



'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'

Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Mrs Julia Sherlock and Miss Joy Waelend

Friday 19th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Friday and welcome to the end of another very busy week in school. This week we were delighted to welcome into school the Director of Education for West Sussex, Mr Paul Wagstaff, who came to spend time with us and the children to see how the school is progressing in its recovery and on our journey to once again becoming a very good school. The visit was very positive and Mr Wagstaff really enjoyed listening to children read and visit classrooms together. We will soon receive a report from the visit but the verbal feedback from him was clear, that whilst there is much to do still, there are certainly some positive 'green shoots' to celebrate.

Covid-19 Update at Heene:

In this newsletter, I need to make all parents and carers aware that we have seen an increase in the number of children testing positive for Covid-19 this week. This is across the school with all year groups except year 1 currently unaffected. We also have two members of staff away from Heene as a result of the virus. I need to make you all aware that there is official guidance as to when we reach a point that additional measures are needed to be put in place and we are very close to that point. I need to warn you that if cases continue to rise we will need to return to a 'Bubble' arrangement which follows the guidelines already mentioned. This will mean different start and finish times for some year groups if this becomes necessary. For the moment I would simply ask you to continue to be vigilant and careful and we will do the same at school. Please can you also make sure you keep your eye on the newsletter and other communications from school so that you are fully informed of what we need you to do in the event of the escalation policy needing to be put into place.

Traffic outside of school:

I am really sorry to say that we have had several complaints this week from a number of parents about the dangerous nature of the traffic and the behaviour of drivers who are making their way past school. I myself have witnessed this over the past few days with congestion causing danger to our children and poor language choices and inappropriate behaviour from some other parents are completely unacceptable and must not be heard outside a school, where children are present.



Please may I remind all parents that strong language, racist comment and observed bullying behaviour from parents, alongside dangerous and unconsidered driving has no place please for us here at Heene. Please remember as parents, carers and family members you are your child's most important role model and they will of course look to you for a lead on how to behave. Thank you for your invaluable support with this and please do walk the children to school if there is any possibility of you doing so.

Attendance: Please can we take this opportunity to remind all parents that your children's attendance at school is exceptionally important and following a time where children have missed out on so much time in school we need to have the children with us for as much time as possible. Please ensure that you send your children to school unless they are genuinely unwell, as we need the children to miss as little schooling as possible at time. Thank you so much for your support with this.

Questionnaire outcomes:

We had a total of 195 responses to the questionnaire with 185 reporting their children to now be happy at Heene and would recommend the school to another parent.

168 parents agreed that they now knew more about what their children were learning and most parents agreed that areas of concern raised with the school were now better dealt with and more quickly.

Most parents feel that we now have higher expectations for the children at Heene (156 Parents) and again most felt their children were kept safe at Heene.

Some concerns were expressed about the long term leadership future of the school, which we will bring news about next week and also that homework is still not quite meeting the needs of all children. However, overall, I am so grateful that the feedback from parents from the questionnaire has been much more positive than it was in July when we first asked and we will continue to ask the views of parents as this school improvement journey continues.

Many thanks for your very valuable insight to the school from your perspective.

And now for our learning for next week

Reception

In Gruffalo and Elmer classes the children will continue the topic 'Marvellous Me'. In English, they will be reading 'Izzy Gizmo' by Pip Jones. We will be looking at what Izzy wants to be when she grows up and the different gadgets she makes. They will be drawing themselves as what they want to be when they grow up and labelling their picture or writing a short caption.

In phonics the children will be consolidating their learning by revisiting the letters – o, c, k, u. They will be learning to build, read and spell 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 letters. Please make sure this book comes back to school every Monday so we can stick the next set of letters in.

In Math's we will be learning about shapes with 4 sides (squares and rectangles). We will also learning about ordering key events in their daily routines. We will be encouraging the children to use language to describe when events happen e.g. day, night, morning, afternoon, before, after, today, tomorrow.

In RSHE we will be talking about how we can look after each other. We will read the story 'Red, a crayons story' and talk about how the crayons friends treated him. We will share different ways we can be kind to our friends, thinking about what we can say and do.

Year 1

In English we continue with the text, If All The World Were... by Joseph Coelho. The children will be thinking about a special person in their lives. Please remember to email or send in one photo of a special person.

In phonics we continue to revise sounds we have learnt before but with a focus on handwriting. We will also practise using the sounds to write words and sentences.

