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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Headteacher: Mrs Karen Edwards

Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

6th October 2023 – Issue 352

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your lovely words of support following my news on Wednesday.

Reception

We are really enjoying our phonics and blending the sounds together to read different words, like d-o-g and g-a-p. We've continued to learn the story of the Little Red Hen, using actions to help us remember it and drew a class story map of it. We also made hand print Little Red Hens and have been tasting different breads to see the similarities and differences.

In Maths we've been learning how to make matching sets of objects and counting and subitising from 1-3. Subitising is where you can see quantities without counting the amount of objects in a group.

Year 1

This week in English, we have been adapting the story of Five Minutes Peace, so that the elephant children in the story are doing different things to disturb Mrs Large's peace and quiet. Our investigation in Science involved making a wind sock to measure the strength of the wind around our school and which direction it was blowing in - we had lots of fun, see our pictures below. We have continued our work on subtraction and addition in Maths and we're following a unit called 'Hey You' in our Charanga music lessons and are still working on our Van Gogh inspired clay tiles.



Year 2

We began the week by finishing our recounts about our trip to Warwick Castle. We also received another letter from Zog! He is looking for a new place to live and has asked us to research some different habitats in the four countries of the United Kingdom for him. We're going to write back to him with our advice. We have also been practising sketching techniques by drawing a dragon's eye.

In Maths we've been looking at sequences and specifically counting forwards and backwards in 10s from any number, in 2s, 5s and 3s and in Science, we have been learning about habitats and how animals adapt to their environments.

Year 3

This week, we virtually attended a workshop hosted by the Henley Literary Festival. It featured J. T. Williams who is the author of The Lizzie and Belle mysteries. It was really interesting and then we celebrated National Poetry Day yesterday, by looking at the poem 'The Magic Box', by Kit Wright and learning it off by heart. In

Maths we've been developing our subtraction skills and we've been comparing and grouping together a variety of everyday materials depending on whether they are magnetic or not. Our topic work has been really fun. We've been learning about hieroglyphs and their importance in Ancient Egyptian times. We've learnt what the symbols mean and then tried to write our own hieroglyphs on our own Ancient Egyptian cartouche.

Year 4

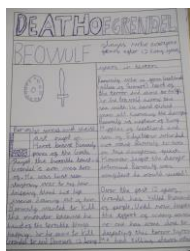
Following our brilliant trip to Longridge, we planned and wrote recounts of it and then read some of them in assembly this morning. Weren't the photos amazing! Mrs Cook is hoping to pass them on to you in a link next week. In Maths we've been adding and subtracting Roman numerals and were also introduced to negative numbers by counting backwards past zero. In our topic work we have been learning about how people live in the rainforest and explored a variety of homes in the rainforest. And in Science we have been revising the different animal groups (eg mammals, birds, insects, reptiles and amphibians) We also made posters in Science to remember the acronym MRS GREN for life processes, see our work below! We've started a unit of work called 'Mamma Mia' in Music - all based on the songs of ABBA. We're really enjoying it.



Year 5

We published our newspaper report on the Beowulf's battle with Grendel earlier this week (see the pictures below) and then started collecting descriptive vocabulary which we're going to use in our descriptive writing next week. We've also been learning about the religious and spiritual beliefs of Anglo-Saxon Britons and explored how religions mixed cross the cultures of the British Isles, with paganism and Christianity dominating the populations.

In Science we have been exploring which materials are best suited for the task of keeping liquids hot. We made use of our knowledge of a range of materials' properties and the scientific vocabulary we learnt previously, to help us make informed decisions. We were challenged to create three different methods of moving a sprite from point A to point B and exploring and analysing the pros and cons of each solution in IT. We really enjoyed it!



Year 6

In English this week, we have been planning, drafting, editing and publishing an explanation text on the subject of *Why are dogs so important to Humans?* We enjoyed having the creative freedom to write about the importance of dogs in general terms, or focussing on one particular element of the canine-human connection and interaction. Following on from observing like a scientist, this week, we've been exploring the properties of

pastels and been encouraged to be more creative and expressive with our mark making and colour choices when creating an action image of a bird in flight. And in Science, we have continued to explore the concept of natural selection and looked 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.

We are so excited about our trip to Skern Lodge next week. We'll be leaving at 7am on Monday and don't get back until Friday evening. Whoopee!!!

X Country at MECE tomorrow

I'm looking forward to supporting the children who are running in the X country races at MECE tomorrow morning. The Year 1 races start at 10am, followed by the Year 2 and Year 3 races, all the way up to Year 6. I will make sure that I have Heights vests for the children to wear if they'd like to.

Curriculum news

We have been adding different information about our curriculum, what is taught and how it progresses throughout the years, onto our website. Please can we invite you to have a look.

Home School Agreement

Please may we ask you to read our Home School Agreement (attached) which highlights our expectations as a school.

Information: Local SEND Offer

Please find attached details of the Local SEND Offer.

Here is the link <https://forms.gle/SMYFnyjahW165yr67> and the Newsletter can be found here [SEND Local Offer Newsletter - Summer 2023](#)

Twitter

Please follow [@AtHeadteacher](#) for updates

Please follow [@TheHeightsArts](#) for updates

Dates for the Diary

X Country - MECE	7 th October
Year 6 Skern Lodge trip	9 th - 13 th October
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	17 th October
Harvest Festival - Grandparents & local residents Afternoon Tea	19 th October
Deadline for My Child's Art	20 th October
Half Term	23 rd - 27 th October
Heights PTFA - AGM (see attached flyer)	6 th November
Year 6 Heights & Weights	8 th November
Come and look at us work (Yrs 1-6)	9 th November - 8.45-9.15am
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	14 th November
Parent/Teacher consultation meetings - in person	16 th November - pm (times to be confirmed)
Parent/Teacher consultation meetings - in person	21 st November - pm (times to be confirmed)
Governors Meeting for Parents	23 rd November
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	5 th December
The Heights Christmas Fair	25 th November

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mrs Edwards', written in black ink.

Mrs Edwards