Friday 8th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the end of another busy week at school, I want to again thank you all for your continued support for all we are trying to achieve here at Heene. Your honesty, support, challenge, encouragement and gratitude are all really welcome and so helpful to us as we continue to work together to make our school the very best that it can be.

**Staffing news**:

I am sorry to have to tell you that Mr. Lelliott is unwell and as a result will not be able to return to Heene for a number of days. In the light of this, we have asked Mrs McGinley to take over the teaching of Funnybones class until Mr. Lelliot is able to return to school.

**West Sussex County Council Review of our school Improvement Progress**:

Most parents and carers will be aware that our school needs to quickly improve. It has been through a very unsettled time and Mrs Sherlock, Miss Beer and myself, along with the rest of the team at Heene are working hard to get things back on track and on an improvement journey that will enable to school, in time, to once again become one of the best places of education in Worthing. West Sussex School Improvement Team, keep a very close eye on the improvements we are planning and every half term, will come into school to see how well we are doing. This week, we had our half termly review which involved a three hour meeting with 12 Local Authority, Diocese and Governor representatives, hearing from us about the plans we have in place to make the improvements needed. At the end of the meeting, I am pleased to say that we were told that, although progress is initially quite slow, the plans we have to improve Heene are clear, robust and accurate. This is good news because we are finally heading in the right direction to bring real and sustained improvement to the school and the education of our amazing children and young people.

**Ofsted Inspection soon**:

Just to bring you up to date with where we are also in terms of our anticipated inspection by Ofsted. This will be soon, we are sure of that. At the moment, the schools locally who were inspected in March 2018, were inspected this week. Our previous inspection was in July 2018, so I would expect the inspection call to come before Christmas. If it does, this will give us a few more weeks to improve the school a little more, but further improvement will certainly be needed following the inspection. However, we would want to be able to show Ofsted the improvements which we have made and also the plans going forward for this continue at pace.

**Building work to start soon!**

I am delighted to be able to tell you that, this week, planning permission has been granted for the complete re-purposing of the front of our school. We will share more about this with you as time goes on but the plans are for the whole of the entrance to Heene, to be modernized, made safer and the office accommodation made much more purposeful. This will be a really positive development at Heene and although it will cause some disruption after the Christmas period, it will be a wonderful change to the school moving forward. More to come on that, very soon.

**A cross country ‘Thank you’ message from Ms Moyle:**

A massive thank you to all the parents and children who attended the cross country practice at the Gallops on Thursday 7th October.  We were very impressed with the effort the children put in and the resilience they all showed despite the drizzly conditions!  We very much appreciate the support of the parents who attended and supported their children for this practice and very much look forward to seeing them all for the competition on Saturday 16th October.  A welcome back to school sports competition and the opportunities for our children at Heene.

**And so to our learning for next week**

**What Reception will be learning next week:**

In Gruffalo and Elmer classes the children will continue the topic ‘Marvellous Me’.

In English, they will be reading ‘Harold Finds a Voice’ by Courtney Dicmas. We will be looking at all the different sounds Harold the parrot can copy and finding out what his own sound is. The children will be drawing and labelling the different sounds they can hear at home and at school.

In this week’s phonics session’s children will be learning sounds ck, e, u, r and the words ‘to’ and ‘the’. They will be learning to build, read and spell these words and simple vc/cvc words that contain the letters taught so far. Keep a look out for their Phonics Home Learning book which will come home on Thursdays for them to practise these new letters. Please make sure this book comes back to school every Monday so we can stick the next set of letters in.

In Maths we will be representing 1, 2 and 3. The children will be identifying representations of these numbers. They will be subitising (knowing how many there are without counting) or counting to find how many and making their own collections of 1, 2 and 3 objects. The children will be matching number names we say to numerals and quantities. They will count up to three objects in different arrangements by touching each object as they count and recognize that the final number they say names the quantity of the set. They use their own mark-making to represent 1, 2 and 3 for example to record their score during a game.

This week in Understanding the World, the children will be focusing on Autumn and seasonal changes by going on a walk around Victoria Park to look for autumnal colours and objects. They will also be visiting St Matthews Church as part of our ‘belonging’ topic in Religious Education and to show the children where we go for our Church Service’s with the rest of the school.

**Learning in Year 1 Next Week!**

In English we start work based on the book The Squirrels Busy Year. We will make a squirrel picture using Autumn leaves. Please do bring in any you are able to collect this weekend. We will be learning the days of the week and keeping a weather diary. Please talk to your children about the weather each day.

In phonics we will revise the phase 3 digraph er and the trigraphs air and ure. We will revise reading tricky words all and are. We will be assessing phonic knowledge to inform our planning for next half term. This will take place one to one with your child.

In Maths we will be focusing on number bonds.

