



# Heathermount School – Newsletter

October 2023



Welcome to our new look newsletter for 2023/24!

As you will see, our newsletter has had a bit of a rebrand and we have streamlined it down to single digits in order to give you key information alongside links to our website, where you will find more details on some of the events that have taken place [this term](#) and lots of lovely [photographs](#).

## Google Classroom & Chromebooks

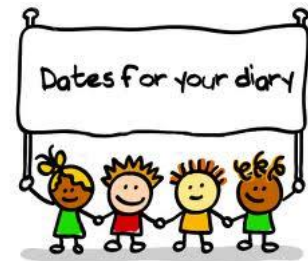
At the start of the term we launched Google Classroom and Chromebooks to secondary students and it has proven very popular with the students, giving them another alternative way to record their work. Staff are getting to grips learning the opportunities that Google Classroom gives to present work and give direct feedback. We are very mindful that we are a school that prides itself on developing communication and interaction skills with our students, so please rest assured that students will not be spending all their time in front of a Chromebook during lessons!

## Parents coffee afternoon

Thank you to all the parents who attended the coffee afternoon on Wednesday 11 October. It was a great opportunity to talk about the school, our recent developments and to answer questions. The turn out was really positive and I hope that we can get even more parents involved in the next meeting which will be online on 27th November. I will send out a link to access the meeting a few weeks beforehand along with a survey to see what topics you, as parents, would like to discuss.

## Staffing

We are sorry to say goodbye to Julie-Ann who is leaving us after 16 years at Heathermount, Julie-Ann will be taking a break from work for a while. She has been a hard working and very knowledgeable member of staff and we will really miss her.



**Monday 30th October**  
First day of term

**Friday 17th November**  
Children in Need (dress up)

**Monday 27th November**  
Online parent evening with  
Mr Stewart 7pm

**Thursday 7th December**  
Christmas Jumper day  
Student Christmas Lunch  
Parents Evening 4pm-7:30pm

**Monday 11th December**  
Secondary Showcase

**Tuesday 12th December**  
Primary & Foundation Nativity

**Wednesday 14th December**  
Last day of term

**Thursday 14th & Friday 15th December**  
Staff Inset days

**Wednesday 3rd January**  
Return to school

Recruitment can be challenging in the education sector, but we have started to make some positive appointments within the school, particularly with teaching assistants and office staff. There are still some gaps to fill and all of our job adverts can be found on the school website. If you know of anyone who may be suitable, please signpost them to our [vacancy page](#).

I hope you enjoy looking at the [news articles](#) and [photo galleries](#) on our website and seeing what we have been up to this term. I would like to thank all the staff for their commitment and hard work and the care they show towards the children, day in, day out.

### Halloween dress-up day

As usual, Heathermount staff and students did an amazing job dressing up today in a fantastically spooktacular manner. You can view photos in our online [Halloween Gallery](#). Thank you to staff and parents for all the efforts you have put in on the costumes.



Have a wonderful half term, stay safe and I look forward to seeing the students back in school on Monday 30th October.

David Stewart  
Headteacher



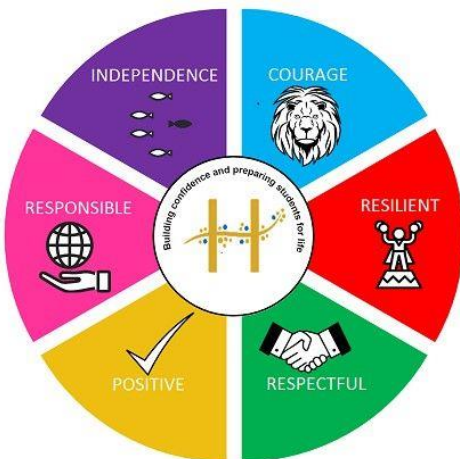
Congratulations to all of our students who won a start of the week this term:

- \* Paul
- \* Natan
- \* Amaan & Bradley
- \* Cohen
- \* Alex
- \* Sam
- \* Charlie

### Wow Moments

Well done to all our Foundation and Primary students who had Wow moments this term:

- |           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| * William | * Pieter-Brian |
| * Paru    | * Buddie       |
| * Tom     | * Lauren       |
| * Harry   | * Mylo         |
| * Kady    | * Billy-Joe    |
| * William | * Dennis       |



### Core Values

Each term, the whole school focuses on one of Heathermount's core values. At the end of term, staff nominate students who they feel have demonstrated the core value really well. An overall winner is then decided for foundation, primary and secondary. This term we have focused on being responsible and our cup winners are:

**Foundation - Dennis M**

**Primary – William C**

**Secondary – Charlie D**

Well done!



## Whole school attendance 92.5%

Thank you to everyone for contributing to the fantastic overall attendance figures this academic year. Please do continue to keep us informed of your child's absences. It is important to notify us of your child's absence each day they are not in school.

*The greater the attendance in school = the greater the achievement*

### On the Website

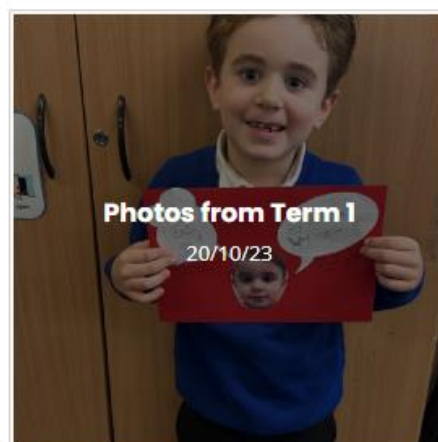
To find out more about what students have been doing this term look at the [Latest News](#) and [photo Gallery](#) on our website. If you can't see your child do make sure you have completed and returned our new Permission to Use Student Images consent form.

### Highlights from Term 1



It has been an exciting start to the new school year. Here are just a few of the highlights from term 1 to give you a flavour of what we have been up to at Heathermount. See our [photo Gallery](#) for more pictures

### Gallery



### School Lunches

Please make sure your child's school lunch account is up to date on [School Money](#)

### Term dates

The [term dates](#) for both this year academic year 2023/24 and next academic year 2024/25 can be found on our website.