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"A good school at the heart of the community"

Newsletter - Friday 16th September 2016

Dear parents, carers, families and friends,

Strange weather this week, but please do keep sending in **sun hats, sun cream and water bottles** to keep your child comfortable and happy during hot and sunny playtimes - even when the day begins with mist or rain!

We had a school parliament meeting at the start of week, during which all of the children voted to make our **fifth house** another mythical beast. Later in the week, a school council committee met to choose from the different suggestions that had been put into the Voicebox.

The decision was to call the fifth house... **PEGASUS!** The sorting hat is coming out to let children know which house they're in this year and then the housepoint competition really begins ☺

A reminder about **what to do if you have a concern** - please do come in to talk with us about any concerns, comments or questions straight away. If something's on your mind, we need to know about it - if we don't know, we can't do anything about it! We are genuinely glad of every opportunity to work with you as a team in supporting your child's learning and wellbeing.

As always, all best wishes from Ms Harrison and the team at Heather Primary School

The parents' summer '16 questionnaire

Many thanks to everyone who completed and returned the questionnaire sent out this summer, as it is every year, by the governing body. We were delighted with the positive responses, including 100% positive responses to these statements:

- My child is well looked after at this school
- The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved
- This school is well lead and managed
- I feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions, suggestions or a problem
- I understand the school's procedure for dealing with complaints
- The text messaging service is efficient and a good way of communicating with parents / carers



The responses to the other questions were all highly positive, but we know that we need to look at **homework** with you again - after last year we used a questionnaire to establish that our parents have extremely different views about what homework they'd like to support their children. We'll be trying to find out more about what you think and how you'd like to support your child over the next few weeks.

Fire drill today

We tried out our new fire alarm today and did a fire drill practice run with the children. We were absolutely delighted and so impressed that our new starters in the Explorers class were just as calm and organised as everyone else and we were able to empty the building and collect outside in under 2 minutes! Well done, everyone 😊

Parents' evenings

Our new year parents' evenings are coming up and we wanted to let you know that we'll be welcoming children into the meetings this year - we think they'd benefit a lot from hearing their parents and teachers talking together. There will be a crèche running for the beginning of the evenings, just in case it's needed for any reason - we'll let you know more about that closer to the time.

HALF TERM

Don't forget that the October half term starts on the Friday this year - on Friday 14th October, the teachers will be in school for a Teacher Day, but the children will not. Breakfast and After School Clubs will also not run on those days.

Returning forms

If you haven't returned the start of year forms for your child yet, please do so ASAP!

Panto booked - oh yes, it has been!

The children will be going to the Pantomime as a whole school on Friday 16th December in the morning - we'll be seeing Cinderella at Derby 😊

Celebration assembly next week

We'll be changing the pattern a little next week, because of the arrangements around the Kingswood trip, so next Friday it will be the Adventurers' celebration assembly, with the Voyagers sharing with everyone the following week.

Macmillan Day - 30th September

On September 30th, we will be raising money for Macmillan by having a dress down day. The children are invited to come in something other than school uniform and to bring a donation towards Macmillan's fundraising efforts this month. We're also going to hold a cake sale at the end of the day, so if you'd like to bake something to send in to be part of this, that would be fantastic!