The Heights Primary School 82 Gosbrook Road Caversham Reading RG4 8BH

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Achieving Success Promoting Individual Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers.

It's the end of our first full week and the children have been amazing! Our new Reception children have bounced in every day with beaming or shy smiles and have blown us away with their 'Can Do' attitude already. I can't believe their appetites! I thought I might be in with a chance of some leftovers - but no chance! (I'm only kidding!). They've made so much progress in so many ways already and were thrilled to receive their 'end of their first week' certificates. We're looking forward to them returning to school on Monday and completing full days. The children had their class photos taken yesterday by the Henley Standard and these will be published in the First Class edition of the newspaper on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Newspapers will be sold in school for 90p, and 27p of the money collected will come back to the school. Orders forms will be available at the time the newspapers go on sale: A4 prints cost £9.99 and A3 cost £12.99. The Heights will receive £4 for every A4 print ordered and £5 for every A3 order.

# Staffing

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed Mrs Jo Wicks to join us as a Teaching Assistant, replacing Mrs Huisman when she goes on Maternity Leave later this autumn term.

# Newsletters and Topic Webs

We hope you'll spare some to read each Year Group's termly newsletter and topic webs, which will give you a clear picture of what the children will be learning about and the skills we hope they will develop across the different subject areas this term. You'll also be sent a weekly Parent Planner every Monday from next week.

# Longridge Residential

Many thanks to all the Year 4 parents who were able to attend the Longridge meetings yesterday. We're really excited at the prospect of taking all the Year 4 children away for their first school residential. The children in each class will be away for one night and two days with their Classteachers, myself and Teaching Assistants from  $26^{th}$ - $28^{th}$  September and will be Kayaking, Climbing, Crate Stacking Orienteering, Dragon Boating and generally having loads of fun! We have sent the Information Leaflet detailing the Program this morning to all parents via ParentMail as we are aware that some weren't able to attend either meeting.



# Jeans 4 Genes

Every year we support this Charity with thousands of other schools and institutions around the country. Next Friday  $21^{st}$  September we are inviting the children (and staff) to wear Jeans (or something denim) to school and to bring a donation of £1 each or £2 per family which we will send to the Charity. Please note that the children do not <u>have</u> to participate and wear denim as we are aware that some prefer to wear their full school uniform. Please note it is fine for children to wear their polo shirt/white shirt and tie with jeans/denim skirt. Thank you in advance for your support of such a good cause.

## Cross Country

There is a one-off Cross Country event tomorrow morning at Greys Court in Henley tomorrow for children in Years 1-6. It starts at 9am with the youngest runners running first. I'm afraid I'm not able to be at tomorrow's event but will be at all the other events at Chiltern Edge on Saturday October  $6^{th}$ , November  $3^{rd}$  and December  $15^{th}$ . We will have our 'Heights' banner displayed to help everyone meet up.

### Violin Lessons

Berkshire Maestros will be returning to school next week to teach Year 3 violin. Lessons will be taught on Wednesday mornings and details will be sent home in the next couple of weeks regarding the hire of instruments to enable children to practice at home.



## Secondary School Information Fayre

We will be holding a Secondary School Information Fayre at school for Year 4 and 5 parents next Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September between 7 and 8.30pm. Representatives from local state, grammar and independent schools including Highdown, Gillotts, Reading Girls, Leighton Park, Queen Anne's and Shiplake College will be there to answer any questions you may have. Following this session there will be Open Days/Evenings at Secondary Schools which parents and children are welcome to attend (see the ParentMail sent earlier this week for details).

#### WaterAid

Following the donation of Water Bottles to school we have raised a total of £277.50 for Water Aid. Thank you to everyone who has purchased a bottle and helped to raise funds!



#### Vehicle Idling Campaign Day

On Monday  $8^{th}$  October, Green Gumption in conjunction with Reading Borough Council's Environmental Health Team will be coming into school to lead activities and an assembly for children to raise their awareness of air quality and pollution. If any parent would be interested in a) joining myself, Dawn Rosser and Susan Jones on our Sustainable Travel Working Party, and/or b) participating as a volunteer the afternoon of Monday  $8^{th}$  October, please contact myself or Dawn Rosser.

## PUPILS OF THE WEEK:

Year 1 - Elliott, Lara, Marshall and Alekh (1AP) and Milo, James, Shia and Ada (1CG)

Year 2 - Oscar, Lilly, Freddie and Elodie (2VH) and Amelie, Vary, Lara and Tom (2SB)

## Spotlight

## Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to all the children for completing the Reading Libraries Summer Reading Challenge!

## **Gymnastics**

Max (1AP) for being Star Gymnast of the week.

# Swimming

Rowan (1CG) for travelling 5 metres using floats.

Elspeth (2SB) for learning to swim 5 metres using the Crawl.

Taran (2SB) for earning his Level 2 Badge.

#### Martial Arts

Taran (2SB) for earning his Purple Belt.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Greys Court - Cross Country (Years 1-6)	Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> September from 9am
Secondary School Evening for Years 4 & 5	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> September 7.00-8.30pm in the school hall
Jeans 4 Genes	Friday 21st September
Years 1 & 2 Parent Talk	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 6pm
Reception Induction Talk	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 7pm
Longridge Residential - 4CT	26-27 <sup>th</sup> September
Longridge Residential - 4RR	27 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 3 Parent Talk	Monday 1st October 6pm
Year 4 & 5 Parent Talk	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 7pm
PTFA - AGM (Everyone welcome)	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 8pm
Cross Country at Chiltern Edge	Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 10am
Last Day of Term	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October
Hallowe'en Disco Years 1-5	Friday 2nd November at St Andrews Church Hall - start preparing those costumes!!!

Karen Edwards Headteacher