



Heather Herald

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Issue 1 - 27th August 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had a good summer and enjoyed the dry weather we've had – though to be honest, it was a bit warm for me at times! Still, it was lovely to have a warm and dry bank holiday.

The Scarecrow Festival was a wonderful event, and I hope many of you had a chance to join in. Thank you to those of you who popped in to see us when we ran the pop-up tea room – it was great to catch up with so many of you! We raised about £500 for school funds, and I'm looking forward to speaking with both children and staff about how we should spend it. To those of you who made scarecrows – they were amazing, well done!

Thank you to the families who sent us postcards over the summer holidays. I'm looking forward to sharing them all in Friday's assembly. As always, you are more than welcome to join us for our Friday Celebration Assembly.

This term, we are welcoming Amelia, Maja, Eden, Felicity, Amaya, Hugo, Aiden, Alaya, Leo, Charlie, Willow, Otis, Aria, Alissa, Aarna, Savannah, and Caleb to Caterpillar Class; Daisy to Bumblebee; and Emily to Dragonfly. A warm Heather welcome to all of our new families as well – we really hope you enjoy your time with us. Please help make them feel welcome on the playground.

We will also be welcoming Miss Liggitt, who is completing her PGCE to train as a teacher. She will be working alongside Mrs Goode and Mrs Kilduff in Ladybird Class.

Staff have been working incredibly hard over the summer to prepare their classrooms for the new term. This week, children will be settling in and learning about their new routines and expectations.

Later this week, you'll receive your termly newsletter and planner, which will outline the themes and topics being covered this term.

Our Friday assembly will continue to be a Celebration Assembly. Before COVID, we regularly welcomed 20–30 parents and carers to join us as we handed out certificates, awards, and birthday cards. We would love to see that level of attendance return – so if you're able to join us, please do! Assemblies start promptly at 9:00 a.m.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate, in the first instance, to contact your child's class teacher.

Wishing you all a fantastic start to the term – we're excited for all the learning and fun ahead! I have no doubt that everyone will have had a great first few days back in school and that we'll all be ready for the weekend by Friday!

Best wishes,

Mrs Michalowski

New School Year Hints, Tips and Reminders!!

- **Arbor**

- All our communication is done through Arbor.
- New families: by now you should have had an invite to log on.
- Arbor is pretty intuitive but if you need help, please ask and we will do our best to guide you.
- Any messages with attachments are emailed to you via Arbor. These can sometimes go in your junk - check your junk folder and amend your settings accordingly.
- All dates for the diary are also on the Arbor calendar as will be any clubs you sign your child up for.
- Please respond to payment and authorisation request promptly - chasing parents for response is very time consuming.
- Check that all of yours and your child's details are correct, including mobile numbers, email addresses and postal addresses.
- We need contact details of both parents, particularly for split families
- Check and read messages regularly to ensure you are up to date and your child does not miss out on events in school.

- **School Dinners**

- School dinners cost £2.75 per day.
- Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals (note: this is different to Free School Meals that are means tested according to income).
- We really do not enjoy chasing dinner money debt, so if your child is having a school lunches, please make sure their ARBOR meal account has sufficient funds.
- If a dinner money debt goes above £20, then your child will not be allowed a school dinner and you will be asked to provide them with a packed lunch.
- If your child brings in packed lunches, they are expected to take back home any uneaten food so that you can see what they have had for lunch.
- Children are always strongly encouraged to eat more before going onto their pudding/leaving the table.

- **Uniform**

- Please make sure all uniform is labelled with your child's name.
- Nail varnish and temporary tattoos are not part of our school uniform and should be removed.
- Earrings should be of the small stud variety only – no bracelets or necklaces
- Caps are required daily and must be worn if the temperature rises above 23 degrees – remember – 'no hattie, no play-outside'
- All children will require change of shoes for play time and lunch times – either wellies or old trainers/school shoes

- **Dropping off and picking up**

- Children are not to play on the Hex Climber or the trim trail. All children know this. They also know if they are seen on the equipment they will lose their playtime either that day or the following day.
- If your child comes to school on a bike/scooter they are expected to push it in when in the school grounds, not ride on it – this includes any pre-school aged children.
- Parents of children in Caterpillar and Ladybird classes, please position yourselves in a place where staff can see you clearly as they open the class gate.
- Please make sure staff are aware if it someone different picking up the child other than yourself. In such rare cases when school have not been informed we will keep hold of your child until we are able to contact you to confirm the arrangements.

PE

Please remember for PE days your child/ren will need to have a full PE kit, in a bag, in school. This should include

- black shorts/trackie bottoms/running tights (please avoid casual leggings, they are not suitable for PE)
- black school PE T-shirt,
- jumper – preferably a school hoodie,
- trainers.

PE takes place outdoors regardless of the weather, so as we move further into the Autumn term – trackies and a hoodie are essential to keep your child warm and comfortable.

Please see below for our PE timetable for the first Autumn term.

As always, if you are sending your child/ren into school wearing PE trainers with laces, they are expected to be able to tie them – even when they are in KS1. **If your child struggles with this, can I please politely ask that you invest time to teach them how to tie their laces – it is really not our job to do it and untied laces are just an accident waiting to happen.** Very reasonably priced children's trainers with Velcro fastenings can also be purchased from Tesco (and other supermarket retailers or Sports Direct) if your child is finding tying shoe laces challenging.

