

Heltwate Round up

October 2021

www.heltwate.co.uk



A note from the Head

Dear Parents and Carers

We are at the end of the first half term in this school year. What a busy term it has been. Due to Covid, things are still not yet normal and rates in Peterborough are still rising quickly. This means many things have to stay virtual, such as assemblies, our parents' evenings and the open evenings. We still are being advised to keep visitors into school to a minimum and we expect face masks to be worn where appropriate. If you need to talk to staff we would be grateful if you would continue to wear a mask. School has started to open more fully and the curriculum expand, a great variety of trips and visits have started to take place where social distancing and the minimising of contacts is manageable. In assemblies each week we have seen the photographs from the trips and children and staff have all had beaming smiles. You may be aware that we are organising a trip to Disneyland Paris and if you are interested in your child attending, please contact school.

Childhood Flu Vaccinations at Heltwate took place last week The NHS team encourage every child to have the vaccine, saying, "Flu can be an unpleasant and sometimes serious illness. Vaccinating your child against flu will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends." The same applies to the Covid Vaccination for 12–15-year-olds, we had a disappointing uptake. I assume you realise that there is likely to be the need for these if you are to travel abroad. I would recommend contacting your GP and trying to get these done. We are expecting a return visit to those of you that missed the 12-15 year COVID vaccine but would still like your children to be vaccinated.

I'm looking forward to Thursday when our Harvest Festival events will take place. I'm sure you will see pictures. Thank you for all your donations which will go to the food bank. Children from each class will be reflect on the meaning of Harvest and give thanks for all the things we have.

Finally, well done to all the children and particularly the new children who have settled marvellously into the new Heltwate routines. Thanks to all the staff who work so hard to make it all happen.

Have a lovely half term.

Adam Brewster



***School breaks up for half term on THURSDAY 21st October
at 3.00 p.m.
Pupils return to school on Monday 1st November at 8.40 a.m.***

Attendance

The whole school attendance percentage for this half term is 91% which is below our target of 94%. The cold season and a nasty sickness bug has certainly had an impact on attendance this month so we hope that the half term break will stop the spread.

We are aware it may seem contradictory to expect high attendance for your child with the extra restrictions that COVID brings but we are expected to apply the same standards for our school for attendance regardless. **If your child is fit and well then they should be attending.** It states in the DFE guidance that “*School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school*”.

If you feel there are issues other than illness that are affecting your child’s attendance please do contact school. We want to work with you and your child to ensure that your child is able to attend and help in any way which we can.

To report a school absence please either send a class dojo message or telephone the school office on 01733 262878 by 9.15 a.m.

EHCP Reviews

The EHCP annual review cycle has begun for this school year 2021 – 22 and all pupils will have their EHCP reviewed. The meeting will be taking place virtually– either by online meeting or phone call and your class teacher will be in touch with the meeting date in the weeks before your child’s EHCP date.

Our Earwig online assessment programme is proving to be an excellent tool for tracking your child’s EHCP targets and is regularly updated by teaching staff.

New Starters

Our new starters who joined us in September have settled well into school life at Heltwate. Those who have needed a bit more support with the move to a new school are starting to feel more settled. Well done to parents / carers and staff.

Parent / Carers vehicles onsite

Please can we remind those who bring and collect their child into school that the school site cannot be accessed between 8.40 a.m. – 9.00 a.m. and 2.40 p.m. - 3.15 p.m. by vehicles. If you do come onto site it obstructs and slows down school transport making everyone late. We have seen a more streamlined start and end of day with transport this term which is great. May we also thank you for parking respectfully on the road near to school as we have had far fewer complaints from local residents.

Class Dojo

Please make sure you are signed up to class dojo – we use it for all communication home from school.

School Transport

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.

Contact Numbers

Please make sure that you let the school office know if you change your phone number or move house so we always have the correct details for you.

School Dinners

The school dinner menu is changing after half term – it will be sent out to you all via Class Dojo.

Dinners are £2.70 a day for Years 3-6 and £2.90 a day for Year 7 upwards. Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and 2 do not need to pay.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

The application is an online form which can be accessed from our website or from the link below:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/free-school-meals>

Head Pupil

Congratulations to our newly elected Head Boy, Istikhar and Deputy Head Boy, Liam!
Voting was close.

Thank you to all the candidates for putting themselves forward.



Macmillan Cancer Support

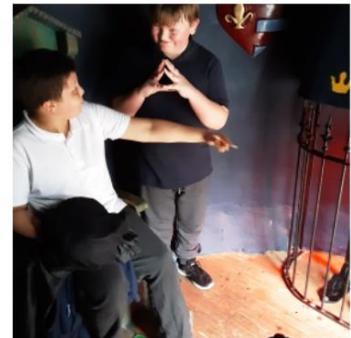
Thank you so much for all the donations and generosity with Macmillan.

The cake sale was really well supported and between both sites we raised a total of £446.36.



Pink class

All the children in Pink had a wonderful day on a school trip at Sundown Adventure Land. They found their way around the park using the map and were all a credit to Heltwate school with excellent behaviour.



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