



Heather Herald

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As the first half term of 2023 draws to an end, I look back and think about the great learning that has been going on across the school.

Caterpillar class delighted us all this week by holding the first class assembly of this year. They all talked so confidently about their learning – it is hard to believe that they have only been in school for one and a half terms! A big thank you to Mrs Smith for working with the children so they could attend the Young Voices Concert – it has been a lot of hard work with a few obstacles along the way! The children are now enjoying singing the songs with the rest of the school and I know they will treasure the memories of singing with such a vast choir and singing with Heather Small from M people.

The year 5/6 have had more sporting success with basketball, getting through to the NWL basketball final and our small group of cross country runners have also been very successful. This year we have three children from Years 3, 4 and 6 who have been selected to represent NWL in the County race – well done all.

As always, thank you for your continued support. If you have any concerns or queries, please in the first instance, make an appointment to see your child's class teacher.

Best wishes,

Maxine Michalowski

British Values and Protected Characteristics

The children are thoroughly enjoying our Picture News discussions, as a whole school and a class in our assemblies. There have been some thoughtful observations and interesting questions about the news topics that we have covered. The news story of the Men's national football team taking a 25% pay cut so the Women's team could have a 25% pay increase was certainly an interesting discussion!

This term our focus questions have been:

- Should the energy we use be renewable? – British Value **Democracy**/Protected Characteristic **Age**
- Can you learn how to manage under pressure? – British Value **Mutual respect and Tolerance** /Protected Characteristic **Sex**
- Do we throw things away too easily? – British Value **Individual Liberty**/Protected Characteristic **Religion or Belief**
- How much control do we have over our choices? British Value **Mutual Respect and Tolerance**/Protected Characteristic **Religion/Belief**
- Does the natural world have rights? British Value **Rule of Law** /Protected Characteristic **Race**
- Should men and women's sports teams be paid the same? British Value **Democracy**/Protected Characteristic **Sex**

Thank you for those of you who took the time to come and view the teaching materials and lesson content – I hope you found it useful.

Homework

Thank you to all of you who completed our homework questionnaire. As part of our homework review we are cancelling our MyMaths subscription. We are raising the profile of the other online packages that we subscribe to TTRockstars and Numbots. Bumblebee have really embraced TTRockstars this year and we have seen a great impact on their mental maths and speed of recall. We are looking at streamlining the homework policy and will be in touch with more details after half term.

School Council

Our school council have decided to introduce a **Wrapper Free Wednesday** for play time to try and curb the amount of litter on the playground and field as well as do our bit for the environment. The aim is to bring a snack at play time that is not in a wrapper - such as fruit or something that is brought in a reusable tub. The School Council are going to award 1 house point to each child who completes this challenge.

Willow and Floryn also shared this idea in our group school council meeting at St Denys at the end of January and we are hoping other schools will join us in this challenge.



Key Dates for the Diary (Full set of term dates for 22-23 can be found on our website and in notices on WEDUC)

Friday 17th February - School Closed for Half Term

Half term Break - Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February

Monday 27th February - School Open for all

Monday 6th March - PTA Meeting @The Queen's Head 7pm - all welcome

Tuesday 7th March NWLSSP Swimming Gala Year 5/6 - selected Children @Whitwick and Coalville Leisure Centre
9:15am details to follow

Tuesday 7th March - Parents' Evening 3:30pm- 7:00pm

Wednesday 8th March - Parents' Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm

Wednesday 8th March Bumblebee Class assembly 9am

Friday 10th March Bumblebee Class Forest School Session

Tuesday 13th March - Year 3/4 Quick Sticks Tournament - @ICC 3:30pm - selected children - details to follow

Wednesday 15th March Ladybird Class assembly - 2:30pm

Saturday 18th March - Unity Cross Country @ Snaresstone 10:30 start - NOT 28th March

Wednesday 22nd March - Dragonfly assembly 9am

Wednesday 22nd March Year 5/6 Quick Sticks Tournament - @Ivanhoe 3:30pm - selected children - details to follow

Thursday 23rd March PTA Dress Down Day - £1 contribution or Easter Egg Donations for Chocolate Bingo

Friday 24th March - PTA Chocolate Bingo - venue to be confirmed

Tuesday 28th March - year 5/6 Orienteering @Donisthorpe Woods (during the school day) details to follow

Thursday 30th March - Dragonfly Class Forest School Session

Friday 31st March - School Closes for Easter Break

Saturday 1st April - Sunday 16th April - PTA Easter Bunny Trail - details to follow

Easter Break - Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April

Monday 17th April - School open for all

Monday 17th April - 3rd July Swimming Dragonfly

Saturday 22nd April Unity Cross Country @Griffydam 10:30 start

Monday 1st May - May Day Bank Holiday

KS 1 Sats take place throughout May*

Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday - School Closed

KS 2 Sats Tuesday 9th May -Friday 12th May* - date change due to Bank Holiday

Thursday 25th May Unity Netball Tournament @ Woodstone 4pm

Friday 26th May - School closes for Half Term

Half term Break Monday 29th - Friday 2nd June

Monday 5th June - School Open for all

Wednesday 14th June - NWLSSP Saffron Lane Athletics selected Year 4-6 Children

Monday 6th June - 23rd June - Year 4 Multiplication Check*

Monday 12th June - Year 1 Phonic Screen - take place this week*

Friday 16th June - PTA Break the Rules Day - details to follow

Friday 23rd June - Sports Day - 1:pm Start

Wednesday 28th June - MSM Theatre Productions - The Railway Children

Tuesday 4th July Year 5/6 leavers' Production - Year 5 Parents/Carers only 2pm

Tuesday 4th July Year 5/6 Leavers' Production Year 6 families/Carers only 6pm

Tuesday 11th July Year 6 leavers' party

Friday 14th July - School closed for pupils - Summer Break

Monday 17th July - INSET Day 5 - Disaggregated

*PLEASE DO NOT BOOK HOLIDAYS DURING THESE TIMES

These holiday dates have been agreed by the Governing Body for Heather Primary School and may differ from other schools locally.

Learning at Heather February 2023

Thursday 16th February 2023
Form

All Once

All once
From the mist of
Daybreak, a shadow looms,
As pale creeps and empty bottles
Chatter.

Dusk is here.

Dusk seems Dusk comes
Something lies through
the air, a figure spins.
Just clips on to a pair of black
minnies. (2)

I love this!

Well done!
self