In Maths we will be writing and reading numbers to 20 both in numbers and words. We will represent numbers in different ways.

In RE we will be learning about how Mary's baby was so important. The children will listen to the story of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth.

In RSHE we will be learning about who our special people are and what makes them special to us.

In Science we will be learning how daylight hours change with the seasons. Please talk to your child about what they notice – they might be getting up in the dark.

In Design and Technology we begin to make a Christmas card with a moving part.

In Geography we will be learning about maps and the children will work with a partner to create a 3-D map of the local area.

Year 2

We are very excited about our Nativity and preparations are underway!

English: We are reading The Real Boat, this week and looking at different sentence types in preparation to write a diary entry from the point of view of a book character.

History: In History, we are learning about how Worthing has changed and will be looking closely at maps and photographs including Heene School and the Heene area. We will also talk about how the railway coming to Worthing brought change.

Maths: We are continuing to use money in our maths. We know the value of each coin and note and will be adding notes and coins. We will be finding different ways to make the same amount, comparing money, finding totals and finding the difference.

Design and Technology: We have now used a template to cut our fabric and will begin sewing. We will be learning to thread a needle and to sew using either an over stitch or running stitch.

Science: Our enquiry question is 'can we twist a ball'. We will be investigating how an object changes shape by bending, squashing, twisting or stretching it.

RE: Continuing our exploration of the Christian Nativity Story, we will be looking at different ways the story can be presented. Our main focus will be looking at Botticelli's 'Mystic Nativity'.

Year 3

English: We are drafting and publishing a letter to the people at Butser Farm, thanking them for our trip.

Maths: Multiplication - revisiting counting in 5s and the 5 times table. Moving on to the structure of the three times table (we know a song to the tune of Jingle Bells - you will love it!!)

RE: We will be writing a prayer to express the meaning of the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. We will share these with each other.

Geography: We will be walking to the beach to look at land use at Worthing Seafront. We will be completing a field sketch.

History: How did life change in the Bronze Age? We continue learning about how times change from Stone Age to Bronze Age, incorporating learning from Butser Farm.

Art: We will be planning a piece of abstract art using the techniques learnt so far.

Year 4

We are so excited about our trip on Monday to Fishbourne Roman Palace! We will be learning all about what life was like living in a Roman Villa and we will be studying their vast collection of Roman mosaics and artefacts. Please ensure your child arrives at school promptly for registration at 8.50am. The coach will return to school in time for normal pick up.

Please also remember that your child needs to wear school uniform, a suitable warm coat and footwear. All children will need to have a packed lunch, drink and snack.

In English, we will be writing our poems all about Henry's annoying little sister Rosie! We have been reading lots of poems by Michael Rosen to inspire us to write entertaining poems. Maybe you could listen to some of his poems at home? There are lots of videos online of him performing his hilarious poetry!

In Maths, we will be focusing on our times tables and division facts. Well done to all the children who are practising their times tables regularly on TT Rockstars. We are really noticing the difference this makes to their confidence during Maths lessons.

In RE, we will continue to study the Trinity and what this means to Christians.

In Computing, we are carrying on with our blogs. It's been great to see so many children adding to their blogs at home! Our next step is to learn how to insert pictures into our blog posts.

Year 5

English: we are writing our speeches on courageous people and performing them in class.

Maths: we are exploring multiplication and division, applying our knowledge of square and cubed numbers.

Art: we are delving into the world of tapestries and the features of them.

Science: continuing to look at forces and their effect on objects.

History: continued work on the Vikings and how they lived.

RE: incarnation, what was the messiah going to be like?

Computing: Writing our scripts for our podcasts.

Geography: we are looking at the question would you want wind farms?

Guided reading: we are exploring the emotions of the characters in Boy at the Back of the Class.

Year 6

Over the next week we will be looking at the following:

English: we will be completing our newspaper reports and beginning to think about writing a story. We will be reading Malala the story of the girl who stood up for girls' rights over the next few weeks in our reading sessions and discussing her impact.

Maths: We will be looking at equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages, in various contexts.

RE: We will be considering the term Messiah and what saviours the Jews wanted.

History: We will look at the research questions that have been posed (by the children) based on our WW2 topic and begin to research these independently or in groups in order to share our findings with others.

Science: We will be researching the famous evolutionist Charles Darwin.

With very best wishes to you all and have a lovely weekend.

Miss Joy Waelend
Co-headteacher