



# Heather Herald

Main Street, Heather, Coalville, Leics,  
LE67 2QP  
Tel: 01530 260257  
E-Mail: [adminoffice@heather.leics.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@heather.leics.sch.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs Maxine Michalowski  
Chair of Governors: Andy Smith  
Website: <https://www.heather.leics.sch.uk/>  
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Dear Parents/Carers,

We have finally reached December, which means I can finally say Christmas! The children know it is not a word I can say until December!!! As I sit here listening to Caterpillar and Ladybird classes sing, we are well and truly on our way to Bethlehem!!!! There is more information regard our performances later on in the newsletter.

Last week all classes had been looking at the book *The Lost Words* - which is the most beautiful book filled with poems and illustrations about aspects of nature that may becoming lost from children's vocabulary. I know Dragonfly class enjoyed their trip down to Sence Valley and Bumblebee visited forest school to use ideas from nature within their design and technology topic involving circuits to make torches. There are also some amazing kingfisher pictures being created with the children in Year 1 and 2.

Covid still seems to be the main topic of conversation at times, and as always we will keep you up dated as much as we can - but please bear in mind that we usually get to find out what is happening when you do!

Some of you are asking about the theatre trip, yes at the moment it is still going ahead unless government guidance changes.

Have a good week.

With love and best wishes,

Maxine Michalowski



## Christmas Productions and Carol Service

We have made the difficult decision to reduce attendance for our productions this year. For the Key stage 1 performance, the children are putting on three performances, one for each year group of parents (two tickets per child.) This will enable us to reduce the numbers in the hall and space the chairs out best we can.

Those of you who remember the 'Olden days' will be aware that when we hold our Carol Concert, anyone who wishes attend is able to. For this year, we have made the decided to restrict tickets so not to over fill the Church. As it is Bumble Bee class who lead the Carol service, only adults who have children in Bumble Bee have been invited to attend.

In order for all families to join in with us for some Christmas celebrations, we would like to invite all, weather depending, to our Friday assembly on the 17<sup>th</sup> December but we will hold the assembly outside on the playground - hopefully it will stay dry and we will enjoy a few carols along the way!! We hope you can join us 2:00pm start and please wrap up warm and have your singing voices ready.

### Staffing update

On Friday the children have said a sad farewell to Mrs Freakley. Mrs Freakley has been with us since 2016 as a Mid-Day Supervisor, 1:1 Support, Learning Support Assistant and Administrative Assistant (a lady with many hats!) and is off to explore some new challenges. We would like to wish Mrs Freakley all the best for the future.

We are also saying goodbye to Miss Whiting. Miss Whiting has been with us since September working in Year 5/6 working as a 1:1 Learning Support Assistant and has managed to secure her first teaching position for the Spring term at another local school which is fantastic. We are hope you enjoyed your short time with us and wish you all the very best as you start your teaching career.

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December we will be officially welcoming back Mrs Clarkson from her maternity leave working in school three days a week. Between now and the end of term, Mrs Clarkson will be providing cover across the school. We will be in touch towards the end of term with regards to Mrs Clarkson's role after Christmas.

### Heather Character Traits

Being enthusiastic in school is:

- Responding positively to their learning
- Embracing challenges rather than shying away from them
- Eager to try new things and learn new skills even if it is tricky
- Confidently sharing new learning with those around them

At Heather we are:

**Hardworking**  
**Enthusiastic**  
**Aspirational**  
**Team-spirited**  
**Honest**  
**Empathetic**  
**Responsible**

In class, we strive for the children to be:

**Creative**  
**Helpful**  
**Independent**  
**Logical**  
**Determined**  
**Reflective**  
**Engaged**  
**Noticing to make connections**

### Key Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 2pm - Reception Families  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 9:30am - Year 1 Families  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December - Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 2pm - Year 2 Families  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service at St John's Church 1:30pm - Bumble Bee Families  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December - whole school trip to see Alice in Wonderland at the Old Rep Birmingham  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December - School Closes for Christmas Holidays for pupils  
**Christmas Break Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022**  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December - INSET Day for Staff**  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - School open for all children  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January - SEN Surgery (book an appointment to see Mrs Thornley, via Weduc)  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February - School Closes for half term  
**Half Term Break - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February**  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February - School open to all pupils  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Bumble Bee Residential to Beaumanor Hall  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April - School breaks up for Easter  
**Easter Break Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April - School open for all pupils  
**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May - School Closed - May Day Bank Holiday**