

# THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual  
Responsibility and Excellence

4<sup>th</sup> March 2016 – Issue 61



Dear Parents and Carers

Though I was tempted to come to school in my 'Little Miss Sunshine' costume again, it was a step too far for my family who threatened to disown me! Still, it was fun while it lasted - and thank you to everyone for your magnificent efforts in creating such wonderful costumes for our celebration of World Book Day. They were really imaginative and we all had a fabulous day. The highlight for me was the trio from Peter Pan (Ms Parker Fraser, Ms Mol and Mrs Mullaney) dressed as Captain Hook, Peter Pan and the Crocodile respectively, who chased each other around the playground at break time. What a shame I wasn't quick enough to video it!

## Reception

As always the imagination and achievements of the Reception children continue to amaze us. This week Mrs Rizvi's class have collectively designed and created an amazing space station which they are thoroughly enjoying playing in. They also worked really co-operatively in small groups to build some spectacular junk model rockets - thank you for your donations of 'junk' but we have enough for now..! Their writing was inspired by the characters they came dressed as yesterday and they have continued to develop their knowledge and understanding of 3D shapes.



## Year 1

This week we have been looking at the story of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. We have retold it and investigated characters and settings! In Maths it's been a week of fractions - halving, quartering and beyond. We have learned about Mothering Sunday and been busy on a secret project! Much fun was had on World Book Day too.

## Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been exploring poetry. We have learnt and performed poems off by heart. We have discussed the language in poetry and even written our own alliteration poems. In Maths we have been dividing and understand that dividing means to group or share. We have used cubes, drawings and our division facts to help us solve division problems.

In Topic, we have been using Scratch Jr to create a presentations teaching the audience about polar habitats. We have also programmed computer games using Minecraft and Flappy Birds. In Dance and Movement we have explored the beginning of Spring. We have also developed our rugby skills in PE.

Year 2 had a huge amount of fun on World Book Day! The children all joined in with the dressing up and looked amazing! Well done Mums and Dads. We also painted portraits of our favourite characters that will soon be decorating our Library!

## WATCH US AT WORK

Thank you for attending our two sessions in the FS and KS1 this week. We hope you found them both useful and enjoyable and would welcome your feedback as always. **Please note that there will be a Maths Awareness session for all KS1 parents on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm.** We will send a reminder closer to the time.

## DISCO

Thank you to all the parents and Joanna who helped make the disco a huge success last Friday. The children all seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Great moves Harry!

## STAFF FOR SEPTEMBER

It is the time of year when we start to recruit our staff for September. Every year we grow by two classes. We will be interviewing for the different posts available next Thursday and will keep you informed of any appointments we make.

## THANK YOU TO MICROSOFT

We would like to offer huge thanks to Suzanne Hepwood and all the staff at Microsoft who have facilitated such generous donations to the school over the past year. It has helped us in so many different ways.

## DONATIONS FOR THE LIBRARY

Our Learning Resource Centre which includes a library area is rapidly developing as evidenced by the photos in last week's Highlights. In response to suggestions from the School Council we would like to build up our collection of fiction and non-fiction books which will be shelved in the different areas we will be creating. If you would like to donate a book or if you work for a company that may be interested in making a donation we will be compiling a wishlist of books in the next week. Please watch out for a ParentMail.

## LIVING EGGS

Following on from the success of our eggs and chicks last year, we are delighted to be receiving 10 more eggs in their incubator this coming Monday. We aim to connect a camera to catch all their developments and will have a link to this on our website. Please can you let me know as soon as possible if you would like to offer a home to one or more of the chicks in a couple of weeks' time.

## PARENTVIEW

Parentview is an online questionnaire for parents and carers to feed back to Ofsted on their child's school. It is now the main mechanism that Ofsted use to gather parents' views. There are just 12 questions to answer. The questions look at the key areas such as pupils' happiness, safety and progress, the quality of teaching, behaviour and school leadership. The final question asks if you would recommend the school to another parent. Everyone's responses are put together and are available to view on the Parentview website. In order to minimise the risk of abuse you are required to register and create a password. Your views and feedback are important to us and we would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to visit: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk> and complete the questionnaire.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	3.45-5.45pm	Parent Consultations
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	6-8pm	Parent Consultations

**SPOTLIGHT:** Our spotlight this week falls on Lily and Jack for scaling a **climbing** wall - and jumping off (safely of course!); Zak for **cross country**; Anna for **dance** and Scarlett for her **half marathon**. Well done everyone.

**PUPILS OF THE WEEK:** At assembly this afternoon Pupil of the Week awards were presented to: Jayden and Zak in Year 2; Brooke, Nathan, Sophie and Amelia in Year 1; Luke, Lucy W, Jessica and Kacper in Reception. Congratulations to them all.

  
Karen Edwards  
Headteacher



## PTFA NEWS

### **GREEN PARK MINI MILE - SUNDAY 15 MAY**

Registration has opened for the Green Park Mini Mile, 'Berkshire's most colourful and family friendly running event', held this year on Sunday 15 May at 9am. The school joined in the fun last year and raised a fantastic £1577, which was split between the school's PTFA fund and our chosen charity, The Royal Berkshire Hospital. Everyone had a super time and the children (and some of the grown ups!) were presented with their medals at the school's celebration assembly! Please register your child ASAP if you want to join in as it gets booked up fast. We will be setting up a fundraising page soon and will update you as soon as it's live so you can start collecting sponsorship. Oh, and any grown ups who want to run the 10K for the school, please sign up too!

<https://wwwroyalberkshire10kcom.canbook.me/minievents>

### **PTFA BINGO NIGHT - SATURDAY 19 MARCH, 8 - 11pm**

Just a reminder that tickets are on sale for our very first Bingo night! Come join us for some bingo fun at St Andrews Hall Caversham from 8 - 11pm on Saturday 19 March. Tickets are just £5 and include your bingo cards for the evening and nibbles, and there will of course be a cash bar! There are some fabulous prizes to be won, including a wine tasting course for 2 worth £50, a £50 Boden voucher and a £25 book voucher. To book your tickets simply put your payment (cash or cheque made payable to 'The Heights Primary PTFA') in an envelope marked 'PTFA BINGO NIGHT'. Please clearly write your names and the number of tickets you require on the envelope too and leave in the PTFA postbox outside the school office. We know we have some talented chefs and bakers amongst our parents, and so we don't over indulge on crisps and nuts, if anyone would like to contribute some homemade nibbles to the evening it would be hugely appreciated - samosas, pakoras, mini quiche, sweet treats, anything at all would be amazing. Thank you!

### **CAKE BAKE AND SCHOOL DISCO TOTALS**

Your disco divas danced up a storm last week and raised a fantastic £142! Everyone had a complete ball, huge thanks to Hannah Smith and Tamsin Pagella for all their work organising the event. Also thanks for all the brilliant cakes made, sold and eaten at the last Cake Bake. We made £207.75 and enjoyed every last mouthful!

### **THE HEIGHTS COOKBOOK - AVAILABLE NOW!**

The first official Heights Cookbook is now available from your PTFA! Priced at just £5 each, they make a perfect gift for all the (extended) family! If you missed the afterschool playground sale today, don't worry we have lots of copies available. Email the PTFA on [ptfa@theheightsprimary.co.uk](mailto:ptfa@theheightsprimary.co.uk) to reserve your copy.

### **PTFA MARCH MEETING - MONDAY 7 MARCH, 7.45pm**

Please join us on Monday night at the Grosvenor to chat all things PTFA! We will have an update on the playground, plus plans to show you. Everyone welcome!