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THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very special week where we have celebrated much as a Community. We started the week with an External Ofsted Review on Monday. The Inspector spent the day in school meeting with parents, pupils, staff, governors and observing lessons and has written a follow-up report. It was a very positive day and we will pass on a summary of the report at the earliest opportunity to you.

We held our Parent Consultations on Tuesday and Thursday. Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with your child(ren's) teachers. We do hope you found the sessions helpful. As always we welcome your feedback.

It was remiss of me not to Tweet 'Happy Diwali' on Wednesday. Thank you SO much to those parents who came into the Reception classes and helped the children to make edible Diya, dress up in traditional costumes and help in lots of different ways. The Diya creations were amazing and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They also had fun chalking Rangoli patterns on the playground, Bollywood Dancing with Mrs Callaghan, wearing Bindi's and having henna patterns drawn on their hands.



First World War Centenary

We have spent time in our assemblies and lessons this week discussing the First World War Centenary and the meaning of Remembrance Day. Thank you to all the Year 4 pupils who have helped sell poppies for the Royal British Legion and also to you for supporting and buying different items. Thank you also to Liz Mackereth and Emily Lawson for their lovely poppy creations at the main gate this morning and for the beautiful wreath made in Art Pod.



Cross Country

Congratulations to all the children who ran in the Cross Country last Saturday at Chiltern Edge. It was lovely to watch them support each other and there were some impressive results including Eva coming 3rd and receiving a medal on the podium. Please do say well done to Joe, Oscar and Eva from Year 2, Karim and Abigail from Year 3, Lily and Ben from Year 4 and Jack, Zak and Jermaine from Year 5.

Wear Purple – Friday 16th November

It is World Prematurity Day in November. This is a global movement to raise awareness of premature birth and the sometimes devastating impact it can have on families. Around the world, 15 million babies are born prematurely every year and one million of these will not survive. Sadly, prematurity is the leading cause of death in children under five. World Prematurity Day is an opportunity to raise awareness of premature birth and work with partners around the world to prevent it. We are supporting the day by encouraging children and staff to wear something purple, preferably alongside school uniform skirt/trousers and maybe purple on top or accessories. The children do not have to take part if they don't wish to. All voluntary contributions of £1 per child or £2 per family will be sent directly to the local charity, BIBS. Babies in Buscot Support (BIBS) raise funds to give sick and premature newborns, at the Royal Berkshire Hospital's neonatal unit, the best possible start in life. We know a number of Heights families have had experience of the Neonatal Unit at the RBH so

we are thrilled to be able to support this cause close to so many hearts. We understand that it is Children in Need on Friday and feel happy to be supporting a very specific children's charity on this day.

Anti-Bullying Week

From Monday 12th November we will be focussing on Anti-Bullying Week. The School and Eco Council helped review our Anti-Bullying Policy this morning.

Year 1

In Year 1 we've continued with our work on the story 'The Three Billy Goat's Gruff' focussing on the speech of the different characters and making plasticine characters to retell the story. In Maths we've been measuring heights, lengths and weight and in PE we've been learning to perform 'The Great Fire of London' through Dance.



Year 2

In Year 2 we've been learning actions to our non-chronological report about Castles which is really helping us know it off by heart. It's not long now before we go to Windsor Castle! Maths has been fun, but tricky, as we've concentrated on multiplication and learning to tell the time for quarter past and quarter to the hour.

Year 3

In Year 3 we have found out some incredible information about Ancient Egypt and mummification. It was fascinating to learn how bodies were prepared, including how the brain was whisked up and pulled out through the nose! YUK!! Our focus in Maths has been on regular in irregular shapes and we've really enjoyed using geoboards to create our own.



Year 4

We've been writing our own version of the Ancient Mayan myth 'The Chocolate Tree' and editing our work to improve it. We've also created our own mythological creature based on the characters in the story. We've looked at a timeline of the Ancient Mayan people and considered what else was happening in the world at the same time as the Ancient Mayans. In PE we've been choreographing dances to the song 'Bare Necessities' and look forward to performing them to you.



Year 5

In Year 5 we've been editing, improving and publishing our newspaper articles this week. We've had fun looking at separating materials in Science and role playing the story behind the Festival Diwali, using scripts. We're hoping to finish our History competition entries next week and will make sure you get to see the 'finished articles'.

Good Luck

Mrs Huisman leaves us on Monday to start her maternity leave. We know you will join us in wishing her and her husband all the very best with the safe arrival of their baby.



School Disco

Sophie Spall helped out at both sessions of the Halloween disco last Friday and was keen to see that the disco was 'waste free'. Maggie Bruce and Liz Spall looked at how to avoid the waste created at a standard disco and made some changes:

Drink - Children brought their own flasks and put them on their class trays, on top of the type of drink they wanted (blackcurrant, orange or water). This prevented 200 disposable bottles or cups from being used and thrown away. Amazing! All the parents chipped in and only a few forgot to bring flasks.

Food - Children would usually get a packet of crisps but flapjacks and brownies were baked instead which prevented us throwing away 200 crisp packets!

Glow bands - We chose not to use these this time and focussed on the UV light with face paints. Nobody missed the glow bands!

It was very satisfying knowing that small changes can have a massive impact and that the hall was left with only a very small bag of dirty cobwebs to throw away!

PUPILS OF THE WEEK:

Year 3 - Zia, Dylan, Elyon, Natalia, Sam, Tula, Annabelle, Ishan and Elliott.

Year 4 - Emily, Ffion, YingGe, Samuel, Dani, Eddy, Amelia and Jenna.

Year 5 - Kasim, Lucy, Roshni and Aoibh.

Spotlight

Football

Joshie for being awarded Player of the Match.

Brownies

Amelia for being invested in Brownies.

Gymnastics

Reem for Star of the Week in Gymfinity and working really hard on her forward rolls on the beam.

The Monument

Joshie for climbing the 311 steps of The Monument in London.

Mini Mile

Zachary for coming 3rd in the age 5-8 category, 9th overall despite falling right at the start of the race!

Blue Peter

Jack for being presented with a Diamond Blue Peter Badge!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

KS2 Choir Performance at the Hexagon 'Rats'	Tuesday 13 th November
World Prematurity Day - Wear Something Purple	Friday 16 th November
INSET Day - School Closed to Pupils	Friday 23rd November
Year 2 Trip to Windsor Castle	Monday 26 th November
Year 5 Trip to Reading Museum	Thursday 6 th December (details to follow)
KS2 Carol Concert at St Andrew's Church	Tuesday 11 th December 6.30pm (Confirmed)
Whole School Trip to the Panto	Thursday 13 th December
Christmas Jumper Day!	Friday 14 th December
FS Dress Rehearsal to KS2	Tuesday 18 th December 9.30am (School Hall)
FS Dress Rehearsal to KS1 & Grandparents	Wednesday 19 th December 9.30am (School Hall)
FS Production to Parents	Thursday 20 th December 9.30am (School Hall)
KS1 Production at St Andrew's Church	Tuesday 18 th December 6.30pm Wednesday 19 th December 6.30pm
School Christmas Dinner	Wednesday 19 th December
Last Day of Term	Friday 21 st December, school finishes at 1.30pm



Karen Edwards
Headteacher