

The Heights Primary School  
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# THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual  
Responsibility and Excellence

21<sup>st</sup> October 2016 – Issue 85



Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! Where did the half-term go? It has been a busy, fun packed 7 weeks and the children have amazed and impressed us all with their energy, thirst for learning and fabulous achievements. They are definitely living out the quote of Nikos Kazantzakis - "In order to success we must first believe that we can".

Thank you to all the Parents who helped with the Harvest Cream Teas for Grandparents this week. It was wonderful to welcome so many to the school. There were nearly 100 who joined us over the two days and I hope they enjoyed themselves as much as I, the staff and the children did.

As you may already have picked up - we've focused a lot on all things 'Harvest' the past couple of weeks.



## Reception

In Reception we've talked about what Harvest is, including what our favourite fruit and vegetables are, where they come from and when they're harvested. We've been weighing carrots, potatoes and other vegetables and ordering by weight and have even made soup! We've been discussing the importance of sharing with others and how we can help other people in the community. We have sung a LOT this week and loved performing to our Grandparents.

## Year 1-3

In Years 1-3 this week we've had different assessments and are really proud of the progress we've made. Our teachers will tell you all about it when you meet them at the Parent Consultations after half term.

## Year 1

In Year 1 we've also concentrated on 2D and 3D shapes and have made some very creative shape monsters. We've started to design some Tudor houses and can't wait to build our own models using real wood and tools!!

## Year 2

We have had such an interesting week celebrating Black History Month and learning about inspirational role models such as Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama. Did you know that Barak Obama is left handed and was a Civil Rights Lawyer? He was called 'Barry' at school and can't stand eating ice-cream after working in an ice cream shop as a teenager. Here's a great quote from him - "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek".

### Year 3

As well as our assessments, we really enjoyed writing some fables inspired by our 'Fantastic Pharaohs' topic. Our Egyptian Dance workshop was SO much fun as you can see from the photos.



### Parent Consultation Meetings

A reminder that Parent Consultation meetings with class teachers will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 3.45 - 5.45pm and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 6.00 - 8.00pm. The appointments are strictly for 10 minutes so that all parents can be offered a meeting over the two sessions in the afternoon and evening. Sign-up sheets will be available on clipboards outside the school office **after half-term** so please select an appointment time on the relevant sheet. If you are unable to physically sign-up please call the school office and a member of staff will assist you.

### Cross Country

The next Cross Country competition will be on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November at Chiltern Edge School at 10am. We had 17 children from Years 1-3 compete in the first event and hope that even more can join us at the next one.

### Parent Forum

The minutes of the forum will be passed on to all parents via Parent Class Reps. I will be meeting Class Reps on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 9am.

### Crumbs - School Dinners

Please could you pass on your thoughts and feedback about the food and menus provided by Crumbs by emailing [parentpay@theheightsprimary.co.uk](mailto:parentpay@theheightsprimary.co.uk).

### Reading Family Aid 'Toys & Teens' Appeal 2016

Reading Family Aid is one of the school's chosen charities, and we are very proud to support their 'Toys and Teens' appeal for a second year running. This small local charity supports disadvantaged families - concentrating on the happiness of the children - with gifts to children and teenagers at Christmas and trips to local places, to give families a break from the stresses and strains of day-to-day life. So far this year we have donated £500 (raised by our wonderful PTFA) in support of the charity's efforts, and after half term we will again be collecting toy donations for their Christmas 'Toys & Teens' appeal. Last year the charity re-gifted toys to 1,500 children from over 600 local families in time for Christmas - this included a sizeable donation from the Heights - and this year they hope to reach out to even more families living in poverty on our doorstep. If you have a new or 'as new' toy suitable for ages 0-16 that you would like to donate, then please send it into school with your child during the first week of the new term. A list of suitable toys can be found here: <http://www.readingfamilyaid.org/donations.html> and please don't wrap your donations!

If you would like to support the charity further and volunteer during the toy packing week (when all the gifts are chosen and sorted for delivery) then please talk to Michele Pattison (Thom in year 2s Mum). Thank you!

### Spotlight

**Year 1** - Ava for achieving Level 1 in swimming, Misa for achieving his first children's belt in his Capoeira Nago group at the International Circuit in Reading

**Year 2** - Jonah for being invested as a Beaver Scout.

**Year 3** - Imogen for achieving a Merit for writing an original piece of creative writing for publication in a Young Writers' anthology.

Congratulations to you all!

### PUPILS OF THE WEEK:

**Reception** - Noah and Maaya, Grace and Krissh.

**Year 1** - Luke and Lily, Ishan and Audrey.

**Year 2** - Thom and Brooke, Umar and Tom.

**Year 3** - Roshni and Rose

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

24 <sup>th</sup> Oct - 27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Half Term
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Start of Term 2
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	PFTA Quiz Night
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Immunisations for Years 1-3
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	3pm - Christmas Fayre at school
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole school trip to see Snow White at the Hexagon
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Last Day of Term (1.30pm finish)

*"We tend to forget that happiness doesn't come as a result of getting something we don't have, but of appreciating what we do have".*



Karen Edwards  
Headteacher

Please read on to p4 for an update from the PTFA

## PTFA NEWS

Roll up! Roll up! The PTFA Quiz night

Saturday 12th November, doors open at 7 for a 7.30 start

We have good news to share- IT whizz Barney Smith has found a cheap and easy way to sell online tickets for the quiz so no more need for paying by cheque unless you want to. Buying tickets and more info about the event will be pinging its way to you shortly!

Christmas Card Deadline Extended- for anyone who couldn't get it done

Thanks to everyone who submitted a Christmas card order form. We can't wait to see the Christmas cards in print!

We offer a deadline extension for anyone who didn't manage to get it in on time.

If you would still like to submit a Christmas card, you can drop it to Aalia or Carli during half term until Tuesday 25th October whilst we process the other order forms. Please email for drop off info: [Aalia.bhatti@gmail.com](mailto:Aalia.bhatti@gmail.com)

All is Fayre in Christmas Planning  
The Christmas Fayre, 10 December

It's all stations go at the Hepwood's headquarters (organisers). We are still seeking volunteers:

- Santa queue management
- Bottle tombola
- Decoration
- Gifts for Santa to give out

Please contact us if you are able to help, please email: [rhepwood@hotmail.com](mailto:rhepwood@hotmail.com)

Raffle tickets that will be drawn at the Christmas Fayre have been inserted into book bags! Start selling your stubs today!

It's going to be a great day and already the team are filled with Christmas cheer. Join in the fun!

### Get Crafty

The Heights crafting group are currently making items to sell at the Christmas Fayre and would love some new members! It's a great place to, get creative and meet people. Join the Facebook page : <http://bit.ly/2eoPWwX>

Cake Sale- everything 50p

Thursday 3rd November after school

Years 2&3 will be hosting the next cake sale. The rest of the school will be eating! Don't forget your change! If your child is in years 2 or 3 and you can bake, man the stand or help with set up & clear up, please contact Sally, mum to Vaala In year 3. Email: [szkochak@gmail.com](mailto:szkochak@gmail.com)