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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,

Can you believe that it is the end of October already?! We have had a fabulous first term and a wonderful end to it, with the Reception children performing The Little Red Hen & Autumn songs to their parents on Wednesday, the Grandparents joining us for a Harvest afternoon tea yesterday afternoon (totalling nearly 100) and then the Year 6 parents joining us for our whole school assembly this morning where we celebrated the Skern Lodge residential.

Thank you to all of you who have been able to join us in school for one of the above events. We are looking forward to continuing to invite parents of different year groups in to our assemblies after half term and of course to our 'come and look at our work' session in the children's classrooms after drop off on Thursday 9th November.



Reception

We have had an amazing week and were so proud of our two performances of The Little Red Hen, to you, our parents on Wednesday and then to soooo many grandparents yesterday. We also had great fun baking bread together and then eating it. It was delicious!

In Phonics this week, we've been learning to recognise and say the phonemes ck, e and u and have used our knowledge of what we've learnt to help us write what the Little Red Hen said in speech bubbles. In Maths we've been consolidating our learning with numbers up to four and have also been sorting objects to a type, exploring sorting techniques and creating sorting rules.



Year 1

We completed some phonics screening assessments this week and are really proud of all the progress we've made this term. We've also been focusing on Black History week and looking at and discussing Rosa Parks and how her actions brought about change for black people. Below you can see some pictures of buses we created with Rosa Parks inside.



Year 2

As part of Black History week, we have completed a variety of activities, including a study of Ruby Bridges, learning about a number of different black musicians through the ages and also painting in the style of Alma Woodsey Thomas (see below). In IT we have continued to develop our understanding of how we can keep ourselves safe online and in Science we have been learning about the 7 life processes and how to use these to identify whether objects are Alive, Dead or Have Never Been Alive. In art we sculpted dragon eyes from clay and



Year 3

This week in English, we have been looking at the inspirational text 'Say something', by Peter H Reynolds. We've also been learning about why Nicola Adams is an inspirational person and created our own fact files on her and then tried to write our own inspirational quotes. In Science we've been learning about the north and south pole of a magnet and thinking about which poles attract and which repel. We've been recognising multiples of 4 and of 8 in Maths and considering the link between multiplying by 2 and doubling and in our Topic lessons we've created our own Ancient Egyptian necklaces based on our designs from last week.



Year 4

We have really enjoyed reading biographical text extracts about different inspirational black people and then writing fact files about them based on what we learnt. We have also been inspired by Greta Thunberg and developed our oracy skills by planning and participating in a debate about deforestation, a topic she has really had an impact on. In Maths we started the week by adding two 4 digit numbers, using exchanging and regrouping and then ended the week subtracting two 4 digit numbers. In art we have been exploring Henri Rousseau's work, under the canopy.



Year 5

This week, we have taken all that we've learnt from reading about Beowulf's adventures and used it to create a terrifying horror story about Beowulf and our own monster. We tried to carefully consider the audience and purpose to ensure that we used the right tone, language and writing skills.

In our topic work, we have been exploring the motivations for the Vikings to invade and eventually settle in what would become known as the Danelaw - the northernmost kingdom of ancient Britain. We have also been looking at the life of Vikings in their native Scandinavia and how this compared to a life in the Danelaw. In Science, we carried out an experiment, looking into the absorbency of different papers to ascertain which would be best suited to the job of storing greasy food. We used cooking oil, to see which material absorbed the most and discussed whether absorbing or repelling the grease is best.

Year 6

We have been busy planning, drafting, editing and publishing a recount of our trip to Skern Lodge. We tried to bring them alive with a variety of punctuation and some entertaining anecdotes. In our topic work we looked in more detail at The Battle of the Somme - where it happened and the facts, statistics, tactics and strategies that made it the bloodiest battle of WW1. In Maths we've been starting to explore aspects of fractions by learning how to carry out the four basic operations with fractional numbers, including improper fractions and mixed numbers. And in Science, we've started a new topic: Classification, focusing on learning the 8 tiers of the system and creating our own mnemonic to remember their order.



Farewell to Mrs Mullaney

We were all really sad to say farewell to Mrs Mullaney this morning. She has been a key part of our amazing school and its journey and development for 8 years. She joined us as our first Year 2 teacher in 2015 and after the birth of her eldest son, became our SENCO. Mrs Mullaney is an incredibly caring, supportive and nurturing practitioner who has touched the lives of, and made a difference to, so many children, staff and parents. We are really sorry to see her go but wish her and her family every success in the next chapter of their lives. Thank you Mrs Mullaney for everything!

Poppy Appeal

During November, the school council would like to fundraise for the Royal British Legion through a Poppy appeal. This provides important, life-changing support for individuals and families. From 1st November - 10th November, school council members will have a stall at the front of the school selling snap rulers, reflectors, wristbands, zip pulls and plastic-free paper poppies.

Red lanyards

If you have been a visitor in the school and have accidentally taken home the red lanyard that is handed out at school office, please could you aim to return this to the school office after Half Term - thank you.

New Menu for after Half Term

The menu for after half term has been added to the school website and to Parentpay. The deadline for bookings, amendments and cancellations remains midnight on the night before the day in question. Bookings can only be made 100 days in advance so please ensure that you note when you need to make additional meal bookings. Special dietary menus will be sent to the relevant parents separately.

Twitter

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Dates for the Diary

Half Term	23 rd - 27 th October
Poppy Appeal	1 st November - 10 th November
Heights PTFA - AGM	6 th November
School Photographer in	6 th & 7 th November
Year 6 Football Festival @ The Hill Primary	8 th November
Come and look at us work (Years 1-6)	9 th November - 8.45-9.15am
Year 6 Heights and Weights check	10 th November
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	14 th November
Parent/Teacher consultation meetings - in person	16 th November - pm (times to be confirmed)
Children in Need - wear yellow to school day	17 th November
Parent/Teacher consultation meetings - in person	21 st November - pm (times to be confirmed)
Governors Meeting for Parents	23 rd November
The Heights Christmas Fair	25 th November
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	5 th December
Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas lunch	8 th December
Christmas Holidays	20 th December - 1:30pm finish

Wishing you all a restful half term.



Mrs Edwards