



Dear Parents and Carers

We had our first 'tickle' of snow yesterday at the end of the school day and I was so excited at the prospect of more today that I ran into school. Sadly, it now looks like we won't have any more until next weekend ... (sigh) and I'll have to run up hill on the way back!  
So what have we been learning about this week?

## Year 1

This week Year One have had a very busy week! We started by learning about the Scottish celebration of Burns Night, and tasted Haggis, Neeps and Tatties thanks to Maggie Bruce (mum to Zak in Y1).



Early lighthouse construction

We have been sequencing the story of Grace Darling's Daring Adventure 200 years ago, and acting this out in order to gain a greater understanding of the story. Indoor PE has been all about pushes and pulls so we were able to link this with some fabulous Grace Darling rowing-boat drama! We have been using our DT skills to begin to design and create papier-mâché lighthouses, just like the one where Grace (a factual character) lived, or Mr Grinling (a fictional character) worked. We have also re-written The Lighthouse Keeper's lunch from the point of view of a seagull - focussing this week on using connectives ("and, but, so, because").

In Maths we have been estimating and then checking weight using balance-scales and pebbles to weigh everyday objects, also reinforcing telling the time to the hour and half-past the hour. We have been using musical instruments to practise beat and rhythm, and in Geography/Science we have been using more drama to mime activities carried out in different types of seasonal UK weather whilst learning the countries of the UK and their locations.

## Reception

Reception have developed their understanding of subtraction in Maths this week and applied their skills by using 'money' to pay for different 'fairground rides' and trips. They are continuing to develop their writing



with many children completing booklets about vehicles and designing and making their own. They were incredibly agile during PE - demonstrating and developing their running, hopping, skipping and jumping

skills. They didn't stop running for half an hour! The strong winds on Wednesday afternoon destroyed a number of our bird feeders, so a large group of children helped make five more which we will put up on Monday. The children have been using a program from Purplemash called 'Reflections' to make some creative patterns which are displayed on the wall in the corridor.



## SHARE-A-BOOK SESSION

We were delighted to see so many parents and family members able to join us for our first 'Share a Book' session in school on Wednesday morning. The next session will be next Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 3.10pm. Siblings are very welcome but must be with you enjoying and part of the share-a-book experience. We look forward to seeing you again next Thursday.

## CHINESE NEW YEAR

In the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> February we will be celebrating aspects of the Chinese New Year by tasting Chinese food (e.g. noodles, spring rolls) and eating with chopsticks, learning about lanterns and dragon puppets and perhaps wearing some Chinese outfits.

## BELATED THANK-YOU

Thank you to all the dads and Jerry for helping to lay the left over Astro Turf a couple of weeks ago. This has made a huge difference to the access around the front of the school.

## AWNINGS

After a site meeting yesterday we have new dates and plans for our proposed awning construction. These are: Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February: foundation digging and post construction and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February: carpentry and construction. If you are able to help on either or both of these dates, please contact Craig Dolby at [craigdolby@gmail.com](mailto:craigdolby@gmail.com). so he can co-ordinate work groups/timings etc. Thank you for your continued support.

## GYM+FREE-RUNNING CLUB

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 10.15am Free-Running and Gym Coach Michael Rosiak will lead our assembly. He is offering to run a club after school and has a lot of experience teaching and coaching children and adults. After meeting with him I wanted to join one of his adult sessions! Please do feel free to come to the assembly on Monday to learn more about what he can offer.

## ADMISSIONS POLICY CONSULTATION

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](mailto:aileen.moore@theheightsprimary.co.uk)). All responses should be received by the end of the consultation period on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

## BAD WEATHER

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

## RED NOSE DAY

Red Nose Day is not until 13<sup>th</sup> March, but we wanted to let you know that we will be selling Red Noses at £1 each as part of the donation from our school a bit nearer the time.

## DATES TO NOTE

| Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan-Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb | 8.45am-3.30pm | Term 3  |
|---|---------------|---|
| Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb                           | 10.15am       | Gym+Free-Running presentation in Assembly     |
| Thur 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb                          | 3.10pm        | Share a Book Session for parents/grandparents |
| Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb     |               | Chinese New Year                              |
| Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb                          | 5.30-6.30pm   | School Disco (see letter from PTFA)           |
| Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> May                           |               | PTFA Race Night -details from PTFA to come    |

**PUPILS OF THE WEEK:** Awards were handed to the following this afternoon: Lily Morgan and Jenna Dhadwal (Mrs Rizvi's Class); Dani Barbano and Abigail Mann (Mr Crispin's Class); Aoibh Denney and Joe Mackereth (Year 1). Congratulations to all of them.



Mrs Edwards  
Headteacher

