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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 you all had a lovely time with your families over the Easter break. It is always wonderful to welcome the children back after the holidays and hear about all the exciting things they did. I can't believe how many of them have shot up in height. What have you been feeding them? Whatever it is, can I have some please. We were delighted to have the awning constructed last week. It is a great size, 10m x 9m and the children are really enjoying sitting and playing underneath it at break and lunchtimes. It offers welcome shade from the sun and shelter from the rain. Thank you all so much for your contributions to different PTFA fundraising events, as it was this money that funded the project.

## **Congratulations to Mrs Bucke & Family**

Baby Bucke, (name tbd), was born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April. He and mum are both doing really well and we are looking forward to meeting him in the coming weeks.

## **Welcome**

A huge welcome to Mrs Helen Richardson, who has taken on a permanent position as one of our Year 4 teachers and who started teaching the pupils in Rowan on Monday.

## **Eco Day**

We have all really enjoyed celebrating an Eco Day today. Thank you so much to Mrs Harrison and the Eco Council for organising it and raising awareness of the importance of playing our part in saving the planet. Thank you also for all your generous donations to our bake and plant sale, which is raising money for WWF and the Woodland Trust.

## **Reception**

This term our topics are the Three Little Pigs and Construction. We are looking forward to learning the story and reenacting it in different ways, including performing it to you at the end of May.

This week we've been learning about the signs of Spring and loved making daffodils out of the egg boxes you kindly donated. We have also been writing a sentence about what we see in Spring, using a capital letter at the start, finger spaces and a full stop at the end. We can't believe how tall some of our bean plants have grown over the past few weeks and have posted photos of them on Tapestry.

## **Year 1**

We are sooo excited to start our new topic Amazing Animals and our teachers have told us that they have all sorts of wonderful things planned for us this term.

We started the week by going on a nature sensory walk and thinking about our senses and then used this experience to help us write some nature sensory poems with lots of adjectives. Our Science lesson linked to our senses too and we had fun doing an experiment where we smelt, tasted, touched and looked at different foods and objects to engage with our senses. In Maths we have started to think about our times tables. We have been counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and learning to recognise equal groups.

## **Year 2**

This week, we began our summer topic, *Ocean Explorers* by reading 'Pirates Love Underpants' We are looking forward to investigating different ocean habitats and environments throughout the term and celebrating a pirate day, where we can dress up as one, in the coming weeks. We've started Cricket sessions in PE and are revising different methods that we can use to help us add two-digit numbers.

### Year 3

Our new topic this term is 'Superstructures around the World'. We are going to be using Google Earth to locate different superstructures and use reliable websites to research key facts that will help us create a fact file to display in our class. We will also have the opportunity to develop our pencil skills by sketching different superstructures of our choice and will be thinking about how we can make different marks and shading with our pencils.

This week we started to read a new text called 'Iggy Peck , Architect'. Whilst we read it, we completed a 'tell me' grid, sharing our likes, dislikes and questions and what other texts it reminds us of. We've been learning about division in Maths and have been practising dividing using our times tables knowledge.



### Year 4

We were really pleased to welcome Mrs Richardson to Rowan this week. It feels like she's been part of our school community for so long already!

Our topic this term is 'Celebrating Caversham' and we enjoyed finding our town on different maps this week. We planned and wrote a non-chronological report about a topic of our choice in English and started a unit on decimals in Maths. In Computing we have been learning about how we can be responsible digital citizens and our PE lessons are focused on Cricket and Rounders.

### Year 5

Our theme for this term is *Meet the Greeks* and this week we started by developing our understanding of the important background information about *Ancient Greece*, including dates and locations and comparing these to *modern Greece*. We are really excited about our *Ancient Greek Day* and are also looking forward to researching and completing our own project on something linked to our topic.

Our guided reading book is 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' by Rick Jordan and in the writing element of English, we have started a piece on Aesop's fables where we will be planning, writing, editing and improving our own fable, considering the audience and purpose. We've started a block of learning on shapes in Maths and developing our Cricket and Rounders skills in PE.

