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Achieving Success Promoting Individual Responsibility and Excellence for Bears

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Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

I know some of you may be surprised that these Highlights are still clearly in my name, but I had a word with Mrs Edwards this week and with the full support of the Director of Education in Reading, Professor Kate Reynolds, it was agreed that my weekly Highlights are so much more interesting than hers (Mrs E's). I was very excited to welcome many of the Reception and Year 6 children back to

school on Wednesday and sat in my 'Chariot' to welcome them all. We then had Year 1 join them this morning. Along with the other Bubbles of Key Worker children, we have 86 children in school but it doesn't feel like it because of the staggered drop offs, breaks, lunches and pick ups. It was brilliant to see how excited and happy the children were too, playing virtual tag and sharing their experiences during Lockdown. Mrs Edwards asked me to thank you all for helping to ensure that the plans put in place for the phased reopening of the school went really smoothly.

As always, I like to mention what children have been doing at home and now in school this week.

Reception

In Reception, it's been lovely to look at all the activities the children have been engaged with, particularly those linked to pets and vets. Percy, your Reeds Vets poster was great and Hugo, you really do look like a proper vet in your photo. Wow - Ethan K, Jonah and Daniel, you were busy, both as Vets and Pets owners in your own role play. Lucy, Mrs Edwards had pet Rankin Dragon Lizards, called Stevie and Sapphire - they make great pets! Tess and Maisey, your writing about how to look after a Guinea Pig and Rabbit was great.

Year 1

Your topic this term is Animals. Sam, thanks for sharing your news about seeing a Mole. It's pretty unusual to see one - what a treat! Anna, please let me know when your tadpoles change into frogs. Emilia, do you see the Hedgehogs use the hole in your fence? Zack, I bet the birds loved the Fat Balls that you made for them.

Year 2

Ivy, your stop motion film about two lonely whales falling in love is really good and Charlotte, you are clearly a budding reporter with your report about nature returning to Venice. James, your riddles are really clever

What swims in the sea but doesn't tell jokes?

They are all born male.

They are orange and white and rest in the coral.

What am I?

Year 3

Thanks for sharing your non-chronological report about elephants Noah. I loved seeing the photos of the fruit and veg you're growing Mrs Wells and hearing that you're growing tomatoes and courgettes Lilly. Kit, your 'Snot Facts' quiz made me chuckle, and Freddie, well done on keeping a journal listing the 3 best things of every day. What a great idea.

Year 4

I know you were all sad to learn that Mr Gillick will be leaving The Heights and moving to London at the end of the school year. He is amazing and will be hugely missed. Xav, thanks for the smoothie ingredients. How did yours taste? Annabel, I love the picture of the leaves you collected. Did you manage to name all the trees that they came from? Barney, your river swim sounded brilliant - did your sister manage to only use what she would have taken on her Residential for a week? Milla, your poem quite literally blew me away!

Q: What do you get when you cross a bear with a skunk?

A: Winne the Pooh!

Year 5

It's been great reading your comments to each other. Emily, I really enjoyed looking at your art work and Holly, learning about your butterflies. Ha ha Phoebe - very funny jokes!

Year 6

It was fabulous welcoming back so many of the Year 6 pupils. I can't believe how many of them are now taller than Mrs Edwards! They've been discussing what they would like to do before they leave The Heights and move to Secondary Schools and some of the things include an open air production and a Dragon's Den Challenge.

Year 6 Bikeability

We were delighted to learn that the Year 6s should have the opportunity to complete their Level 3 Bikeability course over the coming weeks. HUGE thanks to Avanti and Dawn Rosser in particular for helping to make this happen. I've been practising on the bikes at school in preparation. We'll send information directly to Year 6 parents about this over the coming days.

ModeShift Stars

We are delighted to learn today that we have been officially awarded the ModeShift Stars GOLD Award!

Thank you to everyone for supporting our plans for reopening and ensuring the transition back to school was smooth. A HUGE thank you to all the staff who have been working tirelessly both virtually and at school. We hope you have a lovely restful weekend.

Lots of bearhugs, Hector



Where's Hector...?





























