



Dear Parents and Carers



Well, we had a little more snow this week and the site did look beautiful, as you can see, first thing in the morning. We did try to build a snowman, but, would you believe me if I said it was the wrong kind of snow? So very, very soft and fluffy. Gorgeous to roll in though. We're definitely keen for more!

Great news! We were thrilled to hear Samuel's news that he is, in his own words, 'all better'. He has been an inspiration to us all with his cheerful, positive attitude and determination to simply get on with everything. Our love and best wishes are with him and all his family as they are with Ffion who is now making steady progress and did some super mark making in hospital. She is also making sure that Hector isn't whisked away by the nurses who have taken quite a shine to him.



What have we all been doing this week?

Year 1

In Literacy Year 1 have begun learning about tales from a variety of cultures with a focus this week and next on tales involving dragons. We have been acting out the story of the Chinese Zodiac and have shared writing the story using conjunctions and connectives.

In Maths we have been looking at doubles, halves, sequences and sorting data. We have also been learning about odd and even numbers using our shoes! In our Topic sessions we have finished creating our lighthouses and have thought about what we could learn from Grace Darling's example. We liked Jayden's idea: 'I can be brave and thoughtful like Grace Darling because I can help my friends if they get hurt'.

This week is national storytelling week and Year 1 have been looking at all the stories and traditional tales that we can tell to each other without using a book. We would like to share this link with parents:

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/blog/6440-national-storytelling-week>

Reception

Aside from playing in the snow and in very cold temperatures this week, our Reception children have been developing their knowledge and understanding of the number story of subtraction in Maths. In Literacy they have been blending and segmenting words and developing their programming skills using the BeeBots. Vehicles have been made out of 'junk' and blocks and we clearly have some budding designers. They have all done Dance and some Free-running in their PE lessons - exploring ways of travelling on and over apparatus.



SHARE-A-BOOK SESSION

Thank you to all of you who were able to come and 'share-a-book' with your son or daughter yesterday - and perhaps with some of their friends too. The children were so thrilled to have you there to read with. I do hope you enjoyed the share-a-book session and that you may be able to join us for the next one after half term on Wednesday 4th March at 8.55am.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

It's Chinese New Year next week - the Year of the Goat. All the children will be learning about this wonderful cultural celebration.

PARKING

We are really aware of how challenging it is for parents travelling down from Caversham Heights and finding parking spaces in neighbouring roads before 9am. We are talking to Reading Borough Council about the possibility of the restrictions on certain roads being changed. Whilst we are on our temporary site our suggestion is that the restrictions are lifted from 8.30am (rather than 9am) on roads such as Westfield Road, Falkland Road and Cromwell Road. We will keep you updated on all progress we make in this area.



FREESTYLE GYM CLUB

Michal Rosiak came in on Tuesday to show the children some of the moves that can be done in his Freestyle Gymnastics classes. It must have been popular as places for his class starting on 25th February are now full. If you would like to go on a waiting list, please let the office know.

PTFA NEWS

February's Cake Bake

It's back and next Friday 13th is the first Cake Bake of 2015. It is the turn of Mr Crispin's class to bake or buy cakes along with the first half of year 1, that is: *Freya, Aoibh, Zak, Jayden, Joe, Eva and Olivia* please.

We require the usual volunteers please to help sell and to also arrive slightly early to set up (around 2.30pm) before Assembly starts, let Tracey (Ruby's mummy) or class reps (Jamie/Emma) know if you can help at all. Please remember no nuts in your lovely cakes/biscuits and to bring along any empty vegetable cartons etc. for all your goodies. Happy baking!

Story Book Bags

An email has been sent to everyone regarding the next stage of the story book bags. Please have a look at the attachment and feed back to Tracey (Ruby's mum) when you can. Many thanks.

AWNINGS

Sunday 15th February: foundation digging and post construction and Saturday 21st 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 so he may co-ordinate work groups/timings etc. Thank you for your continued support.

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). All responses should be received by the end of the consultation period on 28th February 2015.

BAD WEATHER

In the event of heavy snow check our website and your emails and texts to find out if the school has to close. Please note that we will always 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
Mon 9 th -Fri 13 th Feb		Chinese New Year
Fri 27 th Feb	5.30-6.30pm	School Disco
Sat 9 th May		PTFA Race Night - details from PTFA to come

SPOTLIGHT

Our spotlight this week falls on Aoibh Denney for **swimming** and Sam Crisford (see above).

PUPILS OF THE WEEK: Awards were handed to the following this afternoon: George Akwa-Likhachov and YingGe Hong (Mrs Rizvi's Class); Brooke Dimmock and Rufus Palk (Mr Crispin's Class); Olivia Mann and Rose Wood (Year 1). Congratulations to all of them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Edwards'.

Mrs Edwards, Headteacher

Small denomination coins

We would like the children to have the opportunity to handle small denomination coins (1p and 2p only). If you could spare some, please hand in to Mrs Rizvi or Mr Crispin. Thank you.