



*'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'*

**Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School**

**Mrs Julia Sherlock and Miss Joy Waelend**

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2022 and may I start by wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year. It has been really lovely to see most of the children back with us and I am delighted to say that the atmosphere around the school has been just delightful! I do hope you all managed to have as good a Christmas break as possible and that you are ready, alongside your children to enjoy the new term and all that it has to offer. Below you will find a short message from each of the Year Group Teams and next Friday we will be sending you home a more detailed plan of the learning the children will enjoy for the coming few weeks.

As leaders, we are anticipating being able to appoint a new Headteacher to Heene this term. We have had visits from a number of interested candidates and look forward to being able to welcome them to our school for interview later this month. We will, of course let you know if we have been successful as soon as we are able. Should we be successful in appointing a new Headteacher for Heene this month, it will mean that Mrs Sherlock and I will be able to work closely with them to support their transition to Heene before the start of the new school year in September.

**A warm welcome to our new staff:**

We have been extremely sad to lose a number of staff from Heene in recent weeks the departure of staff onto new careers, gives us the great opportunity to welcome new staff to Heene. We have been delighted to have been able to develop our leadership strength further at Heene with the appointment of Mr Mark Christmas who will join us at Easter as the new Key Stage 2 Leader. Mr Christmas' responsibilities will sit just below Miss Beer's and he will be responsible for leading on all matters relating to Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. We will let you know more about that nearer the time.

This term we are also very pleased indeed to have Mr Parsons and Miss Atkinson back with us, both of whom we have welcomed back warmly.

We also have new staff this term to welcome to our team.

We are pleased to welcome Ms Carnegie – who will be with us this term and has the pleasure of getting to know Stanton Class following the departure of Mrs Cannon. We also have four new Teaching Assistants to welcome to our team. Mrs Usher and Miss Ellis will be working in our Early Years and Year 1 teams and Ms Greathead and Miss Rosolek will support our children within KS2 – a very warm welcome to them all.



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## **Covid-19 Update:**

I feel sure most parents will be aware of much of the latest guidance relating to Covid-19 restrictions, something which we have had to work with now for almost two years, which hardly seems possible. Central Government is clear in their determination to keep schools open with face to face teaching as a priority and we are therefore doing all we can to achieve that. You should have already received two emails this week from our team regarding our plan to keep classes and year groups open and how we will manage the situation if this becomes impossible at any time due to staffing or infection levels. I am delighted to say that the term has begun well with a full complement of staff and most children at school, accompanied by very low infection rates. Staff continue to wear masks in communal areas and we are making sure that any visitors to the school take Covid tests before they enter. We will continue to update these measures as required by the Department for Education.

If at any time from Monday, your child needs to self-isolate then their remote learning will be available through 'Google Classrooms'.

**We would like to reiterate the new Government guidance issued regarding Lateral Flow Testing.**

**The new rule regarding regular lateral flow testing (LFT) comes into effect from Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January, this means if you are testing as a requirement of going to work/school and have NO COVID-19 symptoms, the new rule below will apply.**

**If your regular LFT is positive and you DO NOT have any symptoms there is now no requirement to have a PCR. You must however isolate for 7 days from the date of the test and take a LFT on day 6 and 7. If those tests are negative you can end your isolation period.**

**LFT are taken by people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms.**

**If however you have any COVID-19 symptoms you must isolate and get a PCR test. The Government guidance states:**

***Anyone who develops 1 of the 3 main COVID-19 symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate and take a PCR test. They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test – these rules have not changed.***

**If you have any questions at all about this, please call the School Office on 01903 201386.**

### **A welcome back from our Reception Team**

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome the children back in this week, as a team we have all mentioned how much we missed them all. The children have impressed us with how quickly they have settled back into routine. We are delighted to welcome both Mrs Usher (Elmer Class Teaching Assistant) and Miss Ellis (Intervention Support for Early Years and Year 1) into our team. They have spent this week getting to know the children and the school.

This term our topic is titled 'Once Upon a Story'. This first half of the term we are exploring Traditional Tales and after half term more Modern Stories. The children are getting fully immersed into the stories, from sequencing, retelling, acting out, hot seating, making story maps and writing their own alternative ending.