### Year 6

Our final topic of the year is *Digital Revolution* and we are going to be exploring how the vast technological advancements of the last 100 years have shaped the modern world, as well as cutting edge innovations that have the potential to change our future.

In English this week we've been planning editing and writing a balanced argument based on our debates on the topic of deforestation and in Art we've been exploring the medium of pastels through the portrait drawing of King Charles, in readiness for his coronation. As we continue to explore electricity in our Science lessons, we have begun to plan our own burglar alarms - how much fun is that?! In IT, our focus this term is on *Multimedia* and we will be developing our skills by using a range of different software to present information and data.



### Parent Class Reps

Many thanks to all the Parent Class Reps for attending our meeting yesterday at short notice.

### Wind in the Willows at the Hexagon

Mr Bethel will be dancing onto the Hexagon stage between the 17th and 20th May as he performs in a production of the 'Wind in the Willows' with his Musical Theatre group The Sainsbury Singers. If you would like to show your support by going to see him strut his stuff, then you can follow the link to the ticket page here: <https://whatsonreading.com/witw>

Also, Mr Bethel's Musical Theatre group are running a competition around their show and inviting children between the ages 6-16 to create portrait pictures, using whatever means they wish, of animals that feature within the Wind in the Willows story. With winning entries, of each of the 3 age group categories (6-9, 10-13, 14-16), featuring inside of the show programme and also receiving 2 free tickets (1 Adult, 1 Child) to a show of their choice. More information on this and how to enter can be found here: <https://sainsburysingers.org.uk/competition/>

### Online Safety and RSE information sessions for parents

A reminder that we will be holding an information session for parents about our Online Safety and RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) curricula next Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 6.45pm. We do hope that you will be able to join us in our hall for it. Earlier today, we sent four documents to all parents with information about what we teach in our JIGSAW PSHE and RSE lessons and an Online Safety presentation. We hope that you will find these useful and will refer to them. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have at the meeting.

### Are you the owner?

Do any of these items belong to you or your child?

If they do, please come along to the school office or email [info@theheightsprimary.co.uk](mailto:info@theheightsprimary.co.uk)



### The Heights Summer Fair

The Year 4 parents are excited to announce that this year's Heights Summer Fair will be taking place on Saturday, July 8th in the afternoon. More details will be shared soon, but in the meantime, the fair organisers are **looking for match funding for this event**, which can significantly boost the school's fundraising efforts.

Please can you get in touch with Millay Vann at [MillayV@gmail.com](mailto:MillayV@gmail.com) if you are able to offer any assistance or signposting around this.

### Email address reminders

- If your child is absent, sickness, has a medical appointments etc. please email [attendanceandabsence@theheightsprimary.co.uk](mailto:attendanceandabsence@theheightsprimary.co.uk)
- For queries regarding your child's learning or specific pastoral questions, please use the contact group email addresses in the following link <https://www.theheightsprimary.co.uk/parents-forms-and-information>

- If you have a change in regular collection arrangement for your child on the day, please use the google form in the following link <https://www.theheightsprimary.co.uk/parents-forms-and-information>

### Stephen Lawrence Day - 22<sup>nd</sup> April

To honour Stephen Lawrence day, the children in KS2 have collaborated to make a portrait of Stephen Lawrence in African beans, corn and seeds.



### Twitter

Please follow @AtHeadteacher for updates!

### Dates for the Diary

Eco Day	21 <sup>st</sup> April
Stonor race	30 <sup>th</sup> April
Year 5 Reading Station trip	3 <sup>rd</sup> May
Kings Coronation Celebrations	5 <sup>th</sup> May
Year 5 Bikeability	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> May
Year 6 SATs	9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> May
Year 4 Bikeability	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> May
The Heights Annual Scarecrow trail	w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 5 Ancient Greek Day	21 <sup>st</sup> June
KS1 Sports Day	7 <sup>th</sup> July - am
KS2 Sports Day	14 <sup>th</sup> July - am
The Heights Summer Fair	8 <sup>th</sup> July - pm

Best wishes

Mrs Edwards