

Theme of the week:

This week's theme is kindness. This is a topic we come back to time and again, and is one of our four expectations. However, it is also arguably the most important characteristic for our children and the one that when present gives the best environment. This week, we have noticed many children being kind, and some are represented below, however we have also had to speak to children about being kind to each other when this hasn't happened. Kindness often takes thought, and the more we think often the more we are likely to be kind.

In assembly on Tuesday, we talked about ways of being kind, for example helping around the house, saying pleasant things to other people, helping someone when they need it and other ways. For every situation, we considered:

- What could I do?
- What could I say?

Please continue to look out for this at home – if you would like to email me with a "shout out" to your child or any other children over the next week for showing kindness, I would love to hear about it, and will include it in the newsletter next week.

One thing that some parents may want to revisit is which computer games children have access to, as this can have a direct impact on children's choices. This week I was asked to speak to a couple of children in Year 1 because they hadn't been as kind to each other as we would like. They had been playing roughly in the playground, and when I asked what they had been playing, they said "Fortnite." This game is rated 12, so judged unsuitable for any primary aged children. The children were copying what they had seen modelled on screen.

Value of the week:

Minibeasts: Isla B
Tigers: Jordan C
Zebras: Helden E
Turtles: Jack G
Penguins: All of Year 3
Panthers: Yusuf J and all for the farm trip
Lions: Max D
Squirrels: Sam
Eagles: Jack G
Meerkats: William P
Bumblebees: Joey McF

Achiever of the week:

Minibeasts: Jacob D
Tigers: Alfie N
Zebras: Olly B
Turtles: Josie S
Penguins: All of Year 3
Panthers: Jasmine R and all for the farm trip
Lions: Connor C
Squirrels: Luke T
Eagles: Samantha L
Meerkats: Florence R
Bumblebees: Paige B

Notes, reminders and changes for next week:

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| Monday | PE will be at the OM (main site) this week as the sports hall is being used for mocks: Year 5 and 6 children should therefore come to the main site first thing on Monday morning |
| Tuesday | |
| Wednesday | |

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| Thursday | PE will be at the OM (main site) this week as the sports hall is being used for mocks: Year 3 children should therefore be collected from the main site at 3.30pm. |
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| Friday | |
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Please remind children about the competition running across the whole of the school.

The task is to create either a short story, a poem, an art piece or a short film using the phrase "A hooded figure flitted across the shadowy street".

The deadline is Friday 8th February.

Year 6 Boosters:

Year 6 boosters start next week. Please remember to return the permission slips.

If your child is coming to the booster group, they will need to come in to the main entrance and sign in with school staff.

Year 4 Residential to Everdon:

The Year 4 residential is just over a month away and the children and staff are getting incredibly excited! Please can we remind you that the outstanding balance for the residential is due by Monday 25th February. Please send the permission, medical and code of conduct forms back to school as soon as possible. If you need another copy, then please speak to Mrs Jefferies or Miss Curtis.

Nursery News:

This week we have had an invasion of scary and cheeky monsters! They have been made out of play dough using different tools and objects. We have also been trying to feed the objects shapes, but they were very fussy eaters. We have especially enjoyed listening to the Gruffalo story and we all know the words and characters so well we have been re-enacting it in the garden and role play area. Another focus has been learning the days of the week and we found a really good song to help us.

Next week we will be celebrating Chinese New Year. It is the year of the Pig.

Show and Tell will be on Tuesday and we would like the children to bring in something related to our topic of Chinese New Year.

Idea: Maybe you could do some research on the computer about the celebration to share with us. We are happy to print off any images if necessary.



