



Dear Parents and Carers

Can you believe we are half way through the academic year? Boy is it flying by! I'm really glad we have these weekly newsletters as it is a record and reminder of all that we have done.

CHINESE NEW YEAR - Xin Nian Kuai Le 新年快乐 (Standard Mandarin), Gong Hei Fard Choy 恭喜发财 (Cantonese), Xing Ni Ju Yi 新年如意 (Teochew/Hokkien)

We have all been celebrating Chinese New Year (which is officially on 19th February when we are on half term). The children have been performing dragon dances using the dragon head made by Mrs Rizvi's class and taking turns to create some accompanying music, painting Chinese characters, acting out the story of the Chinese zodiac, tasting Chinese food, creating dragon art, using ICT to create dragon images, learning a Chinese New Year song. Thank you so much to YingGe's parents who came in and shared their personal knowledge and experiences of Chinese New Year celebrations. In addition to this Reception have been learning about ordinal numbers and writing different sentences about the Chinese zodiac story.



Year 1

As well as learning about Chinese New Year, Year One have been creating our own dragon stories using connectives. We have been learning about electricity and experimenting with bulbs, batteries, wires and crocodile clips to create simple circuits to light up Mr Grinling's lighthouse. We have been understanding place value in maths, i.e. that 32 is made of 30 and 2, rather than 3 and 2. We have been learning about the countries of the United Kingdom and their capital cities, and filming each other (using the ipads) using compass point references to perform our own Weather

Forecasts. We have also all come up with some fabulous ideas of things we would like to learn about in relation to our Space Journeys topic after half term!

OUR SCHOOL VALUES SUPERHERO

Thank you and congratulations to Year 1 for developing our School Values Superhero. We have entered him into a competition being run by Reading Fringe Festival and will keep you posted of the results.

STORY SACKS

Many thanks for all the contributions for the Story Sacks that are being made for us. The children are really looking forward to using them.



GARDENING

After half term we are looking to further develop our outside areas as Spring arrives. There are lots of areas we would like to plant up. If you have any bulbs, seeds, small plants, particularly for a sensory garden, we would love to hear from you. Many thanks.

SPARE CLOTHING

Please could we ask that any spare school clothing used for in-school accidents is washed and returned to school as soon as possible? Our resources are running low!

ACTIVE KIDS

We have registered with Sainsbury's for their Active Kids scheme, so please collect vouchers for us when you shop there to help us obtain resources for our school - more details on the scheme at:

<https://activekids.sainsburys.co.uk/>.

Update from The PTFA:

Don't forget, if you haven't already, please let Emma Palk know if you would like your child to attend the School Disco on 27th February. Either drop your form into the office or email emmapalk@hotmail.co.uk. Pay in advance with cash or cheque or on the day if more convenient.

We are pleased to announce we will be hosting a Boden shopping party on Saturday 21st March. There will be plenty of opportunity to bag a party bargain with two shopping sessions. Party goers will get 20% discount with the first 30 customers receiving a free gift! Plus, commission from sales go directly to our PTFA! Venue and times will be announced soon!

AWNINGS

Thank you to all those who have offered help on Sunday and next weekend with the construction of the awnings. It will make a tremendous difference to the outdoor learning of all the children and the staff.

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

Mon 16 th - Fri 20 th Feb		HALF TERM
Mon 23 rd Feb - Thur 2 nd April		Term 4 - school closes at 1.30pm on 2 nd April
Fri 27 th Feb	5.30-6.30pm	School Disco
Mon 2 nd March		School photos
Thur 5 th March		World Book Day
Fri 13 th March		Red Nose Day
Sat 21 st March		PTFA Boden Party

SPOTLIGHT

Our spotlight this week falls on Rafael Aslam for his **library** visit and sharing his favourite books.

PUPILS OF THE WEEK: Awards were handed to the following this afternoon: Aryan Padha and Thomas Pattison (Mrs Rizvi's Class); Sophie Lowe and Ameya Para Pampati (Mr Crispin's Class); Lucy Ray, Eva McCarthy (Year 1). Congratulations to all of them.



Mrs Edwards
Headteacher