



# Heathwood Lower School Newsletter

October 18

Well, we've only been back a few weeks but the summer holidays seem a distant memory! The children have returned full of energy and enthusiasm and have embraced the exciting learning in each class and the range of extra-curricular clubs and activities that we have planned.

It has been a real pleasure to get to know our newest children in Class R, they have settled in really well and we are all very proud of them.

Thank you for your continued effort with school uniform, the children are certainly looking very smart and showing how proud they are to belong to Heathwood Lower School ☺

Attendance has been superb so far and the competition is on to 'win' Heathwood the Attendance Bear - well done in September to Classes 1, 2 and 3 for the greatest weekly attendances.

Congratulations to Foxes House for the most House Points in September.

You may already be aware, from recent press coverage, that Central Beds Council has looked strategically at the future of education in our area, and consulted with local schools on their views as to how to meet the upcoming rise in demand for school places as new housing is built. The local authority will be planning a transition to a two-tier system which will potentially be in effect by 2020 or 2021. This also means that any new schools built in this area will be primary or secondary. There are currently no firm plans for how this move to two-tier will take effect, and clearly there is a host of questions and concerns from all the schools affected, as well as a raft of new opportunities. Funding for the project is hoped to come from the Department for Education, but this is not yet confirmed. Obviously I will keep you all abreast of developments as and when they occur.

Have a great month,

**Susanne Dove**

## Pre-School News

Hello again. We are very pleased to let you know that all our children have settled into Pre-School very well and are enjoying their days. Towards the end of last month we were lucky enough (along with Reception Class and Class 1) to spend some time with a lady from 'Drama 4 all' where the children enjoyed trying to give a sad clown back his smile. Don't forget our 2Simple profile afternoon on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 2.00 p.m in the main school hall and then with your child/ren in Early Years. Look forward to seeing you there!



## Application for Schools

### Lower School applications and Middle School transfer - Deadline is Tuesday 15 Jan 2019

School admissions for 2019 are now open, and Central Bedfordshire will be publicising the message widely over the coming months, including making parents aware of all open evenings for prospective pupils.

There is **NO automatic transfer** - parents must apply for all school places to their local authority.

If you have a child born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015 and you are interested in a place at Heathwood, please call 01525 377096 to make an appointment to visit our school at your convenience.

## Dates for your Diary

### October

2<sup>nd</sup> Class 4 Local History walk  
4<sup>th</sup> Lunch with the teachers  
5<sup>th</sup> Harvest Assembly - 2.30pm  
6<sup>th</sup> PTA Car Boot 9.00-11.00am  
9<sup>th</sup> Individual School Photos  
9<sup>th</sup> KS1+2 Run 4 Fun  
10<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Travelling Bookshop  
12<sup>th</sup> Flu Immunisation  
17<sup>th</sup> Class 4 Quarry/Stockgrove Trip  
18<sup>th</sup> Class R/Pre-School Meeting for Parents 2.00pm  
19<sup>th</sup> Class 4 Assembly 9.00am  
22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> Half Term  
31<sup>st</sup> Class 4 Parents' Lunch

### November

1<sup>st</sup> Maths Meeting at 9.00am  
1<sup>st</sup> Class 2 trip to Stoke Bruerne  
7<sup>th</sup> Phonics Meeting at 9.00am  
7<sup>th</sup> Class 3 Parents' Lunch  
8<sup>th</sup> KS2 Tag Rugby  
9<sup>th</sup> Class 4 Remembrance Service  
14<sup>th</sup> Class 2 Parents' Lunch  
14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Parents' evenings  
15<sup>th</sup> KS2 Sports Hall Athletics  
16<sup>th</sup> Children in Need - 'Spotacular'  
19<sup>th</sup> Houses of Parliament visit  
21<sup>st</sup> Class 1 Parents' Lunch  
23<sup>rd</sup> Class 3 Assembly  
28<sup>th</sup> Class R Parents' Lunch

