



The Heights Primary School
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Dear Parents,

January 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome to the Spring Term We hope you had a good Christmas break. Thank you, on behalf of all the Foundation Stage staff, for the very generous Christmas gifts.

Topic/Theme

Our main topic for the term is "Journeys". We will be learning about: fantasy journeys based around the stories "We're Going on a Bear Hunt", "Where The Wild Things Are", Mr Gumpy's Boat". "The little Boat", and, "Whatever Next". We will also be learning about journeys around the local area such as our journey to school. We will celebrate Chinese New Year, St. David's Day, Spring and Easter. An overview of the curriculum for this half is included with this letter and is also on the website.

Come and watch us learn – Maths session

We would love you to come and join in with our maths learning on the morning of Friday 27th January at 9.30am. This is an opportunity to see an example of whole class teaching, followed by joining in with your child as they participate in with a range of typical maths activities laid out in the classroom. NB. Siblings are not permitted at this session. Please sign up below.

Introduction to your child's online Learning Journal

At 7.30pm on Wednesday 25th January we will be holding a parent meeting to demonstrate the EExAT online learning journals that we have been creating for your child. Please sign up by completing and returning the attached reply slip.

Cold weather

As always, teaching and learning will take place both inside and outside so please ensure your child has a **hat** and **gloves** as well as a **warm coat**, all **NAMED** and in school **EVERYDAY**. Please support your child's independence by ensuring they are able to zip up their own coat and put on their own gloves. Water bottles must also need to be in school every day. Children are encouraged to help themselves to water at regular intervals throughout the day. Their daily fruit is available for them, at playtime and children who have milk are given this at story time

PE

Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday so please ensure PE kits are in school on these days. Children are expected to get changed independently, please help us by ensuring your child also does this at home. Girls with long hair need to have their hair tied back at all times please.

Children with pierced ears must have earrings covered with tape or removed before school on PE days.

Reading books/Phonics

Children can change their reading book every day or keep the book for more than a day for further practise or to finish as appropriate. Children have the opportunity to change their reading book independently each morning when they arrive at school. If your child is forgetting to change their book, please do remind them at drop-off time. After revising all phonics work to date, we will be moving on to learning vowel digraphs eg. /ee/oo/ai/igh/oa. We are learning to name as well as sound the letters of the alphabet and to match lower and upper case letters. Please use your child's sound book to practise NAMING as well as sounding the single letters alongside learning the new vowel digraphs. New sounds are put into sound book wallets on **Fridays** so please ensure sound books are in book bags on this day. Further sets of common exception words (tricky words) will also be sent home as and when children are ready for them. Teachers collect in children's reading record books to read your comments/questions on **Tuesdays** so please put these in book bags for this.

We are looking forward to an exciting term working with your children. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to us at pick up time.

Mrs Rizvi **Miss Odell** and the Foundation Stage Team

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Please fill in as appropriate and return to your child's class teacher

Name of child _____

EExAT Learning Journal Parent Meeting - Wednesday 25th January at 7.30pm

I/we will/will not be attending *delete as appropriate

Come and watch us learn – Maths session Friday 27th January at 9.30am

I/we will/will not be attending *delete as appropriate