



HEATHERMOUNT SCHOOL - NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

Learning in the Classroom

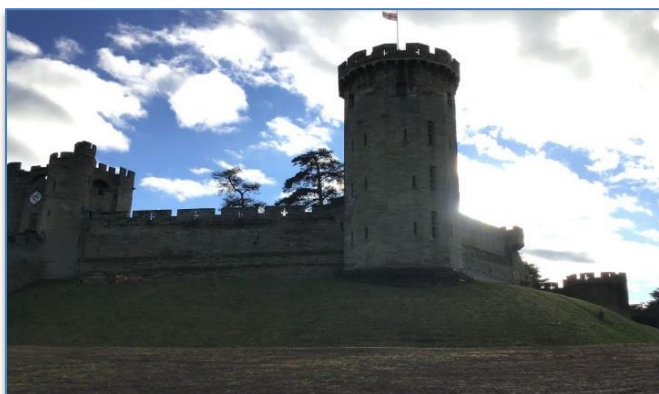
There is a brief update on some of the wonderful learning opportunities the students have engaging with this term, carefully planned and supported by the class/subject teachers and our teaching assistants. I was particularly pleased to see lots of creativity and enjoyment from our students when we welcomed the "Rocksteady music" group into school.

Do click the link below to see what's been going on!
[Heathermount School - Term 3 Highlights](#)

Trips and visits

There has been a deliberate focus on increasing school trips this year and despite some mixed weather, there have been a number of both local trips, and as far away as Warwick. Trips and visits allow us to really work with the children on social and communication skills outside of their normal environment, which is an important strand of our READY approach.

Thank you to the staff for organising the trips and creating some fantastic memories for our students.



Attendance

There has been a marked dip in student attendance during the last few weeks which is causing us some concern. This is mainly due to a lot of stomach bugs, coughs and colds etc so we are increasing our hygiene routine at school and conducting a deep clean during the February half term.

We all know the importance of children attending school and I would like to thank parents for their continued support in ensuring their children are in school, day in, day out, unless they are genuinely too unwell to attend.

Parent questionnaire

Thank you to every parent who took part in the parent questionnaire last month. This annual event is taken very seriously, and the results are analysed and shared with the Governors. Your responses help us shape our thinking and will often lead to actions that will hopefully have a positive impact.

We received 57 responses which equates to 73% of the parent body. Hopefully we can increase this figure year on year, so we get all parents' views on our annual survey.

The results were very positive, but we are always keen to look at ways to improve and get better and all the responses will be carefully considered and inform any future changes.

"My child is happy in school" - 100% of responses either agree or strongly agree.

"The school helps my child to keep safe" - 100% of responses either agree or strongly agree.

"I receive regular and helpful information on my child's progress and achievements" - 95% of responses either agree or strongly agree.

Parents coffee morning

We look forward to the next face to face Parents coffee session in school on Tuesday 27 February 09:15 - 10:00. Please complete the form below to let us know if you're attending and what you might like to discuss:

[Parent morning attendance form](#)

It's an opportunity to get an update about the school and to ask any questions you have.

Mental Health week

Throughout this week, we have been focusing on children's mental health and the theme of "my voice matters". There have been sessions run with the children throughout the week, a special assembly, two school council meetings and a staff training session. We have been asking the children how they want us to help them when they are having a difficult time, and looking at new ways that children can let us know if there is a worry.



Staffing

We have welcomed Marta Stoklosa and Lara Hunt to the TA team this term and they are settling in nicely. In addition, we have Caroline Gale who will be joining Foundation as a TA after the holidays.

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to Chris at Easter, and we wish him well when he starts at a new school. We are currently advertising for his replacement and there will be a plan in place in the interim that will be shared with the parents of Pine children closer to the time.

I hope that you all have a wonderful half term and look forward to seeing the children return on Monday 19 February.

Annual Reviews

We now have a new email address that can be used for anything related to annual reviews:

annual.review@heathermount.co.uk

School Lunches

School menus can be found on our [website](#) - please remember to pay for your child's lunches via the Arbor parent portal or Arbor App. Any top up amount can be added to your child's account.

Here is a YouTube to give you an [overview of the parent app](#).

School values cup/star of the week and WOW moments

One of the best parts of my job is when, on a Friday, I get to hand out WOW moments, Star of the week certificates and the Core values cup. It is such a pleasure to celebrate and highlight our students' achievements with the rest of the school community, and to reinforce our expectations of how we behave and treat each other.

Congratulations

Brody, Kady and Amaan for winning our core value cup for showing **courage** this term.

Wow Moments

Foundation

Billy-Joe, Dennis,
Lauren, Billy-Joe,
Noah, Pieter Brian, Brody
Buddie

Primary

Harry, Jack, William,
Isaac, Sammy, Kady

Secondary

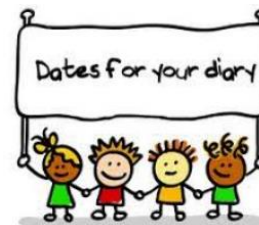
Traivys, Henry, Isla, Lily
Erik, Jay R, Erin, Tobias



Natan Abdul Amaan Tyler

Permissions

We do try our hardest to include as many children as possible in the newsletter or on our website. If your child doesn't appear, please do check your child's permissions on the Arbor app as if they don't appear, it may be because we haven't received your permission yet. This can be changed on Arbor.



Start of Term 4:	Mon 19 February
Parent Coffee Morning:	Tues 27 February
Leaver's Reunion:	Wed 28 February
History day (KS2/3):	Fri 1 March
World Book Day:	Thurs 7 March
Secondary Project Day:	Fri 8 March
Shrek (Secondary Performance):	Fri 22 March