### December

7<sup>th</sup> Out of School Achievement Assembly  
7<sup>th</sup> PTA Christmas Fayre 4.00-6.00pm  
12<sup>th</sup> Children's Christmas Dinner  
13<sup>th</sup> Pantomime visiting Heathwood  
19<sup>th</sup> Mufti Day for Winning House  
20<sup>th</sup> Carol Service at St Leonards Church  
20<sup>th</sup> Xmas Jumper Day  
20<sup>th</sup> Last day of Autumn Term

## Harvest Assembly

Harvest Festival is an annual celebration that occurs around the time of the main harvest. In Britain, thanks have been given for successful harvests since pagan times. Harvest festival is traditionally held on the Sunday of, or nearest to, the Harvest Moon.

In British schools, people bring in produce from the garden, the allotment or farm. The food is often distributed among the poor and senior citizens of the local community, or used to raise funds for the church, or charity.

This year we are planning to donate the gifts from our Harvest Festival to the Salvation Army. The charity provides food parcels to vulnerable families in Leighton Buzzard and the surrounding area.

Non-perishable Harvest gifts may be brought into school from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October to add to our collection in the hall, on the stage.

- Rice / Pasta
- Tinned fish / meat
- Baked Beans
  - Soup
- Shower gel / Soap
- Breakfast cereal - variety packs
- Tooth paste / tooth brush
- Long life fruit juice
  - Tinned fruit
- Long life milk
- Pot noodles

You are warmly invited to join us in celebration of our Harvest Assembly which will take place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm.

## Class Assemblies

Class 4 are hosting their assembly on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 9.00am and Class 3 on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November to share some of their learning from this term. Parents and Carers of these children are very welcome to attend. We hold an 'Out of School' Achievement Assembly at the end of each term. Children are encouraged to bring in certificates and medals etc. that they have been awarded at clubs out of school.

## School Lunches

It is that time of the year again when we all enjoy sharing lunch with the children. Many of the staff regularly eat a school meal in the dining hall with the children, but on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October we will all be joining them to have a meal together.

After half term we would like to invite you to join us to have lunch with your child. Look out for the letter in your child's book bag in the week before the lunch (Class 4's letter will come out before half term).

Dates as follows:

- Class 4 - Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October
- Class 3 - Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November
- Class 2 - Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November
- Class 1 - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November
- Class R - Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November

### PTA

A very big welcome to our new PTA Committee:  
Jen Geary - Chair  
Rachel Harrington - Vice Chair and PTA  
Facebook page  
Yulia Lewington - Treasurer  
Tracey Cunningham - Secretary, Newsletter and  
PTA Facebook page

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big  
'Thank you' to our PTA Committee from last year  
for doing a fabulous job ☺

### Parents Evenings

Parent's evenings are on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>  
November from 3.45 - 6.00pm.  
You will be invited to make a 10 minute appointment with your  
child's teacher to discuss how well they have settled into  
their new class. Appointment letters will be coming home  
shortly, please sign up for as many slots as you can to help us  
allocate everyone a time. We will notify you of your  
appointment time by return.

If you have already had an IAP or EHC meeting with your  
child's teacher, there is no need to book a further  
appointment (please ask the class teacher if you are unsure)

### Enrichment

Every Friday afternoon the children in Classes 1-  
4 join in with 'Enrichment activities'. Children are  
grouped in House teams (split into two) and take  
part in a different activity each week (do ask  
your child what activities they have enjoyed so  
far). "We are really enjoying the Enrichment  
afternoons because they are great fun, it's good  
to work with other children, and learn new  
exciting skills!"

### Phonics Open Morning

Mr Dicker will be sharing our phonics scheme on Wednesday  
7<sup>th</sup> November at 9.00am and demonstrating the meaning of  
digraphs and trigraphs. There will be an opportunity to see  
phonics in action around the school. All welcome.

