

Theme of the week:

In assembly on Tuesday, we discussed remembrance, and I know this is a theme that has continued in the week in different classes, particularly with it being 100 years since the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month since World War I ended.

Thank you to all those who made the fireworks event possible, and such a success. It takes a lot of time and effort to do this, and we are all grateful to those who give their time. Thank you.

Value of the week:

Minibeasts: Henry McB
Minibeasts: Rhys V
Tigers: Edward C
Zebras: Olly
Turtles: Harry R
Panthers: Riley Pe
Lions: Lucy M
Squirrels: Molly S
Eagles: Adam B
Meerkats: Archie S
Bumblebees: Ewan

Achiever of the week:

Minibeasts: Seth W
Minibeasts: Adele P
Tigers: Freddie C
Zebras: William P
Turtles: Isabella McL
Panthers: Valentin D
Lions: Rafal S
Squirrels: Jaiden J
Eagles: Samantha L
Meerkats: Toby M
Bumblebees: Yasmin B

Notes, reminders and changes for next week:

Monday	
Tuesday	Parents' Evenings
Wednesday	Parents' Evenings
Thursday	Parents' Evenings
Friday	Non-uniform day. £1 in aid of Children in Need.

- Please make sure that all children have a waterproof coat in school every day. If it's drizzling, we will still go outside
- We have had several reports of nits over the last couple of days. PLEASE check and treat hair over the weekend, and ensure that all long hair is tied back.

Staff absence

From time to time, staff are ill or absent for other reasons. When this happens, we always try to use someone familiar to the children, and Miss Brightmore and Mrs Reynolds are key people we turn to. Mrs Wright is a familiar face, particularly in Years 5 and 6, and we have been very lucky to have her working with us over the last two weeks to cover Mrs Evans who has been ill. Mrs Evans expects to return on Monday (as does Miss Brock, who has had a couple of days of illness this week too.) There are times when we have a new teacher in school, and it's always good to get to know new people. Any feedback on supply teachers is useful, as it will help us make informed decisions about who to use in the future.

Parents' evenings and snapshot reports:

Today you will receive the first snapshot report of the term if your child is in Reception to Year 6. This gives a brief summary of your child's attainment and attitude to learning.

On Parents' Evening, you will receive some notes that your child's teacher will have made to structure the conversation. This is not intended to be a formal report, and may be in bullet points or note form, but will summarise the main things the teachers want to share, and will record any feedback from you, especially if there is anything to follow up.

Please sign up for a parents' evening slot – the booking system will close by the end of the weekend.

Uniform:

We have noticed that quite a few children are not in the correct uniform. To remind you, black school shoes or ankle boots are the correct uniform, not trainers or brown shoes. With trousers, socks should be black; with skirts, black tights (not leggings) or white knee high or ankle socks. PE sweatshirts needs to be **all** black or the Heyford Black sweatshirt. Girls with long hair should have this tied up (with discrete hair accessories such as a small head band or small bobble.) Ties need to be worn. We are instilling the value of respect and this includes respect for ourselves in school and this includes our presentation; this is important for all children in all year groups. If your child is not in the correct uniform please advise a member of staff why, as we do ask children why they are not wearing the correct uniform. Thank you for your support.

Lost property:

Our lost property pile is growing. Please write names on all your children's clothing, (including gloves & hats), lunch boxes and drink bottles. We can then get your child's items back to them.

Staffing Update:

You will have seen my email at the beginning of the week announcing that Miss Brock will be leaving us at Christmas and congratulating her on her new role. Mrs Carder (member of support staff in Reception) will also be leaving us at Christmas, and Miss Herbert in Nursery has found a new challenge and will be leaving us at the beginning of December. We wish them all well in their new ventures and thank them for the work they have done with us in supporting our children to grow and develop.

That leaves us with vacancies to fill and adverts for all these posts are either on the website now or will be soon. Please pass these on to anyone who you think might be interested in joining our team.

Voice in a Million (VIAM):

On Tuesday morning, all children involved in VIAM in March will be taking part in a workshop at the Specialisms Campus with Mrs Beckett. Note that this involves selected children from Years 3 to 6. We will be discussing staffing this afternoon but there should be an option to drop children off at either site on Tuesday: if your child is involved, I will send an email by the end of Monday with more information.

Lunches:

Having a healthy lunch is vital for all children. The kitchen provides a balanced meal, and many parents send in balanced lunches, however we have noticed more chocolate, crisps and sweets

creeping in to packed lunches. Please limit "treat" foods, and avoid chocolate bars or sweets. To concentrate in the afternoons, children need to have had nutritious food such as sandwiches, yoghurts, cheese, fruit, and perhaps something small as a treat. Morning snacks are to be fruit only.

Cross Country: an update from Miss Curtis

On Wednesday 48 children from years 1-6 represented Heyford Park at the Bicester cross country competition. Over half of these children were representing the school for the first time. Despite the wet weather every child gave 100% and tried their absolute best – we were very proud of them.



There were six races (each with around 100 participants) and we had several top 30 finishers. A particular well done must go to Poppy (3rd- Year 1/2 girls), Luke (2nd- Year 3/4 boys), Jorge (5th- Year 5/6 boys) and Heidi (6th- Year 5/6 girls). Miss Curtis, Mr Mac and Mrs Walker would also like to say a big thank you to our Year 6 children who did an excellent job of supporting the event and helping the younger members of the team.

I would also like to thank Miss Curtis for organising this and co-ordinating all the different children from different year groups.

Year 5 and 6 advent workshop:

This year, Years 5 and 6 have been invited to take part in an advent workshop in the chapel. This will be part of our RE teaching, and will involve looking at what advent means, how it prepares Christians for Christmas, and some of the traditions surrounding it. This is something that has been run successfully in previous years for other local primary schools, and we have been invited to attend this year for the first time. Note that this is informative not religious.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 13th November,

Parents Evenings 4pm – 7pm (specific times for teachers will vary)

Wednesday 14 th November and Thursday 15 th November	Please book in for your child as soon as possible.
Friday 16 th November	Non-uniform day in aid of Children in Need. £1 donation please. If you wish to wear something spotty to recognise the Children In Need charity, we look forward to seeing it!
Wednesday 5 th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 7 th December	Year 5 and 6 – advent workshop at the chapel
Monday 10 th December	School Vision Screening (NHS) – Reception only.
Tuesday 11 th December	KS1 Christmas Play 2pm
Wednesday 12 th December	KS1 Christmas Play 6pm
Thursday 13 th December	Nursery and Reception Christmas Play (SC) 2pm
Wednesday 18 th December	Secondary Rewards Trip

Have a good weekend. Mrs. Hughes