



Newsletter – December 2021

Heacham Infant School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term has been busy, filled with many learning opportunities for everyone.

Pupils at Heacham Infants have made great progress this term as they work with their early reading, mathematics and through our Knowledge Rich Curriculum.

We are flying ahead with our Read Write Inc groups and enjoy hearing pupils reading each day. We read them stories for pleasure too and hope to share stories with you after half term.

We will open sessions for families to come into class and share stories with their children - reading cafes!

Please sign up! Please can you also write in your child's reading record each day after you have heard them read to you- make sure you hear your child read their book bag books as this really helps them learn and enjoy time with you.

Please use parents evening after half term to ask questions about your child's progress in all areas. We hope to run more training sessions for families around our curriculum next term as these were popular and feedback was really positive!

We have taken part in Safer Internet Day on 8th February 2022. The theme 'All fun and games? explores respect and relationships online'. From gaming and chat, to streaming and video, young people are shaping the interactive entertainment spaces they are a part of. In school, each class will be covering age appropriate activities to explore how to keep themselves safe online.

There are some excellent user guides for families on NSPCC website which explains many aspects - understanding devices, gaming and social media

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

On a personal note, I am working from home for a few weeks due to an imminent operation on my hip - you must have seen me hobble! Emma Hunt is available during my absence alongside the Assistant Head Teachers at each school. I will be working remotely as I recover and expect to be able to zoom into school, speak to pupils, view lessons and assemblies.

So see you soon and thank you for your support.

Louise Jackson

Term Dates

Please note that our term dates are not the same as those published by Norfolk County Council. Please see our website for information.

The Last day of Half Term is Friday 11th February.
Children return on Monday 21st February.

Twitter

Please follow us on twitter as we are using that social media platform more regularly than Facebook.



Snettisham, Heacham Infant and Junior _WNAT

If you have a matter you wish to discuss with our Headteacher Louise Jackson, our Deputy Headteacher Emma Hunt, or our Acting Assistant Head, Claire Chadderton, please make an appointment at the school office and we will be very happy to chat to you. We want everyone to feel welcome in our school and also to ensure that the children's safety, learning and happiness are always our priority ☺

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Our Learning

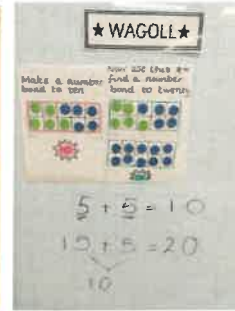
Nursery have been thinking about traditional tales; particularly Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Gingerbread Man and Jack and the Beanstalk. The children can tell you about the stories too. They have been busy measuring, counting, baking, painting and planting. Everyone had an exciting time learning about Chinese New Year too. They made a dragon, did a dragon dance (with some very loud drumming!), ate some Chinese food, and said hello in Chinese. Ni hao!



Goldfinches have been learning about London landmarks and Queen Elizabeth II. We watched Big Ben chime (yes, it's the name of the largest bell!), Tower Bridge opening for boats, had a virtual ride on the London Eye and learnt lots of interesting facts about places in our capital city. We finished off our knowledge learning with a wonderful banquet last Friday. We have learnt to tell the story of 'Quackling' and made up our own versions. Lots of us have become very interested in making our own story maps and books to share with each other. We've also been working really hard in our phonics groups and are making great progress to becoming readers! In Maths we've been working with numbers to 10, adding & subtracting, comparing and practicing our subitizing (recognising a small number of things without needing to count them). Outdoors we have enjoyed building bridges over the stream, den making using the tarpaulins and tent pegs, begun creating a new minibeast area and our raised bed for growing vegetables is almost ready to begin using next half term!



Robins have loved using their science knowledge to find out about the seasons, making rain gauges and weather vanes. They have learnt the names for many different types of clouds, such as cumulus and stratus and made a cloud experiment. The class also looked at natural disasters and discussed what occurs during flooding, blizzards and tornados. The children have loved making up and retelling their own stories in English and are increasingly confident at writing their own stories too... even using inverted commas for speech. In Maths, the class have been using number bond facts to help them add and subtract and are confident with drawing their own ten frames to show their thinking now.



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Owls have loved exploring the human body. The class have done loads of experiments and even used mashed up banana and orange juice to recreate how their bodies digest food! It was very messy! In Geography they have been exploring the British Isles, learning about their physical features and capital cities. The children have had great fun drawing self-portraits inspired by Picasso and Van Gogh in Art.



