



Dear Parents and Carers

Woah! It's already October!

I say that I'm not - but in reality, continue to be amazed at how quickly our youngest pupils settle into the life and routines of the school. It is wonderful to see them grow in confidence and blossom as the days progress. They are an amazing group of unique individuals and we are thoroughly enjoying getting to know them.

Reception

This week in Reception we have been exploring the different groups we belong to, such as our family and our school. We've made some amazing junk models and painted incredible self-portraits. We've been ordering numbers and learning that 'the' is a tricky word.



Year 1

This week in year 1 we have been writing sensory poems about Autumn and the Great Fire of London. The children have come up with some amazing ideas. We've been investigating the differences between fire fighters and their equipment in 1666 and 2016. In maths we have been problem solving to find out who has the longest foot in the class! It was great fun. We have also been busy weighing and measuring. In science the children enjoyed investigating a range of materials and sorted them by their properties.

Year 2

In Year 2 this week we've had a 'Dragontastic' week! We've collected all sorts of information about Dragons for 'The Dragon Institute' in London and have sent out findings to a world expert.



Year 3



The Cello's have arrived and from next week we will start to put into practice what we have learnt so far! In Literacy we have started to learn about Fables and have read different animal based fables, identifying key themes and features and the character traits of the animals. In Maths we have looked at different strategies for addition and have started to add two- and three-digit numbers using the expanded column method. Our topic work continued with the Ancient Egyptians and how hieroglyphics were used for communication. We have even created our own hieroglyphics! In RE we have learned about the 5 pillars of Islam.

FS Parents Session

We were so pleased that the vast majority of Reception parents could make the information session at school on Tuesday. We hope you found it useful and will post notes from it on the school website.

KS1 Parents Session

Following on from the talk for FS parents, we are holding an information session for KS1 parents on Tuesday 4th October at 7.30pm in the Hall. A ParentMail was sent out earlier this week. We do hope you can make it. Any notes from the session will be posted on the school website.

'Watch Us Work'

We are holding a 'Watch us Work' session for parents of children in Years 1-3 next Thursday 6th October from 2.50pm - 3.25pm. We will be holding a similar session for Reception parents shortly after half-term.

Parent Class Reps

It was lovely to meet all the Parent Class Reps on Monday. A big thank you to them for their time especially to Richard Hepwood for writing up the minutes. Please note that there will be a further meeting to discuss the possible formation of a Parent Forum on Thursday 13th October at 7.30pm in the school Hall.

Muddy Mayhem

I'm looking forward to joining lots of mums at the Mapledurham Muddy Mayhem on Sunday 9th October. For more information or to register, please visit <http://www.muddymayhem.co.uk/>.

Primary School's Cross-Country Competition

Further to the ParentMail we sent yesterday about the first Inter-School Cross Country competition for years 1-3 next Saturday 8th October. I hope that a lot of our pupils will be keen to take part - just like in the Mini-Mile challenge back in May. If you have any questions about any aspect of it, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Spotlight

Reception - Betsy for completing her Summer Reading Challenge, Taran for achieving Level 1 Swimming,
Year 1 - Tula for completing the Big Friendly Read, Ishan, Kacper, Chloe and Theo for performing with Theatre Train in 'Bring it On'.

Year 2 - Joshie for super training at Henley Rugby Club, Ruby for achieving Level 1 Swimming and Ben for completing the Big Friendly Read.

Year 3 - Anna for completing the Big Friendly Read.

Congratulations to you all!

PUPILS OF THE WEEK:

Reception - Lizzy, Angie, Quinn and Annie

Year 1 - Lucy, Jack, Oscar and Ava

Year 2 - Ben, Jonah, Aryan, Zachary

Year 3 - Fin and Jermaine

Staff Bank

If you are interested in helping out in school on an ad-hoc/as required basis either as a volunteer in the classroom or at lunch in the hall, please email the office info@theheightsprimary.co.uk letting us know your availability. We are trying to build up a list of volunteers we may call on should the need arise.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 26 th September	8pm - PTFA AGM at school
Tuesday 27 th September @7.30pm	Reception Parents Information Evening
Sunday 9 th October	Henley 10K/Mapledurham Muddy Mayhem Races
Tuesday 4 th October @7.30pm	KS1 Parent Information Talk
Thursday 6 th October 2.50pm - 3.25pm	Watch Us Work in Years 1-3
Saturday 8 th October	Chiltern Edge Cross Country Competition
Sunday 9 th October	Muddy Mayhem at Mapledurham
Saturday 12 th November	PFTA Quiz Night
Saturday 10 th December	3pm - Christmas Fayre at school



