



Heathland School

NEWSLETTER

June 2020



Welcome Back!

Along with children of Key Workers we have now welcomed back pupils to our Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. We would like to show you some of the lovely things they have been up to!

Our Year 6 pupils who have returned have been busy learning and recently wrote this article for the newsletter to share their experience of being back in school.

Year 6 are Coming Back!

Recently, after 3 long months of boredom, we were thrilled to hear that we could finally return to school following the government guidelines. On 5th June we came back to school and it was extremely different to what we remembered but we got used to it and we still have fun!

At first, we found it a bit complicated but also very exciting. Even though there was work to be done we still found time for fun activities like PE and art. During art, we painted, made sculptures and many more creative activities. Every day we have had PE to help us stay active. These activities consist of handball, netball and many more.

Social distancing plays a role given the present circumstances. As thrilled as we are to see our friends you still need to maintain a distance at times, this can be difficult and because of the government guidelines we cannot mix with other classes which is a massive hindrance. Even though this may sound confusing we still have loads of fun!

Since we have come back teachers have been encouraging us in many different ways; we appreciate all the teachers that are helping make our school a better and safer place for everyone to learn and have fun!

I feel very happy coming back to school and seeing some of my friends again. I enjoy doing science and art and also doing PE each day. The adults help us with our learning and make things easier for us. - Afa'ay, Bonsai Class



Article 28: Your right to learn and go to school

We have PE everyday and we have done lots of different activities such as art, dance, yoga and science experiments. It is good to be back! - Mahum, Bonsai Class

Value of the month



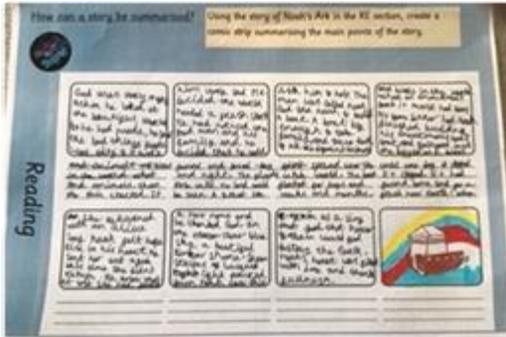
Humour

- Being cheerful if things are a bit tricky
- Enjoying a joke
- Making sure we laugh each day





Messages and Activities from Pupils back at School



Jayen – Year 5, summarised the Noah’s Ark story above.

‘ I really enjoyed doing this as it was a story I was familiar with and could link it to myself. I felt proud doing this. School is different but I am learning a lot’

Maya, Year 3 - “ I have really enjoyed coming back to school and seeing all my teachers. School is different but everyone is so kind and helpful. I am lucky as I have two teachers helping me. I have made new friends from the different year groups who I love to play with at playtime. We play skipping, running and ball games.”

Aashna, Year 2- “ I am really happy to be back at school. I am making new friends, from the different classes who are in my bubble. We have been learning really hard with challenging learning, I am even doing some Year 3 learning to get me ready for September. The teachers are so kind and lovely. Everyone looks after you and makes you feel happy.”

Exploring in Reception!

Reception children have been enjoying the outdoors and exploring nature. They have been on the hunt for Minibeasts as part of their learning, searching in big and small places and talking to their friends about what they can find. Well done Reception for being super investigators and being so passionate about your learning!



Happy in Nursery!



Nursery children have settled in well on their return and are happy to be playing with friends. They had a busy time practicing for the nursery virtual games and sports week! The children are enjoying their new morning routine of wake and shake songs. Here they are enjoying a new favorite, ‘The Penguin Dance’! We have also practiced the chicken song to help us get ready for a week of learning about Rosie’s Walk.



Article 29: Your right to become the best that you can be



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Thank You Key Workers!

We are proud that Heathland School has remained open for our key worker families. Our teachers have been able to provide care for pupils from key worker families throughout lockdown and throughout the Easter break. Our key worker group is growing and we are grateful to all the parents and carers who continue to provide such vital services to support our community throughout the pandemic. All the pupils at Heathland School would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to our key workers! We appreciate you!



End of Term Events

One of our most favourite events of the year is our annual trophy assembly where we get the chance to award our large range of trophies to our pupils. As usual our teachers have been busy discussing and conferring and have given their nominations. Miss Caswell and Miss Hopkins will be filming the trophy assembly so that you are able to celebrate our winners with us! We will be sharing the link via email soon!



Article 29: Your right to become the best that you can be



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During the recent months we have really missed seeing our pupils take part in all the brilliant everyday activities that would usually be happening at Heathland School. We have taken some time to reflect on the amazing opportunities that our teachers carefully plan for our pupils to make sure they have the best learning experiences at school. We have had some brilliant ones this year and we are busy planning even more for when we have everyone back in the classroom with us.



Outdoor learning



Role Play



Archaeology



Cooking



Educational Visits



Pupil Council



Performances



Celebrations!



World Book Day



Music



Sporting competitions



Live Exhibitions



MindUp at Heathland School

This year we introduced MindUp to our curriculum. MindUp provides a whole-school approach promoting mental health and emotional wellbeing. We know how important it is that we support pupil's readiness for learning and positive mental health. Already this year pupils from Nursery to Year 6 have been learning about how brains work (neuroscience!) and how to apply strategies to focus attention in order to learn and interact effectively with those around us.

We have only just started our journey into this exciting curriculum and look forward to developing this next year!





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Place to Be

Place2Be have really enjoyed working with the Heathland School community. Karen, Linda and Rhoda have been working on a one-to-one basis with various children, as well as providing group work, circle times and lunch time drop in sessions. They worked on themes such as confidence, team work, kindness, friendship and transition to high school.

Staff and parents have also been supported by Place2Be. During lockdown Karen has been working remotely, providing confidential phone 'check-ins' to help the young people and their families. Karen provided the families with extra support, a space to reflect, as well as resources. These 'check-ins' helped children to feel more positive about returning to school.

At the beginning of June, the Duchess of Cambridge gave an assembly about kindness. She spoke about looking after one another and reminded the children that there is always someone to talk to in their parents or their teachers if they need to. She reminded us all of the importance of nurturing and looking after ourselves and of course, this is so important for you parents, as I know you all have worked tirelessly at supporting your families over this challenging time. In a time of uncertainty we must remember to focus on the positives.

Over the summer connect, be together, talk, play games, paint, bake, create and experiment. Enjoy long walks and gardening, read to one another and most of all cuddle under a blanket whilst watching your favourite film.

We wish you and your families good health and comfort. If you are feeling worried, or anxious, talk to someone you trust who can listen and support you. If you would like to talk to us at Place2Be, you can email Karen at: Karen.Ejdelman@PLACE2BE.ORG.UK



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New Teachers!

Usually at this time of year we would be holding our transition mornings where classes would be meeting their new teachers. As this is not possible this year we will be sending all parents a 'Transition Pack' via email which will contain a video of your new class teacher, a PPT with important information about the new year group and a activity that we would like all pupils to join in with and send back to us. You will also receive a phone call very soon from the new class teacher. Please see the attached letter to find out who your new class teacher is!



Article 12: Your right to be listened to



Article 17: Your right to have information