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THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back. I hope you enjoyed a fabulous time with your families over the Easter holidays and are ready for the challenges and excitement this term will bring. We certainly are!

Our themes are: 'Animals' in Reception and Year 1 and 'Messing about on the River' in Year 2. Do read the class Topic Webs and Newsletters which have been compiled by Class Teachers and emailed to you today as these will give you a good picture of what we have planned.



Reception

In Reception we have started our new topic of 'Animals' and focussed on the story of the *3 Little Pigs*. We've written scene descriptions and re-told the story. We have designed and built houses out of different materials and tried to blow them down (with a hairdryer). We've done 'Pig Art' using clay, chalk and paint and filmed lots on the iPads.

We have decided on our new role play areas, written about what we did over the Easter holidays and have learnt how to halve and share equally in Maths. How busy have we been?

Year 1

This week we have been learning the *Ning Nang Nong* poem by Spike Milligan. We have thought of actions to help us recite the poem. It has been lots of fun. In Maths we have been learning about grams and kilograms and have been using digital scales to weigh things. We have also started to learn a song...I am sure you may know by now what it is (we can't stop singing it!). We also ventured out into the park to look for Signs of Spring and have also written about what we did over the Easter holidays.

Year 2

We have loved learning the story of *The Wind in the Willows*, especially acting out the roles which has helped us remember it. We've been working out how best to solve addition and subtraction problems with parts of the question missing and are 'cracking' our times tables. We are beginning to understand where we live locally and nationally and drew maps of our classroom. We have been doing weather investigations and measuring the rainfall and in Athletics we've been working on our speed and reaction times.

MAYOR'S VISIT

We were delighted to welcome Mayor Sarah Hacker into school yesterday. She visited all the classes and spent time with Year 2 chatting to them. They asked her some really interesting questions. She was really lovely with them and we appreciated her taking time out of her busy schedule to come and see us.

LADDERS AT HOME

Thank you to those of you who managed to attend one of the sessions on our Ladders at Home site for parents. The aim is that it will give you a greater understanding of what the children are learning, how it is being taught, the progress they are making and how you can help at home. You should all have received your personal login details - either at the presentations or in an envelope in your child's bookbag. We are also sending the presentation with this newsletter. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or feedback.

PTFA NEWS

BEAT THE STREET

It's back! The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in this Reading-wide initiative last year and we will have all the materials to pass on to you next week.

SPORTS DAY

Please note that our Sports Day will be held on Friday 8th July on St Anne's field. It will run all morning with the children participating and competing in a whole host of athletic events and races. We would love for parents, grandparents and friends to come and share our fun that day so please pop it in your diaries.

If you have any gazebos we would love to borrow them for the morning to protect the children from the sun (or rain!).

'WHAT I TAUGHT MY PARENTS'

Thank you for embracing our Easter challenge. It's been really interesting learning about what the children taught you during the holidays. Thom P taught his dad to handstand, Elliot taught his parents about bluebells, Georgiy taught his Russian relatives some English and Jonah designed and taught his parents and sister how to make an aquarium! There are loads more examples and we are looking forward to putting them up on our display boards for the children and you all to enjoy. If you haven't yet had the chance to send in your 'challenge' don't worry, you could bring it in after the weekend.

ANIMALS IN SCHOOL

As part of our animals topic we are hoping to house some guinea pigs at school in Miss Parker Fraser's class for the children to learn how to care for them. Also, during the term ahead we anticipate visits from other animals and reptiles to the classrooms. Please let us know if your child has any allergies we will need to take into account.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 18 th April	7.45pm	PTFA Summer Fayre Meeting at The Grosvenor
Sun 15 th May	9am	Green Park Mini Mile
Sat 21 st May		PTFA Race Night at St Andrews
Sat 25 th June		PTFA Summer Fayre

SPOTLIGHT: Our spotlight at assembly today fell on: Rafi for **cricket**; Finn, Megan, Tom S, Aoibh and Lily M for **swimming**; Zachary, Sara and Finn for **skiing**; and Aoibh for **dance**. Well done everyone!

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

Awards were handed to the following this week: Year 2 - Lucy and Roshni; Year 1 - Fletcher, Hannah, Ben and Alex; Reception - Elliot, Lilly, Sam and Freya. Congratulations to you all.



Karen Edwards
Headteacher

GREEN PARK MINI MILE - SUNDAY 15 MAY

We are getting very excited about this year's Green Park Mini Mile, which is now only a month away! Now's the time to get friends/family supporting our little (and big!) runners by sponsoring them via our mydonate site - link below. Feel free to copy and paste this link and share it around. Don't forget that every donation will be matched penny for penny by Microsoft. Thank you!

<https://mydonate.bt.com/events/heightsminimile2016/295794>

PTFA SUMMER FAYRE MEETING - MONDAY 18 APRIL

(7.45pm The Grosvenor)

Everyone is welcome to join us next Monday night at the Grosvenor as we start to plan our upcoming Summer Fayre. If you've never been to a PTFA meeting before, or if you're a regular, please do come along and help us plan this important event. We would love this year's Fayre to represent the whole school community and be bigger and better than ever before! If you can't make it along but have an idea/would like to get involved on the day please let one of the PTFA committee know, or email PTFA@theheightsprimary.co.uk

RACENIGHT!!! SATURDAY 21 MAY

We plan to get tickets for next month's Racenight event on sale next week. Tickets will be limited, with a set allocation per class, so please get your booking in early if you'd like to join in the fun. Watch this space for more info!