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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

10th September 2021 – Issue 270

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Headteacher: Mrs Karen Edwards

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't quite describe how wonderful it feels to be writing the first Highlights from our permanent site. It's been a long time coming and I'd like to thank you ALL for your patience, understanding and trust in myself, our staff, Governors and members of the Trust throughout our journey getting to this point. It hasn't been an easy seven years, but listening to and watching the children play and work together over the past week has been a wonderful confirmation and affirmation of all that we've achieved. We're really excited about the next stage and chapter of our school's history and are looking forward to building relationships with local residents and doing different things to demonstrate that we really ARE a school in the community and for the community.

Over the coming weeks, we will be offering dates and times of tours for parents of children who may be interested in joining us at The Heights in September 2022, as well as tours for members of the local community who would like to visit the school. Details of these will be put onto the school website.



Reception

Mrs Bentley, Miss Fairbairn and their teams really enjoyed visiting the children at their homes over the past week and them welcoming them into school for their 'Stay and Play' sessions. The children have settled so well and we're looking forward to them staying throughout lunchtime next week and for full days by the end of the week.

Year 1

We were a little overwhelmed, but so excited to arrive at our permanent site this week and really love our classrooms (Beech with Mrs Powell and Holly with Mrs Abraham). Our topic is brilliant - 'The Great Fire' and we can't believe we're going to be using saws to build our own model Tudor Houses this term. Wow! We love playing on the bikes and trikes in the Reception play area and at lunchtime have SO much space to play in EVERY breaktime with Year 2!

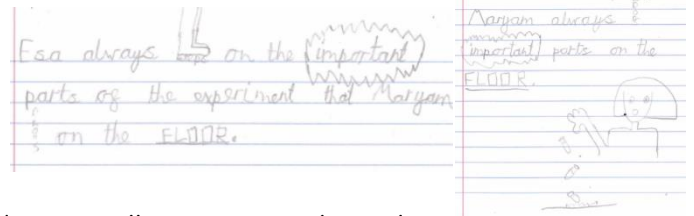


Year 2

Our classes are Willow and Cedar this year. We love the names and love our Castles and Dragons topic this term! Mrs Kennedy and Mrs Kingshott have even booked a trip to Warwick Castle next month! We can't wait to explore the castle, watch some real jousting and follow Zog on a Golden Quest to get a golden star.

Year 3

Our classrooms are upstairs this year. We have Hawthorn with Mrs Sanigar and Mrs Wells, and Elm with Miss Rees. The view from Hawthorn is amazing! Our topic is 'Fantastic Pharaohs' and we're looking forward to learning about the Ancient Egyptians and their civilisation.



We've been enjoying the book 'Planet Omar' and have created our own illustrations in the style of the book. We've had a great first week and love playing on the MUGA and artificial turf at break and lunchtimes. Our Ukuleles have arrived from Berkshire Maestros and we're really looking forward to starting to learn to play them from next week.

Year 4

Our classrooms are also upstairs. Mrs Dimmick and Mrs Alcivar are with Rowan Class and Mr Alcivar is with Birch. The Year 4 staff have done an amazing job, decorating the rooms to link with our topic 'Under the Canopy' - there are Lemurs, Monkeys and huge leaves and fronds everywhere! We're super excited about our Longridge trip the week after next and Mrs Edwards is holding a virtual meeting for parents next Wednesday at 4.30pm.

Year 5

We're in Chestnut and Maple Classes, with Mrs Thomas and Ms Lawless. Our topic this term is 'Invasion' and we'll be looking at what Britain was like from the end of the Roman era up until 1066. We'll be carrying out different investigations in Science, focusing on properties of materials and how we can change them and playing Tag and doing Gymnastics in our PE lessons.

Year 6

We are so thrilled that we've moved into our permanent school for our final year at The Heights. We love our new classrooms, Sycamore and Hornbeam with Mr Cook and Ms Rogers and think it's hilarious that staff have nicknamed Hornbeam Class as the 'Penthouse' because of its size and double aspect. We've enjoyed using the MUGA this week and played Crab Football. We've already started our first topic of the year, 'The First World War' and were delighted to learn what roles as ambassadors many of us have been given. We were really proud to be introduced as ambassadors, to the rest of the school in the assemblies this afternoon. Our Residential to Skern Lodge isn't far off this term. Wow! What a year this is going to be!



Parent Class Reps

There will be a Parent Class Rep meeting on Monday 13th September. Please pass on any constructive questions or feedback via your Class Rep to be brought to the meeting on your behalf.

Secondary Schools Information Fayre

We will be holding an Information Fayre for children and parents in Years 5 and 6 on Monday 27th September between 7-8.30pm in the Hall. Representatives of lots of local schools will be present, including Highdown, Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge, Gillotts, The Abbey, Shiplake College, Bluecoat, St Josephs and Queen Anne's. Parents and children will have the opportunity to chat with representatives from these schools, gather information and be able to make informed choices about which secondary schools to consider beyond Year 6.

South Oxon Cross Country

Cross Country is running again with the first competition on Saturday 25th September at Greys Court.

If your child is interested in taking part, the runs are timed as follows:

Yr 1 09.00

Yr 2 09.20

Yr 3 09.40

Yr 4 10.00

Yr 5 10.20

Yr 6 10.40

The organisers have asked that you please stagger your arrivals to fit in with the races. Car parking will be just inside the main gate in the overspill carpark on the right and then walk along the main drive to the cross country course. Teas / coffee etc will be available in the centre café and unfortunately, no dogs are allowed.

Twitter

The school has a Twitter Feed - please follow [@AtHeadteacher](#) for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Jeans for Genes - Fundraiser	Friday 17 th September
Year 4 to Longridge	Wednesday 22 nd - Friday 24 th September
Cross Country at Greys Court	Saturday 25 th September
Year 6 to Skern Lodge	Monday 11 th - Friday 15 th October
World Mental Health Day	Monday 11 th October
Children in Need	Friday 12 th November
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 10 th December

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Edwards