



Dear Parents and Carers

What have we been up to? Despite some pretty wild and varied weather we have done so much both indoors and outdoors this week.

Year 1

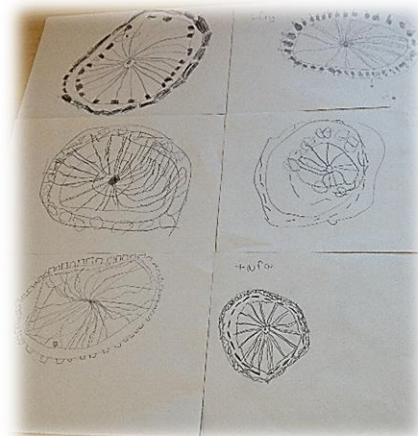
Year 1 have been looking at the colours of the sea-shore. We have created beautiful seascape paintings using powdered paints, and used descriptive words to caption these - we particularly liked Joe's adjectives "A turquoise sky, a deep blue sea and soft sand". We have been creating story-maps for The Lighthouse Keeper's lunch story, and finding out about lighthouses around the world. We have begun to learn about Grace Darling's Victorian life and her daring sea-rescue, and have been using Google Earth to locate the Farne Islands. In maths we have been 'spider counting' - counting in 10s using a 100 square.



Reception

Reception have been making different musical instruments for the newly developed outdoor music area - filling plastic bottles with dried rice, beans and pasta and delighting themselves and us all with their playing.

Mrs Rizvi's class have been developing their drawing skills and have completed the most amazing pictures of the wheel of a bike. **Mr Crispin's class** have made bird feeders which are already being enjoyed by magpies, robins and at least one siskin. The children have been excitedly spotting and naming birds common to our area and learning their different chirrups and warbles.



In Maths the children have been investigating data and creating tally and bar charts on eye colour and how children travel to school. They have learned the vowel rap! Please do ask them to teach it to you at home.

WELCOME

We are happy to welcome Georgiy Rhatushnyak and his family to The Heights. Georgiy comes to us from Canada and is settling into Year 1 very well.

PARENT CLASS REPS

We had a really constructive Parent Class Reps meeting yesterday and discussed a wide range of topics including transport to school, parking, key dates for the school calendar, individual and class photos and the event planned for Reading and a Story Sacks session for parents next week (Wednesday 21st January at 9-9.45am - see letter sent earlier this week).

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Create'n'Make, Multi-Skills and the Year 1 Gym Club are now under way. Our new Drama Club has proved very popular and there is a waiting list for places.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

We had our first School Council meeting this afternoon. Our first six School Council representatives were chosen by their classes to represent the views of the class. They will hold this role and responsibility until Easter when each class will choose two more children to take on the role.

I will meet with them every 3 weeks and we will discuss what they would like to have or do at the school in terms of activities and resources. The children will be given the opportunity and time to talk to and gain the views of their classmates and feedback what was discussed and agreed at each meeting.

ADMISSIONS POLICY CONSULTATION

The Governors and Trust Members have agreed the The Heights Primary Admissions Policy for 2016/17 which includes a change to the oversubscription criteria to incorporate a category for siblings of founder pupils. All changes to Admissions Policies need to undergo a consultation period before being finalised. To view the proposed Admissions Policy please click on the link is on our website. If you have any questions or would like to provide feedback relating to the Admissions Policy, please send all comments to the Clerk to the Governors (email aileen.moore@theheightsprimary.co.uk). All responses should be received by the end of the consultation period on 28th February 2015.

AWNINGS

We are aiming to erect awnings around half of our building during the last weekend of January (January 31st/February 1st). If anyone can assist please contact Craig Dolby at: craigdolby@gmail.com. We need a 10 or 12 strong team to help and this will save up us over £10,000. If you can commit an hour or two it would be greatly appreciated.

BAD WEATHER

In the event of extreme weather (e.g. a very large dump of snow) please check our website and your emails to learn if the school is able to remain open. Please note that we will do everything in our power to keep the school operational.

DATES TO NOTE

Tues 6 th Jan-Fri 13 th Feb	8.45am-3.30pm	Term 3
Wed 21 st Jan	9.00-9.45am	Reading Support session for Parents
Wed 28 th Jan	8.55-9.10am	Share a Book session for parents / grandparents / carers

SPOTLIGHT

This week our spotlight falls on Mantra Vivek for **swimming**. Well done Mantra.

PUPILS OF THE WEEK: Awards were handed to the following this afternoon: Sophie Spall, Hannah Jones and Joshua Ellison (Mrs Rizvi's Class); Tom Sanigar and Indi King Gomez (Mr Crispin's Class); Georgiy Rhatushnyak and Daniel Muhammad Nizar (Year 1). Congratulations to all of them.



Mrs Edwards
Headteacher

