



Heathermount School – Newsletter

July 2024

Welcome to the sixth and final newsletter of the year!

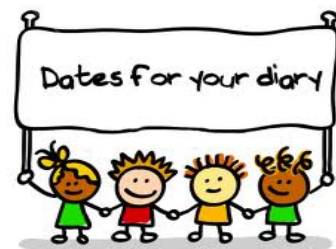
We held our first whole school assembly last Friday where all of our students from Foundation, Primary and Secondary joined together in the sports hall where Jax showed a slideshow of all the trips, visits and visitors that we have had across the school this academic year. I was amazed at how much we have managed to fit in this year! Do enjoy reading a small snippet of what we've been up to [this term](#) and look at the [photo gallery](#) on the website of some of the pictures that have been taken.

Heathermount Olympics

What a day! I was so pleased to see so many parents attend our annual Heathermount event and enjoy the "Olympic theme". Despite some light rain, everyone seemed to enjoy the day; we celebrated achievements across the school and said goodbye and good luck to our Heathermount leavers. As always, the highlight was hearing from the students themselves and their reflections on their time at Heathermount. We all wish them all well on the next chapter in their life.

Calshot Residential

A big thank you to Dani, Zoe, Sudha, Ros, Matt and Jax who took some of our older Secondary students for a 4 night [residential trip to Calshot Activity centre](#). The students tackled every challenge with enthusiasm and teamwork and learned a lot about themselves and others during their action packed week. I was lucky to go down and visit them on day 3 and enjoyed a sea kayaking session, followed by the big swing and then Archery. Many of you would have



Wednesday 24 July

Last day of Term 6 for students

Thursday 25 July

Inset day for Staff

27 July to 1 September

Summer holiday

Monday 2 September

Inset day for Staff

Tuesday 3 September

First day of Term 1 for students

26 September 6:30-8:30r

Parent Forum on Online Safety

Friday 25 October

Last day of Term 1 for students

28 October - 1 November

October half term

Monday 4 November

First day of Term 2 for students

read an account of the trip in the second edition of the Heathermount Herald (written by Alessandro).

Visit to Shrek the musical

Thank you to Heather for organising the trip to see [Shrek the musical](#) in London. Twenty-seven children enjoyed watching the show and recounted all of the songs and lines that they had enjoyed when performing our version at Easter.

Staffing

As is always the case with schools, as we come to the end of term we have staff leaving us. We are sorry to say that in July we will be saying goodbye to Leah who will be leaving us to take up an Assistant Head position closer to her home. John H is moving on to new projects, Kelly in the Admin team is leaving to return to teaching and Margot, our clinical psychologist is leaving to further develop her professional interests.

We are welcoming Liliana to the Primary team, Liliana has been with us since June learning all about the students and how Heathermount works so is very much ready to lead Pine. Nicki will join the Foundation team as a teacher, Lily will join the Leadership Team as our Assistant Head of Primary in September and Megan will join Heathermount as an Art Teacher.

Ofsted visit

Well, as the Ofsted inspection we were expecting has not yet happened, we are most likely to have the visit in the first few weeks of September and we look forward to showing the inspectors the school and our wonderful students. When we are notified of the visit, I will contact all parents and provide a link to the Ofsted parent questionnaire portal. This will give all parents the opportunity to complete the questionnaire (very similar to the annual school questionnaire) and add any further comments.

Minibuses

There have been lots of trips and visits this term, which has been made much easier to organise now we have our two new minibuses. Staff have undergone MiDAS professional training before taking the students out in the vans. We currently have 12 staff members trained to drive them and will have a few more training sessions in September.



Congratulations to all our stars of the week this term:

- o Tobias
 - o Erik
 - o Tyler
 - o Ben
 - o Billy
 - o Dexter
 - o Bradley
-

Wow Moments

Well done to all our students who had wow moments:

Foundation:

- o Lauren
- o Dennis
- o Brody
- o Christopher
- o Alice
- o Bradley
- o Christopher
- o Buddie
- o Pieter-Brian

Primary:

- o Alex
- o Sammy
- o Lamine
- o Nathaniel
- o Stanley
- o Paru
- o Jack
- o Jacob
- o Brody

Thank you

Thank you to all parents for your unwavering support this year and for working so closely with the school to give the very best support and education to your children. It is an absolute pleasure to work with such wonderful young people.

On behalf of all the staff, have a wonderful Summer holiday and I hope the sun manages to make an appearance. We look forward to seeing the students return on Tuesday September 3rd.

David Stewart
Headteacher

Secondary:

- Charlie
- Lily
- Bradley
- Finley
- Oliver G
- Paul
- Rhys
- Isaac
- Tobias
- Sam
- Paige
- Cohen
- Bailey
- Cian
- Charlie E
- Leo
- Alessandro
- Traivys
- Ben
- Saarim
- Bradley
- Gavin
- Dominic
- Ethan
- Erik
- Cohen
- Isla
- Amaan
- Colbie
- Sam
- Charlie D

★ Outstanding Achievement Awards ★

★ Christopher

★ Lamine

★ Oliver

★ Sam

★ Charlie-Ray

★ Kady

★ Benjamin

★ Lily

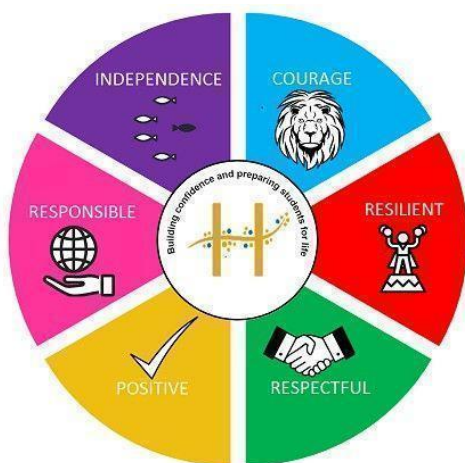
★ Oliver G

★ Sammy

★ Georgie

★ Tobias

★ Leo



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 **Resilience** and our cup winners are:

- **Foundation - Billy-Joe**
- **Primary - Stanley**
- **Secondary - Erin**



Whole school attendance 93.7%

Thank you to everyone for contributing to the fantastic overall attendance figures this academic year. It was wonderful to celebrate the students' part in achieving this figure by watching a film together at the end of term. Please continue to keep us informed of your child's absences. It is important to notify us of each day your child is not in school.

The greater the attendance in school = the greater the achievement

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR THIS YEAR =
93.7%**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

A STUDENT WHO ENDS THE SCHOOL YEAR ON 90% ATTENDANCE WILL HAVE MISSED 4 COMPLETE WEEKS OF SCHOOL

THE GREATER YOUR ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL = THE GREATER YOUR ACHIEVEMENT

DID YOU KNOW?
STUDENTS WITH 6.5% ABSENCE OR LESS ACHIEVE ON AVERAGE 75% A*-C* GRADES AT GCSE

DID YOU KNOW?
STUDENTS WITH 30% ABSENCE OR MORE ACHIEVE NO GCSE PASSES

Is my child too ill for school?

Please follow the [NHS guidance](#) on when to send your child to school

Term dates

Term dates for the [2025/2026 academic year](#) have been finalised and are available on our website along with the term dates for 2024/25.

School Lunches

The [menus](#) for the Autumn term are now 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.