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Heather Herald

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Newsletters have been a bit hit and miss this term but hopefully you have had a feel of what has been going on in school through WEDUC and social media posts.

The last summer half term is always a busy one in school, no matter how hard we try to space it all out we just seem to roll from one event to the other!

In the middle of June, our Key stage 2 athletics team surpassed themselves with their Saffron Lane performances – special well done to Kitty, Franky and Tristan for securing places in the finals and for Dexter who won the gold medal in his sprinting race. We also secured several medals in both Cross Country and Swimming which were awarded at the Unity Presentation Evening, another headteacher is 'looking after' these medals for us and we are still trying to track them down! Thanks also to Miss Barton and her fantastic dance troupe for performing at the presentation – not that we are biased but we were clearly the best performing school there!!! We have had continued success in the Collaborative 360 Art Competition with Robyn, Orla and Kitty's work all being short listed with Orla winning the overall KS 2 prize.

Last week Dragonfly treated us to a fantastic end of year production called Cloud 9. – another fantastically written play by @mr.johnsonproductions. Full of weather appropriate character names and some storming (see what I did there 😊) performances. There is clearly some natural acting talent with many children showing great stage presence, and under the guidance of Mr Johnson, great comic timing.

Earlier this term we welcomed Carmelo and family to Heather– we hope you enjoy your time with us.

At the end of this week, we will be saying a final goodbye to the families (some of which have been doing the drop offs and pick-ups at Heather for over 10 years) of Ethan, Barnaby, Orla, Lilly, Erin, Ella, Isabelle D. and Kitty– we hope you have all enjoyed your time at Heather. We also say goodbye to Benny, Isabelle C., Rosie, Tommy, Phoebe, Kenzie, Abbie-Leigh, Kaianna, Billy and Tristan– we look forward to hearing about how you get on at your new schools/adventures through your younger siblings. We wish you all the very best on your exciting new journey – which you are more than ready for, and we are so proud of all that you have achieved. Please pop back and see us some time to let us know how you are getting on.

It has been another busy and at times challenging year in school – the expectations placed on schools seem to be ever growing and I am so grateful and proud of all staff for continually rising to these challenges. The financial challenges continue to loom but when I reflect on all that has happened in school this academic year, all the opportunities, both academic and social, we have been able to provide, reminds me of what I came into this profession for – that the children, all the children, are at the heart of all that we do.

None of the above we could do without all of your support – thank you.

I hope you all have a lovely summer break. As always, please encourage your children to send us a postcard,

Cont.

they love reading them out in assembly

Weduc will be checked periodically over the holidays – so please don't expect an immediate reply. Remember we have our private Facebook group which was set up during the lock down which some families find useful to share news etc. Follow the link to request to join -

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/heatherprimaryschoolcoalville/?ref=share>

Some staff are part of this group – please do not message them directly via Messenger etc. All contact should be done via WEDUC or the Office email address.

Please take note of school uniform reminders, this was with the end of year reports information.

Term time dates for 2023-24 are at the end of this newsletter and 24-25 will be found on the website towards the end of next week – without the typos this time!

Yet again, a big thank you to all staff – as I said the challenges in schools are ever growing. Your dedication and passion for all things Heather is evident in all you do.

Happy holidays,

Best wishes,

Maxine Michalowski

Before and After School Club – MASH

We are currently reviewing our MASH finances to ensure the monies cover all the staffing and food overheads. I know the provision is invaluable for lots of our families, it was for me when my children were little, but it is essential that we at least break even – which in the past few years has not been the case.

We are also reviewing late booking charges as currently this is taking up a great deal of admin time in the office. Details will be shared with you before we return in August. The bookings for the Autumn term will be in place too and we would like to remind **ALL** families that bookings for MASH are to be booked and paid for in advance. School is currently owed approx. £600 in unpaid MASH and MASH admin fees.

We appreciate that sometimes circumstances change and late bookings are inevitable but we are increasingly finding that our regular families are not booking and then we are continually chasing payments for these sessions. The chasing of payments is incredibly time consuming and somewhat uncomfortable for staff.

Railway Children

On 28th June, the children enjoyed the morning in their new classes, followed by an amazing production of The Railway Children by the fantastic M and M productions. Four actors took on the many roles from the story, which included some slapstick comedy and great singing. The children were fully immersed in the story as was shown from the loud gasp from the hall when Bobby was trying to stop the train after the landslide. I definitely needed my tissues when Bobby saw her father through the steam at the train station – it gets me every time. The children in Dragonfly had a huge treat afterwards during the workshop, finding out about how the lighting and sound effects work. We have booked them to return again at a similar time next year and they will be performing The Little Princess; however, currently only 66 out of the 116 children in school have made the financial contribution of £7.15 towards the cost of the visit and going forwards school cannot keep dipping into its very limited funds to pay for such visits/trips. Unless families are unable to fund their contribution, the Governors have asked me to consider cancelling any future theatre visits to the school. Thank you to those families who were able to make a financial contribution to the cost of the theatre visit – the payment is still available on WEDUC if you have not yet paid. If you are unable to fund the total amount and wish to make a reduced contribution, then please get in touch and we can arrange that for you.

Key Dates for the Diary (Full set of term dates for 23-24 can be found on our website and in notices on WEDUC)

Thursday 24th August - INSET Day 1 - Children not in school
Friday 25th August - INSET Day 2 - Children not in school
Monday 29th August - Bank Holiday School Closed for all
Tuesday 29th August - School open for all
Sunday 3rd - Wednesday 6th September Year 5/6 Children residential to Arete
Monday 11th September PTA Meeting - details to follow
Friday 22nd PTA Sponsored Bounce - details to follow
Monday 2nd October - Bikeability Year 5/6 - details to follow (children need a fully functioning bike and a helmet)
Monday 2nd - Wednesday 4th Year 3/4 Residential to Beaumanor
Thursday 12th October - School closes for children
Friday 13th October - INSET DAY 3 - Children not in school
Half term Break - Monday 16th October - Friday 20th October
Monday 23rd October - School open for all
Tuesday 24th October - Individual Photos
Monday 30th October - Seasonal Flu Immunisations (details to follow)
Friday 22nd December - School Closes for Christmas Holidays for pupils
Christmas Break - Monday 25th December - Friday 5th January
Monday 8th January - INSET DAY 4 - Children not in school
Tuesday 9th January - School open for all
Friday 16th February - School Closed for Half Term
Half term Break - Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February
Monday 26th February - School Open for all
Friday 22nd March - School Closes for Easter Break
Easter Break - Monday 22nd March - Friday 5th April
Monday 8th April - School open for all
KS 1 Assessments take place throughout May*
KS 2 Sats Monday 13th -Thursday 16th May*
Monday 6th May - May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 21st May Year Group Photos
Friday 24th May - School closed for Half Term
Half term Break Monday 27th - Friday 31st May
Monday 3rd June - School Open for all
Monday 3rd June - 14th June - Year 4 Multiplication Check*
Monday 10th June Year 1 Phonic Screen - take place this week*
Wednesday 26th June - MGM Productions - The Little Princess (TBC)
Thursday 11th July - School closes for Summer Break for Children
Friday 12th July 2024 - INSET DAY 5 Disaggregated. - Children/Staff not in school

NB - Term dates for next academic year - 23-24 - are on WEDUC in Notices and on our website