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# THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual  
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I know it seems like an age ago now, but I hope you all enjoyed a lovely half-term together last week. I was thrilled that my 'children' still wanted to carve pumpkins with me! We had great fun - what do you think?



We've had a super week, jam packed with visits and trips and great learning experiences.

Year 2 had their long awaited visit to Windsor Castle on Wednesday and came back buzzing with stories about the Castle, what the flags mean and were amazed at the armour, weapons and the dolls house room. On the same day, I supported Mr Cook and Miss Hatchett on the Year 6 trip to the Imperial War Museum in London. We took the train and then tube to Lambeth North and had a fascinating and powerful investigation of the First World War Galleries.



The Year 6 pupils then went back into the Galleries after lunch, tasked with filming their own mini documentaries about something they felt they wanted to tell a story about and linked to peoples' experiences of and lasting impact of the War. It really was a fabulous day for both year groups that brought this topic to life. Thank you so much to all the staff for organising and leading these trips and for the parent volunteers who also helped.

## William Marshall Plaque

Yesterday, we were invited by CADRA to celebrate the unveiling of a plaque commemorating the life of William Marshal who died 800 years ago. Marshal is one of our school Houses and we took 8 children from Marshal House in Key Stage 2 to the viewing point on Caversham Bridge to help 'unwrap' the plaque. The children really enjoyed learning more about the impressive life of William Marshal and his legacy, not only for Caversham, but our whole country. Thank you to Helen Lambert and CADRA for inviting us to be a part of such a lovely event and to Bhav Wood for helping to walk the children to and from Caversham.



## Parent Consultations

Thank you for attending the Parent Consultation meetings with class teachers on Tuesday and Thursday this week. We hope you found them informative and helpful.

## Parent Class Reps

I will be meeting with Parent Class Reps next Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 9am.

## Parent Survey

Thank you also for taking the time to complete the Parent Survey that we sent out to your before half-term. We find your comments to be really helpful as we continue to evaluate all that we do in school.

## Quiz Night

The Heights Quiz Night is nearly upon us and takes place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November at Hemdean House, starting at 7:30pm. This has been a fantastic event in previous years and it would be great to keep up this tradition with your support. All money raised goes back into the school so do think about getting a ticket and join in for a fun evening!

## Cross Country

The next South Oxfordshire Primary Schools Cross Country event is taking place this Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November at Maiden Erleigh Chiltern Edge, starting at 10am. The event is for children in Years 1-6 and we are really hoping to field teams of at least 3 girls and boys in every age group. Mrs Edwards will unfortunately not be there to co-ordinate and support on this occasion. We hope lots of Heights pupils will get involved.

## Children in Need

Children in Need is a national charity which we traditionally like to support. If children would like to support the charity they are welcome to come to school on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November in their own clothes (non-uniform) or wear something spotty for a suggested voluntary donation of £1. This is not compulsory and children can wear school uniform as usual if they would prefer.

## Flu Immunisations

The School Nursing Team will be in school next Thursday to administer the flu vaccine. If you haven't yet returned your consent form, please do so by Monday even if you don't plan to have your child vaccinated.



## Key Stage 1 Assembly - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November

Next week's assembly will be for Key Stage 1 and will be led by children in Reception if you are able to join us.

## Reception

This week in Reception, our theme has been Guy Fawkes and Diwali (which was celebrated over half-term). We learned about Diwali and what the Festival of Light means to Hindus and why we celebrate Bonfire Night. We really enjoyed the Diwali dances session we took part in on Wednesday, designing Rangoli patterns on the playground, dressing up in beautiful clothes and trying different foods in class. Thank you to all the staff and parents for helping us learn so much this week.

## Year 1

This week we've focussed on the traditional tale of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. We had lots of fun learning the story of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. We had lots of fun learning the story, role-playing sequencing and performing it. We've also started to write the story with a different ending. In Maths, we're learning about the value of money (recognising different notes and coins) and how to use them in our Heights Primary Shop. In Science, we've been exploring different materials and investigating which bend, which are rigid and the properties of those that are the bendiest. In DT, we've started to saw wood and build our Tudor Houses and in Computing we're learning how to make photos move and speak and add special effects.

## Year 2

This term we've been looking at non-chronological reports on Castles. We're going to plan and prepare a report for The Queen and were able to gain a lot of information for this when we visited Windsor Castle on Wednesday. We've started a unit on Tag Rugby in PE, have been making poppy collages ready for Remembrance Day in Art and concentrating on subtraction in Maths.

## Year 3

This week we've been celebrating Parliament Week, focussing on developing our speaking and listening skills. We've looked at different methods of voting and discussing which are fair. We also learned what a motion is and are preparing to have a class debate. In Topic, we've been investigating the Pyramids and discovering how they were built and the different features of them - particularly the Pyramids of Djoser, Khufu, Unas, Khafre and Menkaure. In Maths, we are developing our understanding of division using our times table facts.

## Year 4

This week, we completed a Big Write, writing stories which are based on folk/fairy tales but which the children have twisted. When we've written them we are going to submit them to the Pearson 'Twist a Tale' writing competition. In Art, we're developing our design for our Mayan Glyph. In French, we're learning about the different ways to name transport and in PE we're starting a new unit on Hockey.

## Year 5

This week our theme has been the Vikings. We've researched the Viking Lindisfarne attacks and have considered what the features of a newspaper article are as well as how to make it engaging for the reader. We then used our research to write our own newspaper article. In Maths, we've revised our knowledge of fractions and decimals and recognising the links between these and percentages. In Science, we've started a new unit on 'Changes of Material' and have looked at what makes a soluble solution. We've learned what the terms 'dissolving' and 'melting' mean and have made predictions about what we believe are soluble and non-soluble substances. In PSHE, we've started a new topic on 'Celebrating Differences' and have started to research what is meant by 'culture'.

## Year 6

In English this week we will be writing flashback stories using descriptive language and remembering the impact that the story 'Private Peaceful' is having on us. In Maths, we're continuing to learn about fractions, including fractions of quantities and how to divide fractions by whole numbers. We've been looking ahead to Remembrance Sunday, trying to gain a deeper empathy for those who have been affected by war and conflict. This was helped by our trip to the Imperial War Museum in London this week which was really interesting and thought provoking.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Cross Country (Y1-6) at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> November 10am
Nasal Flu Immunisations	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November
PTFA Quiz Night at Hemdean House	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm
Junior Music Festival at the Hexagon - Choir	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November
Christmas Fayre	Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 12-2.30pm
Cross Country (Y1-6) at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 10am
Panto - Whole School Visit to see Cinderella at the Hexagon	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December (morning)
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 1.30pm

Karen Edwards  
Headteacher