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 been a week of welcomes. Firstly, to Holly Wrankmore for being elected as one of our Parent Governors and to Esme Tiplady for being re-elected in the role. Myself and our other Governors are looking forward to working with them both. We would also like to welcome Salome Castillo who has just flown in from Ecuador. She is joining us as a Foreign Language Assistant for the rest of this academic year and is being hosted by the Spall family. We are thrilled that Salome is with us at school and really hope that she enjoys her time and experience over the coming

months.

### Toys and Teens Appeal

Thank you so much for your really generous donations for the Toys and Teens appeal led by Reading Family Aid. This local charity does so much for families across Reading and your contributions will make such a difference to many of them this Christmas.

## Reception

This week in Reception we've had so much fun linking all of our learning with Bonfire

Night. We've been exploring and writing onomatopoeias relating to fireworks and loved creating our splatter paintings. We've written poster safety captions and enjoyed singing our Firework song in assembly. In Maths we've been sorting and naming coins and even adding up some totals!

### Year 1

It's been a busy week for us! We opened The Heights Corner Shop this week to help us put into practice all that we've been learning about money. We thoroughly enjoyed visiting Caversham Methodist Church on Thursday and everyone there was so lovely and helpful. We learned so much about Christianity and different religious artefacts found in a Church. We've started to make our wooden Tudor Houses for 'The Great Fire of London' and can't believe we're using real saws!! We can't wait to sing our Great Fire of London song in assembly in a couple of weeks.

### Year 2

We've started our non-chronological reports on Castles and were fascinated by what is involved in working in such a large 'building'. We're really excited about our upcoming visit to Windsor Castle on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November where we'll see a 'working castle' in action! In Science we're starting to investigate what materials we would use if we were going to build a castle today - hmmm that's an interesting thought!

### Year 3

We started the week having a go at writing our own firework poems and then moved on to look at non-chronological reports about Ancient Egypt. We've been learning about how pyramids were constructed - it's SO interesting! In Science we've been exploring and investigating how and why magnets repel and attract each other and in Maths we've been using our times tables knowledge to help us solve division questions.

# Year 4

Our new topic is Ancient Maya and we launched it with a 'Mighty Maya Day' on Wednesday. We really enjoyed dressing up, taking part in a music workshop and finding out about different aspects of Mayan life. We've started reading The Chocolate Tree (an ancient Maya myth) which explains how the Maya's discovered chocolate) and will be writing our own version of the story. In Science our new topic is Living Things and Their Habitats. We'll be investigating the different groups we



can sort animals into and how the seven life processes are manifested in plants and animals.

#### Year 5

Year 5 loved celebrating El dia de los Muertos this week. We enjoyed learning about the festival, and comparing it to Halloween. We researched the traditions and designed our own Calacas (skeletons). Mr Gillick baked us Pan de Muertos to try, and, although it was a little dry, we had hot chocolate to wash it down with!







# PUPILS OF THE WEEK:

Reception - Paloma, Arthur, Charlotte, Phoebe, Elliot, Lilly, Marianna. Year 1 - Leo, Dominic, Lily, Oishani, Toby, Wilf, Gia, Edward, Krisan.

Year 2 - Angie, Grace, Izyaan, Isaac, Leon, Amelia, Imogen, Rebecca

# Spotlight

#### Swimming

Alex and Oscar (Y2) for reaching Level 4.

# Cross Country

Eva (Y1) for participating in the Primary School's Cross Country at Chiltern Edge.

## North Reading Inter-Schools Art Competition

Toby (Y1) for winning the Outstanding Landscape Category.

#### The Monument

Well done to Elliott, Dominic, Eva and Alex for all climbing the 311 steps of The Monument in London and also to Elliott for practicing calligraphy using a goose feather, handling artefacts, mixing herbs, and dressing up!

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Hallowe'en Disco Years 1-5	Friday 2nd November at St Andrews Church Hall
Parent Consultations	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 3.50-6.30pm
	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 6-8.30pm
Hallowe'en Disco Reception	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> November at school (New Hall)
World Prematurity Day - Wear Something Purple	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> November
INSET Day - School Closed to Pupils	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November
Year 2 Trip to Windsor Castle	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> November
Year 5 Trip to Reading Museum	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> December (details to follow)
KS2 Carol Concert at St Andrew's Church	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm (Confirmed)
Whole School Trip to the Panto	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Jumper Day!	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December
FS Dress Rehearsal to KS2	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am (School Hall)
FS Dress Rehearsal to KS1 & Grandparents	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am (School Hall)
FS Production to Parents	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am (School Hall)
KS1 Production at St Andrew's Church	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm
	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm
School Christmas Dinner	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December
Last Day of Term	Friday 21st December, school finishes at 1.30pm

Karen Edwards Headteacher