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THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers

It was great to welcome all the children back after half term. We really do miss them and all the fun, enthusiasm and joy they bring to school each day. Some of their reactions to seeing the new storey were wonderful. I wish I'd captured them on camera.

Reception

Reception have been 'firework-tastic' this week and have learnt the story of Guy Fawkes and Bonfire Night. They have been writing the onomatopoeic sounds fireworks make and creating fire safety posters. They have created wonderful pictures, learnt and performed a song and dance. In Maths they have been sorting and naming coins and starting to use 1p and 2p coins.

Year 1

This week Year 1 have been learning about Bonfire Night! We have been using onomatopoeia and writing sensory poems all about fireworks! In Maths we have been using time language and doubling and halving. We have also started to practise our Christmas songs...keep an eye out for costume requests...coming soon.

Year 2

In Year 2 this week we have been reading the picture book *Dogs* by Emily Gravett and the information book *Looking after Dogs and Puppies*. We have talked about what these books have in common and noticed what is different about them. We have been writing facts about dogs and making posters to teach our classmates. In Maths we have been measuring objects in our classroom using decimetre strips; we know that 1dm is equal to 10cm; we started to measure in cm and metres. We can show you what a cm, dm and m look like. In Science we have learnt where wool comes from and used this to write a short information text.

We travelled back in time and learnt that the first people to have chocolate were the Aztecs and Mayans and know they lived long ago in a country that is now called Mexico. We know that Mexicans speak Spanish and we can sing a song in Spanish where we count up to ten! On Thursday we had a Bonfire Night themed day. We learnt a little about why we celebrate Bonfire Night and we learnt about how to be safe during Bonfire celebrations with a little help from Fireman Sam. We loved making some incredible firework art that we hope you enjoy at home too!

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRIVACY

A letter and form about photographic privacy was sent with your copy of Highlights at the end of last term. We must have these permissions in place as soon as possible, especially with the forthcoming school nativity productions, so if you could kindly take the time to read this information and complete and return the form to the school office by Thursday 12th November we would appreciate it. Printed copies are available from the shelves outside the school office. Many thanks.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Thank you to the classteachers and you as parents for attending the consultation meetings this week. We hope you found them helpful and as always welcome your feedback.



MULTI-SKILLS SPORTS FESTIVAL - Year 2

Our Year 2 pupils will be joining Year 2 pupils from St Anne's and Caversham Primary to participate in a Sports Festival on St Anne's field next Wednesday 11th November. Unfortunately it is not possible to accommodate parents but we will let you know how we get on in next week's Highlights.

CHILTERN EDGE CROSS COUNTRY

The third cross-country competition is tomorrow, Saturday 7th November, at Chiltern Edge School. For any of the Year 1 or 2s who are keen to participate can I suggest that you arrive by 9.40 ready for a 10am start and that they wear Heights PE kit. Good luck to them all.

REMEMBRANCE DAY AND DIWALI

We will be celebrating both Remembrance Day and Diwali next week. They are both on the same day - Wednesday 11th November - but we will be engaging in different exciting activities for both events throughout the week.

MOVING UPSTAIRS

Please remember that the school is closed to pupils next Friday 13th November. If any parents are available to help us carrying equipment upstairs we would be extremely grateful. The big move starts on Thursday afternoon from 3.45pm and any time you can give us then or on Friday 13th would be greatly appreciated: just let us know when you can come along please.

FACEBOOK PAGE

The school has a new Facebook Page! Our old public group 'The Heights Primary School, Caversham' was closed on Mon 2 November. Our new page is for the families and carers of children at the school, and for those in the wider Caversham community with an interest in our latest news and activities. Please 'like' our page to keep up to date! You can find it at www.facebook.com/theheightsprimary. Don't forget to check out our school website www.theheightsprimary.co.uk for information on term dates, uniform, school meals, in fact anything and everything to do with our school!

DATES TO NOTE

Saturday 7 th November	Cross Country competition at Chiltern Edge School (Y1+2)
Wednesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day / Diwali Y2 Sports Festival
Friday 13 th November	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR PUPILS as staff and parents move classrooms upstairs

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

Our pupils of this week are: Jermaine, Zak, Kasim (Year 2); Lily M, Ben G, Betty, Fletcher (Year 1); Darcey, Dylan, Natalia, Ralph (Reception Classes). Congratulations to all of them!



Karen Edwards, Headteacher

PTFA NEWS

CHRISTMAS ONLINE SHOPPING

Planning to do any of your Christmas shopping online this year? Of course you are! Did you know that you can earn cash back for the school with just a few extra clicks? Simply register with The Giving Machine, select The Heights Primary as your preference and we will receive commission for every purchase made via the site. The Giving Machine is supported by most major retailers including Amazon, John Lewis and eBay. Please visit www.thegivingmachine.co.uk and register today!

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CARDS

The children created some wonderful Christmas card artwork before half term, to be used on professional printed cards for you to send to family and friends. An order form featuring your child's design should come home in book bags this week. Please return your completed order form and payment via the PTFA letter box (under the school office window) by Monday 16 November.

CHRISTMAS COLOURING COMPETITION

The PTFA team are super busy organising this year's Christmas Fayre (Sat 5 Dec, 12-2.30pm at the school!) so we thought the children could help us out with the poster design and decorations for the school! Hopefully you have picked up/printed for yourself a Colouring Competition sheet (see attached PDF). The best design will feature on the Christmas Fayre poster and all others will be displayed at the school. Please return your child's entry to the PTFA box by the end of the day on Monday 9 November.

THE HEIGHTS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2015

Watch your child's book bags for Christmas raffle tickets – also coming home this week. Please sell as many as you can to family, friends, colleagues, neighbours, the postman, people at the corner shop... you get the idea! Last year's raffle was one of the PTFA's biggest fundraisers and we are hopeful to smash that total this year as our Heights family has nearly doubled! Thank you!