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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,

I hope that you enjoyed a lovely half term with your families.

It has been a wonderfully autumnal week, this week. We've had lots of blustery showers and wind and the days are shorter. I've made it sound rather negative, but I think there's something quite magical about it.

We were delighted to welcome Nicola Beech to our Heights Admin team. She has quickly found her feet and it feels like she's been with us for a much longer time. Thank you for all your kind words of welcome and support.

Reception

In Phonics this week, we've been learning to recognise and say the phonemes h, b, f and l and then blending and segmenting with them. We've learnt to read words by blending 'l-u-ck' to say 'luck' and segmenting the sounds in 'bug' to say 'b-u-g'. We've also really enjoyed writing an ingredient list for a spooky soup using our sounds.

In Maths we've been consolidating our learning with numbers up to five and focused on using the language of more and less, greater than and less than to describe different amounts.

We found it really interesting learning about the celebrations of Diwali, Bonfire Night and Halloween and have learnt and been able to recite the poem 'Bonfire Night' out loud. We also moulded our own Diwa lamps with clay and decorated them with paint and glitter.

Year 1

In English, we have started to learn how to write a non-chronological report. Following on from our learning last term on Rosa Parks, we've been recapping what we can remember about her life and how she was able to initiate such important changes through her actions. This helped us to plan what we will be writing in our report.

In Maths, we've begun to look at addition this week and have focused on representing addition problems with physical manipulatives and whole part models. In Science, we've been looking at the difference between wild plants and garden plants, as well as revisiting the different parts of plants and in Art, we have been making our own plant dyes, using leaves and fruit and vegetables to create different colour dyes.

Year 2

We received a letter from Zog this week, thanking us for our advice about where to live. As part of his thank you, he sent us his a new book - Zog and the Flying Doctors! He also mentioned that he is doing some training with Princess Pearl and asked for our help to write a recipe for a new potion that will cure dragon pox! We're on the case!

In Maths we've started our unit on Addition and Subtraction and ended the week learning how to use RUCSAC to help us solve word problems and in Science we were tasked with creating a recipe for Princess Pearl using the knowledge we gained about classifying things as living, non living or never been alive.



Year 3

In English this week, we've been developing our comprehension skills by completing different reading activities and using the text to explain or justify our answers. In Maths, we've started a unit on division and practised how to divide by grouping, followed by using number lines to divide by counting up in different amounts. We finished our unit on 'forces and magnets' in Science and have loved learning about the process of mummification and why the Ancient Egyptians mummified.

Year 4

This week in English, we have been exploring *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry. We have been learning about the vocabulary in the book and started to create our own descriptions of a rainforest, using expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials to add detail to our descriptions. In Science we have started a new unit about animals, including humans and this week, we learnt about how humans digest food and the steps involved in the digestive system.

In our topic work, we have been learning about the Ancient Maya and their religion and Gods and in computing we have been building on our coding skills, using Scratch Junior.

Year 5

In our topic work, we have been starting to learn more about who the Vikings were. We're going to be using a range of Primary and Secondary sources of evidence and developing our understanding of them. We've begun our new text, 'Anglo-Saxon Boy' and have started planning and writing a newspaper report on the Lindesfarne attack by the Vikings. In Maths we've been learning to multiply and divide by 10,100 and 1,000 and in RE this term, we're learning about religious festivals, starting with Diwali.

Year 6

This week, we began to explore the structures of informal letters linked to our topic of WWI. We have learnt how to formulate sentences with appropriate informality and have been delving into the life of Tommo Peaceful in our class text, making inferences and predictions towards the outcomes of the story.

In our Topic work we have been looking 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 WWI. Our trip to the Imperial War Museum today was really interesting and really powerful!



In Science this term, we are looking at classification and exploring the Linnaean system of taxonomy, used to classify all living things. We will be learning how to identify different species by their various distinctions and the 8 tiers of the system, creating our own mnemonic to remember their order.

Parent Consultations

We hope you found both the work share morning, on Tuesday and the Parent Consultations helpful this week.

Readifood bank donations

Thank you all again for your incredibly generous donations to the Readifood Bank before half term. Their staff were really appreciative of the 200kg of food that was donated.



MECE X-Country

It is the second MECE X country event tomorrow morning for years 1-6. I look forward to seeing all those running there tomorrow and will bring our X country Heights' vests. Good luck to all those taking part.

Twitter

Please follow [@AtHeadteacher](#) for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Year 6 Trip to London - Imperial War Museum	Friday 4 th November
Cross Country at Chiltern Edge	Saturday 5 th November
School Photos (Individual/Siblings)	Monday 7 th November Tuesday 8 th November
Junior Music Festival - Choir Performance at the Hexagon	Thursday 10 th November
Children in Need / Mindfulness Day (details to be confirmed)	Thursday 17 th November
INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED	Friday 18th November
PTFA Disco (Years 1 to 6)	Friday 25 th November
Cross Country at Chiltern Edge	Saturday 3 rd December
Christmas Fayre	Saturday 3 rd December 1-4pm
End of Term	Tuesday 20th December 1.30pm

Mrs Edwards