



Heathermount School – Newsletter

February 2025

Welcome to the first edition of the Heathermount School newsletter for 2025! Please see our [Highlights of Term 3](#) web article and photo [Gallery](#) for more information on the term.

Trips and visits

We've had some more lovely trips and visits this term; some of Primary have had the chance to visit the London Aquarium and Birdworld, others have been practicing their culinary skills at Pizza Express. Earth class have been to Windsor Castle and have had several trips to practice key life skills, such as communication, interaction, and handling money.

Our Foundation students visited a garden centre and Tesco where they have explored the world beyond the classroom.

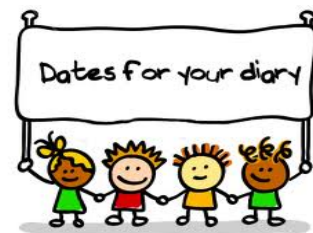
Parents coffee evening

On Tuesday 21st January I had an online information session with parents. It was great to see so many faces. We discussed the site development and staffing, trips, PE and leisure within school, along with the plans for a hybrid parents evening this year and school holidays. The minutes were sent out to parents by email. Our next catch up will be face to face in school on Wednesday 4th June at 2:15pm.

Staffing

It's great to have Jax, our Assistant Head for Secondary, back in school after her operation and it is lovely to have filled the majority of our staff vacancies. We currently only have two teaching assistant vacancies and will soon be advertising for an additional admin team member.

They say things always come in threes! We would like to send our congratulations to Laura (English teacher), Hannah (Willow Class teacher) and Abigail (Beech Class TA) who are all expecting babies this year. Plans are in place to cover their roles



Friday 14 February

Inset Day - Staff Training

Monday 17 - Friday 21 February

February Half-Term

Monday 24 February

Start of Term 4 for students

Thursday 6 March

Options evening (Pluto/Jupiter)

Thursday 6 March

World book day - dress-up

Thursday 13 March

Primary science workshop

Friday 21 March

Comic Relief - dress-up

Friday 28 March

Secondary Project day

Friday 4 April

Last day of Term 4 for students

Friday 5 April - Monday 21 April

Easter Holiday

Tuesday 22 April

Inset Day - Staff Training

Wednesday 23 April

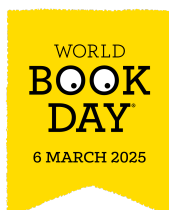
Start of Term 5 for students

which will be communicated before they head off on maternity leave.

Reunion

Tonight we are looking forward to a very special evening where we invite some of Heathermount's alumni to join this year's leavers and share their experiences of life outside Heathermount. I'd like to thank the HLTAs and Caroline who have been really busy organising this event which helps prepare our students for transition.

Looking ahead



We have World Book Day coming up on Thursday, 6th March, and we encourage all students to celebrate by dressing up as their favourite book characters. There will be a range of exciting book-related activities throughout the day, making it a fantastic opportunity to share our love of reading.



Then on 21st March we will be raising funds for Comic Relief where students can come in dressed in red or something funny (ensuring it is school appropriate please).

I wish you all a wonderful half term and we are all looking forward to seeing the children return on Monday 24th February.

David Stewart
Headteacher



Congratulations to all our stars of the week this term:

- Amaan
- Taim
- Cohen
- Ethan
- Sam

Wow Moments

Well done to all our **Foundation** students who had wow moments:

- Gianfranco
- Marco
- Olivia
- Noah
- Christopher
- Max
- Jasper
- Zachary
- Bethany
- George

Wow Moments

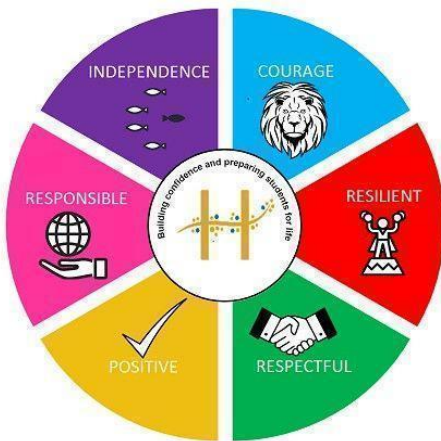
Well done to all our **Primary** students who had wow moments:

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| ○ Stanley W | ● Sammy |
| ○ Georgie | ● Billy-Joe |
| ○ Noah | ● Buddie |
| ○ Bradley N | ● Charlie-Ray |
| ○ Dennis | ● Mylo |
| ○ Jacob Y | ● Nathaniel |
| ○ Arthur | ● Noah W |
| ○ Alice | ● Lamine |
| ○ Brody | ● Lauren |
| ○ Joseph | ● Stanley C |
| ○ Jack | ● Nathaniel |
| ○ Robin | |

Wow Moments

Well done to all our **Secondary** students who had wow moments:

- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| ○ Ben | ● Alex G |
| ○ Isla | ● Bradley H |
| ○ Dexter | ● Jamie |
| ○ Kady | ● Isaac |
| ○ Jamie | ● Finley |
| ○ Bailey | ● Tyler |
| ○ Cohen | ● Tom |
| ○ Amaan | ● Ethan |
| ○ Alex S | ● Erin |
| ○ Ciaran | ● Cian |
| ○ Lily | ● Taim |
| ○ Paige | ● Tobias |
| ○ Sam | |



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 **Courage** and our cup winners are:

Foundation - Christopher

Primary - Joseph

Secondary - Finley



Next term's core value is **Respect**.

Whole school attendance 92.9%

Thank you to everyone for contributing to the fantastic overall attendance figures this academic year. Please continue to keep us informed of your child's absences. It is important to notify us each day your child is not in school. This is easily done through the Arbor app.

The greater the attendance in school = the greater the achievement

Preventing the spread of illnesses

We want to do everything we can to minimise bugs and viruses at school. Our staff are being extra vigilant with hygiene measures. We have enhanced cleaning of contact points within school and are reinstating hand sanitising on arrival to help keep everyone as healthy as possible.

Please support in preventing the spread of illness by following these guidelines:

- If your child has diarrhoea or vomiting, please keep them at home until 48 hours after their last episode.
- If your child has a temperature of 38°C or higher and is unwell, please keep them at home.
- If your child develops spots or a rash, please seek medical advice before sending them into school.

Secondary - Writing Competition

As a part of his work on the school newspaper, the Heathermount Herald, one of our students, Charlie, has devised a writing competition for the whole of secondary. There will be a prize for first, second and third place. Some stories will be displayed in the Heathermount Herald and some may be placed in the English classroom. The deadline is **Friday 14th March 2025**. We hope that students enjoy the competition!

School Lunches

The [menus](#) for Term 3, along with our sandwich/toastie, jacket potato and extras menu, are 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.

Charlie
Presents



The Writing Competition

To join this wondrous competition, all you need to do is write a story, the length of which must be between half an A4 side to a maximum of 2 A4 sides.

The story must be based on one of these **two images** and based on either of these titles:

The Wandering Child.

or

The Shining Sight

Will your story be joyous, or will it be a deep dark tragedy?

Let the King of waffling decide!

Stories *must* be handed in by March 14th
Stories *must not* contain foul language or gruesome detail.

Font Size should be size 12.

You *can* show violence but be **reasonable**, as we are in a school environment.

"I, the self proclaimed King of Waffle am using my privileges of the dribble to challenge you.."

"With a **WRITING COMPETITION.**"



These two images will be available via email online.

