



Heathwood Lower School Newsletter

September 18

Welcome back!

I hope that you all had a fabulous summer; I can see that the children are refreshed and eager to start the new school year.

I would like to welcome all those children, parents and staff who are new to Heathwood - a big welcome to Sue Wilkins in the Office. Starting somewhere new is both exciting and challenging as you learn new routines and make new friendships. We hope you will find our school community friendly and supportive. It is very easy to make assumptions that we all know what happens on a daily basis and at special events. If you are uncertain or have any worries, please do not hesitate to ask. We aim to work in partnership with you for the benefit of all our children.

If you see a new family on the playground, please make an effort to make them welcome ☺

We will be reminding children about 'The Heathwood Way' this week, a 'non-negotiable approach' to learning ('I can do it' attitude), and a pride in ourselves and our environment; including smartness of school uniform, tidy work books with neat handwriting, and an organised, litter free environment. I hope you will join us with encouraging 'The Heathwood Way' at home.

Heathwood is an inclusive school that promotes a set of values; we strive to nurture our pupils in order that they may become confident, caring, compassionate children, ready to make a positive contribution to the wider community when they leave our care. We work tirelessly to ensure the school continues to flourish and maintains its welcoming, family feel. I hope that as many of you will get involved in the life of the school as possible, by working together can we make sure your sons and daughters enjoy school and develop the skills and knowledge they need to build successful, happy lives.

Susanne Dove

Pre-School News

We are very keen to welcome back some of our children and also excited to get to know and work with our new children. We are going to be busy learning together, having fun and settling into our new routines and have some exciting activities and ideas planned. First day back has been marvellous with two new children settling in extremely well. On that note we are welcoming new families to our setting but do still have a few vacancies if you know anyone looking for a good pre-school for their child/ren.



Dates for your Diary

September

- 12th First full day for Class R
- 14th Photographs - individual
- 17th PTA AGM at 7.00pm
- 19th Class 1 trip to Higgins Museum
- 21st Jeans for Genes day
- 25th Reading Meeting at 9.00am
- 27th KS2 Boys Football competition
- 28th Sports Mufti Day

October

- 2nd Class 4 Local walk
- 4th Lunch with the teachers
- 5th Harvest Assembly at 2.30pm
- 9th KS1/2 Run for Fun
- 12th Class 4 Assembly
- 17th Class 4 Quarry/Stockgrove Trip
- 18th Class R/Pre-Sch Meeting for Parents 2.00pm
- 22nd - 26th Half Term

Daily Routines

The school gates are open in the morning between 8:40 and 9:10, and in the evening between 3:15 and 3:45.

Doors will open at 8:55 and close at 9:00. If you are late, please bring your child to the Office where we will mark him/her in and escort them to class. Lateness after 9:05 is unauthorised.

Just reminder- Children are the responsibility of parents until 8:55. For their own safety, please do not let children play on the Trim Trail or ride scooters or bikes in the playground.

School Diaries

This year's school diary is coming home today which contain reading records as well as lots of school information all in one place. We expect these diaries to be in school every day and taken home every evening. Please spend time with your child looking through and signing the appropriate pages. Please encourage your child to look after their diary, they are costly and we will have to charge £3.50 for any that are lost.

Medicines

Medicines kept in school must be prescribed by a GP. Inhalers must be in date and provided in the original box with instructions for use. All medicine must be named clearly. A form must be completed at the office if your child is prescribed any medicine that needs to be administered in school.

31st Class 4 Parents' Lunch
November
 1st Maths Meeting at 9.00am
 7th Class 3 Parents' Lunch
 7th Phonics Meeting at 9.00am
 8th KS2 Tag Rugby
 9th Yr 4 Remembrance in Church Sq
 14th Class 2 Parents' Lunch
 14th and 15th Parents' Evenings
 15th KS2 Sports Hall Athletics
 16th Children in Need 'Spotacular'
 21st Class 1 Parents' Lunch
 23rd Class 3 Assembly
 28th Class R Parents' Lunch

Playtime Snack

Children in classes R, 1 and 2 receive a fresh fruit snack daily as part of the Government's 'Schools Fruit and Vegetables Scheme'. Children in Classes 3 and 4 are allowed to bring a 'healthy snack', e.g. a piece of fruit, vegetable or cheese, for morning break - no sweets, chocolate or cereal bars please. Fairtrade Council sell healthy Fairtrade tuck on Fridays at playtime. Tuck costs 50p.

