



Newsletter

27 January, 2020

Aspiring to achieve our best: moving forward together!

t 01884 252445 | e admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk

Available online at www.heathcoat.devon.sch.uk

Friends of Heathcoat

Next Meeting- The next meeting of the friends will be on Wednesday 29th January at 6.30pm in the school community room. Everyone is welcome.

Yummy Friday- The next cake sale will be on Friday 31st January in the new hall. Please could children from Year 2 bring in cakes or biscuits to sell after school (nut free). Everyone else, please bring your pennies! Also pre-loved uniform will be on sale in the new hall too.

NEWS

Changes to Nursery Sessions- If you would like to make changes to the sessions that your child has from April 2020 onwards, please send a note to the school office with details of which sessions you require by Friday 7th February.

Outstanding Money - Yet again we are having to ask parents to pay for dinners, breakfast club and trips. We are currently owed **£451** for school dinners alone. **All of these items should be paid for in advance.** A considerable amount of time is spent by the office staff chasing up parents who are consistently running up debts. It is not acceptable to walk out of a restaurant without paying for the meal, it should be no different at school. We obviously realise that sometimes children forget their dinner money, but they should not be owing more than the cost of one meal which is £2.30.

Park gate- From today the park gate will be locked at 3.45pm each day to ensure the safety off all our pupils and staff.

Plastic tubs- So far we have recycled 45 plastic chocolate tubs which is great as we are helping to raise money for Dartmoor Zoo. Please can any remaining tubs be in school by Thursday at the latest.

Learner of the week



FSDB Matthew
FSG Miller
1BA James
1P William
2D Elliott
2P Joshua
3E Robert
3P Lily V
4C Cody-Ray
4E Georgia
5F Poppy L
5S Kiaryn
6H Chloe
6W The whole class

Lunchtime Behaviour



FSDB Oscar
FSG Logan
1BA Daniel
1P Dylan
2D Erin
2P Murray
3E Oliver I
3P Billy
4C Rebecca
4E Phoebe
5F Millie J
5S Ruby
6H Oliver
6W Summer

Best Attendance

6W- 99.2%



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Diary Dates



Safer Internet Day
11th February

Term Dates



Spring Half Term
Monday 17th February-
Friday 21st February

Last Day of Spring Term
Friday 27th March

First Day of Summer Term
Tuesday 14th April

May Bank Holiday
Friday 8th May

Summer Half Term
Monday 25th May-
Friday 29th May

Heathcoat Heroes

The children below have all reached the very top of our learning behaviours and expectations system this week.

FSDB – Matthew

1BA – Safferty

1P – Mason & Edward

3P – Isabel W & Cameron

Fire Safety Talks- On Friday 31st January, Year 2 and 5 will be having a fire safety talk from the fire service. It is important that children understand how to protect themselves in the event of fire and learn some basic fire safety rules.

Free Home Safety Visit- Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service offer free home fire safety visits. This visit will include fire safety advice and free fitting of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms if required. The service is completely **free** and could save the lives of you and your family. If you would like to book a visit call 0800 05 02 999.

Make the call!
0800 05 02 999
Text info line: 078 00 00 2476

FREE HOME SAFETY CHECK

Call now for your free Home Safety Check

Dining Room Helpers- Congratulations to the children who became Dining Hall Helpers this week. We were impressed and delighted to have such a huge number of children applying. We interviewed 33 children and the final 20 children have been informed. They will now work be trained and will work as Dining Hall Helpers until the end of the term. Thank you and well done to everyone who applied – what caring and thoughtful children we have at HPS. We hope to be recruiting more Dining Hall Helpers for next term.

Accelerated Reader Achievement

3P highest average quiz percentages



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Children's Mental Health Week 3rd - 9th February

The theme for this year is "Find Your Brave".

The children will be looking at

- What is bravery?
- What can get in the way of being brave?
- How does brave make you feel?

This will be covered in assembly during the week and also in their Mental Health and Well Being session with Mrs. Moore. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact a member of the pastoral team (Mrs Moore, Mrs Hambly, Mrs Broom, Mrs Gleeson).

Winter Weather Warnings -On the rare occasion that we might need to close the school due to severe weather, such as snow or flooding, please check the following media platforms for information. Updates will be posted online as soon as a decision is made about a school closure.

School website <https://heathcoat.devon.sch.uk>

Devon Live – <https://www.devonlive.com>

As always, we will endeavour to give a decision about school closures as early as possible to help you to make arrangements.

