The Heights Primary School 82 Gosbrook Road Caversham Reading RG4 8BH Tel: 0118 357 0123

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all managed to enjoy a lovely half term break with your families. It was wonderful to return to school on Monday to see the beautiful array of colours in the trees in the Playing Fields. What a truly gorgeous time of year and area we are fortunate to live in!

Reception

We were really pleased to welcome Mrs Bentley and Mrs Loveday back this week as well as many of our friends who have also had Covid. We've continued to learn our Phase 2 Phonics c and k and have also revised g and o from before half term. We have realy enjoyed exploring the story of Diwawli and looking at and making Rangoli patterns and Divas. We've also been discussing Bonfire Nights, Fire Safety and Climate Change. We hope you've had a chance to see the photos Mrs Edwards has tweeted about our Tree of Promises, because our promises are hanging from it, and we feel really strongly about them.

Year 1

This week we started with a written recount about our half term break. Mrs Powell, Mrs Abraham, Mrs Edwards and Mrs Fallon have really enjoyed hearing all about our mini-adventures. In Maths, we've been learning about mass and how to measure this with both non-standard and standard units - we really enjoyed practicing our skills when we 'baked'

together today. In Science, we loved planning and completing an investigation about which material would make the best umbrella for Teddy and in Geography, we have been recapping our knowledgeable and understanding of where countries and major cities are.

Year 2

This week, we've started looking at our book of the term 'The Paper Bag Princess' by Robert Munsch. We've been using facts that we learnt at Warwick Castle to write a leaflet about Castles and have been designing our own castles based on our research. In Maths, we've begun our journey to become addition masters and in RE we have been celebrating Diwali and finding out why this celebration and festival is so important to Hindus.

Year 3

We have really enjoyed participating Parliament Week this week. We've got an even better understanding of the concept of Democracy, and loved working in groups to plan a motion that we debated today. We've started a unit on division in Maths, looking at two different methods we can use to divide (grouping and number line). In our Forces and Magnets topic in Science, we completed an experiment about how friction affects movement, testing how quickly a car moves down a ramp, depending on the surface it rolls down. It was really interesting!



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In IT, we've been developing our coding and debugging skills and in Topic, we've been learning about the Pyramids of Ancient Egypt and ordering the process of how they were built.

Year 4

This term, our focus in writing is on non-chronological reports. We've been voting for 6-8 different animals we'd like to write a report on and have each chosen one animal. We've been working on subtracting in Maths, and digestion in Science. We had great fun practically re-enacting what happens in the digestive system, using a mixture of materials to represent the digestive organs and it's contents – Yuk! In Topic, we are looking at the Ancient Mayan Civilisation and its importance to the history of South America. This week, we've been ordering events on a timeline, and making links to events in other parts of the world.

Year 5

This week, we've been building on our knowledge of newspaper reports from last term, and planned and written one about the attack on Lindisfarne. Our new topic in Maths is multiplication where we're looking at multiples and factors and will then move on to prime and square numbers. We're focusing on changes of materials in Science and have been investigating which materials dissolve in water and whether or not these changes are reversible. In Topic, we're revising primary and secondary sources and using these to learn more about Vikings and in RE we've have some really interesting discussions about religious freedom.

Year 6

We've started to explore the structures of formal and informal letters in English and use the skills we're learning to write conscription letters. We've continued to look at the contribution of BAME soldier's contributions to the First World War, comparing and contrasting their involvements against those of the white British soldiers, as well as analysing how they were treated. In Art, we've been developing our observational skills and sketching object and scenes from around the school site. We've also been learning about botanical art and focused on Poppies as part of our World War 1 study and forthcoming Remembrance Day. In Science, we've started our new topic on Classification and will be exploring the Linnaean System of Taxonomy.

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations are being held next week so please refer to your ParentMail for details on dates and times how to book an appointment.

Twitter

The school has a Twitter Feed - please follow **@AtHeadteacher** for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Parent Consultations	W/C 8 th November
Year 1 Visit to St Andrew's Church	Tuesday 9 th November (pm)
Tempest - Individual/Sibling School Photos	Wednesday 10 th & Thursday 11 th November
Children in Need - Wear Something Yellow	Friday 12 th November
Year 2 Visit from Retired Chief Yeoman Warder	Friday 12 th November
Maple Class - French Experience for Parents	Tuesday 16 th November 2.30pm
INSET Day - School Closed to Children	Monday 22 nd November
Therapeutic Approach - Online Workshop for Parents	Wednesday 24 th November 6.30pm

Junior Music Festival - Performance at the Hexagon	Wednesday 24 th November 4.00pm
Panto - Reception and Key Stage 1	Friday 26 th November
Christmas Fayre	Saturday 27th November 3:00-5:30pm
Year 3 Ancient Egyptian Day	Monday 29 th November
Year 5 Bayeux Tapestry Workshop with Reading Museum	Wednesday 8 th December
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 10 th December
Christmas Lunch	
Panto - Key Stage 2 to the Hexagon	Tuesday 14 th December

Wishing you all a lovely weekend. Mrs Edwards