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THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual Responsibility and Excellence

7th November 2014 – Issue 9

Dear Parents/Carers

It was so good to welcome the children (and you) back at the beginning of the week. We really missed them over half term!

IN THE CLASSROOMS

We have had, as always, a busy and exciting week. Reception and Year 1 have been investigating Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot in order to understand why we celebrate on 5th November. They have been very creative, painting pictures of fireworks and Year 1 have been 'firework dancers'. This work will continue for Year 1 into next week so that we can explore the topic in more depth.



The children have continued to work with money and working out the 'best way to pay', so would appreciate lots of practise on coin recognition at home, please. Year 1 have also been exploring our 5 senses and which body parts they relate to, with lots of guessing / deductive games. Using blindfolds to describe what we can feel, smell and touch; audio clips and real-life sounds to describe what we can hear; and we described a purely visual scene using adjectives. Some brave children (and all of the teachers) even tasted a purple carrot, brought in by Aoibh Denney! Thankyou to Aoibh's Daddy, it was delicious! Today we tasted a variety of items, from mustard to meringue, and came up with a fabulous 'word-bank' of descriptions for future use!



The children are really enjoying playing in the sandpit and Mr Crispin's class were digging for treasure that was on a parchment map that a parrot dropped as part of their focus on Pirates.

MUD KITCHEN

We are continuing to develop our outside area and are delighted that the generator and fencing has been removed. The area has been turfed and mulched and separated into a digging section and space for a mud kitchen. Thank you for the donations of a microwave and pots and pans. If you have any other spare or unwanted kitchen utensils, pots, pans or wooden pallets please could you let the office know.

YEAR 1 GYM CLUB AT ST ANNE'S

I am running a gymnastics club for Year 1 and Year 2 pupils from The Heights and St Anne's on Tuesdays from 3.30-4.30pm in St Anne's Hall. It begins next Tuesday 11th November and several of our Year 1 pupils have already signed up from the letter sent home this week. This is a wonderful opportunity to build up our relationship with our local partners.

PARENT'S PHONICS AND READING SESSION

You will have received an invitation to attend a Phonics and Reading Support session next Thursday 13th November at 7.30pm here at school. We hope that every family will be represented at this session as we believe it will be incredibly helpful and supportive for all.

MULTI-SKILLS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in a Multi-Skills after school club. We will be starting this from Tuesday 18th November - to run for 5 sessions, finishing on Tuesday 16th December. Look out for signing up form in bookbags next week.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

A number of parents have expressed an interest in coming into school during the day to help in different ways. This might include time when volunteers are with the children e.g. playing board games inside. Anyone offering help will need to be dressed for all weathers and receive some safeguarding training from myself. If you have an hour or two to spare in the week and would like to help, please contact Lyn in the office and let us know your preferred day and time.

We are looking for a (paid) lunchtime assistant to help serve and clear up each day. Full details on our website or call into the office.

MUSIC ASSEMBLY

Next Tuesday 11th November Angie Tse and Helen Hines are running one of our whole school assemblies. It will be very musical and they would be delighted if parents also wish to attend. The Assembly will be at 10am. Please sign in at the office on Tuesday if you would like to join us for this.



WET/COLD WEATHER CLOTHING

The weather has certainly changed and is now definitely more autumnal. The children do spend curriculum time outside and in this changeable weather we have found that a warm winter coat with a light waterproof mackintosh to go over the top is the best combination for keeping warm and dry. Please ensure that these are clearly marked with your child's name to avoid confusion when changing!

FRUIT

Our free fruit delivery has finally been approved and from today we will receive a piece of fruit or veg for a snack for each child in the school. As an example fruit could be an apple, some grapes or a banana, veg can be carrots, tomatoes or cucumber, depending on the season. So from next week you do not need to

send in fruit for a morning snack as every child will receive this at breaktime. Please note we will not know exactly what is being sent until it arrives and we are unable to tailor the delivery.

SEPTEMBER 2015 ADMISSIONS

If you know of anyone choosing schools for Reception Class in September 2015 you might like to let them know that we are taking appointments for visits to the school. These are on Tuesday mornings, either 9.15 or 10.30, will take about half an hour and are led by Mrs Edwards. Spaces are available at 9.15 on 18th November and 2nd December, at 10.30am on 18th November, 2nd and 9th December. Please phone the office to book a date and time.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 11 th Nov	10am	Musical assembly - parents welcome
Thursday 13 th Nov	7.30pm	Phonics and Reading support session for parents

SPOTLIGHT

Our spotlight falls on Jonah Fallon this week. He has enjoyed visiting the library 12 times! Well done Jonah!

HEADTEACHER AWARDS: Awards were handed to the following this afternoon: Thomas Pattison and Sophie Spall (Mrs Rizvi's Class); Ruby Miller and Scarlett Hepworth (Mr Crispin's Class); Aoibh Denney and Zak Guntzenbach (Year 1). Congratulations to all of them.



Mrs Edwards, Headteacher