction in Maths.

## Year 4

We've really enjoyed writing our recount of Longridge and editing and publishing it this week. We've been adding and subtracting numbers with up to 4 digits in Maths, using formal methods of column addition and subtraction where appropriate and in Topic, we've been looking at understanding settlements, land use, geographic similarities and differences between a South American country and a region of the UK. In Computing, we've continued to learn about Online Safety, looking at S.M.A.R.T - Safe, Meet (Don't Meet Up), Accepting Files, Reliable and Tell Someone and in Science, we've been revising living things by looking at the acronym 'MRS GREN' - Movement, Respiration, Sensitivity, Growth, Reproduction, Excretion and Nutrition.

## Year 5

In English, we've been writing an exciting account of the battle between brave Beowulf and the death dragon of the deep. We've also started to plan our Beowulf adventure - how exciting is that?! In Maths, we started a new topic on statistics, exploring different ways of representing data and considering



which would be the most useful for a range of different scenarios. We used the Chromebooks to input the data we collected and used a tool to create different types of graphs from our data. Next, we're going to evaluate which one works best and why.

## Year 6

As Mrs Edwards stated earlier, this week we've been at Skern Lodge, surfing, body boarding, rafting, completing High Ropes Challenges and so much more. We hope you've been able to follow some of our experiences on @TheHeightsYear6 Twitter feed - Mrs Edwards certainly has. We've had a really memorable time and here are a few quotes to demonstrate this:

Zia - "This is the best day of my life!" (Surfing)

Megan - "This is really hard, but I'm not going to give up 'til I can stand up. It's so fun!"

Ralph: "I just got knocked under my board, but that's OK, I want to keep going"

Zav: "OMG - this is so awesome, look at those waves. Best activity ever!"

Huge thanks to Mr Cook, Ms Rogers, Ms Nicholls, Mrs Brown and Mr Rose for helping make this trip so special for us all.



## Twitter

The school has a Twitter Feed - please follow @AtHeadteacher for updates!

## Dates for the Diary

Reception to Bucklebury Farm	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October
Black History Week	Week commencing 18 <sup>th</sup> October
Year 6 Heights & Weights	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November
Flu Immunisations (Rescheduled Date)	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> November
Tempest - Individual/Sibling School Photos	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> November
Children in Need	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> November
INSET Day - School Closed to Children	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November
Christmas Fayre	Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 3:00-5:30pm
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Lunch	

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Edwards