



Juniors

It has been an excellent start to the new term. Your children are delighted to be back at school. They are engaged with their learning and their friends and the school feels busy and purposeful. Thank you for all your support and cooperation in helping us make the beginning of this school year a positive experience for your children. I know it is not quite the same as usual and the control measures do impact on how we run the school, but the new normal is well established and we now know that coronavirus will be with us for some time and how important these measures are. It is now crucial we all follow the rules we have in place so we reduce the risk of spreading the virus and continue to be able to educate the children. From time to time, often with the government's advice, control measures will change. One of those changes came into effect from last Monday. We are now asking you to wear a face covering when entering the school grounds and I thank all those people who have complied.

I imagine you may hear false rumours of positive Covid tests in schools, which is very concerning for all involved. You will be reassured to know that, at the time of writing, we have had no positive tests amongst children or staff. If we do have a positive test result we will contact the Department for Education and following their advice inform those members of the school who need to isolate. This will be done quickly and efficiently, whilst the rest of the school continues as usual. Home learning packs have been prepared for the isolating children should this happen.

I have attached some advice on coronavirus symptoms and possible responses. I realise how difficult it is for parents when confronted with sniffles and sore throats and hope this helps.

Once again, thank you for continued support.

Paul Clayton

Attendance

We have had a fantastic start to the term with the children very keen to be back in school! Congratulations to Lionfish, Abyss, Midnight and Twilight, last week's winners from Years 3 and 5 all with 100% attendance. Year 6 winners for the first week were Nautilus with 99% while Scylla won in Year 4 with 98%. This week Swordfish (Year 3), Kraken (Year 4), Abyss (Year 5) and Nautilus (Year 6) achieved the best attendance in their year group. Well done!

Summer Reading Challenge

We have been really impressed with the way the children responded to the Summer Reading Challenge. Here is a selection of some of our Year 4 children with their amazing dioramas.



Sports Clubs

All being well, we are planning a phased return of some of our clubs towards the end of the month. Appropriate protective measures such as limiting the number of children in each club to a maximum of 14 from the same year group will be in place. Some of the clubs will be offered on an invitation only basis and many will be free! The first club to return will be Football with Andy Scates from 28th September, Athletics with Jonathan Barber will start back the following week. Information will be sent out on Parent Hub and posted on the school website: <https://heathfieldschoolspartnership.org/news/clubs-2/>



Forest School



Our Forest School returned this week for new groups of children in Years 3 and 5. Forest School offers children the opportunity to have a hand-on learning experience within in a natural environment. For their first meeting both groups took part in a scavenger hunt to find natural objects to help familiarise themselves with the area. Next week they will get the chance to focus on art activities using mud, sticks and other natural materials.

Bowen, a former Forest School student said “It was actually fun. One time we got to go fishing in that pond. And one lesson we took turns to climb trees. And at the last lesson you got to eat pasta with your friends from the other class.”



Music Update



While we are currently unable to offer choir, band club, recorder groups or singing lessons we are pleased to let you know that Rocksteady is back offering Rock and Pop Band Lessons. A band consists of a maximum of nine children from the same year group bubble. The half hour weekly lessons are run in accordance with government guidance on social distancing and hygiene. Subject to availability, children can choose from drums, guitar, keyboard and vocals with all instruments provided. Rock Steady costs £31.25 a month and is available to children from

Reception to Year 6. If your child is interested, please visit www.rocksteadymusicschool.com for more information and to register your interest.

Survey Monkey



Thank you to everyone who has completed the Survey Monkey questionnaire which was sent out earlier in the week. If you have not yet answered the brief survey looking at children's online access at home, we would be most grateful for your feedback. We will use the information gathered to help plan future home learning provision, in the event of another lockdown or partial school closure. Paper copies of the questionnaire are available from either school office.



Birthdays

In line with the government's advice to avoid unnecessary sharing, we are asking that children do not bring anything to school to share with their class on their birthday. Please be reassured we will still celebrate birthdays but without the sweet treats.

Parent Hub App

Please ensure you have this app active on your phone or tablet in order to receive communications from the school quickly in one convenient place.



It is free for you to download from the  or  and easy to set up. To join the Junior School, you need to enter the handle *HeathfieldJun*. To join the Infant School, please use the handle *HeathfieldInf*. Once you enter your mobile number and child's date of birth, your account will link with your child ensuring you receive relevant notifications. If you have any difficulties with this please contact the appropriate school office for assistance.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday **1st October** – Year 3 Stone Age Workshop

Friday **9th October** – Year 4 Roman Day and Workshop

Week beginning **12th October** – Parents' Consultations – details to be confirmed

Tuesday **20th October** – Year 6 Mayan Workshop

Wednesday **21st October** – Year 5 Visit from the Planetarium

Monday **26th** – Friday **30th October** – Half Term