Karen Edwards
Headteacher

Please read on to p3 for an update from the PTFA

PTFA NEWS

PTFA AGM

Many thanks to everyone who attended the PTFA AGM on Monday 26th September, we had a fantastic turnout.

It was announced that during the 2015/2016 school year the PTFA and Heights community, raised a phenomenal £26, 000 for the school, a truly remarkable accomplishment! The AGM enabled us to celebrate all of the PTFA's wonderful achievements and the hard work and dedication that went into them.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing PTFA for all they have done. Their energy, commitment and tireless efforts have benefited our school in countless ways and we are indebted to them for this.

Thank you all so much for your energy, elbow grease and perseverance - your shoes will be difficult to fill - Liz Spall, Liz Mackereth, Fiona Denney, Lisa Bramley, Michele Richens Pattison, Davina Buchanon, Helen Morgan and Chris Jackson and Barnaby Smith.

A new committee was appointed at the AGM and we would like to offer them a very warm welcome. Look out for a full listing of the 2016/17 committee plus their contact details in Heights Highlights next week.

SNAP UP A RECEPTION CLASS PHOTO

Our two new Reception Classes were recently snapped by the Henley Standard Newspaper, any parents who would like to buy a print of the photo can collect a form from the office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

HENLEY 10K & MAPLEDURHAM MUDDY MAYHEM - SUNDAY 9th OCTOBER

Come and show your support for the Heights parents who are donning their running shoes, getting muddy and raising funds. There is still time to join the 'mayhem' / 5km obstacle race.

You can sign up to join Muddy Mayhem here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/muddy-mayhem-tickets-25313031960>

Or speak to Kerry Parr, mother of Holly in Mrs Kennedy's class

Or contact the PTFA (details below).

However if the mud isn't for you your cheers of support and sponsorship would be highly appreciated.

The donation page for all runners/events can be found here: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/geoffparr>

GOLF DAY- 30th OCTOBER

We are trying to gauge the level of interest for this event and in order for it to go ahead on 30 October, it is very important that you register your interest by Thursday 6 October by emailing the PTFA on the details below.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please make a note of these dates in your diary and let a member of the PTFA know if you can help in any way.

12th November (Saturday) PTFA Quiz Night

10th December (Saturday) Christmas Fayre

Please look out for more event information in upcoming Heights Highlights and let a member of the PTFA know if you have an idea for an event, fundraising opportunity or simply a way for the Heights community to have fun.

UNLEASH YOUR INNER ARTIST / GET CRAFTY

The Heights crafting group would love new members. Projects include making items to sell at Fayres and if we can get enough support we can look at holding a 'children's giving market / stall' for Christmas.

We also want to hear from you if you are interested in coming to a Christmas Wreath Making Workshop (probably one evening or weekend morning in late November). You can make a gorgeous wreath to hang at home as well as making one to be sold at the Christmas Fayre.

If you are interested, please contact Liz Mackereth, mother of Ralph, in Miss Hiles class, and Joe, in Mrs Sanigar/Mrs Wells class, or Carli Jordan, mother of Marnie Jacob, Mrs Rizvi's Class.

Or contact the PTFA (details below).

CAN YOUR COMPANY HELP US?

If your company / the company you work for runs a 'match-fund scheme' it is an easy and highly effective way of raising additional funds for our school. Please do ask your company if they would consider match-funding an event or perhaps a stall at one of our fayres. Please let a member of the PTFA know if you think you can help (details below).

PLEASE GET INVOLVED

Participating in PTFA events is a great way to meet people, make friends and get involved in the Heights community - particularly if you are new to The Heights.

Please do contact us if you would like to volunteer or if you have a particular skill or interest to share.

Email: ptfa@theheightsprimary.co.uk

or message us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/theheightsprimaryptfa/