



Newsletter

25 April, 2022

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

Absence reporting email

If your child is unwell, please contact the school office by 9.15am by telephone 01884 252445 or email attendance@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk, on **each day** that your child is absent. The attendance email goes to all the office staff as well as members of the leadership team. Please **do not** email the class teachers directly to report an absence.

Drink bottles

Thank you again to all the families who are providing only tap water for children to drink in their water bottles. Fruit juice, squash and flavoured waters, even when diluted, contain lots of sugar and can cause tooth decay. These drinks can also fill children up so they're not hungry for healthier food.

If you would like to provide your child with a squash or juice, please provide it in their lunch box for drinking at lunchtime only. Giving fruit juice or squash at mealtimes (rather than between) helps reduce the risk of tooth decay. The NHS advises that this drink should be no more than 1 glass (about 150 ml) a day, served with meals.

Please be reminded that we are a **NUT FREE** school.

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, Becky Budden, Hannah Gleeson or Mike Payne 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 Harry
FSG Daisy
1BA The whole class
1P The whole class
2D Alfie
2P Olivia
3E Alfie R
3P Tia
4K The whole class
4Kin Kobi
5F Darcy H
5S Joshua
6C Imogen
6F/C The whole class

Lunchtime Behaviour



FSDB Ronnie R
FSG Leo
1BA Orson
1P Lacey-Faith
2D Tulisha
2P Wyatt
3E Daisy
3P Archie
4K Mason P
5F Kingsley
5S Daisy
6C Cody

Best Attendance

FSDB – 99.2%



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Diary Dates



Sports Day
15th June

Term Dates



May Bank Holiday
Monday 2nd May

Summer Half Term
Monday 30th May-
Friday 3rd June

Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday
Monday 4th July

Last day of Summer term
Friday 22nd July

Brain Architecture Game – Helping to Build Babies Brains



Would you like to learn more about building babies' brains in a fun and interactive way?

The Brain Architecture Game is an effective and engaging way to be introduced to the science of early brain development – but there's so much more to know.....

Your goal is to build a brain that is as tall as possible, which represents functionality, and as sturdy as possible, which represents the ability to withstand stresses.

The session is completely **FREE** to attend!

The session will help to increase your knowledge/ confidence of baby brain development, bonding and resilience and to be more confident in passing this information on to parents/ carers and communities.

For more information, please contact us at:

communityaction@actionforchildren.org.uk

The sessions will be run by your local Action for Children Community Development Worker and further courses are upcoming in all areas of Devon over the coming months

Heathcoat Heroes

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

1BA – Lillie

1P – Quinn & Harry S 2D – Miller, Sophia & Alfie B

2P – Charleigh, Fausta & Bethany

3E – Finlay & Daisy

4K – Megan

5S – Elif, Isabelle, Cohen, Oliver R, Lily, Paul-John & Kovi

6F/C – Cody B, Desmond, Harley, Archie C, Zach, Macey & Olivia



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Pre-ordering school lunches

The new lunch-ordering system is working really well for the majority of children and parents. Thank you for your positive feedback.

Some top tips and things to remember about school lunch ordering:

- Please remember to order your child's lunch in advance. You can pre-order and pay for the whole of the coming term if you wish!
- Please have a discussion with your child about what they might like for lunch rather than choosing for them.
- If you are entitled to Free School Meals, please order your child's school lunch online in the usual way. Please do not then send a packed lunch as the school has to pay for their lunch.
- If your child is absent and has ordered a lunch, we will cancel it for you -you will not be charged.
- If you have ordered a school lunch and then also send in a packed lunch, you will still be charged for the school lunch.
- We recommend that you write the meals that you pre-order into a diary, put it on the fridge door or put it onto your phone calendar to help you remember.

Last term there were several children who were without a lunch as a meal had not been pre booked. This causes huge problems for the kitchen and for the admin staff.

Thank you for your support regarding this.



Here are some quotes from children about the school lunches on last term:

"I love the curry. I asked my mum to make one like it and hers was just as good. It's not spicy - it's really delicious -I love it".