You will soon receive the new homework grid for this term. Please pick and choose which tasks you do and when. We look forward to seeing all the lovely Tapestry posts of your home learning this term. Please remember you can use Tapestry to share WOW moments from home with us. It could be that they swam for the first time without swim aids or, tried something new for the first time, a special outing you've had or a celebration.

Thank you for all your support, we truly appreciate the difference it makes.

The Early Years Team

### **Happy New Year from Year 1**

May we take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year. The first few days back have been such a positive start to the new term. The children have been full of enthusiasm for their learning. Next week we are looking forward to beginning to learn about our bodies in Science, where we live in Geography and the artist Piet Mondrian in Art.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

### **Welcome back from Year 2**

Welcome to our Spring Term in Year 2! We have enjoyed hearing about all the fun things that your children have enjoyed over the Christmas/New Year's holiday. Seeing their smiling faces makes for a heart-warming start to 2022.

Our topic "Ice or Flames?" is full exciting opportunities to explore the world around us, both scientifically and on a human level. We are looking forward to ice investigations and finding out about Polar Bears, the continents of the world and (in the second half of the term) about the Great Fire of London and Dragons!

We would like to say a big thank you for the good wishes, cards and gifts that we received.

Best wishes

Mrs Rhoades, Miss Russell and Year 2 Team.

### **Message from Year 3**

It's been lovely to see your children again after Christmas, refreshed and ready to learn! We have started to learn about rivers around the world, we are currently enjoying Wind in the Willows, and we have looked at poetry and created our own river landscape. We are looking forward to learning more about rivers and plants in Science and Geography, Islam in RE, and the landscape artist Constable in Art. We are hoping to visit a local area to draw our own landscapes, as well as a river trip to explore more about rivers towards the end of this half term.

### **Happy New Year from Year 4**

All the staff in Year 4 would like to wish you a very happy new year. We are excited to be back and the children have returned with such enthusiasm which has been wonderful to see. Our new topic for this term is Amazon Adventure and the children have already shown they are keen to learn all about Rainforests and the animals that live there. Looking forward to the term ahead, we will be studying Islam in RE and in Art we will be creating artwork inspired by the famous artist Henri Rousseau. We are sure this is going to be another great term and that the children will approach it with the excellent positivity they always show!

### **Welcome back to school and Happy New Year from Year 5**

A warm welcome back and a very Happy New Year from all in Year 5. It has been wonderful to see the children settling back into school and being so enthusiastic about their learning. Our broad topic is 'Space' which will drive our English and Science work in particular. In RE we will be exploring Islam and what the Qu'ran means to Muslims. We will be learning about railways during History lessons and how rail travel affected Worthing from Victorian times onwards. As long as it is safe, we hope to visit Worthing Museum to research information as well as to discover how a museum is run.

### **A New Year Message from Year 6**

Welcome back to school and a Happy New Year to you all!

We have had a positive start to the spring term with the children returning enthusiastically from their holidays and showing that they are once again ready to 'be their best' on the next stage of their journey through Year 6.

Already in the first few days we have embarked on immersions into our topics of natural disasters where we are considering the question – does the Earth open up? And exploring how our body works; where in the coming few weeks we will be focusing on the circulatory system. We are looking forward to starting our topic next week on 'The Ancient Maya' in history as well as finishing our work on Malala in English.

We look forward to a term of exciting learning and lots of amazing work!



**Come and join us at Messy Church in 2022**  
**St. Botolph's Church, Lansdowne Rd, Worthing, B11 4LY**  
**Messy Church welcomes families and all ages including Messy**  
**Vintage and SEND to enjoy together**

**Fun, Craft, Food, Songs, Bible Stories**  
**It is church but a whole lot messier!**

### **Messy Church Dates**

First Messy Church - Sunday 27<sup>TH</sup> February 2022  
Easter Day service - Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2022 @ 10am

**Messy Church** will then be on Sundays from 3pm to 5pm  
24<sup>th</sup> April, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 28<sup>th</sup> August, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
The Nativity will be at 4pm on Christmas Eve 2022.

**An adult must accompany all children**

Please come along and join us. If you have any questions please contact:

Sally - [sallypritchard15@gmail.com](mailto:sallypritchard15@gmail.com) / 07908069819

Peter - [peterkane@cantab.net](mailto:peterkane@cantab.net) / 01903 339656

Visit the St. Botolph's Church website <https://stbotolphsheene2015.com> for  
information and the latest Messy Newsletter.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Joy Waelend

Co-Headteacher