



Newsletter

9 November, 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

COVID symptoms

Please remember if anyone in your household develops any of the symptoms of COVID you all need to self-isolate straight away and the person with the symptoms needs to book a test.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- A high temperature
- **OR** new, continuous cough (**usually dry, with no mucus or phlegm produced**)
- **OR** loss or change to sense of smell or taste

Flu Vaccination

This year Flu vaccinations will be taking place this Thursday 12th November in school. If you haven't already done so, please could all parents of children from Reception up to Year 6 complete the electronic Flu vaccine consent form, even if you **do not** wish for your child to have the vaccination.

<https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

Changes to breakfast & after school club sessions

If you would like to make changes to the sessions that your child has from January 2021 onwards, please email alisonwilliams@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk with details of which sessions you require by Friday 20th November

Poppies

We will be selling wristbands, slap bands, bracelets and other poppy related items, most of which are either 50p or £1. If your child wants to buy something please send them in with some money. Poppies will be available from the class teacher.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and all child protection concerns need to be acted on immediately. If you are concerned that a child may be at risk or actually suffering abuse please contact Demelza Higginson, Josie Hambly, Mike Payne or Claire Shanahan within school or alternatively if not in school hours please contact MASH (Devon County Council multi agency safeguarding hub) who are available to discuss your concern and advise 0345 155 1071

Learner of the week



FSDB Saffie
 FSG Isla
 1BA Millie
 1P Miley
 2D Alfie R
 2P Zack
 3E Poppy
 3P Thomas & Joseph
 4C Kovi
 4K Frankie
 5F Ellie-Mai
 5S Mason P
 6W Maddie

Are your contact details up to date?



Please advise the office of any changes in your contact details by emailing

admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk

Best Attendance

3E & 5S – 99.6%



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Diary Dates



World Diabetes Day
Thursday 12th
November

Term Dates



Last Day of Autumn Term
Wednesday 16th December

First Day of Spring Term
Monday 4th January 2021

Spring Half Term
Monday 15th February-
Friday 19th February

Last Day of the Spring Term
Wednesday 31st March

First Day of the Summer Term
Monday 19th April

Heathcoat Heroes

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

5S – Archie & Ella-Mai



Children in Need

This Friday is Children in Need, we are encouraging all children to dress up in something yellow or something spotty to raise awareness for this very worthwhile charity.

If you wish to make a donation, please donate directly to Children in Need via the link below, using the DONATE button.

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/act-your-age/>

If you wish to get more involved, you could raise money by completing their challenge to Act Your Age (more info in the link above):

Some examples:

If you are 7 years old, you might try 7 new foods.
If you are 6 you could read 6 books a day for 6 days, if you are 35 you could ride your bike 35 miles over the course of the week ! etc.

Or you could combine the ages of all the people in your household and use that to set yourself a challenge. It could be the distance you do, the duration you do it for, the number of things that you do, or a sponsorship target.

We would love to hear about any fund raising that you do at home – please email information and pictures to the class teachers who will share it with the class, or send to admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk if you are happy for information and pictures to go in our school newsletter.

Parents evening

Just a reminder that there are still a few appointments available for parent's evening on Wednesday, 11th November. If you would like to book an appointment, please contact the school office on 01884 252445, who can arrange this for you.



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School Absence Procedures

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 1 day with 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.

Although school attendance is mandatory from the start of the autumn term, there are some circumstances where pupils cannot attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19). If this is the case, your child will not be penalised for this absence.

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).

Anti-Bullying Week 16th - 20th November

The theme for this year is United against Bullying. We will be sharing information around this theme in assembly and in the classroom during the week. We start the week off by encouraging the children to wear odd socks to school on Monday 16th November.



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School Dinner Oscars

The school menu is constantly being reviewed and updated to ensure that our kitchen provides a variety of meal choices which are delicious, balanced and healthy, whilst also allowing for the current restrictions that are in place due to the pandemic. From next week there will be a rolling 3 week menu which will continue until the end of term.

We are asking the children get involved with planning this menu and at the end of last week their teachers asked each of them to vote for their favourite school meal in the **School Dinner Oscars**. The top 3 meals will be included on each Tuesday on the new menu. The kitchen will be made aware of other favourite foods so they can take this into consideration when planning the other menu choices.

Each week Monday will be a meat-free option, Tuesday will be a favourite food from the Oscars choice, Wednesday will be roast dinner, Thursday will be a general meal and Friday is fish day.

The menu will be sent out over the next few days.

No Blocks- Online session for young people with SEND

This session is free for any of your young people with SEND and is lots of fun!

Full details can be found on the Space website www.spacepsm.org

If interested please

email info@spacepsm.org to sign up.



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Christmas Card Competition

The Local Authority would like to welcome students in schools across Devon to participate in the Christmas Card Competition. Every year a picture drawn or painted by a student is used by the Leader of the Council (Cllr John Hart) as his printed Christmas card. The runner up pictures will be used as online/electronic Christmas cards sent out by the Chief Officer of Children's Services and the Head of Education and Learning. The winner will get printed copies of their design on a Christmas card for their own use. The designs can be in black and white or colour, can be any size and any medium can be used.

Please can entries be returned to school by **3pm on Monday 23rd November** so that we have time to send them off to the Local Authority. Please ensure your child's full name and age is clearly written on the back of the design

Improve your wellbeing with Learn Devon's Mindfulness Challenge

The impact of the coronavirus pandemic on people's mental health in Devon may currently be difficult to determine, but to [help you look after your own wellbeing during the national lockdown](#), you're invited to sign up to Learn Devon's "Mindfulness Challenge".

The five-day challenge, which launches on Monday 16 November, features a series of short videos that provide you with useful techniques and tips to help your mind and wellbeing. Each day will focus on different ways to help with focus, concentration, relaxation, coping with anxiety, as well as stretches for desk workers.

If you sign up for the challenge, you'll receive an email each morning with a link to the day's video that you can watch on-demand, in your own time

World Diabetes Day

We will be celebrating World Diabetes Day on Thursday and we will be discussing diabetes during assembly that day. The theme for this day is Diabetes: Nurses that make a difference.

The Blue Circle is the universal symbol for diabetes. It signifies the unity of the global diabetes community in response to the rising number of people affected by diabetes.





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Design a Mascot Competition

The Children’s Air Ambulance, the only facility of its kind in the UK, transfers critically ill babies and children in their intensive care helicopters from local or general hospitals to specialist paediatric care units when they are too ill to travel by road.

They are running a very exciting competition with their children’s club called [#TheCrew](https://www.instagram.com/thecrewuk/) and they are looking for someone to design a mascot for the club. Either decorate the suggested mascot or have a go at designing your own mascot, then a parent or carer will need to fill in the form on the reverse.

Please return completed entries to your teacher by Monday 16th November.

The winner will be announced by The Children's Ambulance on 2nd December 2020



Face Coverings

As you know we have started a second national lockdown with schools remaining open this time. From today, Monday 9th November, we are asking that parents wear a face covering(unless you are exempt from wearing a face covering), when on the school site at the end of the day to collect their child. We appreciate that it can at times be hard to maintain your distance from each other, so this will reduce the risk of spreading the virus within our community. Thank you to those parents who are already wearing a face covering.

Please can we remind you that when collecting your child, you need to leave the site promptly and do not gather outside the school gates talking to others.

