



'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'

Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Friday 16th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a really busy week here at Heene as we build up to the final week of this, very different, school year. We continue to be grateful to you for your honesty, your openness and your willingness to share your thoughts and ideas with us; it is so incredibly helpful to our improvement journey.

Covid-19 restrictions continue to guide and direct much of what we do in school and as I made clear last week, irrespective of restrictions lifting on Monday, we will keep everything in place for the final 5 days of term. We are doing this so that we can do everything possible to ensure everyone is able to go on holiday on Friday and enjoy a few weeks break from school which does not begin with a period of isolation. We would ask you to continue to support the decisions we are making for the final few days of term. It is my intention next week to let you know what our plans are for the start of September in terms of start times and end of day routines. Thank you so much for your continued support with this on-going challenge.

Local Authority Review: During this past week, we have had our termly review from the Local Authority. At this review, Mrs. Walton, Miss. Beer and I had to report to the LA on the actions we had taken to begin to bring about improvement at Heene in the past six weeks. Governors were also in attendance at the meeting and I am delighted to say that view of the Local Authority was that the leaders now know the school well and had presented a view of the school with honesty and integrity. There were clear plans in place for the future improvement of the school and that some green shoots were already evident. This week, you should also receive the Governors annual report to parents from Mrs. Freda Wimble. This report is aimed at reviewing the year and also looking forward to a very bright new year at Heene.

Time to say 'goodbye': This week we are having to say a fond farewell and grateful thanks to Mrs. Toni and Mr. Brown, both of whom are moving to pastures new. We are so grateful to them for all they have done at Heene and wish them every success for a very happy and fulfilled future; we will miss them very much.

This coming week, we will also be saying 'goodbye' to our fabulous Year 6 young people. The year group is full of individual characters, who are growing into wonderful young people who have so much to offer this amazing world in which we live. They have worked their way through a challenging and very different final year at school and we are so sorry that we cannot give them the send-off we would love to have given them. We are going to do all we can to make this final week at Heene very special to them and will certainly wish them every success as they take the next step along their journey; they are a fabulous Year Group and we will miss them very much!



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Homework Thoughts: Thank you to the parents who have contacted us regarding their views on Homework and Home Learning. Do please continue to send in your thoughts and views to head@heenepriamry.co.uk and also please do use that address for any other concerns you may have or views you would like to express; we are very keen to hear from you as we make initial plans for the new school year.

Healthy Snacks only please: Please could I remind all parents that we would ask you to send your children into school with healthy snacks only for break time and not chocolate bars. Thank you for your support with this.

Plans for September: We are working hard to continue to develop our plans for September. We are hoping that school life will be a little more 'normal' in September so that we can return to many of the things that makes life at Heene more community focused, enjoyable and unrestricted.

We are beginning to put our school clubs offer together and are looking to offer these each day of the week. We are planning to return to whole school Collective Worship which is such an important feature of what Heene is all about and we are looking forward to sharing with you and the children, our brand new curriculum ready for the new academic year. As I have said before, there are exciting times ahead. Moving forward, each week we will let you know what your children will be learning and giving you ideas as to how you can support them with their learning or prepare them for new learning that they are about to meet. We want to work increasingly in partnership with you and want you to see a difference when we return in September.

Higher expectations for all: I have already mentioned that we are going to be raising the expectations for all our children, staff and parents at Heene in September. These will cover a number of different areas, a few of which I have listed below.

- 1) **'We all behave well at Heene':** Good behaviour is key to children being able to learn and we are putting plans in place to ensure that behaviour at Heene quickly becomes and outstanding feature of our school. We are going to do this by introducing some very simple 'Golden Rules' which all adults and children can follow and agree to. They will be simple in wording and clear to understand by all children in all year groups and directly linked to our key school values. As soon as these have been finalised we will let you see them so that you will be able to support this new initiative with your children at home, for which we thank you.
- 2) **'We all look smart at Heene':** I have already indicated that as well as the children behaving exceptionally well in September, we are looking for them to be very smart too in presentation. Please could I ask you to look at the uniform expectations on our website, particularly the differences in KS1 and KS2. We are asking that children in KS2 wear shirts and ties and that children in KS1 wear polo shirts without ties. We are also expecting the children to be smartly dressed for PE too – please do see the website for real clarity on this. Please don't send your children in with their home clothes for PE. We would ask you to ensure that for September the children are dressed in the correct uniform. Thank you so much for your active support with this.

Please do let us know if you have any issues with this by emailing me at head@heenepriamry.co.uk

- 3) **'We all work hard at Heene'**: We are looking forward to teaching the children from a brand new curriculum in September, which we hope will offer them increased interest, challenge and motivation to do well. We will support them every step of the way to achieve what we are going to be asking of them and will aim to keep you informed every step of the way too.
- 4) **'We all come to Heene every day and every day on time'**: We are looking to all parents to make sure that all of the children arrive at school on time, every day. We need this so that the children can access the maximum amount of learning time possible. We are going to continue to support parents as much as we can with achieving this, but our expectations of the children to be on time to school and attend every day will be very high and we will need your positive support to achieve this. Thank you in advance for the efforts we know you will make here.

More information about all of these expectations will come to you in our final Newsletter of term, next Friday, so that consideration can be given to them all over the summer break – we are excited for the future!

Many thanks for your continued support for all we are striving to achieve for the children and wider community of Heene. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Miss Waelend & Mrs Walton

Co Head-teachers