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Achieving Success Promoting Individual Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As well as supporting Sustrans Big Wheel and Walk initiative, we had our first FRIDEday Bike Bus, led by Mark Lyford this morning. There were 20 cyclists involved! Thank you to everyone who took part. It's going to be a regular event every Friday.

We have also been celebrating and embracing National Science Week! We started off with a bang - guite literally, with Professor 'Time' leading exciting workshops with the children. Throughout the week, different classes then conducted investigations linked to their Scientific Units of study and we brought this altogether in this morning's Science themed assembly led by Emma Swayne from MECE. Many thanks to Mrs Thomas for organising the workshops and for Ms Swayne for coming into school to lead the assembly.

We also had three exciting Sports events this week, with Years 3 & 4 participating in Tag-Rugby Festivals on Wednesday and Thursday and some of the Year 5s from my Netball Club, taking part in a Tournament at Caversham Primary School yesterday. Many thanks to Emmer Green and Caversham Primary for hosting these events and to Chris Ellison and his PS Team for organising the Festival.

The children really enjoyed themselves and were a real credit to the school. Congratulations to the Netballers who were undefeated in their 4 matches and won the tournament.

## Reception

As well as learning two new sounds 'ure' and 'er', we loved Professor Time's workshop and have been recording what we found out in our science experiment where we saw how different chemicals reacted together. Every time we write different sentences about things we've learnt and are interested in, we're trying really hard to remember to use capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We also made a colour wheel and watched water travel to create a rainbow. It was soooo interesting! In Maths we've been looking closely at the composition of 9, using 'part, part whole' eg 4 and 5 make 9 and we enjoyed learning about the important work that is done with the money raised on Red Nose Day.

## Year 1

This week, we went on a short walk through Mapledurham Playing Fields and thought about how we could use nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs to make our descriptive writing even more exciting. In Maths, we've been comparing different lengths by measuring them using different objects and then finally measuring them in centimetres. In ICT, we've been creating an algorithm to pick a background setting and make the sun set and in DT, we've been designing the houses we'll be making in a couple of weeks and labelling the different materials that will be used.





## Year 2

We really enjoyed Professor Time's workshop and all the science investigations and work we completed throughout the week. We investigated how our amazing brains work, made a water clock, created some balloon rockets and considered how humans might need to evolve to survive in the future. Wow! In English, we've been investigating the features of explanation texts and have started to plan and write our own. We're also enjoying our work on fractions, including how to find the fraction of shapes with more complex equal parts and solving related word problems.

## Year 3

We have had a really fun and busy week. This year's Science Week's theme is 'time' and as part of that we learnt about evolution and adaptation and explored the swing of a pendulum. We also continued with our learning about rocks and their properties and thought about the question, 'Are all rocks as hard as each other?' Following our discussions, we carried out an investigation to test the hardness of different rocks. In Maths we revised how to tell the time to the hour, half hour, quarter hour and the nearest five minutes. We then used an analogue clock to tell the time to and past the hour as well as make links to the digital clock.



## Year 4

Take a look at what we've been up to in science this week! We did a BBC Science Live Lesson on Monday, had Professor Time's workshop on Tuesday, investigated the Digestive system on Wednesday, learnt how to make obelic slime yesterday and made electrical circuits today - how brilliant is that! We also found time to look at Roman soldiers and investigate the armour that they wore and to calculate the perimeter of 2D shapes. We explored explanation texts and the features associated with this genre and enjoyed going to the tag-rugby festival at Emmer Green.



## Year 5

We have also had a busy and fun packed week and loved our focus on Science. As well as participating in Professor Time's workshop, we created bottle rockets and explored how changing the fuel levels of our rockets impacts their flight distance. In our English work, we've been starting to use all of our notes to write a biography about a special person and are aiming to write it in chronological order. In Maths we've been looking at the perimeter of polygons and the area of rectangles and rectilinear shapes and in Geography we've been exploring how contours can represent mountains changing height, using potatoes!



## Year 6

We've been busy completing different assessments this week, but also made time to work on researching evidence, examples and anecdotes to create a balanced argument. We've also been exploring the forest biomes of North America, which include Taiga, Mixed Deciduous forests and tropical rain forests and looking at the similarities and differences in flora and fauna in each forest biome. In Science we've been creating circuit diagrams, making use of the internationally recognised standard symbols and we learnt about some of the more complex and unusual components and what their purposes are in a circuit. We continue to enjoy our art sessions and have been creating landscape paintings that play with colour and the concept of impressionism, inspired by the contemporary artist, Eric Hanson.



## Clubs at The Heights

We are excited to announce that we will be running some fantastic new in-house clubs in the summer term! These will include Athletics Club run by Mrs Edwards (Y5&6), Chess club run by Mr Guntzenbach (Y4-6), Drawing club run by Ms Rogers (Y4&5), Morning Dance club run by Mrs Fallon (Y1-3) and Performing Arts run by Miss Jerman (Y3-6)!

If you would like your child to join one of these clubs, please express your interest by completing the google form in the link below by **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March**. We will be in touch with details on how to join and pay, during the early part of next week.

https://forms.gle/L9RLC84wkJ5Gr3Bf6

## Red Nose Day

Thank you to the School Council for organising the cake sale in support of Red Nose Day today. Thank you also, to all of you for making and donating the cakes in support of this fabulous charitable event.

## Reading Museum in the Easter Holidays

The Museum team are preparing lots of fun family activities for the holidays. Please see the attached link for more details: <u>Family Fun page</u>

## X (formerly known as Twitter) Please follow @AtHeadteacher for updates Please follow @TheHeightsArts for updates

# Dates for the Diary

Living Eggs	18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> March
Year 3 Earth Trust	19 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 4 Roman workshop	19 <sup>th</sup> March
Reception Heights, Weights & Hearing	19 <sup>th</sup> March
FRIDEday Bike Bus	22 <sup>nd</sup> March
Year 6 SATs parents evening	26 <sup>th</sup> March
Reception Church Visit	25 <sup>th</sup> March
End of Term PS Football Festival	27 <sup>th</sup> March
Reception - performance to parents	27 <sup>th</sup> March
Easter Holidays	28 <sup>th</sup> March (1:30pm finish)
The Heights Easter Trail	28 <sup>th</sup> March 1:30-3:30pm
Year 5 Bikeability	w/c 29 <sup>th</sup> April
KS1 Sports Day	2 <sup>nd</sup> July (am)
KS2 Sports Day	5 <sup>th</sup> July (am)
The Heights Summer Fair	6 <sup>th</sup> July

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

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Mrs Edwards