	Caterpillar	Ladybird	Bumblebee	Dragonfly
Monday		PE Day		PE Day
Tuesday				
Wednesday	PE Day	PE Day		
Thursday			PE Day	PE Day
Friday	Forest School – children to come to school in their forest school kit		PE Day	PE Day

We ask that PE kits stay in school all week – or even better, for the whole half term. That way, children are always ready for PE, even if we have to make a last-minute change to the timetable.

First Aid – Bumped Head

To help keep our children safe and ensure clear communication between staff, parents, and carers, we've introduced bright, festival-style "I've Bumped My Head" bracelets. These fun but important wristbands are given to any child who has had a minor bump to the head during the school day. Wearing the bracelet acts as a visible reminder for everyone—including teachers, playground staff, and families—that a bump has occurred. We will still continue to complete red slips too! The bracelet helps us monitor the child more closely throughout the day and ensures that parents are aware, even if the child forgets to mention it at home or the red slip is forgotten. Please keep an eye out for the bracelet and speak with your child's teacher if you have any questions.

MASH – Before and After School Club

Please note the current charges for MASH as per the previous newsletter. If you are booking MASH beyond the 2pm cut off on the previous day, you will now need to select either AFTER CUT OFF (2pm previous day) Breakfast Club or AFTER CUT OFF (2pm previous day) After school Club and pay the flat rate. There are 2 options under the latter, one price for Mon-Thurs and one for Fridays as it finishes an hour earlier.

If you are booking MASH before the cut off time (2pm the day before), then nothing has changed and you can select the usual options for booking – MASH (Before School) 25/26 and MASH (After School) 25/26.

<u>Before School Club</u>			
	7:30am – 8:45am	8:00am – 8:45am	8:30am – 8:45am
Bookings made by 2pm on the previous day	£7.45	£5.30	£2.50 (no breakfast included)
Bookings Made after 2pm the previous day	£8.45 flat charge		
Child attended but no booking/contact made	£10.55 Flat Charge		
<u>After School Club</u>			
	3:15pm – 4:15pm - (includes a drink and a biscuit)	4:15pm- 5:00pm – (includes a light tea)	5:00pm-6:00pm - (Monday to Thursday only)
Bookings made by 2pm on the previous day	£5.30	£5.30	£5.30
Bookings Made after 2pm the previous day	£17 flat charge/£12 on a Friday		
Child attended but no booking/contact made	£20 Flat Charge/£15 on a Friday		

Term Dates for 2025 – 26

These can also be found on the school website. Please note, these dates broadly follow those set out on the Leicestershire website; however, the Local Authority dates do not include INSET (teacher training days). These are set by individual schools which is why our dates different to the LA and other local schools.

Tuesday 26th August 2025 School open for pupils

Sunday 31st August – Wednesday 3rd September – Arete Residential Year 5-6 Children

Friday 5th – September Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Wednesday 24th September – Water Safety Talk with EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2

Friday 3rd October – Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Tuesday 7th October – Ladybird Forest School Session (please ensure appropriate clothing is into school that day)

Thursday 9th October – Dragonfly class assembly – all parents/carers welcome – 9am start

Tuesday 14th October – Individual Photographs

Tuesday 14th October Harvest Festival 1:30pm start hopefully at St John's Church

Wednesday 15th October – Seasonal Flu Immunisations – details to follow

Thursday 16th October – Bumblebee Forest School Session (please ensure appropriate clothing is into school that day)

Thursday 16th October 2025 – School closes for half term for children

Friday 17th October 2025 – School open for staff Heather INSET Day 3

HALF TERM Break – Monday 20th October to Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 27th October 2025 School opens to pupils

Tuesday 4th November – Parents' Evening 3:30pm-7pm (details to follow)

Thursday 5th November – Parents' Evening 3:30pm- 5pm (details to follow)

Friday 7th November Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Thursday 6th November Ladybird class assembly – all parents/carers welcome – 9am start

Wednesday 12th November Ladybird class assembly – all parents/carers welcome – 9am start

Tuesday 18th November – KS 1 Victorian Day @ Beaumanor Hall – details to follow

Wednesday 19th November Bumblebee class assembly – all parents/carers welcome – 9am start

Friday 24th November – Bumblebee Forest School Session (please ensure appropriate clothing is into school that day)

Friday 5th December Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Tuesday 9th December Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 2:00pm (details to follow)

Wednesday 10th December Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 10:00am (details to follow)

Thursday 11th December Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 2:00pm (details to follow)

Friday 19th December 2025 – School closes for pupils for Christmas

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January

Monday 5th January 2026 – School open for staff Heather INSET 4

Tuesday 6th January 2026 School opens for pupils

Friday 9th January – Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Friday 6th February Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Friday 13th February 2026 School closes for half term

Half Term Break Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026 – School opens for pupils

Friday 6th March Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

School Closes for Easter – Friday 27th March 2026

Easter Break – Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026

(continued)

Monday 13th April 2025 - School opens for pupils

Friday 1st May Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Monday 4th May 2025 - May Day Bank Holiday

KS 1 Assessments take place throughout May*

KS 2 Sats - Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May*

Tuesday 19th May – Class Photos

Friday 23rd May 2025 - School closes for half term for all

Half term Break - Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026

Monday 1st June 2026 School opens to pupils

Friday 5th June Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Monday 1st June – 12th June – Year 4 Multiplication Check*

Monday 8th June - Year 1 Phonic Screen – take place this week*

Wednesday 24th June M&M Productions – The Jungle Book

Friday 3rd July - Mrs Thornley's SEN Surgery 9am-11am – please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment

Thursday 9th July 2026 -School closes for pupils for the summer break

Friday 11th July 2026 - Heather Primary INSET Day 5

*PLEASE DO NOT BOOK HOLIDAYS DURING THESE TIMES