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# HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Achieving Success Promoting Individual  
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! What a week! I said that it was going to be an exciting one and it really has been!

As well all the usual curricular and extra-curricular experiences and activities, we had an assembly on Active Travel by Mark Lyford from Sustrans on Monday morning. Our Year 2s spent the day at Warwick Castle on Wednesday and our Year 4s were climbing, paddle boarding, crate stacking, kayaking and orienteering at Longridge Wednesday, Thursday and today. And some of you were able to enjoy a fabulous day of golf yesterday at the, now annual, Heights' Golf Event, thanks to Chris E, Matt L, Pete R and Jon C. Many, many thanks to them for all their amazing hard work organising it and to yourselves for participating and helping to raise over £6,000 for the school!

## **Jeans for Genes**

Thank you for all your incredibly generous donations last week, on Jeans for Genes Day. We raised £400 for this fantastic cause!

## **Reception**

We started Level 2 Phonics in earnest this week and are so proud of the progress we've made. We've not only learnt sounds of different letters, but have learnt to blend the sounds together to read words like s-a-t sat, p-a-t pat and t-i-n tin. We've also been learning the story of The Little Red Hen and drew and labelled the different parts of a hen as part of first writing task. We've been looking at Autumn & hibernation and had fun making and painting hedgehogs out of paper plates, singing different Autumn songs & finger painting an Autumn tree. In Maths we have been learning how to recognise the numerals one and two and Mrs Torres has been teaching us some Spanish. How busy have we been?!!

## **Year 1**

This week, we have been practising our mental maths, including counting forwards and backwards to 20 and beginning counting in 10s. We've also been practising addition and subtraction, introducing parts and wholes. We had loads of fun making a rain gauge in Science (see the pic below!) and have been creating ideas for our own version of Five Minutes Peace, by Jill Murphy. In Geography we've continued to develop our map work and have been using fieldwork and observation to identify man-made and natural features around our school. In Art we've designed clay tiles, using Van Gogh's artwork as inspiration and we're really enjoying our tag-rugby sessions in PE.



## Year 2

Our trip to Warwick Castle was amazing on Wednesday! As well as the Castle, the grounds and Birds of Prey show, we actually played in the Zog playground and met Zog!!!! Thank you so much to Mrs Kingshott, Mrs Barker and all the Year 2 staff and parents who took us there. We can't wait to show you all the photos and the recounts we are going to write.

We have been making excellent progress through our place value work in Maths and are developing a good understanding of the value of digits and how to compare them. We're super excited about the book club that Blue Peter have started and the new Blue Peter Badge that we can work towards.



## Year 3

This week in English, we finished our diary entries from the perspective of Sennapod and were pleased with how we edited and improved them. We learnt about how the Ancient Egyptians could farm because of the River Nile and enjoyed creating our own Ancient Egyptian farming tools which you can see in the pictures below, aren't they great?. We are thoroughly enjoying our weekly Ukulele lessons with Krzys Syposz and in Maths, we learnt a new strategy in our unit on addition - the expanded column method, which we then used to solve addition word problems. Our Science lesson was also fun, as we investigated how different surfaces affect the time it takes for a spinning top to slow down. We learnt a lot about friction and gravity in this session.



## Year 4

We have had an amazing week! Longridge was awesome and we can't believe some of the things that we managed to do, such as climb half way, or to the top of the climbing wall, stand up (and stay on or fall off) the paddleboards, paddle a kayak, use a map to find orienteering clues and stack and stand on very high, wobbly crates! We all did something that was new, or a little out of our comfort zone and are really proud of ourselves, as are all our teachers & staff in Year 4 and Mrs E.

***\*We would like to invite all Year 4 parents to our whole school assembly next Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 9am so that we can share more photos and our experiences of the trip with you.***

As well as Longridge, we have taken part in an online National MTC competition with different schools across the UK and in our topic lesson, we compared forests in the UK and South America and considered the importance of the equator for the formation of rainforests.



### Year 5

Following on from last week, when we planned out a newspaper report on the battle between Beowulf and Grendel, we worked on writing informative and interesting articles this week. We explored determiners - words such as *the, a, an, some* and *many* and the importance of these in sentence formation.

We have also been exploring how Anglo-Saxons lived in Ancient Britain and researched how the people within a community would share responsibilities and the types of jobs they would have had at that time. In Science, we experimented with different materials, to ascertain which would be the most appropriate for the job of food preparation. We focused on ensuring that our tests were valid and reliable and made detailed observations of the given materials' scratch-resistance and absorbency.

### Year 6

This week, we have been working on our understanding, articulation and expression of the difference between fact and opinion and it will help us formulate explanations, discussions, arguments and speeches in the forthcoming months.

As part of our long-term study on WW1, we have been looking at Trench Warfare, learning about the structure of a WW1 trench and the harsh conditions and ailments that men had to endure when stationed in one. To demonstrate our empathy skills, we wrote a diary from the perspective of a person experiencing life in the trenches. In Science we have been exploring the concept of natural selection and looking into how various environmental factors impact on a species ability to survive within its habitat. We compared animals from different biomes and made observations of the adaptations they have to survive.



### Twitter

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### Dates for the Diary

Harvest Food Collection	2 <sup>nd</sup> October - 16 <sup>th</sup> October
Reception Information Evening - <i>Main Hall</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> October
Year 3 & 4 Information Evening - <i>virtual</i>	4 <sup>th</sup> October
Year 1 & 2 Q&A - <i>virtual</i>	5 <sup>th</sup> October
X Country - MECE	7 <sup>th</sup> October
Year 6 Skernlodge trip	9 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> October
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	17 <sup>th</sup> October

Harvest Festival - Grandparents & local residents Afternoon Tea	19 <sup>th</sup> October
Half Term	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> October
Year 6 Heights & Weights	8 <sup>th</sup> November
Governors Meeting for Parents	23 <sup>rd</sup> November
The Heights Christmas Fair	25 <sup>th</sup> November
Christmas Holidays	20 <sup>th</sup> December -1:30pm finish

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.



Mrs Edwards