In RE we will learn about what Christians believe about forgiveness.

In Science we will be weather watchers for the week, observing what the weather is like in Autumn.

In Art we will be continuing to use natural resources to make art.

In History we will be learning about how clothes have changed over time.

**Year 2 have some exciting learning plans for next week:**

English: We will be continuing our work with ‘Poles Apart’, by looking at the plot of the story and how events affect the Pilchard Brown family, working towards writing a diary entry the following week.

RE: We will be including a look at Harvest in relation to our ‘Who Made the World’ topic.

Maths: We will be focusing on adding and subtraction. We will begin by adding and subtracting ones then tens. We will use 100 squares to find 10 more and 10 less. We will move on to adding and subtracting tens using place value grids to help us.

Science: Our enquiry question is *What is a micro habitat?* We will be finding out about different micro habitats and going on a mini beast hunt. Choosing a microhabitat to explore, observe closely and make observations.

PE: During our outdoor PE session we will be continuing our Boot Camp, we will complete a circuit, learning to improve our technique. We will also take it in turns to record our partner’s scores.

Art: We will be continuing our paintings/ parts of a painting in the style of George Seurat. We will then evaluate our paintings – how effectively have we used tone/texture?

**Year 3 - Next week’s learning journey:**

Maths: adding 2 digit and 3 digit numbers, then subtracting tens numbers from 3 digit numbers, solving missing number problems linked to these

English: looking at the text ‘Cave Baby’ and other poems to inspire our own poetry writing then planning our own poem using techniques we have found

RE: How did God want people to live in His world? Find out about the Ten Commandments and God’s rules. What does each rule mean to you? How can Christians stick to these rules?

Science: We will be looking at which materials are magnetic?

DT: Making biscuits based on our designs.

History: We will be learning about *Skara Brae*,  a Stone Age settlement in Scotland

Geography: Learning about how land is used in our area.

**Next week in Year 4:**

English: Immersing ourselves into our new book called ‘A Stage Full of Shakespeare Stories’.

Maths: We are going to focus here on column addition and subtraction with 4 digit numbers.

Science: Here we are going to be using a classification key to identify living things.

RE: Exploring what we can learn from the story of Adam and Eve.

History: We are trying to find out why the Romans invaded Britain

**What Year 5 will focus on next week:**

English

We will be planning to write a diary entry from the point of view of Beowulf following his defeat of Grendel. We will be focusing on prepositional phrases in our grammar lesson.

Maths

This week in Maths we will be reviewing and furthering our learning about subtraction: specifically column subtraction requiring exchanges from one place value to another.

Science

Having investigated materials and dissolving, creating solutions and learning what ‘soluble’ and ‘insoluble’ mean, we will be looking at the question: ‘How will we investigate whether a solution can be reversed?’

We will plan what sort of scientific enquiry we are going to carry out to investigate irreversible change.

History

In History we will be learning about the Viking attack on Lindisfarne and writing about it for the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle

Geography

In our Geography lessons we will be learning how to use lines of longitude of latitude to locate major cities around the world.

**Year 6 Next week:**

English and Maths: We will be conducting some practise SATs assessments next week and working on some areas that need further work, following up from these. These papers will be used as a formal assessment and will aid our planning for the next steps of learning the children will need. The results of these assessments will also feed into the targets set for your children and into the conversations we will have with you during our parent consultation meetings, scheduled for after half term.

Science: Our focus will be on ‘adaptation’ – we will be exploring how animals and plants adapted to suit their environment and how this leads to evolution.

RE: we will be responding to the idea that humans have a great responsibility to carefully look after our earth.

History: Our Focus will continue to be on World War 2 – we will look at the Battle of Britain and the Blitz. This will lead to use considering the question – ‘Why wasn’t Britain invaded in WW2?’

Geography: Here our focus is on Canada. We will be continuing to look at land use in Canada, Canada’s natural resources and how these are distributed worldwide.

Thank you for your continued support with our learning in Year 6.

**Harvest Fundraising Opportunity:**

**Friday 15th October we will be raising money for the charity Turning Tides.**

For Turning Tides, it has always been a hugely important time. Last year, thanks to your support, over £20,000 was raised which helped to feed local people experiencing homelessness through the winter months. Financial donations meant that we were able to buy fresh produce, as and when we needed it and enabled us to plan for the difficult winter months ahead. So **NEXT FRIDAY 15TH OCTOBER WE ARE ASKING THE CHILDREN** to become 'Heroes Against Homelessness at Harvest' by coming to school in their own clothes for a donation of £1 or even dress up as a SUPERHERO!.

Link to this week’s Video from Miss Waelend:

<https://youtu.be/n_RD-M8yaM0>

Have a lovely weekend

Joy Waelend

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