



Heathfield Primary School

Newsletter – April 2021



A Message from Mr Dipple, Head of School

Welcome back. All of the staff at Heathfield hope that you had a great Easter holiday and managed to have some time together as families and get some rest.

We now enter the next phase of the government's roadmap out of lockdown which will hopefully make life a little easier for everyone. At school, the guidance is the same as it was before the Easter break which should help children to settle back in quickly.



A Message from Mrs Beach, Executive Head Teacher

The 'buzz' around Heathfield since we returned to school on Monday this week is a fantastic feeling. It has been great to see all of the children engaging in their lessons and eager to learn. Watching the children outside at playtimes has also been a pleasure to observe as children catch up with their friends and enjoy being back in the school environment. We have lots of exciting things planned for this term which we will be sharing with you on Facebook. I believe that Facebook is the best way for parents to see exactly what is happening in the school and provides a great forum to celebrate pupil achievement. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term as Executive Head Teacher and I am incredibly optimistic for the bright future ahead at Heathfield Primary School.

Attendance

We'd like to highlight the importance of attending school every day and on time if your child is well enough to attend. The pandemic and lockdowns of the past year have obviously had a significant impact on pupil attendance, the current figure for this academic year is 95%, which is just below the national expectation of 96%. Now that schools have reopened to all pupils for the Summer Term, it is vital that children attend every day. The staff at Heathfield have been working very hard to ensure that the curriculum across this term is focused on children catching up on any lost learning and strengthening children's social and emotional development.

Making our school site safer

It has come to our attention that a number of people have been using the front entrance car park at the end of the school day when the children are leaving the premises. This has resulted in several near misses and obviously causes a significant risk to our children and their parents. We appreciate that parking around the school at the end of the day may be challenging, however from tomorrow (14th April) we will be locking all gates at the front of school at 2:45pm to minimise this risk and keep our children safe. We thank you for your understanding.

Staffing

Unfortunately, we will be saying goodbye to two members of our team from Friday 30th April – Mrs Moore and Miss Hickman. Mrs Moore has been at Heathfield for 26 years and has dedicated most of her professional life to our school. We are sad to see her go but wish her all the best in the next chapter of her life. Miss Hickman has been at Heathfield for a few years now and has worked hard to support many of our children across the school. We are sad to see her go and wish her well in the next stage of her career.

Miss Grocott (currently teaching in year 2) will take over Mrs Moore's class and Mrs Bradley will work full time with 2DB until the summer holiday.



Improvements to School

Over Easter, we have been making improvements to our school environment. Some corridors and the office have been painted and a new carpet has been put down in the seating area at the front entrance. We have further plans to continue these improvements and will keep you informed when these are completed. We are fully committed to ensuring that the environment is as good as it can be for the whole of the school community. We are also in the process of updating and rebranding the school website and logo to better reflect our ethos - watch this space!



A Message from Miss Fogg, Assistant Head Teacher

Foggy's Fun-Filled Days!

What a fabulous spring term it was for our Heathfield family! The children learned about the importance of global recycling, designed helpful robots in science week and performed some poems by heart. We celebrated reading by dressing up as book characters, showed that we care by raising money for charities and enjoyed lots of laughs together on Red Nose Day. Thank you for your support with all of this – we know that many of you enjoyed the work, videos and pictures we shared on Facebook.

This is what we have planned for the start of our super summer term:

- **Friday 16th April:** Denim for Dementia – wear anything and everything denim to school and bring in a donation to support the Alzheimer's Society.
- **Week commencing 19th April:** The Big Pedal – as many children, parents and staff as possible to travel to school actively! Polish up your bikes, scooters and walking shoes and get moving to be in with a chance to win prizes.
- **Friday 23rd April:** National Skipping Day – children are invited to bring their skipping ropes to school, learn some new skills and take part in a skip-a-thon.
- **Week commencing 26th April:** National Gardening Week.
- **Week commencing 3rd May:** Sun Awareness Week – children will learn about how to keep themselves safe in the sun and you can support them by taking part in the 'Don't Bake, Bake' competition.
- **Wednesday 12th March:** Limerick Day.
- **Week commencing 17th May:** Walk to School Week – be a superhero and get fit by walking to school (and dress up as a superhero on Friday 21st May).
- **Week commencing 24th May:** National Smile Week – children will learn about looking after their teeth and share some smiles.
- **Friday 28th May:** Non-uniform day.

From all the staff at Heathfield, here's to a really exciting half term!