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04.10.24

Dear Parents and Carers,

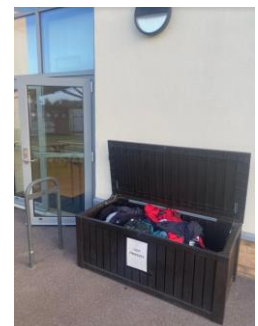
This week has been full of adventures and opportunities, especially for our Year 4 children who spent the end of the week enjoying a range of outdoor activities at Longridge, Marlow. I was so proud to hear how all of the children showed our school values of teamwork and trust and dug deep to push themselves out of their comfort zone! Well done Year 4!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far to our food collection for Reading's Readibank. We've had a small steady trickle in of cans and packages so far but could really do with you searching your cupboards or popping an extra item in your shopping trolley this weekend to help support as many people and families as we can. **Collection is on Friday 11th October.**

Here are some of the items Readifood we are currently in urgent need of and that we would encourage you to donate:

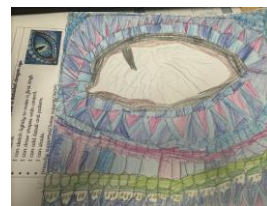
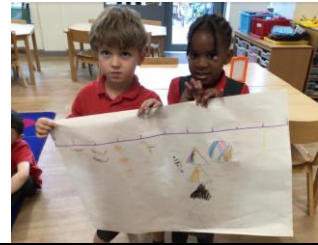
Tinned tomatoes, Tinned vegetables (carrots, peas, sweetcorn etc.), Tinned fruit, Cooking oil, Tinned meat, Pot noodles, Long-life or UHT milk, 40s tea bags, Basmati rice, Rice pouches, Cartons of juice, Drinking squash, Coffee, dried noodles, dried lentils, dried couscous, plain flour.

Hopefully you may have noticed, or heard from your child, that our lost property box has moved. Sadly, the box has already been filled to the brim with misplaced items; I hope that moving the box into the playground will encourage children to look for, and find their lost items, saving you the need to do it for them. If you need to look in the box, you can find it in the playground against the back wall.



Enjoy reading the highlights of what the children at The Heights have been up to this week....

<p>Reception</p>	<p>This week we have focused on building our blending skills in order to read words. We have been practicing using our robot arms to sound out e.g. p-a-t to make pat. New sounds covered this week were 'i' and 'n'. We are blending words such as; pat, pin, sat, sit, sip, at, it. In Mathematics we have really focused on numbers 1-3. We are beginning to subitise as well as talk about where we might see numbers in our environment. We have also built on our matching skills, introducing the vocabulary 'same' and 'similar' and what this might look like. We will continue our carousel next Wednesday so please ensure the children are wearing PE kit and appropriate trainers. Books will be changed on Monday's and Thursday's and sound books returned in bags on Friday.</p> <p>Home Learning: Can you find 3 items around your house that begin with a 'n' sound.</p>
<p>Year 1</p>	<p>This week in maths we compared different numbers using greater than, less than and equal to symbols, ordered objects and numbers and created a number line to 10. Our writing focused on our adaptations of the three children in the Large family Lester, Laura and Little One have been throwing paint in the bath, eating biscuits in the bathroom and singing songs to Mrs Large. The windsocks we made in Science showed us wind speed and direction and in Art we chose one of Van Gogh's paintings to sketch in our art books. In Phonics we have learned the 'ie' sound as in tie, pie and magpie and our pre-cursive handwriting was focusing on the ladder letter 'j'.</p>
<p>Year 2</p>	<p>This week in Year 2 we have continued our English work based on 'Zog' by Julia Donaldson. We wondered what life was like for Sir Gadabout before he became a knight and decided that he would have attended Knight School. In groups we chose something he would need to learn such as riding a horse or wearing armour. We then planned, rehearsed and wrote our own version of the story. In Maths, we have continued to learn about place value looking at where numbers would go on a number line all the way to 100. We have counted forwards and backwards in 10's and 2's and the children have enjoyed showing off their skills in counting. We have created some beautiful dragon eyes in Art, looking at shape and shading.</p>