Next Term

Sparrows will be learning about transport next term, and will discuss the different types of transport available and how the children travel to and from school. They will also look at travelling on holiday and also learn about Road Safety.

Goldfinches will also be looking at various modes of transport and travelling. They will read *The Enormous Turnip* together too.

Robins will study architecture in Art, learn about the Earth in Science and look at the effect we have, good or bad. They will also discuss Kings and Queens in history and learn about the Magna Carta.

Owls will be learning about the Romans in History, how they invaded and built an empire. In Science, the class will look at states of matter and materials and will focus on still life in Art!

PTA

This week the PTA have generously agreed to buy some new resources for our playground! We are so grateful. We are expecting some ride on taxis, play sheds and also some toys.

The PTA have always worked hard for the children and families at Heacham and we are looking for some new members!

Are you interested in joining our PTA?

Would you like to help host events and fundraise for the school to enrich our pupils' experience?

Have a look at the '10 Reasons to join the PTA' flyer attached.

The next PTA information session will take place on:

Tuesday 1st March 2022 at 2pm

Come along for a friendly informal chat to find out more.

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School Dates and Events

After school clubs

Clubs starting on week commencing 29th February. All clubs will finish at 3:30pm:

Multi Sports Club – Day to be confirmed.

Tues - Art Club with Jessica Morgan for Owls and Robins

Weds - Disney Singalong with Claire Chadderton for Robins

Weds - Colouring Club with Catherine Bennett for Goldfinches

Parents Evenings - Parents Evenings take place on Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th February from 3:30 – 6pm. Your appointment will be confirmed this week. If you have not yet booked, please contact the school office.

Number Day 22nd February - Notice the date? It's all 2s! To mark this day we are having a non-uniform day based on numbers. Children can wear a football top for example or be creative around the number theme. No charge.

World Book Day 3rd March - Children are welcome to come to school dressed as their favourite character. Share your favourite story on Dojo with us 😊

Red Nose Day 19th March - Wear red or dress as your favourite super hero or heroine! £1 donation can be made via ParentPay.

Parent Sessions – We're planning some activities such as Reading Café, parent workshops and meet the teacher mornings. Keep an eye out for dates after half term.

Heacham Infant School Half Term Activity Challenges - Have a look at these fun activities! Yummy pancakes, funky heart glasses and kindness rocks. Send us photos on Dojo!

Banana Pancakes



Large sized eggs:	4
Flour:	2 cups
Bananas (mashed):	2
Butter:	1 tbsp
Honey:	1 tbsp
Cinnamon powder:	1 tbsp
Sliced strawberries (optional):	¾ cup



- Take a bowl and mix together flour, eggs, banana and cinnamon powder.
- Heat the pan over medium heat and grease it with butter.
- Pour the pancake mix and cook until done on both sides and serve.

Local Half Term Events and Activities

There's lots of things happening around Norfolk this half term! Here's a couple to get you started:

Sandringham Gardens will be open and there is a Willow Lantern making workshop. Bookable online.

Join the Sea Shepherd Marine Debris Team who are holding a Beach Clean at Old Hunstanton on Saturday 19th February. 12pm meet at the Café, 3pm finish.

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1

SUPPORT THE SCHOOL

The PTA is vital to the success of the school. Funds raised enrich your child's learning and make every student's experience better. Be part of the group that pays for the playground your child loves or funds the library that's their favourite place to be.

2

IT'S TOTALLY FLEXIBLE

Whether you're a full-time parent or working the nine to five, anyone can get involved. It's less commitment than you think, and you don't always have to attend meetings. Small jobs such as designing a poster, distributing letters or running a stall keep everything running smoothly.

3

MAKE LASTING FRIENDSHIPS

Meet and chat to a wider circle of families from different classes and year groups. Get to know other parents, and bond over exciting events, socials and get-togethers. Find a place to belong and spend time with others who share your values.

4

BE BETTER CONNECTED

Create closer links with the head, teachers and staff. If you're new to the school, the PTA is an excellent way to find out how things work and become part of the community. If not, you'll still gain greater insight by seeing how things work from both sides.

PTA+
The home of school fundraising

10 REASONS TO JOIN THE PTA

5

BECAUSE IT'S FUN!

