

# ***Heltwate Round up***

*July 2021*

[www.heltwate.co.uk](http://www.heltwate.co.uk)



## **A note from the Head**

It's been a funny old year: are we in school? are we out? I want to say a huge thank you for all your hard work and commitment over the last twelve months. 2021 has been challenging for us all, so thank you for working with us. Children have made great progress and learned to cope with so many changes. It has been a fantastic achievement.

Children have worked extremely hard this year and deserve to feel proud of their efforts. We wish all our leavers every success for the future and hope that they feel prepared for the challenges to come. I would like to thank our staff who have worked hard to make Heltwate the exciting, stimulating place it is. It is interesting that we are having discussions in school about how much 'lag' or 'catch-up' is needed, our children have suffered; it isn't always easy to see. The smiling faces of children coming into school and in classes does not display the level of loss we perhaps could have expected. School is a happy and purposeful place. Some of the restrictions that have been placed on the school have been beneficial, smaller groups, less social mixing, less unsupervised time, more consistent staffing etc. Pupils seem just happy to be in school.

The new curriculum pathways have been a great success. From September 2021 the whole school will be formally recording personal development milestones. I am very excited by the data the new tracker is producing. Patterns show many of our children show little or no academic progress over the first term, for those children who have started the Engage curriculum that is now not the case. This really is a big step forward.

I am sure I will be writing to parents again over the summer to explain arrangements for September in light of government announcements about Covid restrictions. Whilst I am pleased that many restrictions (like bubble groups) will be lifted soon, there will be some routines and rules that we will be following as a school to be on the safe side. It is very hard planning ahead when we don't know how Covid will be affecting our community in September. All parents and carers have been so supportive since the first lockdown and I know I can count on this support and understanding to continue as we end this term and think ahead to the next

I wish you a relaxing summer break and look forward to hearing about their adventures in September. Let's hope for plenty of sunshine.

*Adam Brewster*



***School breaks up on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 3.00 p.m.  
Pupils return to school on Monday 6th September at 8.40 a.m.  
Fridays will end at 3.00 p.m. from September***

# Attendance

We recognise that the disruption to education due to COVID this year has been a significant challenge and has put families under pressure. We really appreciate your support following the guidance and ensuring that your child had COVID tests if required and for keeping school informed.

We are hopeful that from September the disruption will be not as significant.

Our school target is 94% attendance and we can report that whole school attendance for this school year is 93.6%. 64% of pupils have attendance over 94%. COVID related absences do not count in the attendance figures.

# Charity Week

Thank you to all parents and staff who supported us for Heltwate's charity week. This year, the main event was the stall at the Golden Fleece, in Stamford, and the Grand Raffle. The whole school participated in making goodies, delicious treats to eat and selling raffle tickets to friends and families. On the day of the event, Coral and Saffron classes joined together to sell these items and raise as much money as possible. The students were fantastic, displaying mature and polite behaviour, as well as using the opportunity to improve their



numeracy and conversation skills. With this, and a few other events, we have managed to raise a whopping £2594.13, all of which will be donated to our Disney trip and other fun activities for the students in school. In addition to this, some staff are taking on a charity walk around Rutland Water on July 24th, with the hopes of reaching a target of £3000. Once again, thank you so much for all your support.

***All our School / Home Communication is through the Class Dojo app so please make sure you read the messages that are sent***

# Healthy School Curriculum Day

Heltwate's Healthy School curriculum day took place on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The theme this year was 'Try Something New'.

Heltwate welcomed Hoop Guy into school for the day. Hoop Guy (AKA Paul) was a semi-finalist in Britain's Got Talent 2017! He taught pupils how to hula hoop, played many hula hoop games and even did some balloon modelling for the younger learners.

We had a dance teacher in school who taught pupils dances in African, Bollywood and Street Dance themes. The pupils loved learning new dances and exploring the sensory props which were also incorporated.

Some of the older pupils at Heltwate took part in a drug and alcohol awareness workshop which taught them about the effects of smoking, drugs and alcohol. This was taught in a way which was appropriate to the pupils. Pupils got to see what smoking did to the lungs and tried on special 'beer goggles' which made their sight blurry.

Riverford farm very kindly donated a bunch of bananas to each class at Heltwate so they could bake a healthy recipe. Many delicious recipes were made including banana smoothies, banana bread, banana on toast and Rainbow 2 even created crafts out of their bananas!

A go-kart competition was held. Pupils raced around the playground on a track. Prizes were given to the fastest and to those who showed good sportsmanship and effort.

Throughout the day pupils took part in exercise challenges, laughing yoga and meditation sessions. There was positive feedback from all classes and the day was such a success.



Rachel Morton  
Healthy School Coordinator

# Outdoor Art Week

At the end of May, we had an Outdoor Art Week which all children and staff participated in. There was a competition for each class to enter creating an art masterpiece using only natural materials. All children and adults painted their own pebble which are now being made into a feature in the allotment. During the week the children had opportunities to paint, print and use clay to create different pieces of art work. Children were also tasked with making items to create a wildlife corridor in the allotment. The children made bird boxes, seed bombs and insect homes to encourage wildlife to visit the allotment. Everyone had a fantastic week!



***All transport is managed by Peterborough City Council.  
If you need to speak to the transport team about your child's  
transport please ring 01733 317455 and NOT the school office.***



Coral Class took on the challenge of walking to Ferry Meadows and back this half term and did amazingly well! It was over 10 miles in total and the students made everyone very proud!



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Coral and Saffron Class were in charge of hosting Heltwate's annual charity event at The Golden Fleece in Stamford. The students behaved exceptionally well and we are very grateful to the pub for hosting us! We raised over £1000 for the school charity.



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# Duke of Edinburgh

Congratulation to all of our Duke of Edinburgh award students – they have all passed their Bronze Award.





# DofE expedition Houghton Mill 24.6.21

