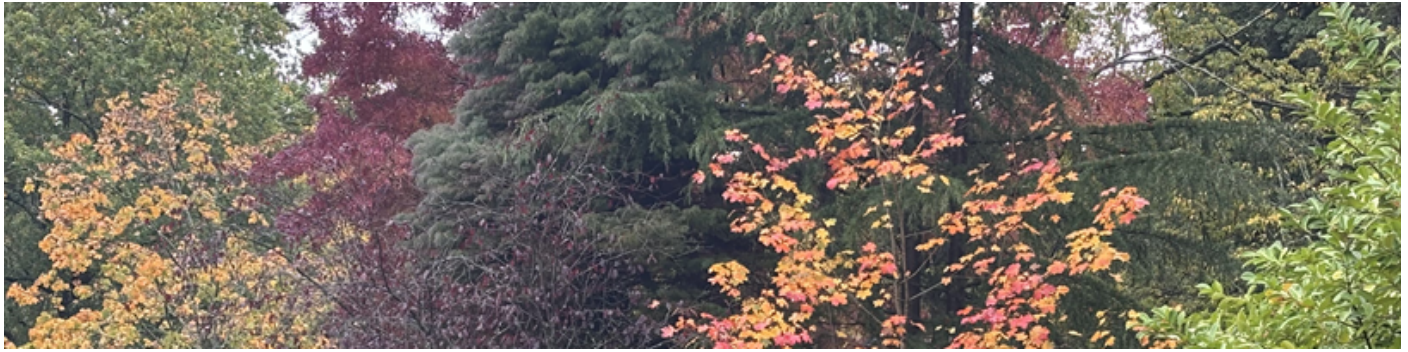




Heathermount School – Newsletter

October 2026

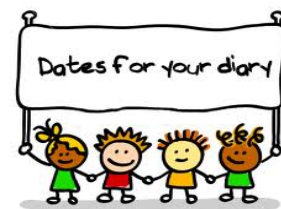
Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic start to the new academic year it has been at Heathermount! It has certainly been a busy and exciting first half-term, and I have been delighted by the energy, enthusiasm and positivity that our students and staff have brought to the school since returning in September.

Our students have settled incredibly well into their new routines, classrooms and learning environments, and it has been a real pleasure to see them making the most of the opportunities available to them. Please take a look at our [Highlights of Term 1 news articles](#) and [photo galleries](#) to read about what the different stages within school have been up to.

One of the biggest highlights has undoubtedly been seeing our newly refurbished spaces in the Main House come to life. After a very busy summer of building work, it has been fantastic to see students and staff enjoying these improved facilities. From our new classrooms to the upgraded specialist learning spaces, the transformation has made a real difference to the school environment. We are not finished yet, either! Further improvements are planned over the October half-term break as we continue to invest in making Heathermount the very best it can be for our students.

September also saw us welcome a number of new colleagues to the Heathermount team - Kate, Beth & Evelyn (Teaching Assistants), Jess (Student Data), and Rihana (Assistant Clinical Psychologist). They have brought fresh ideas, enthusiasm and a wealth of experience, and it has been wonderful to see how quickly they have become part of our school community. Starting somewhere new is always a big step, and I am incredibly grateful to our existing staff and students for making everyone feel so welcome.



Monday 2 November
Start of Term 2 for students

Thursday 12 November
Reunion for students who left recently
(6pm to 8pm)

Monday 16 November
Anti-bullying week - wear odd socks

Wednesday 18 November
Online Parents Evening
4:30pm to 8pm

Thursday 26 November
Heathermount & Parent Catch-up (Online)
6pm to 7pm

Thursday 10 December
Primary Nativity (with parents)
Christmas Jumper Day &
Student Christmas Lunch

Monday 14 December
Secondary Christmas Play (with parents)

Tuesday 15 December
Foundation Christmas event
(with parents)

Wednesday 16 December
Last day at school for students

Thursday 17 & Friday 18 December
INSET days (Staff training)

Tuesday 5 January
Start of Term 3 for students

Another lovely moment this term has been seeing our students wearing their new school uniform with such pride. There is a real sense of togetherness around the school, and it has been wonderful to see our students embracing their Heathermount identity.

We were also delighted to welcome former Headteacher Ruth Bovill OBE back to Heathermount in early October. It was a fantastic opportunity to show Ruth just how much the school has developed and to share some of the exciting things happening across our community. Our very own *Heathermount Herald* team even had the opportunity to interview her, so do make sure you give their article a read!

Our school community has also shown its generosity once again through our charity fundraising activities. Together, we raised an impressive **£239 for Jeans for Genes Day** and **£334 for Breast Cancer Awareness**. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed and helped support these important causes.

