



# 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/>  
Twitter: @HeatherPrimary  
Issue 11 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a great few weeks back in school following the Easter holiday. Children have settled well back into their classes and are enjoying the new topics they are studying. Attendance has also been really high, which is all fantastic.

I have visited all classes this week to talk to the children about character traits that we would feel are really important for the children – not only to help them perform to the best of their ability in class but also to develop key skills that will help them when they are older and entering the world of work. We all had a great time discussing the character traits and some of the children had some really good suggestions as to the ones they felt were really important. There will be more information about this sent out to you over the next week or so.

This term we have welcomed Mrs Conway to our Heather family. Mrs Conway is a Midday Supervisor and provides classroom support in the afternoon for Rowling class and she will be working with us until the end of this term. We hope you enjoy your time with us, Mrs Conway.

Lots of you are asking about residential. At the moment, the earliest that residential are going to happen in May 17<sup>th</sup>. We are currently working closely with Beaumanor to ensure that both residential, 3/4 on the 19<sup>th</sup> May and 5/6 on the 7<sup>th</sup> July, have all the necessary paperwork, risk assessments in place so that they can both go ahead. These are the rescheduled residential that were originally booked for September last year.

Have a super Bank holiday weekend, and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May. 

Take care,

Maxine Michalowski

## Reading at Home

Reading at home is an essential part of reading development. By reading regularly at home, in the early stages of reading it helps children develop sound recognition followed by learning to read words by sight. As they become more confident at this, reading out aloud to an adult at home helps develop fluency and increases the depth of understanding what they read. As I am sure all of you know, **all** the children are expected to read **at least three times a week** at home and for this to be recorded in their diaries. For children in Donaldson class this will also include practising their letter sounds and tricky words. This partnership is vital and extensive research shows that the more children read, the more they tend to perform better in secondary school, are more successful in the work place, as well as the substantial benefits for mental health as reading allows us to relax and escape into other worlds. Children who are reading **at least** three times a week are awarded a ticket in our golden ticket draw - to win a free book and when COVID 19 restriction are lifted - hot chocolate and biscuits. Your support in this is essential. If you are finding it difficult to support your children in their reading journey, please ask your child's teacher for some advice.

### New Canopy

We are currently trying to raise a massive £20,000 to replace the canopy that is outside Donaldson classroom – the roof has a hole in it and because it doesn't attach to the wall it also leaks. The new proposed canopy will cover from the mud kitchen and continue all the way down to the pre-school wall. The cost is £20,000 (yes it made us gulp too!) and the PTA have agreed to organise a range of events to try and raise the funds to buy it, so please support them where you can. We are hopefully going to try and recruit some willing helpers to take the current canopy down when the time is right as the cost will be £22,000 if the company replacing the canopy take the original one down! 😞



### Summer Term 2021

Staff have been busy planning some exciting activities for the Summer term so please check the dates for the diary in the back of this sheet for what the children have to look forward to. You will see in the diary we have dates for individual bubbles to have sports days- at the moment they are being planned for just the children - unfortunately due to COVID-19 we will not be able to have any spectators - but we will be taking plenty of photos and sharing them with you so you can see what your child/ren are getting up to. There are also dates for Year 5/6 bikeability - further information will be coming out to you shortly to ensure that your child's bike matches the standard required to enable your child to complete bikeability level 1 and level 2.



We are delighted to let you know that our Challenge 100 fundraiser in memory of Zara Bonser so far has raised a massive £2303.74. We know a few families have said they are still to send some sponsor money so if you could do so as soon as possible then we can send the monies off the Blood Cancer UK and Leukaemia UK. Thank you to all of you who supported us with this and a big thank you has to be made to Olivia Benson whose 100 dances not only kept all of us entertained but also raised a significant amount of the total monies raised. I am still working on cycling my 100 miles to Heather - a slight injury before Easter meant my cycling went on hold - I am currently on 93.8 miles and counting!

### Assessments

As you will know the government have cancelled all statutory assessment data collection, such as the Early Years Foundation Stage Data, Year 1 phonic Screen, Year 2 and 6 Sats and the Year 4 multiplication check. However, this does not mean we will not be formally assessing the children in school. We may still be using some of the materials mentioned above during when formally assessing the children later on this term.

### Key Dates

Monday 3rd May 2021 May Day Bank Holiday

~~KS 1 Sats take place throughout May\* Canceled~~

~~KS 2 Sats Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May\* Canceled~~

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May - Break the Rules Day - see flyer for details

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May (provisional) Year 3/4 Residential at Beaumanor

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May - Year 5/6 Swimming at ICC - Initial Assessment **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May - Last Swimming for Churchill

School closes for half term Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Half term Break

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

School Open for Pupils Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021

~~Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June Year 1 Phonics Screen - take place this week Canceled\*~~

~~Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June - 25<sup>th</sup> June - Year 4 Multiplication Check\* Canceled\*~~

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June - Swimming for year 5/6 **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June - Obama Sports Afternoon - **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June - Donaldson and Rowling Sports Afternoon - **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup>, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June Bikeability for Year 5/6 **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Churchill Sports Afternoon - **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June - Year 6 presentation evening and Year 5/6 leavers' assembly - all 5/6 children required in school for 5:30pm for a 6pm start - **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July Bikeability for Year 5/6 **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

Year 5/6 Residential at Beaumanor Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July (provisional and more details to follow)

School closes for Pupil for the summer break Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July

Heather Primary INSET 4 - disaggregated staff not in school Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Heather Primary INSET 5- disaggregated staff not in school Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### Autumn 2021/22

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August - INSET Day for Staff

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August - INSET Day for Staff

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August - School open for all pupils

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August - Bank Holiday School Closed

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August - School Open for all pupils

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August - Year 5/6 to Marle Hall (provisional and more details to follow)