### Flu Vaccinations

The NHS Immunisation and Vaccination Team will be coming  
into school on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October to give Classes R - 4 their  
flu nasal spray.

### Rewards and Celebration

At Heathwood we have a House Point system, our 'Houses' are Squirrels, Foxes, Rabbits, and Badgers- your child  
will know which house they are in. Points are awarded in class, in assembly, at playtimes and lunchtimes. The  
points are collected and counted weekly by the House Captains and celebrated on Fridays. The House with the  
most points at the end of each term is awarded a House Mufti day.

We continue to award Merit certificates for Active Learning, a pencil to the 'Star Writer' and a mathematical  
reward to the 'Amazing Mathematician' in each class every other week.

On Fridays at 9.00am we hold a Celebration assembly, this is to recognise 'Good Work' and 'Star Writer' or  
'Amazing Mathematician'; you will be invited by text if your child is to receive an award. A photograph and super  
learning is displayed in school each week, do feel free to have a look.

And of course, Heathwood the Bear is awarded to the class with the best weekly attendance.

### Boy's Football Competition

On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September ten Class 3 and 4 boys took part in the Leighton  
Linslade Boy's Football Tournament and came home with a Gold Medal! They  
represented the school brilliantly - winning 2, and drawing 1, out of the 3  
group matches. This put them into the playoff matches. This was a really  
close and enjoyable match which resulted in 1-0 win! This put them into the  
small schools' final where  
they won 2-0! We are massively proud of their sportsmanship, teamwork and  
behaviour. ☺

Well done to Isaac, Tommy, George, Daniel W, Oscar,  
Jaydon, Adrian, Sebastian, Joe and Charlie H.

### School Milk

If your child would like to have  
milk at school in the  
coming term from 'Cool Milk'  
please see their website  
([www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)) for  
details on how to register

### Sports News

We are continuing with our Daily Mile activity. Each day, all children (and lots of adults) go to the field and walk,  
skip, jog or run just before lunch. This has been a really positive addition to our day.

You will also have seen on the school's Facebook page that five members of staff have now completed the  
Blenheim Palace 10k to raise funds to support physical development opportunities in school. We are raising  
money to develop an all weather running lane, so that The Daily Mile can continue throughout the year (even with  
bad weather). Please visit [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/heathwood-lowerschool](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/heathwood-lowerschool) to donate to our cause. We  
currently have an amazing £2,782! Thank you to parents, staff, governors and the runners' friends and family  
who have been supporting us.

## Pupil Premium

If you believe that you may be entitled to claim Pupil Premium grant for your child and you do not already do so, or if you are not sure, please contact Central Beds Council to lodge an application.

Tel: 0300 300 8306 or [customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

If your family is 'hard pressed' you may be eligible for this grant; **the school uses this funding to support your child's learning in a variety of ways, it can also cover some of the cost of trips, school clubs and music lessons.** Do please come and speak to Mrs Wilkins in the Office.

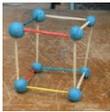


So, here is the news from the last Summer term challenge. A very well done to Persephone in Year 3 who is a Star  challenger as she completed all three challenges. There were some lovely posters relating to Summer and what it means and there were several children who showed their knowledge of the flags, so a very well done all!

For September, we again have one star challenger  Caitlin in Year 4. I would also like to say congratulations to Joshua (Year 1) and Raef (Year 3) who completed two of the challenges. Well done as well to those children who made words from 'challenge'.

I am very pleased to say that Charlie D in Year 3 has set a challenge for you all and wins himself house points. Here are this month's challenges

- **Charlie's challenge: Create your own board game; design it on no more than an**



**A4 piece of paper - be as imaginative and creative as you like.**

- **Shape; Make some shapes from lolly sticks, toothpicks, straws or card and playdoh or blue/white tack. They can be 3D or 2D**

- **I wonder ... What makes thunder?**



Enjoy and I hope to get more challenges back from more children than before, so please get busy!

Happy challenging!

