



HEATHFIELD SCHOOLS' PARTNERSHIP

13th January 2023

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Dear All

A belated welcome back and Happy New Year. As with every new year we have a resolution and this year we are focusing on attendance. Since the pandemic our attendance has dropped slightly and we are determined to improve it. We can only do that with your help. So please make sure, unless they are poorly, your children are in school every day. Every day adds to their learning and the more consecutive days they do the more their confidence builds. There are a number of attendance competitions and rewards in school but, particularly with our younger children, you have the greater impact on their attendance. So our whole school resolution for 2023 is **to be on time, in school every day, ready to learn.**

Thank you for your support.

Paul Clayton

Attendance

This week the classes with the best attendance were **Sycamore** in Infants and **Nimbus** in Juniors. Well done to all those children.

We have a new Attendance Tree Board in our Infant School. Each class has been allocated a tree and those children with the best termly attendance will be rewarded with gold leaves (for 100% attendance), silver leaves (98%) or bronze leaves (96%) for their class tree.



Applications for Reception and Year 3

The application deadline for children due to start Reception or Year 3 in September 2023 is **Sunday 15th January**. Parents and carers are encouraged however, to submit their applications by 6pm today, Friday 13th January. The eAdmissions Helpdesk will be available until that time in order to assist parents who experience difficulty logging in to an existing account or creating a new one.

Please note that late applications (submitted after Sunday 15th January) are only considered after all on time applications, unless you can provide a legitimate reason for missing the deadline. Please apply via the [eadmissions](https://www.heathfield-inf.richmond.sch.uk/eadmissions) website, if you have not already done so.

Applications for Nursery

We will shortly be allocating our Nursery places for September 2023.

Applications for Nursery are made directly to the school and application forms are available from the Infant School Office. If you have a younger child within your family and are hoping for a place within our Nursery, please apply as soon as possible to have the best chance of being allocated your first choice of session. Similarly, if you have family members or friends and neighbours who are looking at Nursery places for September, please encourage them to apply soon. Children are eligible for a Nursery place in September if they are born between: 1.9.19 and 31.8.20



We offer morning (8:45-11:45am), afternoon (12:30-3:30pm) and full day (8:45am-2:45pm) places, with the option of extending these hours by paying a top up fee for lunch club.

Nursery Taste Experiments

This week Nursery have been exploring and learning different facts about animals and natural resources, they have enjoyed listening to clues and describing their thoughts and ideas.

The children especially enjoyed a taste experiment activity, where they had to use words to describe the different flavours saying whether they were sweet, sour/bitter or salty. Charlie said "*It tastes sour, but I like it*" while Maryam preferred the sweet foods, "*They taste the best!*" she said.



Year 1 Dips and Dippers

Sampling food was also on the menu for Year 1 this week when they undertook their *Dips and Dippers Investigation* into taste and what made a good dipper. The children got to try a variety of dips including mango chutney, salsa, guacamole, hummus and tzatziki. They also tried a range of dippers such as breadsticks, crisps, carrots, pitta bread and cucumber.

David thought crisps were the best dippers saying, "It's like a spoon" while Sargun enjoyed the guacamole, "It tasted delicious!"



Year 5 Planetarium Workshop

Yesterday all our Year 5 children took part in a Planetarium Workshop. Elyanah and Honey explain, "First we looked at rocks and meteorites from different planets including Mars and the Moon. We also learnt about famous astronauts, rockets and satellites. Then we went into the tent and sat down. It looked small on the outside but was big inside. The projector showed us lots of stars and we went back in time to see constellations in the past. Some were named after zodiac signs—Leo, Scorpio and Cancer and others showed animals like the bear. We learnt how planets were made and we were able to ask lots of questions like what the sun is made of and how it generates light. We learnt so many new things and it was lots of fun!"



Times Tables Rock Stars Competition

Next week, our junior children will be starting a Times Tables Rock Stars house competition. Please encourage your children to log on every day and complete five minutes on their Times Tables Rock Stars account. This will win points for their house and the house with the most points will win a golf ball.



Museum of Richmond

The Museum of Richmond are offering free craft activities this January including *Animals in Jumpers* on 14th January and *Gingerbread People Finger Puppets* on 21st January. For more information please visit their website www.museumofrichmond.com

Dates for your diary

Monday **6th February** - Parents' Evening (Juniors only)
Tuesday **7th February** - Parents' Evening for Infants and Juniors - with Alligator's Mouth Bookshop
Wednesday **8th February** - Year 6 Boundless Dance Workshop
Thursday **9th February** - Parents' Evening (Infants only)
Monday **13th** - Friday **17th February** - Half Term
Tuesday **21st February** - Year 3 trip to Natural History Museum
Monday **27th February** - Year 3 start swimming lessons
Thursday **2nd March** - World Book Day
Tuesday **14th March** - Year 4 visit to Mosque
Friday **24th March** - Monday **27th March** - Year 6 Residential Journey to Osmington Bay
Friday **31st March** - Last day of term
Monday **15th April** - Start of summer term