We encourage children to have a water bottle in school every day, water only please which can be refilled from our chilled water dispenser. Don't forget that Heathwood water bottles are on sale for £2 from the PTA or School Office.



Curriculum Meetings

We are holding Curriculum Meetings for all parents of children in Reception - Year 4. Please come along and find out about how we teach and how your child learns Reading (25th Sept), Maths (1st Nov) and Phonics (7th Nov). There will be a short talk in the hall at 9.00am followed by a chance to see it in the classrooms in action.

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. We have a muffy day at the end of each term for the House with the most points.

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

On Fridays at 9.00 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.

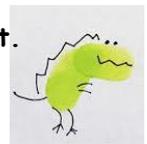


Hello and welcome back to a new year. As this is the first day back, I have not yet checked the challenge table, but I do know that several children completed the football flag challenge so I am looking forward to giving them their challenge certificates and small rewards, along with those who found out about glitter and/or created a poster that sums up Summer. If your child/ren would still like to have a go at a challenge, they can; just get them in before Monday 10th September. News about the challenges will follow later.

So, on to this month ...

Our challenges are:

- **Creative; Thumbprint things - make your own creation from your thumb or fingerprint. Have fun and give your creation a name.**
- **Word; How many words can you make from the word challenge?**
- **If you met a caveman what would you ask him?** You can think of as many questions as you would like in order to find out more.



Happy challenging! Mrs Elaine Dicocco

School Uniform

The children returned to school today looking very smart in their new school uniform. We are proud of our uniform and I expect children to have their top button fastened, shirt tucked in and tie tied correctly at all times. Please ensure that your child is smartly dressed as they come in to class.

I know how expensive uniform can be - please make sure it is all named so that we can return any mislaid items to you promptly!! Please also ensure that your child has a full named P.E kit and trainers in school every day.

Genes for Jeans

We are again supporting Jeans for Genes (Friday 21st Sept) which raises funds to support children affected by genetic disorders. There are around 6,000 genetic disorders and it is estimated that one in 25 children is affected by a genetic disorder. 30,000 babies and children are newly diagnosed in the UK each year. Some genetic disorders are apparent at birth while others are diagnosed at different stages throughout childhood, and sometimes into adolescence. Wear jeans/denim and bring in a £1 donation.

School dinners

School dinners for children in Reception, Class 1 and Class 2 are **free**, funded by the government (UFSM-Universal Free School Meals). We are very proud of our super school meals (**have a look at the menu on the school website**), Gill and Rachel work really hard to provide a nutritious and delicious selection of food every day. I would encourage all children to have a free meal at lunchtime instead of bringing a packed lunch.

For Years 3 & 4 School dinners will be £2.10 per day /£10.50 per week / £69.30 for this half term.

All dinner money should be sent in a sealed envelope via the class teacher on a Monday morning and cheques made payable to 'Heathwood Lower School'. Alternatively payments for school meals can be paid for online to NatWest account name Heathwood Lower School, sort code 60-02-13 account number 62411632 please reference with your child's name prefixed with SM.

Term Dates 2018/19

Autumn

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

Spring

Friday 4th 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 3rd and Tuesday 4th September 2018

Thursday 3rd January 2019

Friday 3rd May 2019

Local Elections: Thursday 2nd May 2019 May Day Bank

Holiday Monday 6th May 2019

Please note: These INSET dates might be different to other schools locally.

Heathwood Harriers

Heathwood Harriers Football Club starts this Saturday 8th September. Training is held every Saturday morning during term time between 9:30 and 10:30 for Years 1-4, while Reception children start at 9:30.

Parking is available on the playground and training takes place on the school field.

All children are welcome.

Parking

Parking can be a problem around the school area and we often receive complaints. 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. Please do not park over someone's driveway, near the school crossing or the entrance to a road.

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) for details on how to register.

Harvest

In Britain, 'thanks' have been given for successful harvests since pagan times. Traditionally, people have brought produce from the garden, the allotment or farm to distribute among the poor and senior citizens of the local community.

