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"A good school at the heart of the community"

Newsletter – Friday 6th January 2017

Dear parents, carers, families and friends,

Welcome back and a very HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone in our school community! ☺ We hope you've all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year break – we're all looking forward to a great new start to the year. The children have definitely come back to school full of energy and enthusiasm for learning – I've seen some lovely work this week as I've gone around the school. As always, we've been very proud of our children's achievements.

Later in this newsletter, you'll find the dates for the Celebration Assemblies for the term – including the new addition of a Music Assembly. Please do join us at our assemblies, if you can – they're a pleasure to take part in.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, just let us know. As the children say, if we know about something, we fix it straight away. Best wishes from Ms Harrison and the Heather Primary School team.

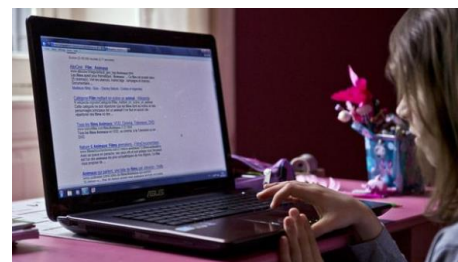
PS Newsletters every other week from this week on – paper copies and on the website!

IN THE NEWS: Children's online wellbeing

In case you didn't see it (and with a reminder that there is lots of information and advice about online safety on our 'Useful Links' section of the school website:

"Youngsters are not prepared for what they are signing up to on the internet, and are frequently giving personal information away, according to the Children's Commissioner for England.

Anne Longfield said children did not know how their data was being used due to "impenetrable" terms and conditions. She said the internet was not designed for children even though they are now the biggest users. Despite the internet being an "incredible force for good", **Ms Longfield said children were being left to fend for themselves** with parents hoping they would avoid its pitfalls."



From the BBC news site: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-38508888>



BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!



Great excitement across the school this week as lots of new books arrived, bought with money kindly donated by the **Scarecrow Festival Committee** as well as money raised by the children themselves during our **Ready Steady Read** events and competitions last half term.

The children gave themselves and the books a round of applause earlier this week and have been delighted to see the different books arriving in different places around the building. One Voyager greeted Mrs Michalowski yesterday with “Loving the books, Mrs Michalowski!” 😊

Many thanks to everyone who was part of this exciting and well-needed project to offer lots more high quality texts to the children across the school.

HEALTHY SNACKS

A reminder that we're a **nut-free school** and ask children not to bring in snacks containing nuts or to share their food with others at all.

We also encourage children to bring only **healthy snacks** for playtimes – sugar-full snacks don't help the children's energy across the day and they don't contribute to their overall health and wellbeing. Please help your child to make healthy choices – many thanks.

Also a reminder that children find it helpful to **bring their snacks wrapped separately**, rather than in their lunchboxes. Thank you.

Celebration assemblies this term – 2.45pm start, don't forget! 😊

Friday 6 th Jan	Pioneers	Friday 24 th Feb	Music
Friday 13 th Jan	Discoverers	Friday 3 rd March	Pioneers
Friday 20 th Jan	Voyagers	Friday 10 th March	Discoverers
Friday 27 th Jan	Adventurers	Friday 17 th March	Voyagers
Friday 3 rd Feb	Explorers	Friday 24 th March	Adventurers
Friday 10 th Feb	Sport	Friday 31 st March	Explorers
Friday 17 th Feb	HALF TERM	Friday 7 th April	Sport