Mrs Elaine Dicocco

### Parking

Parking can be a problem around the school area and we have already received complaints from our neighbours in Chiltern Gardens and Cotefield Drive. Please do not park over someone's driveway, near the school crossing, on grass verges or the entrance to a road.

Please remember 'The Star' public house allows parents to use their car park and we would encourage you to make use of this facility if you need to drive.

### Value of the Month - Responsibility

### Term Dates 2018/19

#### Autumn

**Wednesday 5th September 2018-Friday 19th October 2018**  
**Monday 29th October 2018-Thursday 20th December 2018**

#### Spring

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019-Friday 8th February 2019**  
**Monday 18th February 2019-Friday 5th April 2019**

#### Summer

**Tuesday 23rd April 2019-Friday 24th May 2019**  
**Monday 3rd June 2019-Friday 19th July 2019**

#### INSET Days

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4th September 2018**  
**Thursday 3rd January 2019**  
**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019**

**Local Elections: Thursday 2nd May 2019**  
**May Day Bank Holiday Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**Words of the week this month-**

through, threw, for, four, here, hear, your, you're

**Jeans for Genes day**

Thank you for your kind donations, we raised £133 for this charity which helps disorder-specific charities and patient groups to deliver inspiring projects and support services for children affected by a genetic disorder in the UK.

**Language of the term - German**

We are continuing to learn German and I am encouraging the children to share anything they know or find out about Germany for the Languages board in the hall. This month's words we will be (or have learnt) are

Welcome : **Willkommen**

Thank you : **Danke**

How are you? : **Wie geht es Ihnen**

Fine, thank you : **Gut Danke**

**School Diaries**

I have checked all the children's school diaries this week and was thrilled to see so much support for reading at home. Do please remember to sign and comment every time you read with your child at home, working in partnership really does make a difference. There is a vast amount of information in the diaries, please take some time to look through with your child and sign the relevant pages at the front, I noticed that many of them are still blank.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

**Our Value for October is**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

- The ability to make and act upon appropriate and sensible decisions
  - To recognise the consequences of one's actions
  - To take care of oneself and one's property

In school our pupils are often given jobs to do which they are encouraged to see through and do to the best of their ability. We will consider the importance of looking after ourselves and our possessions. We will stress the need to take responsibility for the way we behave and encourage our pupils to make the right choices.

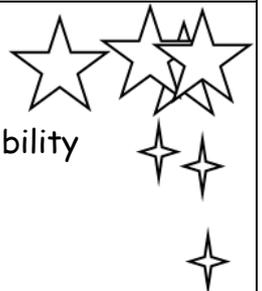
Responsibility in a global sense will be discussed and consideration given to how we as a school could make the world a better place,

At home during this month you may like to assign your children small jobs which they are responsible for completing eg. keeping a tidy bedroom, setting the table, dusting, feeding pets etc. They could also be responsible for making sure they have everything they need for school each day. All that is needed is praise for a job well done!

["We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future."](#)

[George Bernard Shaw](#)

**WOW!**



Let us know how your child has demonstrated this month's Value of Responsibility

at home.



# Preloved parent, children and baby goods

Profits go to NCT Charity



## Quality Children Clothes & Equipment at Bargain Prices

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

Entry £1 Per adult

**Cedars Upper School**

**Mentmore Road**

**LU7 2AE**

**12.00 noon to 1.30pm**

(admission at 11.45am for NCT members)

**Please note buggies and pushchairs will not be allowed in the sale rooms**

**Please email [nns.leightonbuzard@nct.org.uk](mailto:nns.leightonbuzard@nct.org.uk) for more details**



NCT is acting as the agent for sellers at NCT Nearly New sales.

NCT is a trading name of The National Childbirth Trust  
Limited company registered in England and Wales: 2370573  
Registered office: 30 Euston Square, St Pancras Way, London, England, NW1 2FB  
Registered charity in England and Wales: 801395 and Scotland: SC541362

© NCT 2018