

Reminder:

17th January 2020

What's on ...				
Monday 20th January	Tuesday 21st January	Wednesday 22nd January	Thursday 23rd January	Friday 24th January
Mad Science 3.15-4.15pm	Theatre Train Dance Club 3.15-4.15pm Football 3.30-4.30pm	Multisports 3.30-4.30pm	GoGo Makers 3.15-4.15pm Acrotrix Gym Club 3.15-4.15pm	Celebration Assembly 9.10am 2:30pm - Year 3 & 4 Chinese New Year performance—Parents to attend

News from The Executive Head's Desk

Well what a range of weather we have had this week; lashings of rain, wind and then peppered with blue skies and sunshine. Difficult to know what to expect from hour to hour at the minute but it doesn't stop our children at Heathcote Primary from enjoying themselves. This term Onside Coaching have joined us to develop PE further and I watched the children improving their football skills outside in the playground whilst the rain pattered down. The smiles on the children's faces didn't diminish as they kicked that ball around. Mrs Everett took year 4 out on to the playground to play a times tables game in between showers on Thursday and again it was great to see how much fun they had learning to recall multiplication facts outside. It is important to get out and about as much as possible it is good for mental health and well-being. Especially at this time of year with dark mornings and the sun setting early.

I do hope next time you are visiting school you get to see some of the fabulous displays around school. One of the children's favourites is our new Exciting Writing display. Last term Miss Cowcher launched new 'Exciting Writing' books where each term the whole school will follow a theme and write. These books will stay with them throughout their entire time at Heathcote and hopefully by the time the children get to Year 6 they will have a whole range of different writing they can be proud of. Our new display shows cases writing from Reception to Year 4 and I was stood with quite a few of the children who were admiring the great range. It was lovely to hear Eloise in Squirrels say 'Look at Reception writing it is good isn't it?' The children are proud of each other's achievements. This demonstrates our one school rule of 'Respect.' We also have a new interactive maths investigation area and again children are stopping and trying out their maths skills and using knowledge to solve problems. Up in Science corner there is a great range of magnets where we are teaching physics and the properties of magnetism. I particularly love a new display in year 4 where they combine Geography, Science and Maths as they learn about mountains. Ask to take a look at it. It is fascinating. In fact there is a great range of Geography around school at the minute. Year One are learning about London and have explored maps of Great Britain, Year Three are learning about the journey of chocolate and studies maps of the world to plot where the cocoa bean comes from. In Year Two they are being Street Detectives and studying local maps to understand how our community has developed. Down in Reception they are going to the different worlds of Traditional Tales and looking at where castles might spring up and why. I also enjoyed a bit of dough disco with Hedgehogs when we sang Incy Wincy Spider.

Mrs Abernethy launched our new language of the month on Monday with Mandarin. The children all use some Makaton when greeting each other and it is great to see this embedded in the school and now we are adding Mandarin to our knowledge. Ni Hao is Hello Dàjiā, zǎo ān is Good Morning Everyone. Come and see our language display to learn more or of course ask the children to teach you. The staff are currently planning and developing our curriculum further and are focussing on the different subjects. We have been talking about Modern Foreign Languages and what we will teach the children here at Heathcote. In Reception and KS1 they are taught basics in lots of different languages, French, Spanish, German etc but at KS2 it is a statutory requirement and we want to make sure we teach a language that will develop this subject thoroughly. Spanish is being taught in year 3 and 4 currently but it may be as we increase expertise in the staff this language will change.

This week we have had a safeguarding audit. This is an annual visit from Community Academies Trust to monitor our safeguarding and also our curriculum on personal development. The children were extremely positive about how they are supported in the school and know who they should seek out to help them keep safe. They couldn't stop sharing everything we get up to here. We are proud of personal development at Heathcote Primary. We want the children to be ready for employment one day and be a part of our ever-growing community. So we are creating lots of experiences for them such as Mad Science workshops to inspire scientists or live musical performances like Palinsander Recorders to inspire musicians. Staff demonstrated that they receive rigorous training in safeguarding and were able to talk confidently about 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and how they follow clear procedures for Child Protection.

We have lots of things coming up this term. So please watch out on the communication board and visit our website and read the newsletters. The children are going on various visits, our Willow Dome will soon be built in the forest are, we are currently entering a competition to create the best portrait of Shakespeare, Pancake Day is coming, start practising flipping and The Friends of Heathcote have some fabulous events for 2020 planned starting with a Race Night. Keep fingers crossed as well that you will definitely see our new building rise from the mud.

'Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.' The 14th Dalai Lama. Enjoy the high pressure this week. According to meteorologists cups of tea taste better during high pressure. Mrs Humphriss

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE BY CLASS	
Butterflies	98%
Hedgehogs	98.67%
Otters	95.67%
Foxes	90%
Owls	96.33%
Squirrels	94.74%
This week Mr Cote (our attendance badger) will be with:	
HEDGEHOGS!!	

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS	
	
167 Guy 173 Caesar 154 Bear 137 Clarence	Well Done Caesar !

Star of the Week!	
Butterflies	Maria
Hedgehogs	Isabella
Otters	Rory
Foxes	Marlie
Owls	Tegan
Squirrels	Ahijah

Spotlight on Excellence



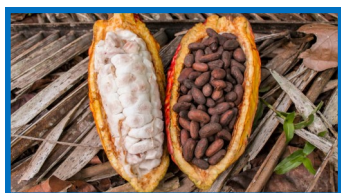
FOXES—YEAR 2

This week Foxes have been doing marvellous map reading. We started by looking back at our Year 1 map work. We had already located places on a world map and a UK map. We started with a map of the Heathcote area. We used it to locate Austin Heath, a pond and our school. We then used a map of our school to help us navigate our way around the school. Finally we located and marked the trim trail, the bike racks and our forest school on the map and created a key for easy reading.



OWLS—YEAR 3

This week Owls have been busy finding out about the history of chocolate and were shocked to find out it is even older than Jesus! In fact chocolate is 3520 years old! We have been looking back at ancient civilisations to see how they used the cacao beans, did you know the Aztecs used cacao beans as a form of money



SQUIRRELS—YEAR 4

Squirrels have had an exciting week this week. We have used lots of practical ways to reinforce our understanding of place value and multiplying and dividing by ten. We also had great fun working out how mountains are formed using blocks, carpet tiles and sand.!



Resource Appeal



Do you have any Lego or construction materials you could donate to the school? Mrs Shirley is starting a lunchtime construction club and would greatly appreciate any donations, thank you.



Friends of Heathcote

You can see what the 'Friends' are up to by liking us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/groupsfriendsofheathcote/ or contact us by email: friendsofheathcote@gmail.com

Please bring your ideas for school fundraising to the next FoHPS meeting. Many hands make light work, as they say, and more people must equal more ideas! Our next meeting is at the Heathcote Inn at 7.30pm on Tuesday 28th January. So far this term we are planning a family race evening and an Easter tea party.. Look out for further details on flyers, Facebook and the school website.

Academic Year 2020

Friday 17 th January	Celebration Assembly 9.10am
Monday 20 th January	LGB meeting 6.15pm
Friday 24th January	Year 3 & 4 Chinese New Year performance 2:30pm
Tuesday 28th January	Friends of Heathcote Meeting
Friday 31 st January	Celebration Assembly 9.10am
Thursday 6th February	Reception Phonics Workshop 9.15am
Friday 7 th February	Celebration Assembly 9.10am
Friday 7th February	Reception Phonics Workshop 2.30pm
Tuesday 11th February	Year 2 Trip
Friday 14 th February	Celebration Assembly 9.10am
Friday 14th February	Break up for half term
17th-21st February	Half Term Holiday
Monday 24th February	Return to school
Tuesday 25th February	Pancake Day Races (time TBC)
Friday 28 th February	Celebration Assembly 9.10am
Friday 3rd April	No Teacher Training—children in school
Friday 8th May	Bank Holiday—no school
1st June	Teacher Training Day

These dates may be subject to change if necessary, changes are made in red and bold

School Term and Holiday Dates 2019/2020 are available on the school website

We are busy gathering Art resources. If you have any unwanted fabric or haberdashery items (ribbons, buttons, wool etc) we would be very pleased to take it off your hands. Also if you have or know anyone who has access to bundles of scrap paper or card- any sizes, thicknesses, colours accepted we would be very grateful (as a one-off or regular donation). This is a fabulous way of recycling and reusing materials and also helps with the school budget. Please send any materials in to your child's class teacher or make them aware if you may be able to source some 'freebies' for us! We all always need newspaper for covering tables during art lessons so please save them for us and send in. We ask you to be selective though!