Be part of the team which organises the best events and get-togethers. Debrief over a glass of wine (or two). Suggest your most hare-brained idea and watch as it catches on and everyone wants a piece of the action. Laugh. Cry. Be there for each other.

6

CHANGE SCHOOL FOR THE BETTER

Have your say on important decisions. Work with the school and other parents to see where improvements can be made, and implement them. Directly influence the experience of your child and hundreds of others.

7

LEARN NEW SKILLS

Everyone has something they can bring to the PTA, but you can also learn new skills by trading with others. Always wanted to perfect that cookie recipe? Not sure how to design a poster? Want to hone your public speaking skills? You can do it with the support of the committee.

8

IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

Studies show that children whose parents are involved in their education do better in school. Engaging with the PTA shows your children's education is important to you. Play your part in improving the school and watch them

9

IT'S NOT JUST FOR MUMS

Everyone is welcome, and it's especially important to have dads and male carers represented, as male role models are crucial in children's upbringing. Dads can bring different skills; they can bring a different perspective, and they can bring along other dads.

10

CREATE LASTING MEMORIES

Our children are only at school for a few years, but they will remember the difference we make for a lifetime. They will cherish the activities and games we find, learn using resources we buy, and remember the events we hold. Help keep the PTA going so future pupils can benefit too.

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A message from Revd Veronica Wilson

I hope everyone has a great half term break.

Why not walk to the Heacham Parish churchyard to look at the beautiful snowdrops and aconites, and see how many bugs you can find?

Or go into church and see how many crosses you can see.



Cashless Payments

All payments can be made via ParentPay, the school's bank details or through the card machine held at the office. Payments include Drop in Club, Nursery Fees, Charity collections, etc.

ParentPay:

If you have not had a letter to set up your child's ParentPay, please contact the office.

Contactless Card Payments:

Payments via the card machine held at the school office.

Bank Transfer payments should be made to:

Heacham Infant and Nursery School

Sort code: 30-99-77 Account Number: 35469768

*Please add a reference to your bank payment e.g.

'Surname Nursery' or 'Surname Red Nose'.

Covid-19 Updates

The school continues to encourage thorough hand washing and follows the guidelines laid out by Public Health England for schools. The Government currently advises to self-isolate (stay at home) for 10 days if you have symptoms or have a positive LFD result. Those that are fully vaccinated or under 18 may not need to isolate providing they have no symptoms and you may be able to end isolation if you have a negative LFD on the 5th and 6th day of your isolation. Please remember to:

There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other



Wash hands

keep washing your hands regularly



Cover face

wear a face covering in enclosed spaces



Make space

stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

Please refer to the government website for updates

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Be kind. Keep your distance. Stay safe.



West Norfolk Academies Trust is now on easyfundraising. If you would like to help raise funds for the schools across the trust, every time you shop online, please take a look on [easyfundraising.com](https://www.easyfundraising.com)

Have you checked for funding?

You might be eligible for Free School Meals/Early Years Pupil Premium funding.

The school receives funding for each child who comes under Pupil Premium (including free school meals), so it is worth applying! Pupil Premium can cover Nursery sessions too!

You can apply online:

<https://fiso.norfolk.gov.uk/synergy/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

Or email the office for an application form.

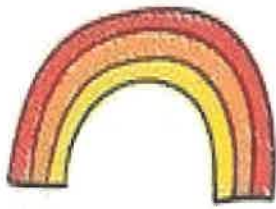
<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/>

Just One from the Children's and Young People's Health Service has lots of useful information on pregnancy, children's health and developmental needs, activities and more. They also have a very helpful section about starting school – how to deal with any worries or concerns, how to get organised and where you can get some support.

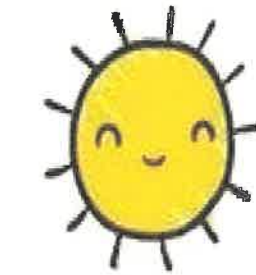


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Self-Care & Mental Health for Kids



Share your own feelings to encourage self-awareness.



Set aside time for low-stress or solo activities.



Find social groups that help them feel like they belong.



Focus on articulating feelings.

"I am angry."
"I am sad."

Encourage journaling and diaries.



Practice self-care for yourself to set the standard.

Encourage your child to focus on the moment.



Establish a self-care routine.



Cultivate interests and hobbies.

Recognize toxic stress events.