Message from Miss Higginson

At HPS we aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that fosters a love of learning in our pupils and equips them with the skills to be life long learners. As a school we are currently reviewing our curriculum and the topics we teach within each of the foundation subjects across the school. This work will continue for the next two terms and is to ensure that we are providing a curriculum that equips our pupils with the skills needed for the future and allows the pupils to revisit key knowledge and skills.



Reading unpins all aspects of our school curriculum. If pupils are not fluent and enthusiastic readers they will find it harder to access the learning in all subjects, for example, Geography, History, Science etc. As a school, reading is a priority and we are reading to children to develop language skills and a love of reading, hearing children read and teaching skills during guided reading as well as providing opportunities for children to read throughout the day.

It is vital that children read regularly at home to develop and reinforce the skills they have learnt at school. As well as reading regularly it is important they discuss what has happened in the book, what might happen next, how did it make them feel and asking if they don't understand what a word means. We would appreciate your support in hearing your child read at home. If you have any questions about how you can help your child with reading at home, please speak to your child's teacher.





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School Absence Procedures -As a Federation, we believe that in order for children to fully benefit from their education, quite simply, good attendance is crucial. Without good attendance the children miss lessons, vital learning and important information and they will not get the most out of their primary school experience. We work closely with the Education Welfare Officer to ensure that the school monitors pupils' patterns of attendance, informing parents/carers in writing of irregular attendance and arranging meetings with them if necessary. We are working hard to promote good attendance with all children.

With this in mind we would like to remind you of the schools procedure if your child is absent from school:

- If your child is unwell, you should contact the school office by 9.15am on the first day of the absence and telephone every day thereafter unless your child has a doctor's certificate.
- The school will contact you if your child is absent and no contact has been made. If no contact is made, we will continue to try to contact you and the other emergency contacts that you have provided us with.
- If after 2 days there has been no contact, the school may ring 101 and ask the Police to make a welfare call to your address.
- All requests for time off must be on the absence request form which can be found outside the school office and should be returned at least 2 weeks in advance. Any requests for absence will be assessed on a case by case basis.

As a parent/carer, you can demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by not allowing your child to miss school for anything other than an exceptional or unavoidable reason.

Are you aware that if you allow your child to miss school in term time for an avoidable reason without obtaining the prior approval of the school, you may be issued with a Penalty Notice* per parent per child, or made the subject of court proceedings under section 444 of the Education Act 1996.

* Penalty Notice £60 if paid within 21 days, increasing to £120 if paid after 21 days and before 28 days.

Penalty Notices have been issued to parents at this school.

If you have any questions regarding attendance, please speak to Miss Higginson, Mrs Budden or Mrs Williams (in the school office).

Head lice - to prevent head lice from becoming a problem, it is recommended that you check your child's hair once a week. If any sign of lice are found, comb through with conditioner and a nit comb. Check again regularly to keep them at bay. Remember that smartphone use can increase the risk of getting head lice, as heads being close together whilst people gather around looking at phone screens enables them to travel between people with ease.



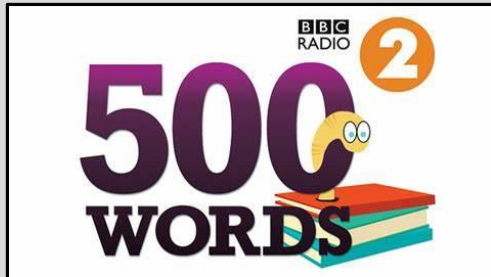
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BBC Radio 2's Short Story Competition- The 500 word story competition is back again! We would love to see lots of HPS pupils participate this year, by submitting their own short story of 500 words or fewer. To submit a story, Parents/Guardians need to create an account on the BBC website and upload the story to the 'submit your story' page. Winning stories will be read out live on the radio, and winners will receiving book prizes such as their own height in books!

All entries must be uploaded by Thursday 27th February at 8pm.



World Book Day-Thursday 5th March 2020- We would like to make the most of this special occasion, by dressing up as a book character for the day! World Book Day celebrates the joy and value of books and reading, especially for children. To help get them started on their reading journey, every child receives a £1 World Book Day Book Token that can either be exchanged for one of TEN special £1 World Book Day books or used to get £1 off any book costing £2.99 or more. You can find out more about the books at worldbookday.com/books. We look forward to spending the day celebrating the things we love about books and reading.