At Heathwood we ask for donations of store cupboard food which we donate to support local families in Leighton Buzzard.

Please bring in your Harvest donation from 26th September.

We will celebrate Harvest Festival with a Heathwood Harvest assembly on

Friday 5th October at 2:30pm and you are all welcome.

Pupil Premium

If your family is 'hard pressed' you may be eligible for Pupil Premium 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, school uniform or music lessons.

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 come and speak to Mrs Wilkins in the Office or contact Central Beds Council to lodge an application.

Tel: 0300 300 8306 or customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Language of the Term

This term we are going to be learning some German words and phrases. We haven't yet started but will do on 19th September. If you or your children have any German objects or stories that they would like to share, I will do my best to fit this in.

First words - Hello : **Hallo**

Good morning : **Guten Morgen**

Good afternoon : **Guten Nachmittag/Tag**

Words of the week this month-
to, too, two
no, know
their, they're, there

Our Value for September is **PRIDE**

- A feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's own achievements, the achievements of one's close associates, or from qualities or possessions that are widely admired.

In school we will be concentrating on 'The Heathwood Way', taking pride in ourselves, and being especially proud of our learning and our environment. We continue to celebrate great learning and to show and tell each other how proud we are. We will discuss what pride looks like and how it makes us feel.

Thought for the month: "Vanity and pride are different things, though the words are often used synonymously. A person may be proud without being vain. Pride relates more to our opinion of ourselves, vanity to what we would have others think of us."— Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*

At home you could make a point of talking about pride in each other in your family, particularly telling children why you are so proud of them- 'I'm really proud of the way you waited so patiently', 'I'm proud that you are so kind to your brother' etc.



WOW!



Let us know how your child has demonstrated this month's Value of Pride at home.



Before School Tennis

Tennis coaching sessions for Years 1-4 will resume on Wednesday mornings 8.00am - 8.45am weekly. The sessions are run by Level 3 Tennis professional Ross Neary and run from Wednesday 12th September until Wednesday 5th December. The price is £42 for one child and £80 for two children. Please place your child's name and payment in an envelope and hand it to the School Office if you wish them to attend, or speak to the School Office for further details.



Dear Parents/Carers

Smart Raspberry After School Cookery Club - Autumn Term

I still have some spaces for the After School Cookery Club this Autumn Term. This is for **children in Year 1-4**.

The sessions will be running on Mondays. They will commence on **Monday, 10 September** and run through to **Monday, 10 December**. The price is **£7.50 per child, per session**.

Your child can come and learn the skills involved in cooking, to experiment with different ingredients and most importantly to enjoy food! We make a wide variety of savoury and sweet dishes, some of which are ready to eat and some of which simply need to be cooked or heated at home. Smart Raspberry has recently reviewed its recipes and some of them have been adapted to make them healthier. We have still included some of our sweet treats, though! We make a wide variety of savoury and sweet dishes, some of which are ready to eat and some of which simply need to be cooked or heated at home. This term, we will be making a variety of recipes including: Pizza Swirls, Apple & Blackberry Pie, Houmous & Pitta Triangles and Rocky Road. All ingredients, cooking equipment, use of aprons and packaging, plus a laminated recipe card to keep each week are included within the cost.

Autumn Term 2018 – Mondays - Time – 15.40-16.40

1st half term: £45 (10/09/18 - 15/10/18) 2nd half term: £52.50 (29/10/18 - 10/12/18)

If you would like to book a place for your child please book online: www.smartraspberry.com Places are allocated on a first come first served basis with a maximum of 12 in a class. If you have any questions please get in touch on the contact details below.

Kind regards

Melinda Johnston

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**St Leonard's Church
Heath and Reach**



St Leonard's Holiday Club

ANIMAL BLESSING SERVICE

in St Leonard's Church

**Saturday 29th September
12- 1pm**

Bring your pet or just come
and enjoy the service

During the service there will be a presentation
by Jackie Burke who runs the Leighton Buzzard Hedgehog Rescue

Collection in aid of Jackie's Hedgehog Rescue

For more information contact:
Rosemary Young 01525 237 345 or Vera Paul 01525 375095