



'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'

Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Mrs Julia Sherlock and Miss Joy Waelend

Friday 25th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Friday and after another challenging week, let us begin this newsletter with a fabulous success story!

Huge congratulations to this hard-working and determined team of athletes! On Thursday 24th March, Ms Moyle had the pleasure of accompanying these children to the small school athletics competition and they won! Thank you to the children, Mr Bardouveau and Mr Cox for using their lunch times to prepare for this event – your dedication paid off! The team were a real asset to the school - encouraging one another and showing excellent sportsmanship – keep it up.



This event and picture simply shows what we can all achieve when we show that determination, bravery and desire to be the best that we can be! A great example of 'The Heene Way' – congratulations to you all.



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Jim Beckett's visit yesterday: Years 4, 5 and 6 had a great afternoon with local author Jim Beckett. He shared with us the beginning of his adventure-packed book 'The Caravan at the Edge of Doom' and spoke to us about how he came up with some of the ideas for this story. He told us about how he became inspired at school when he read 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and loved the idea of a wardrobe being a portal leading to a magical world. We then used our imaginations to come up with new ideas for where you would find a portal. Lots of us thought there might be some interesting portals behind the sofa! We then thought about what we would pack in our bags if we had to go on a terrifying rescue mission like the main character Harley does in Jim's book. Finally, we all had a go at creating a monster the way Jim did when writing his book: Choose...

- A. Something dangerous
- B. A body part
- C. Half a musical instrument
- D. Half an animal

Rudy in Hardy class came up with The Spiky-Handed Guitanther!

A big thank you to Jim Beckett, Steyning Bookshop and Miss Atkinson for organising such a fun afternoon!

Termly Review by WSCC School Improvement Team:

This week saw our termly review into the progress we are making as a school, led by the School Inspection Team at WSCC. I am pleased to report that despite the huge hurdles we are having to overcome on a daily basis, the school continues to grow more green shoots and most of all, the meeting showed that at a senior leadership team, we are all very clear about the things which are beginning to go well and the things which we still need to improve. The team were of the view that we know our school well.

This week's focus – Improved Behaviour:

During the course of this week, we have focused once again on much improved pupil behaviour and have finalised a new pathway to make clear to the children what the expectations of them are, what the rewards are for success and the consequences for not meeting the expectations set. We met with all of the children in the hall yesterday (with the exception of Year R and Year 1) and took them through the new expectations we have of them. We are now asking them to follow one simple rule – **'Do as you are asked, first time'**.

The two visuals which we are now using around the school and in all classrooms are attached to this newsletter for your information. In order for the school to begin to become the outstanding place of learning that it has the potential to be, the children need to clearly understand what is expected of them. We need to help them behave well, so that they can all thrive as learners. I feel sure you will support this new initiative and will support the drive for excellent behaviour for learning across the school. Please do be in contact with us if you have any questions about the new behaviour pathway – head@heeneprimary.co.uk

Expectations from all children and Young People:

Following on from last week's newsletter regarding attendance, punctuality and uniform, we are just sending a reminder of all the things we are now expecting from all of the children who come to Heene.

- 1) Please attend well and arrive at school on time, to be in class and learning by 8.50am.
- 2) We expect the children to wear the correct uniform including long hair being tied back. There are 2 main reasons for this; firstly to reduce the transfer of head-lice and secondly to enable the children to focus on their work and their learning without their hair getting in the way. Thank you for your support with this.
- 3) Correct PE uniform as we requested last week. The uniform is very clear on the website. If any parents are finding uniform difficult please do contact the school and we will do all we can to support you.
- 4) Behave well and do as you are asked first time. We look forward to your support with these elevated expectations of all of our children.

We want to thank you for all your support with these important expectations of all our children at Heene.

Next Week at Heene:

We are very much looking forward to welcoming some new staff to Heene next week. On Wednesday we will welcome Mr Trahern, our new Headteacher who will come to meet staff and join our Governors Meeting in the evening. He will also have the opportunity to have a further meeting with Mrs Sherlock and myself and continue to get to know the school properly. We are also going to welcome Mr Christmas to Heene on Wednesday. He will be joining us after the Easter break as the new Key Stage 2 leader, responsible for Years 3-6. He will be teaching in Morpurgo class from the Summer term. Mr Christmas is an experienced teacher who is currently leading Year 5 at Thomas a Becket Junior school.

Also joining us after Easter and coming into school on Wednesday is Miss Lester, who will be teaching in Funnybones after the spring break. Miss Lester is an experienced teacher who will be leaving West Hove Infant School to join us here at Heene and we are delighted to welcome her to our school on Wednesday.

On Thursday next week, we are also very much looking forward to welcoming Duncan Edwards and Ali Hannant (both from WSCC) to our school to conduct a whole school curriculum review. This is going to be an exceptionally helpful day as we look to continually improve our curriculum so that our children can all thrive as learners in our school. We will, of course, let you know how this review goes and the recommendations they offer to us.

House Point and Awards News:

The children have been wonderful this week in telling us that we have not been very good at giving parents the House point information each week – we apologise for this! From now on, in the weekly newsletter, we will let you know how well the Houses are doing and the House Captains will now be helping us to agree the best celebration for the winning house each term. Here are the totals so far this year:

Sycamore	Willow	Elm	Oak
2810	2086	2328	2927

Class Awards: This week, instead of individual awards, we have again given some 'Class of the Week' Awards. These awards are given to the classes who best show 'The Heene Way' and as such are an example to the other classes across the school. When a class gains three Class of the Week awards, they will be rewarded with a treat of their collective choice. We want these awards to be seen as a celebration of the effort the children are making to be collective examples of great team work across the school. This week's award winners are:

Funnybones Class – for ALL trying much harder and working well together

Paddington Class - for working so very hard and behaving beautifully

Stanton Class – for trying really hard to work better as a team

Rundell Class – for being an ALWAYS class

Almond Class – for making a REAL effort to improve

Horowitz Class – for being leaders and role models to us all

Well done to all our class winner. With our higher expectations we expect to see more class winners next week!

Our Ofsted Inspection is Imminent so we need your views:

Parents will already be aware that it is nearly four years since the school was last inspected by Ofsted and our next inspection could now happen at any time. We are all fully aware that the school has been through a very turbulent time, with changes of leadership, covid-19 and staff absences, all of which have made rapid improvement really challenging. However, when Ofsted visit they will be very keen to hear your views about the school. They will do this, mainly by looking at the online questionnaire which they produce called 'Parentview'. The link to this I have put below.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

We would like you to register your views to Ofsted. We need to let you know that this is an entirely anonymous questionnaire. The outcomes of the questionnaire will feature in the body of the report. Please do go onto the link and fill in the questionnaire in readiness for our inspection visit. All I would ask is that if you have a concern that you have not come to us to address, then please do that before you complete the questionnaire. Thank you so much for doing this for us – your views really do matter to us and really do contribute to the improvement of the school.

Thank you and enjoy your weekend of sunshine.

Miss Joy Waelend and Mrs Julia Sherlock

