

The Heights Primary School
129 Upper Woodcote Road
Caversham
Reading RG4 7LB
Tel: 0118 357 0123



HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



Email:
info@theheightsprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Karen Edwards

Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fun week! We all thoroughly enjoyed the build up to World Book Day and then dressing up as our favourite characters yesterday. Thank you to all the children and you as parents and carers, for putting so much time and thought into their outfits.



We had our first Shelter Practice with our new alarm system earlier in the week and the children responded brilliantly! Then after school yesterday, I took 15 of our Year 6s to play in a Netball Tournament at Caversham Primary. We entered two teams and played against 3 other local Primary Schools. All the children's hard work in the Netball Club after school on a Monday paid off. Both teams played brilliantly and ended up playing each other in the final. I am really proud of them all, not just in terms of how they played, but in terms of how they conducted themselves. They were polite, friendly, compassionate and respectful to everyone. Many thanks to Tom Hemmant who helped walk the children to Caversham Primary and then managed the position changes when I was umpiring. Thanks also to Caversham Primary for hosting the event. I'm really looking forward to taking our Year 5s there for their tournament next week!

Reception

As well as learning three new sounds in phonics, we have been putting our knowledge of the Three Little Pigs to the test, writing sentences around what happens in the story. We've tried really hard to use capital letters, finger spaces and full stops and made sure we re-read our sentences when we finished writing. We've continued our topic of different homes and buildings and have been focusing on how homes are adapted around the world, depending on their climate and weather. In Maths we have been recapping our knowledge of one more and one less and are working our way towards more and less between 10-20. We've also been learning about warm and cool colours and used these on the Mothers Day cards we've been making. We loved treating our mums to a surprise in school today and hope you all enjoyed it too mums!

Year 1

Following our rather wet walk around school last week, we have been writing descriptive sentences about our school setting, using all our phonics, spelling, grammar and punctuation knowledge. In Maths we've been looking at a number line to 50, estimating on it and exploring 1 more and 1 less to 50 and in ICT, we've been designing an algorithm for characters to run a race. In History we have been learning about how we know that the Great Fire of London happened and exploring different eye witness accounts and in DT we have started to use different materials to join parts of the house, that we are making, together.

Year 2

This week we linked our English with Science and Topic, in preparation for writing an explanation text about the life cycle of a cacao plant. We used the non-fiction book 'No Monkey, No Chocolate' to revise the different stages of the life cycle and to gather extra information through our reading. In Maths we began our unit on fractions. After learning the correct vocabulary and meaning of denominator, numerator and equal parts, we then learnt how to identify fractions of shapes and finding the fraction of a number by sharing objects into groups.

Year 3

As well as publishing our instructions on how to wash our Stone Age animals, we've been looking at how the Stone Age transitioned into the Bronze Age, noting the key changes and developments regarding the way people lived. In Science we have been trying to become rock detectives by examining the properties of different rocks and completing detailed, labelled sketches. We have also completed a range of different assessments in Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Maths.

Year 4

This week we chose a famous 'Roman' to bring to life by creating their portrait in art and writing our description to go alongside it. We also looked at Roman Gods and Goddesses, learnt their Roman and Greek names and then designed our own God or Goddess. In Maths we have been learning how to calculate and measure the perimeter of a rectilinear figure in cm and m and how to find the area of a rectilinear shape by counting squares. As well as completing an end of unit assessment for 'States of Matter', we were also challenged to make a light bulb light up without any instructions.

Year 5

As well as completing different assessments this week, we have been continuing to look at biographies and writing about some very famous individuals. We explored how to hook in the reader with exciting opening paragraphs and use anecdotes to tell the story of someone's life. In Geography, we have been using maps to identify the features on mountains and in Science, we have been looking at how the Earth moves through space relative to the Sun, how the moon orbits our planet and how these movements impact our world. As well as Professor Bubbleworks visit next week, we are also really looking forward to our Virtual Reality Space Workshop on the 19th March.

Year 6

We are really enjoying developing our Oracy skills and this week we have been learning the mechanics and protocols within effective debating. We've been developing our articulation of facts, opinions, viewpoints and arguments. This has included learning to listen to others' arguments and points of view and how to engage in rebuttals, counter-points and arguments within the structure of a debate. In Maths we have been developing our understanding of the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages and as part of our topic on North America, we've been learning about how North America is organised into States, each with its own flag. Science has been interesting, as we conducted a practical investigation into circuit diagrams involving different electrical features (bulb, motor, buzzer and switch).



Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel

Sustrans annual Big Walk and Wheel to school challenge starts on Monday 11th March. We are really keen to participate in this challenge again, as it completely supports our school's aim to encourage as many children as possible to travel to and from school in a sustainable way. We do hope you will support us by participating as much as you can.

In addition to this, we are trialling a School Cycle Bus, which is being called **FRIDEday**.

It is being set up and run by Mark Lyford, from the Active Travel team and we discussed it with the children in Assembly this morning. We will be trialling this from **Friday 15th March**. Please see the attached flyer for more details and feel free to contact Mrs Edwards at the school, if you have any questions or queries.

Science Week

We're going to be celebrating Science Week as a whole school next week too! We are really looking forward to Professor Bubbleworks visiting us on Monday and Tuesday as his assemblies and workshops are always great fun. We'll tell you all about it in next week's Highlights.

Thanks so much to Mrs Thomas for organising this.

Alexander Devine Children's Hospice

Thank you for all the crème egg donations! The donation box went to the Children's Hospice to be added to the donated knitted chicks. The chicks flew back to us today and were on sale outside school at the end of the day. Thank you so much for buying them and supporting this wonderful charity.



Congratulations...

to the Under 8s Rotherfield Rebels team for getting through to the Cup Final!

Safeguarding reminder

The door from the School Reception into the Main School is for the use of staff and authorised visitors only. Please can we ask for your help to ensure that our important safeguarding practice is followed, by not entering the school premises unless you have signed in and been badged up by a member of the School Office. Thank you.

Twitter

Please follow **@AtHeadteacher** for updates

Please follow **@TheHeightsArts** for updates

Dates for the Diary

Sustrans Big Walk & Wheel to school challenge	11 th -15 th March
Professor Bubbleworks - whole school	11 th & 12 th March
Year 6 Little Shop of Horrors @ Highdown	12 th March
Year 4 Tag Rugby Festival	13 th March
Year 3 Tag Rugby Festival	14 th March
Red Nose Day Bake sale	15 th March
First FRIDEday Bike Bus	15 th March
Living Eggs	18 th - 22 nd March
Year 3 Earth Trust	19 th March

Year 4 Roman workshop	19 th March
Reception Heights & Weights	19 th March
Year 6 SATs parents evening	26 th March
PS Football Festival	27 th March
Reception - performance to parents	27 th March
Easter Holidays	28 th March (1:30pm finish)
The Heights Easter Trail	28 th March 1:30-3:30pm

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.



Mrs Edwards