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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,

It has been another exciting and wonderfully diverse week.

Last Saturday, 22 pupils (and their parents), from Years 1-6 braved the weather and took part in the 2nd MECE Winter series X Country event with fabulous individual and team results. Congratulations and thank you to all the children who took part and represented the school. Our Choir, joined other Reading schools on Wednesday evening, at the Hexagon Theatre and gave a wonderful performance of the Jungle Rumble, supported by musicians from the Berkshire Trust. Thank you so much to Mrs Bentley for leading the choir and taking them to this fun and lively event. You could see just how much the children were enjoying themselves. Thank you also, to Mrs Fallon for helping on the evening.

Yesterday morning, we were delighted to welcome and share our work with you, in the 'book look' session. Thank you so much for coming into school and our classrooms. Straight after this, the children in Reception, Year 1 and 2, were given the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of both the importance and understanding of different ways that Diwali is celebrated, by participating in some dance workshops. They loved it!

Then yesterday evening, I took our 4 Year 5 & 6 Eco Councillors to a Climate Action Project launch at Henley College, where we joined pupils and students from 17 different primary, secondary and FE settings to discuss what action we can take and difference we can make both as individual schools and collectively.

Reception

This week, we continued with Level 2 phonics: f, ff, & l and revised the letters from just before half term. We really enjoyed our discussions about Diwali, reading a story about Rama and Sita and then completing some follow up writing. We also enjoyed learning about Rangoli and had great fun during the dance workshop. In Maths we have been identifying and comparing circles and triangles and looking at similarities and differences in shapes and we've also practised colours in Spanish and sung seasonal songs in music.

Year 1

Our text for this term is Emily Gravett's lovely book, 'Meerkat Mail'. This week, we've been learning how to spell the days of the week and we have also been identifying the features of postcards, writing lists of what Sunny needed to pack in his suitcase for his trip and writing simple sentences using 'because'. In Maths we've been looking at the concepts of taking away, how many are left when subtracting, subtracting on a number line and adding and subtracting one or two. In History we have been learning about past and present, focusing on the differences between past and present modes of transport, household items and toys and in DT, we are looking at the work of Esme Young and have started to design and create our own Christmas Tree decorations.



Year 2

This week, we have started to look at our book of the term, 'The Paper Bag Princess', by Robert Munsch. We have been using facts that we learnt at Warwick Castle, to help us write a leaflet about castles and began by researching new information about castles, including the different types of castles and the importance of where they were located. We have also started to design our own castle.

In Maths we have been adding one digit numbers to a two digit number using our number bonds and a tens frame to help us practise and in IT, we have been using the chrome books to learn how to access and create google documents.

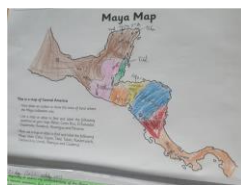
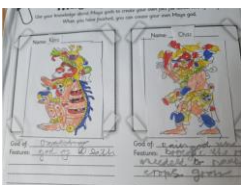


Year 3

This week we revisited our learning about mummification from our topic lessons last week. We then looked at different explanation texts and their features and started planning our own explanation texts on mummification, using pictures to help sequence our writing. We've learnt about the pyramids and how they were built and in Science, we have been looking at what makes a healthy diet for humans, what different food types there are and why these are beneficial for us to eat.

Year 4

We have been preparing to write our own non-chronological information reports on a rainforest animal. At the start of the week, we identified the features of this text type. Then we explored the structure of paragraphs, using sub-headings, before gathering technical, formal vocabulary to use in our planning. In Maths we've been focusing on using estimation to find answers and considering which strategies we prefer to use and find most efficient for addition and subtraction. In our topic work, we have been learning about the religion and Gods of the Maya people, see some of our work below. In Science we have been looking at the different types of teeth and how it impacts on how and what different animals eat.



Year 5

This week, we have been looking at the Sutton Hoo, an artefact of great importance in the study of Viking and Anglo-Saxon Britain. We used techniques that we learnt last week, to gather evidence from the internet to discover who the item could have belonged to originally; you can see some of our work below. In Maths, we've been exploring equivalent fractions and improper fractions and were pleased about how much we have remembered from last year. Then in Science, we had a practical session looking at how to separate mixed or dissolved materials, using filtration, evaporation and sieving. We also asked the question, can all materials be separated once mixed?



Year 6

We are really pleased with the informal letters that we have written, from the perspective of someone on the Front Line in the First World War. We tried to demonstrate empathy and understanding of the plight, challenges and emotions that members of the armed forces and support teams had to endure. We thoroughly enjoyed reading some of them out to the rest of the school in our assembly this morning. As well as writing these letters, we focused on the armistice and remembrance of those who gave their lives during WW1. We have also been studying the different tactics and inventions and how they changed the state of warfare for all subsequent wars.

In Science, we have continued to explore taxonomy and made use of the Linnean system to try and classify some of nature's weirdest creatures.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you all so much for your support of the Poppy Appeal. We had a very poignant assembly this morning, focusing on Remembrance, led by some of our Year 6 pupils.

Children in Need

This Friday 17th November is Children in Need day. We would like to invite the children to come into school dressed in yellow or spots, if they would like to. We'd appreciate donations through our school's JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/the-heights-cin-1694024271642>

My Child's Art

The artwork is now ready to be viewed and order by parents and carers in time for Christmas. Please see the attached flyer for more details. Please note the early bird discount is valid until 22nd November.

Scholastic Book Fair

The PTFA will be holding a Scholastics Book Fair on Friday 1st December 2:00-4:30pm at Mapledurham Pavillion, where every purchase earns rewards to spend on free books to stock our library and classrooms. Books start at just £2.99 so there's something for everyone - perfect in time for Christmas. The PTFA look forward to seeing you there!

Be Internet Legends Day 2023

"Be Internet Legends Day" is taking place on 28th November which is an online safety initiative run by Google, and aimed at supporting young people and parents in keeping themselves and their information safe online. You will be able to watch this live or after the event by clicking on the following link:

<https://youtube.com/live/1TZmnbIu8pg?feature=share>

Caterlink feedback

In order to improve Caterlinks service to customer, they would value the opportunity to survey pupils at The Heights. Please can you assist your child in completing the survey at the link below by 30th November.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/G9VWNSR>

Twitter

Please follow @AtHeadteacher for updates

Please follow @TheHeightsArts for updates

Dates for the Diary

Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	14 th November
Parent/Teacher consultation meetings - in person	16 th November - 3:30pm and 6:00pm
Children In Need (wear yellow)	17 th November
Parent/Teacher consultation meetings - in person	21 st November - 4:45pm and 7:25pm
Year 3 Egyptian Day	21 st November
Year 4 Football Festival	22 nd November
Governors Meeting for Parents	23 rd November
EYFS & KS1 Panto - <i>Jack & the Beanstalk</i>	24 th November
The Heights Christmas Fair	25 th November
Be Internet Legends Day	28 th November
Scholastic Book Fair	1 st December
X Country at MECE	2 nd December
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	5 th December
Year 4 Gymnastics performance	6 th December
Year 5 Bayeux Tapestry workshop	7 th December
Christmas jumper day & Christmas lunch	8 th December
KS2 Panto at the Hexagon - <i>Sleeping Beauty</i>	14 th December
Christmas Holidays	20 th December - 1:30pm finish

I hope you have a lovely weekend.



Mrs Edwards