Reception Update:

This week in Reception, we have been looking at a story about Handa and Akeyo who live in Africa. The girls search for their black hen called Mondie after she suddenly disappears. While

searching for her they find many different creatures; butterflies, mice, lizards, crickets, sunbirds, bullfrogs, spoonbills, starlings and chicks. Children have been creating their own sentences that include words to describe their favourite creatures from the story. They have also experimented with different media to mix yellow and red, creating warm shades of orange. We linked these colours to the hot, dry climate and environment in the illustrations of the book. We have discussed how The United Kingdom and Africa are very different places and how while we are wrapping up in warm clothing for our winter, children in Africa are dressing to keep cool and protect their skin from the hot sun. In PE we have experimented with different ways of moving inspired by the creatures in the book. Children transferred their ideas into movements imitating Spoonbills, lizards and bullfrogs to move across apparatus with great control and confidence. The children have watched some African dancing on the internet.

On Monday afternoon the two classes split. One class with Mrs Walker for 'Circle Time' and the other take part in 'Curiosity Club' with Mrs Hillier. Classes alternate each week to ensure all experience both activities. In 'Curiosity Club' the children discussed and investigated homes and the materials used to make them. They then experimented with creating their own little homes creating Tepees and stick huts. In 'Circle Time' the focus was 'How to keep our bodies healthy', looking at the importance of a balanced diet for good health. In maths we have been ordering numbers and finding one more/one less. Some children using numbers to 20 and others enjoyed the challenge of using numbers to 100!

Please have discussions with your children about their learning this week. Let us know via 2simple if they can share their learning with you or other family members. We love to hear that they have enjoyed our activities and can make links using any new knowledge acquired at school.

Friends' Quiz Night

Friends are holding a Quiz night on Friday 8th Feb at 7pm in the ballroom. Get a team together and come along and have some fun whilst supporting the school. Tickets are available on ParentPay and on the door.

Hot food is included in the price of your ticket.

We'd love to see you there.

QUIZ NIGHT
FRIDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 7PM
HPFS OFFICERS MESS BALLROOM

Tickets: **£100.00**
Family £20* **FIRST PRIZE**
Adult £6
Child £4
includes Hot Food

Bring a team or join a table.
*Family ticket: 2 adults & 2 children

FRIENDS OF
HEYFORD PARK
FREE SCHOOL

Farm Trips:

Well done to all the children in Year 3 who represented our school so well at the farm this week! Rosie, who heads up the Education Centre, emailed me to commend them as follows:

"We've had a fantastic couple of days with the year 3s, behaviour has been great and they've been SO well engaged with the activities."

Headlice:

I am pleased to report that the headlice situation seems to have improved since Christmas (shhhh! Don't tell them!) However, we have received the following tips from a parent:

- Use a nitty gritty comb weekly while washing your children's hair. This is best done whilst the conditioner is still on the head. Make sure the hair has been brushed prior to washing!
- Vosene detangling spray deters lice. I spray their heads every few days.
- If lice are detected, use the nitty gritty comb as instructed every other day for 2 weeks.

Dates for your diary: **New dates in red**

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| Friday 8 th February | Family Quiz Night (see above) |
| Monday 11 th to Friday 15 th February | Story Week in Primary |
| Tuesday 12 th February | Pantomime at the chapel (Reception to Year 6) |
| Wednesday 13th February | Year 1/2 multiskills festival – selected children: more information to follow |
| Thursday 14 th February | Roald Dahl Day – Years 1-3 only (see above) |
| Thursday 14 th February | Year 8 Parents' Evening 2.30-6.30pm (Primary children to finish at the normal time) |
| Monday 18 th to Friday 22 nd February | Half Term |
| Monday 25 th February | INSET day – no children in school |
| Wednesday 27th February | Year 5/6 netball tournament (selected children only – more information to follow) |
| Monday 4 th to Wednesday 6 th March | Squirrels to Everdon |
| Wednesday 6 th to Friday 8 th March | Lions to Everdon |
| Tuesday 12th – Thursday 14th March | Primary Parents' Evenings Nursery to Year 5 Booking not yet open |
| Wednesday 20 th March | Voice in a Million – Choir members from Y3-Y6 only |

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. Hughes