"The macaroni cheese is my favourite"

"I love the apple crumble. I didn't think I would like it as I don't like cooked apple, but this is really tasty".

"I love the school jacket potatoes. I like beans and cheese on it - and I love eating the skin!"

"I have school dinners every day. They are always really good. I loved the macaroni today and I love the roast on Wednesdays".



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Message from Miss Higginson



I hope you have all had a wonderful break and enjoyed the weather. We have a busy summer term to look forward to and have many activities planned over the coming weeks.

We would like to welcome all our new nurse pupils who have joined us this week.

We look forward to Mrs Lane starting with us in a couple of weeks. She has secured the post of pastoral leader. Miss Wright - Stainton has started working with us today as a TA.

PHE have shared further information about children and staff attending school when they are unwell. The key points were: adults who test positive for COVID SI for 5 days and child for 3 days. If you test positive on Monday morning you would SI Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. If you tested positive Monday evening, then you would SI Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat. So, it is 5 full days for adults and 3 full days for children. Once your SI period ends you can return to work/school as long as you feel well enough to do so. **You don't need to take another test.**

Anyone with a temperature should not be attending work/school until the temperature has gone. You can't give Calpol and the temperature goes and then you send them to school.

You still need to be clear of D & V for 48 hours before returning to school.

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Attendance at HPS

As you are aware, attendance at school is vitally important for children to maximise their potential and achieve their best. We understand that Covid has had an impact on many families over the past year, and we are now really keen that children are in school as much as possible to move things forward. It isn't only to ensure that children are making the very best learning and academic progress, but also in terms of nurturing the social side of their development, their personal friendships and wellbeing. We are very proud that the pupils at HPS enjoy coming to school and that the majority of children are in school on time every day.

With the impact of the pandemic finally easing (despite positive cases still being recorded), it is important that we help all children settle back into the positive routines of attending school so that they can make the most of all the opportunities that we have to offer during the remainder of the year, and moving forward into September.

The government target for good attendance is 96% and our school target is 97%.

We work closely with the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) who has advised us that, in order to keep parents informed about their child's attendance, letters are sent out to any parents if their child's attendance falls below the government expectation of 96%.

This letter is intended to make you aware of your child's percentage attendance and will advise you of the number of authorised and unauthorised absences that your child has.

If you have any questions about your child's attendance or require further support in improving your child's attendance, please contact Mrs Williams (admin team) or Mrs Budden (assistant head of school), who will be pleased to assist you further.

We thank you for your ongoing support regarding attendance at HPS.



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Key stage 2 music lessons

For our Key stage 2 children, we are excited to be able to reintroduce private instrument lessons. There are **drumming** and **guitar** lessons available which take place within the school day as the visiting teachers come to our school on a particular day each week. All contact and payments will be made directly with the instrument teacher once the lessons have begun. Lessons are for **10 weeks** which is **paid in advance** and lessons will start week beginning 9th May.

The drumming lessons are taught by Mrs. Ella Partridge who also teaches at Rackenford Primary. Previously, her lessons were very popular and the children made good progress which is why we have asked her to return. The cost is **£90 for 10 weeks** for an **individual 30 minute lesson**. We have a drum kit in school for the lessons but the students will need to have access to a drum kit to be able to practice between lessons.

The guitar lessons are taught by Mr Chris Harris who is a professional performer and also teaches at THS. He is new to HPS so he will be coming in to introduce himself to the children in our assembly on Thursday, 28th April and do a short demonstration. He offers electric and acoustic guitar lessons but will begin with acoustic as more people have access to one and they are cheaper to buy. The cost for **10 weeks is £60** for a **shared 30 minute lesson** with another student or **£120 for individual lessons**. Students would need to remember to bring in their guitar on the day of the lesson as the school doesn't have any spare ones.

If you have any questions about the lessons offered or would like to put your child's name on the list then please contact Mrs. Evans directly on year3@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk or ring the school to leave a message. Please can you let us know if you would like your child to have instruments lessons by **Tuesday, 3rd May** to allow the instrument teachers time to organise payment and schedules.

