



Heather Herald

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a super busy three weeks since we have been back in school. Caterpillar class amazed us with the first class assembly of the year – wowing us with all they have learnt during their short time in school. We loved their rendition of The Three Little Pigs. The children in Ladybird have been producing some amazing work based around a story called Beegu. I received a very impressive letter from Frank asking if they could let Beegu stay at Heather as she has no friends and family. Frank's letter was very persuasive – I hope Beegu enjoys her time with us. The Bumblebees have been working on all sorts of science experiments find out about plants, how water is transported up the stems of plants as well as what they need to grow well. Dragonfly have been exploring space and thoroughly enjoyed the outreach visit from the Space Centre – this really enhanced their understanding, whilst also giving them some hands on experience. The leader of the session really complemented the Dragonfly children on their behaviour and engagement in the session – which is fantastic to hear.

We have had a fair few sports events this term and I am delighted to say in all of these the children who have attended have been great ambassadors for the school, although for some, the journey in a double decker bus was the highlight of the day!!

A big thank you to Sophie, Evie and Olivia for organising the poppy sales over the last two weeks and thank you to all of you for your donations, the poppy money box certainly felt very heavy at the end of the week.

We are looking forwards to seeing you all in school this week for parents' evening. As usual at this time of year, the governors will be asking you to complete an online questionnaire during your visit. Also, members of the PTA will be available to answer any questions that you may have regarding the hard work they do in supporting the school. You can also use this as an opportunity to find out how you can help.

If you have any concerns or queries, in the first instance, please contact your child's class teacher.

Best wishes,

Maxine Michalowski

Staffing update

Miss Ikin who joined us in January 2023 to support children in Year 1/2 will sadly be leaving us next week. In her short time with us Miss Ikin has been a fabulous asset to the school – her enthusiastic and bubbly personality has endeared her to adults and children alike. We wish Miss Ikin all the best in her new role with Derbyshire County Council – supporting families through their Early Help Service. We know you are going to be fabulous and will do your utmost to make things better for the children and families you will be working with. We are busy recruiting for both Miss Ikin's role and for a new administrative assistant and will let you know when new appointments have been made.

WEDUC

We are still having some people who are finding it difficult to find information on both WEDUC and the website. When looking for things on the website, Google is a useful starting point etc. Heather Primary School - term dates/school uniform etc. should take you to the right page. Generally, all other information sent out can also be found on the NOTICES section of WEDUC. Big thank you to Mrs Martin (parent of Franky) for putting up a list of key dates, which can also be found on the WEDUC calendar, and other information on the notice board on the playground which we hope you are all finding useful.

School Trips and Visits

When planning school visits/trips teachers take into careful consideration how the activity links with the curriculum and how the visit/trip will enhance the learning for the children, whilst also exposing them to experiences that will help children gain a better understanding of the range of cultures and diversity of life in modern Britain, as well as showing them different opportunities available to them as they grow up. The costs of these visits comprise of the visit and where necessary the cost of the transport – we do not make a profit from these trips. Unlike some local bigger schools, we do not have a large Pupil Premium budget that can be used to reduce the cost of these events for all and transport costs are ever increasing and have a significant impact on the amount charged. If you would like us to set up trip payments so you can pay in instalments, then please just ask. We can also subsidise payments for families that are in financial difficulty if that helps. Thank you to those families who have paid their contributions to the Space Centre visit 21/33 contributions and the up and coming whole school theatre trip at the end of term 82/112 contributions. You will find all payments on WEDUC.

Key Dates for the Diary (Full set of term dates for 23-24 and 2024-25 can be found on our website and in notices on WEDUC)

- Tuesday 14th November - Ladybird Class Assembly 9 am start in the hall
- Tuesday 14th November - Parents' Evening 3:30pm-5pm
- Wednesday 15th November - Parents' Evening 3:30pm- 7pm
- Thursday 16th November - Year 5/6 Unity Football tournament -
- Friday 17th November - Anti Bullying Odd Sock day -- £1 contribution for Children in Need (School Council Fund Raiser)
- ~~Monday 20th November - Year 3/4 Dodgeball Festival - we are no longer attending this event~~
- Tuesday 21st November Year 5/6 Dodgeball Development Competition - selected children, details to follow
- Tuesday 21st November - Dragonfly Class Assembly 9 am start in the hall
- Monday 27th November - PTA Dress Down Day - Bring a Bottle for the Tombola
- Tuesday 28th November - Bumblebee Class Assembly 9 am start in the hall
- Thursday 30th November Year 5/6 Dodgeball Excel Competition - selected children, details to follow
- Friday December 1st PTA Event Christmas fayre - 6pm-8pm in school
- Tuesday 5th December - Open Afternoon for children starting school Autumn 24-25 1:30-3:00pm
- Tuesday 12th December - Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 2:00pm
- Wednesday 13th December - Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 10:00am
- Wednesday 13th December - Year 2 Christmas Journey at Marlborough Square details to follow
- Thursday 14th December - Caterpillar and Ladybird Christmas Production 2:00pm
- Tuesday 19th December - Bumblebee Carol Service at the Church
- Wednesday 20th December - Whole school trip to Peter Pan the Musical - letter already sent - please pay via WEDUC
- 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
- Monday 15th January PTA Meeting 7:30pm @The Queen's Head
- Wednesday 17th January Year 1 and 5 Fire Safety talk
- Friday 9th February PTA Film night - details to follow
- Friday 16th February - School Closed for Half Term
- Half term Break - Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February
- Monday 26th February - School Open for all
- Tuesday 5th March - Parents' Evening - 3:30pm-7pm
- Wednesday 6th March - Parents' Evening - 3:30pm-5pm
- Friday 15th March PTA Event - Easter Bingo @Heather Village Hall
- Friday 22nd March - School Closes for Easter Break
- Easter Break - Monday 25th March - Friday 5th April
- Monday 8th April - School open for all
- Monday 6th May - May Day Bank Holiday
- KS 1 Assessments take place throughout May*
- KS 2 Sats Monday 13th -Thursday 16th May*
- 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
- Wednesday 19th June - Sports Day 1pm Start - Parents/Carers/Families welcome
- Monday 3rd June - 14th June - Year 4 Multiplication Check*
- Monday 10th June Year 1 Phonic Screen - take place this week*
- Wednesday 26th June - MSM Productions - The Little Princess (TBC)
- Tuesday 2nd July year 5/6 Leavers Performance 2pm (Year 5 parents/carers/family only)
- Tuesday 2nd July Year 5/6 Leavers' Performance 6pm (Year 6 parents/carers/family only)
- Wednesday 10th July - End of year Assembly on the Playground - All welcome
- Thursday 11th July - School closes for Summer Break for Children
- Friday 12th July 2024 - INSET DAY 5 Disaggregated. - Children/Staff not in school