



T O G E T H E R   W E   E X P L O R E ,   D I S C O V E R ,   A C H I E V E   A N D   G R O W

**The last day of school is Friday 19th December**

**We come back to School on Tuesday 6th January**

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Good achievement at Heacham Infant School**

Our partner schools at Heacham Junior and Snettisham have attained very well and above national averages in the DFE performance tables. Strong progress starts with the younger years – our EYFS outcomes and KS1 Phonic checks are also in line and above average levels over three years. Our annual questionnaire has been really positive – we received 29 responses to date. 100% of families say there is a good range of subjects at school, 97% of families say children are happy at school, 97% also say children do well, 93% say school is safe and we have high expectations for the children, 90% say we offer a strong range of subjects in school, 90% say children are well behaved, happy and safe at this school. 90% say we share what children will learn with families, the questionnaires show that any incidents of bullying are dealt with quickly. The vast majority of the families whose children have additional needs are happy with the support we give. The question with the lowest response relates to raising concerns for behaviour. It would be useful to discuss this with anyone who would like to speak to me so we can reflect and improve this outcome. We are also increasing the information out to families by introducing a curriculum newsletter for the Spring Term in addition to sharing Knowledge Organisers and Newsletters.

This term, to support all children in our school, we have introduced rescue rooms alongside the classrooms – The Nest and The Branch. These rooms can support all our children from Reception (The Nest) to Year Two (The Branch) when they may need additional support in school in a quieter space. Sometimes having extra time outside of the classroom can support behaviour and emotional regulation. If you are interested in finding out more about our rescue rooms then please let me know. On another note, we are considering the need for a before school club again. Our start time of 8.30am helps if you need to be somewhere for 9am, but if you would be interested in a costed morning club at an earlier time then please email the office to show interest. If you would like to come to discuss your questionnaire answers with us, then please come and see either myself or Mrs Dack. Our door is always open for a chat. If I am at another school then I can arrange a meeting.

Happy Christmas!

Best Wishes

*Louise Jackson*

## Sparrows

This half term in Nursery we have been learning all about space, night and day, people who work at night and the need for our bodies to have rest and relaxation. Most recently we have talked about ways we relax before bed. Some of the children like to have a bath, read a book or cuddle a favourite teddy bear. The children also practiced yoga as a way to relax, they were very good at this and enjoyed it very much. We have also done some wonderful Christmas crafts and enjoyed lots of festive songs and singing. Merry Christmas from all the Nursery Team!

## Goldfinches

Goldfinches have had a wonderfully busy and exciting half term! Our learning has been centered around the theme of light and celebrations. We explored the Hindu festival of Diwali, discovered the history behind Bonfire Night, and learnt about the seasons, the weather, and why we experience light and dark. We also loved finding out why we celebrate Christmas and getting creative with lots of festive crafts. In Talk for Writing, we enjoyed retelling The Three Little Pigs and even created our very own class version, The Three Little Dinosaurs! We hope you enjoyed our Nativity performance as much as we enjoyed preparing it. It's been a fantastic half term with Goldfinches, and we look forward to all the learning and fun the spring term will bring!

## Kingfishers

This half-term we have seen Kingfishers put in super hard work and made truly remarkable progress. A massive well done to every child for bringing such a consistent effort and an enthusiastic attitude to all their learning! In science we have been learning all about animals and their needs, this topic really sprung up an interest with the class and they loved sharing what they knew about animals and their pets! We were lucky enough to have a real-life pet Dougie (Miss Minns dog) come and join us to aid our learning. From having the real life experience it strongly benefitted our work and we made some fabulous posters on what pets need to survive. This half term, Kingfishers tackled some great topics! In Maths, we focused on shapes and place value up to 20. It was a definite highlight learning about 2D and 3D shapes, which even made an appearance in our PE class! Speaking of PE, our gymnastics unit was great. The children were busy learning and performing challenging holds, and we were so impressed by their ability to create and perform their own mini routines for the class. Amazing work! We are absolutely thrilled with the progress the children in Kingfishers have made this half term! It has been a wonderful half-term and we are overjoyed to see the steps each child has taken.

Looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Miss Hardingham, Miss Minns and Mrs Varley

## Owls

Owls have been really busy this half term. We've all settled into Year 2 and have been working hard in our lessons - being kind and doing our best has been our motto!

In English, we learnt to tell the text map about a special machine and then wrote our own versions. Maths learning has included work on shape, multiplication and problem solving. In History, we have been learning about how people lived in the past, from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. Our trip to Lynn Museum helped support this learning. We have also been working hard in Art, Computing and PSHE. We have learnt about kindness and the Christmas story in RE, gymnastics in PE (with some great lessons from Mrs Bower too!) and Science has helped us to discover more about habitats and the ways in which humans can damage or help care for them.

We have also won the Attendance Award in assembly quite a few times, so keep it up Owls!



## Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

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! For more info / to apply visit <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/38166>



## After School Clubs

**Tuesday— SSP Dance with Miss Johnson**

**Wednesday— TBC**

**Thursday— TBC**

**Please email the school office to book a place. Preference will be given to those who did not take part last half term. 1 club per child.**



09.01.26—PTA Non-Uniform Day (£1 or bring in a raffle prize)

15.01.25—Special Lunch—Breakfast Bash

20.01.26—Yr2 NSPC Workshop

10.03.25—SSP Dance Festival PM Performance—KL Corn Exchange

25.03.25—Book Fair Arrives at School

Please see this useful link to Norfolk County Council's website for any Nursery application or funding queries—

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/childcare-and-early-learning/free-childcare-and-learning/free-childcare-for-all-3-and-4-year-olds>

Early Years Finance can be contacted on 01603 222300.



### **Emergency Contacts**

If any of your details have changed or you would like to add or remove an emergency contact please email the school office with the details—[office@heachaminfant.co.uk](mailto:office@heachaminfant.co.uk)

It is school policy that we should at least 2 emergency contacts for every child.

**Please also remember to let us know any address changes ASAP**



### **The importance of good attendance**

The Government strives for every pupil to achieve 97% attendance. Every day away from school is a day away from learning and this can have an impact on a child's education and future accomplishments.

We want every child to enjoy school and achieve their potential in education and life beyond. We are always here to talk through any issues and help find solutions. Parents are always a phone call away if a child is too ill to continue their day, please encourage them to try to give the day a go, children often feel much better once they are in class.

The Government has issued new attendance guidance and targets to all schools, you may receive regular texts informing you of the number of days that your child has been absent in a term/year. The Government hope that this personal approach will make parents more aware of how the odd day adds up and help keep you informed.

### **Heacham Infant & Nursery School**

If you have a matter that you wish to discuss with our Headteacher Louise Jackson, our Assistant Head Claire Dack, 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 children's safety, learning and happiness are always our priority.

**Phone: 01485 570357 Email: [office@heachaminfant.co.uk](mailto:office@heachaminfant.co.uk)**

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**Our Fundraising number is 9244. Any orders placed using this code our  
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HUGE WELL DONE AND THANKS again to our PTA who came into school and made decorations with the children to decorate and enter a Christmas Tree into the Hunstanton Christmas Tree Festival and WON! Thank you so much and have a wonderful Christmas.