I would also like to thank you, our parents and carers, for your continued support and encouragement. The partnership we have with our families is such an important part of what makes Heathermount special, and I look forward to building on this throughout the year and continuing to use your voice to support improvements and changes across the school. Thank you to everyone who has already provided us with feedback. If you haven't completed the forms yet we would love to hear from you, do provide your feedback on [assessment](#), what you feel would make the [biggest difference](#) and suggestions for [parent workshops, specialist speakers and support](#).

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter and seeing just some of the wonderful things our students have been getting up to.

Have a fantastic and well-deserved half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday 2nd November**, ready for another exciting few weeks leading up to Christmas!

Craig Drummond
Headteacher

Medical and Allergy Update



Please keep us informed of any changes to your child's medical information and allergies through Arbor. See page 7 and 8 of the [Arbor Guide for Parents](#) on our website.

Keeping this information up to date is essential to help us keep your child safe and well.

Thank you for your support.

School Lunches

The [menus](#) for the next 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.



Well done to all our students who had wow moments:

Foundation:

- Henry
- Olivia
- Albie
- Ishaan
- Clayton
- Teddy
- Theo B
- Noah KT
- Logan
- Noah D



Congratulations to all our stars of the week this term:

- Sam
- Joshua D
- Toby
- Finley
- Jake
- Joshua H
- Erik

Primary:

- Ethan A
- Chloe
- Brody
- Max
- Ted S
- Lenny
- Christopher M
- Robin
- Zachary
- Joseph V
- Marco
- Mylo
- Noah W
- Joshua H
- Dennis
- Oscar
- Luke
- Alice
- Harrison
- Lauren
- Billy-Joe
- Max
- Bethany
- George C
- George CVMontana
- Sandra



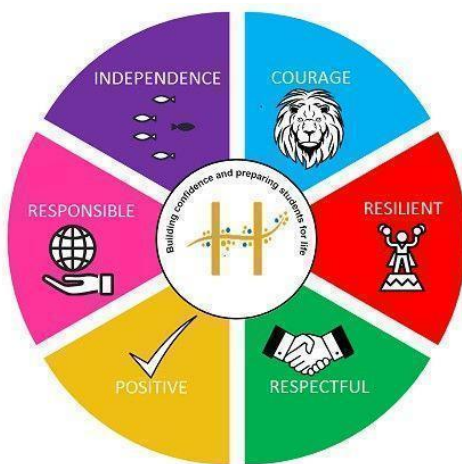
Secondary:

- Jake
- Abdul-Rahim
- Toby
- Ben C
- Lettie
- Kady
- Elijah
- Alex S
- Jack M
- George K
- Joshua H
- Billy
- Tobias
- Harry
- Arthur
- Jack W
- Lily
- Isla
- Jacob Y
- Ciaran
- Harry S
- Isaac A
- Yusuf
- Ben H
- Joshua D
- Sammy
- Tyler
- Carter
- Alex G
- Cohen
- Bradley
- Colbie
- Lowen
- Charlie-Ray
- Oliver B
- Georgie
- Paul
- Finley

Is my child too ill for school?

Please follow the NHS guidance on when to send your child to school

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



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 **Responsible** and our cup winners are:

- **Foundation - Albie**

Albie consistently demonstrates responsibility by taking the initiative to tidy and care for our classroom, even when it isn't his mess. He thoughtfully completes his classroom jobs every day. Albie has also shown growing responsibility for his school routines by making the fantastic step of wearing his school uniform. He is a brilliant example of taking responsibility for himself and his environment!

- **Primary - Christopher M**

For showing great perseverance when transitioning into school and demonstrating excellent responsibility when calming and regulating.

- **Secondary - Tom**

Tom showed fantastic responsibility this term, demonstrating maturity, independence and a willingness to take on responsibilities with confidence.

Whole school attendance 94.0%

Thank you to everyone for contributing to the fantastic overall attendance figures this academic year. Please continue to use Arbor to inform us when your child is too unwell to come to school. It's important to notify us each day your child is absent. For medical / dental appointments, please send an email to student.absence@heathermount.co.uk. For any other absences, please complete the Student Absence Request Form and send it to student.absence@heathermount.co.uk. For further information on how to log an absence through Arbor and for the Student Absence Request Form, please see the [Key Forms & Documents](#) page on our website.

The greater the attendance in school, the greater the achievement

Family First

Click this link to access the latest copy of Family First magazine which promotes a happier healthier lifestyle for families. <https://familyfirst.co.uk/magazines/family-first-issue-4-2026/>