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THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers

It was with a heavy ~~heart~~ truck that we said goodbye to the lunchbox on Monday - but now we can eat our lunches in our new hall. Our new mobile staging has also been delivered in time for our Christmas productions coming soon. We are so thrilled! Thank you to the PTFA for funding this.

Reception

We have been learning, thinking and talking about the different jobs grown-ups do and why people go to work. We have thought about what we would like to do when we grow up and written about this. We have been concentrating on numbers 11-20, particularly the tricky numbers 13 and 15.

In Mr Crispin's class we have been programming using BeeBots, whilst in Mrs Rizvi's class we have learnt about the artist Miro and have taken some of his ideas to create our own imagination inspired pictures. We will be swapping activities next week.

Year 1

This week Year One have had very exciting visitors - our in-class security cameras caught sight of two fire-breathing dragons in the Year One classrooms! This prompted LOTS of independent writing and creative activities. We have had a very exciting week across the curriculum, finding out about capacity, and experimenting with floating and sinking. Lastly we enjoyed a visit from 'RE Inspired' to coincide with the first Sunday of Advent.

Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have finished writing information books about the Aztecs. We look forward to sharing them with the younger children in the school early next week. We have moved on to look at stories in familiar settings and have enjoyed reading the beginning of the story, '*The Chocolate Touch*'. We have responded to the text using drama- which we loved!

In Maths, we have been learning about grams and kilograms. We measured different objects and recorded their mass. We have even started solving problems involving measures- but this needs a little more practice. In Design Technology, we have been using the description of Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory to design chocolate factories. We have thought carefully about the resources that we will need in order to build a junk model of our factories and would greatly appreciate any cereal boxes, kitchen roll tubes or other cartons to help us build our factories next week.

In PSHE we have been thinking about the power of the words that we use. We are thinking about ways that we can help younger children have happy break times.

We have been singing traditional Christmas songs with Rev. Jones and practicing the words to our Christmas play. It is going to be wonderful!

PARENT CLASS REPS

I am meeting with Parent Class Reps next Wednesday 2nd December straight after drop off. As well as discussing some of the different points you may have asked them to raise, we will be talking about Apps that children can use with iPads to help their phonics, spelling and maths. There are so many good Apps available and we are keen to learn from you which ones your children enjoy using and for which subjects.



Testing our new staging!

REINSPIRED

We would like to say a big thank you to the volunteers from REInspired who came to work with our Year 1 classes yesterday and taught them a little more about the meaning of Advent.

REMINDER

We have a 'Guide to Year 2' meeting for Year 2 parents next Tuesday 1st December from 7-8pm in our Year 2 classroom. It will be led by Mrs Mullaney and myself and will be an opportunity for Year 2 parents to learn more about what is and will be taught to pupils in Year 2 and how they can support the children at home. There will be parents' sessions for Year 1 and Reception coming up early in the new year.

HUGE THANK YOU FROM READING FAMILY AID

Thanks again for all of your toy donations for Reading Family Aid's 'Toys and Teens' appeal. We took them to the drop-off point on Monday and they were bowled over by the generosity of our school community. We had two emails from the charity this week, one read "It is a fantastic response. Please pass on our huge thanks to all the children. Each one of them will have put a smile on the face of another less fortunate child in Reading this Christmas" and the other "Thank you so much, what a wonderful collection, please pass on our thanks to everyone involved. This will mean some happy faces at Christmas". Well done everyone - what a wonderful way to spread some Christmas Cheer!

ADVENT CALENDAR OF FUN!

Visit the school's official Facebook page from next Tuesday for some advent fun! All will be revealed on 1st December!!
(www.facebook.com/theheightsprimary)

PANTOMIME VISIT

Thank you to everyone who has returned their slip and form for our Panto visit. For those who have not yet done so, please remember the deadline for these is Tuesday 1st December.



A big thank you to our neighbours

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Christmas is coming..... and we know it would be helpful for you to have the dates of our panto visit and nativity performances. Full information on ticket arrangements and costumes will follow but please note these dates for your diary:

Friday 11 th December	From 9am	Whole school visit to Hexagon Pantomime
Monday 14 th December	1.45pm	KS1 - Dress Rehearsal for Reception children and KS1 Grandparents
Tuesday 15 th December	9.45am 2.15pm	Reception - Dress Rehearsal for Grandparents KS1 - Performance 1 for Parents
Wednesday 16 th December	9.45am 6pm	Reception - Performance for Parents KS1 - Performance 2 for Parents
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch and class parties in the afternoon	
Friday 18 th December	9.30am 1.30pm	Final Celebration Assembly School closes for Christmas / New Year break
Monday 4 th January	8.45am	School opens for Spring Term

SPOTLIGHT

Our Spotlight this week falls on Brooke for **dancing**; Roshni, Oscar, Eva, Joseph, Matilda, Tula, Dylan, Olivia, Rhys, Sofia, Audrey and Oliver for **gymnastics**; Aryan, Matilda, Joseph and Rafael for **swimming**; YingGe for his **Chinese** and Georgiy for learning **JavaScript**. What wonderful achievements!

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

Our pupils of the week for this week are: Audrey, Ishan, Sam C and Tula (Reception); Hannah, Eddy, Jonah and Zoya (Year 1); Georgiy and Anna (Year 2). Congratulations to them all.

Karen Edwards
Headteacher

PTFA NEWS

THE HEIGHTS CHRISTMAS FAYRE – SAT 5 DEC 12pm – 2.30pm

Our Christmas Fayre is just around the corner! It's going to be a magical occasion, our lovely school will be turned into a Bavarian winter wonderland, with lots of festive games and crafts for the children to enjoy. Father Christmas will be flying in via his camper van and the choir from Queen Anne's school will be singing from 12 – 1.30pm. There will also be lots of wonderful Christmas decorations for you to buy and a Bavarian BBQ to enjoy, plus lots lots more! We can't wait to see you there!

WE NEED YOUR GAZEBOS & FAIRY LIGHTS!

Can anyone spare a gazebo or some battery-powered fairy lights for us to use at the Fayre? Please let any member of the PTFA team know, or email ptfa@theheightsprimary.co.uk

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE UPDATE

Some fantastic new prizes have been added to the raffle. These include a £20 Nandos voucher, 1 month subscription to Rivermead Gym, £40 massage at Le Masseur Personnel, 6 swimming lessons donated by Jan at Swimday and a selection of Hasbro toys. Thanks to everyone for their generous contributions, the raffle is one of our biggest fundraisers and as the total is price-matched by a parent's company, each ticket sold for a pound is worth £2 to the school! Please return your ticket stubs to the PTFA box and if you need more tickets please ask at the school office. The winners will be drawn at the school's Christmas Fayre on Sat 5 December.

TOMBOLA DONATIONS

We are so grateful for all of your generous donations of chocolate and bottles for this year's Tombola, plus all of the little toys and gifts for the Lucky Dip! If you still have items to drop off, please leave them with any member of the PTFA team. Thank you!