<p>Year 3</p>	<p>In Year 3 this week, we have enjoyed learning to add 2-digit numbers to 2-digit numbers and 3-digit numbers to each other to find the total. This week we consolidated using a number line and began learning to use the expanded compact method. They were so good and very neat! In English we have been editing and publishing our Sennapod diaries.</p> <p>In History, we have been learning about how the Ancient Egyptians communicated using hieroglyphs. In Science, we explored which materials are magnetic and non-magnetic. On Thursday afternoon, we began making amazing Autumn Pictures inspired by Eloise Renouf.</p> <div data-bbox="418 596 1256 814"> </div>
<p>Year 4</p>	<p>In Year 4 we have been exploring Roman mosaics. We made our own using similar patterns and colours to what the Romans would have used.</p> <p>We also enjoyed our incredible trips to Longridge! We hope the children had as much fun as the adults did. The children took part in rock climbing, crate staking, trebuchets, Aeroball and Jacob's ladder. We are really proud of the children's confidence, team work and bravery!</p> <div data-bbox="1224 827 1432 1234"> </div>
<p>Year 5</p>	<p>Year 5 started the week by enjoying an online talk from children's author, Joseph Caelo, for the Henley Literary Festival. In their English lessons, they have been publishing their newspaper reports in their neatest, joined handwriting and added drawings. In History, they enjoyed learning about the Pagan festivals and had a Viking-themed arts and crafts session as well. In French, they revised vocabulary linked to how to say their age by playing a game of 'snap' with word cards. All of the children have continued to be enthusiastic in our music lessons and are enjoying exploring the rock genre.</p>
<p>Year 6</p>	<p>Whilst the excitement for next week's residential to Skern Lodge builds, the children have been editing and publishing their descriptive piece of writing based on an event that stirred a strong emotion. The children have worked exceptionally hard thinking about their audience and the purpose; to stir emotions in the reader. Meanwhile, in Science the focus has been on fossils and the clues they give as to how plants and animals have evolved throughout history, whilst in dance we have learned the beginnings of the Highland Fling – a Scottish battle victory dance traditionally danced by men to the bagpipes.</p>

PTFA Golf Day

Into its 4th year, The Heights Primary PTFA Golf Day took place yesterday at The Caversham Golf Club. In glorious autumn sunshine a record 20 teams took part. Teams were assembled with 4 players each using 2 scores to count on every hole playing the stableford format. The Claret Jug was taken home by Gadd's Roofing Team. Some fruity handicaps and shot allowances creating a mammoth score of 101 points. Stewards enquiry on this one for next year!! Team Titans finished second on a very respectable 92 points. Team Heights including Mr Guntzenbach as a playing member finished third on 87 points. A brilliant day enjoyed by all.

The organising team of Matt Leach, Pete Rosser, Jon Carter and Chris Ellison managed to secure sponsors for every hole, created a wonderful prize list and sweep stake. Also, owing to the generosity of local businesses, supporters and friends of the school, the auction raised over £2500 alone. In all, once the numbers are added up over the weekend, we anticipate being close to £7000 raised for the school! An incredible effort. Massive thanks to all who played, sponsored and donated.

Year 6 communication at Skern Lodge: reminder

To keep you all informed, updated and amused with daily updates from Skern Lodge, we have set up a **private** account on X (previously known as Twitter) This account can only be viewed by Year 6 parents at The Heights and the relevant members of staff. Please see the email sent to you about how sign up to the account if you would like to be kept informed.

Save the date: The Heights Christmas Fayre!

Our Christmas Fayre is taking place on 30 November, 1-4pm, and we'd love to see as many families there as possible. We are also looking for donations to the raffle and employer match funding. If you can help with either of these, please email grace_jenny@hotmail.co.uk or let your class rep know.

Reminders: coming up soon!

- Tuesday 8th October: Year 6 to Skern Lodge – return: Friday 11th *approximately 5:30pm*
- Tuesday 8th October: Parent rep meeting @ 8:50am
- Wednesday 9th October: Reception class information session @ 6:15pm
- Friday 11th October: foodbank being collected – last day for donations!
- Friday 18th October: The Heights Open Morning!
- Friday 18th October: BPET 'Just One Tree' day (further details to follow soon!)

Our school will be taking part in **JUST ONE Tree Day.**

Each child will be encouraged to 'wear something green' and bring in £1 to plant a tree - uniting children, parents and schools across the world in taking positive action for our climate.

Together let's plant a future for our children.

JUST ONE Tree is a non-profit Community Interest Company removing CO2 from the atmosphere and reversing biodiversity loss through global reforestation.

JUST £1 plants 1 Tree

On average a tree absorbs 48lbs of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere every year.



JUST ONE Tree supports reforestation projects in Madagascar, Haiti, Indonesia, Mozambique, Nepal, Kenya and Zambia where the deforestation has been devastating.

And in the process helps to provide training, agricultural education and sustainable incomes...



...alleviating extreme poverty within local communities.

www.justonetree.life

See you all on Monday,

Mrs Harrison
Headteacher