



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

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

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new school year! To begin this first letter to you, I want to thank you so much for responding so positively to our new expectations in terms of uniform – the children look amazing and seeing them all in the hall for Collective Worship this week, and around the school generally, they have looked so smart, not only in appearance but in their readiness to learn. Thank you again, it has contributed to a great start to term.

Secondly, I want to apologise for the terrible confusion there has been with PE days and the wearing or not wearing of PE kit. We trust this has now been sorted and that all parents are clear when PE days are and clear about our continued expectation that children are encouraged to wear PE Uniform on the days they have PE. Thank you to the parents who contacted us to ask for clarification and alerting us to the confusion that was clearly happening.

**Welcome to our new teachers:** We are delighted to welcome new staff to our school and are grateful for the difference they have already made to our school.

**Mr. Lelliot** – Is our new teacher in Funnybones Class

**Mr. Locket** – is our new teacher for Hardy Class

**Miss Warner** – who was with us covering classes last year is now with us on a permanent basis and will teach Gruffalo Class.

**Mr. MacGregor** – is our new teacher who will cover classes when the usual class teacher is out of class.

**Mrs Wilson** – Is our new Inclusion Leader and will support the work of our New SENco – **Mrs Debi Daisley**, who will join us fully in October, but is currently with us half a day a week on a Wednesday afternoon.

We are continuing to make communication with parents, a high priority and to make sure the teachers, Admin Team and leaders are all communicating with you in a consistent manner. Please do continue to use the [head@heeneprimary.co.uk](mailto:head@heeneprimary.co.uk) email address and Mrs Sherlock and I will answer your questions as soon as we are able. If you wish to contact the class teacher then the email address will be the name of your child's class e.g. Elmer followed by @heenprimary.co.uk.



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**Parents' Meetings this week and next:** Thank you so much to the parents of children in Years 6,4, and 2 who have already attending the 'Meet the teacher' meetings held during this week – they have all been very well attended and it has been a delight for Mrs Sherlock and I to meet so many of you face to face. Thank you so much for the feedback we have already received about these meetings. We are sorry again that we had to change the date of the Year 1, 3 and 5 meetings but this was following direction about large gatherings from the leaders in West Sussex County Council and therefore it was advice and guidance we felt compelled to follow. We know the frustration this caused some parents and we will be aiming to give you much more notice of changes to planned events, due to changing guidance, if this becomes necessary in the future.

The first week of term has been wonderful though with most of the children settling well and expressing their pleasure at being back at school. The rolling start on the two entrance gates is settling down and the school is both looking and 'feeling' like we are ready for a very positive year. Next week we look forward to welcoming our new Reception children for their first half day in school and it has been wonderful to see them all in school this week with parents and carers, becoming familiar with the classes, talking together and taking home their first reading book – exciting times!

**Reception Parents: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September:** We are so looking forward to welcoming your children on Monday. Please could we ask that you arrive with your children between 8.45 and 8.55am. We would ask you to bring your children into school through Entrance 1 and walk them down to the outdoor classroom; the teachers will be there to meet and greet the children. We would ask you to collect the children again at 12.00 – coming again down the side of the school to collect them. Again the teachers will be bringing the children to you, not from the outside garden but to the side passage, through the Year 1 classes. Please do not worry about this as there will be adults there to ensure you know exactly where to go. When the children are in full time, the end of the day for Reception will not be 3pm as we originally stated but we have brought this forward slightly to 2.55pm, making sure parents have time to collect other siblings as may be needed.

One final note for Reception. The children will be starting PE during the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> September. **PE days will be on Tuesday for Elmer Class and Friday for Gruffalo class.** Although PE is not starting this week, the teachers have said that if the children would like to come in PE uniform on Tuesday (Elmer class) of Friday (Gruffalo Class) then they are welcome to do so.

**'The Heene Way'** - I am so delighted that so many parents have commented on how their children have come home and told you all about the new 'Heene Way'. We told you all last term that we were going to be looking to introduce some Golden Rules to the school this term. Having spent much of the Inset Day, talking about what we want to achieve for the children at Heene, we have started to look again at the values we hold most important and the priority we want to give to these. This discussion will involve parents, Governors, the wider community and of course the children. We have started this discussion by introducing 'The Heene Way' which aims to begin to describe the things we consider most important in our school at the start of this important year; these important elements are listed and explained below:

**Be Kind** – Because kindness can itself change not only the Heene community but all aspects of our lives away from school too.

**Be Brave** – We all need to be brave at times, maybe when we are given a new piece of work to do or getting to know a new teacher or making new friends.

**Be your best** – We all want this for all our children, just to be the best they can be so this is what we are aiming to support the children to achieve in all aspects of their lives at Heene.

**SEND Review and Questionnaire:** On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September the Special Education Needs Team from West Sussex are coming into school to review the provision we make for children with SEN. They have asked us to send out a survey link to the parents of children with SEND , where they are keen to gain your view of the provision in our school. The questionnaire link is below and we would ask you to complete this if you have concerns about SEN provision or have a child with additional needs, by the end of Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you. We will let you know the outcome of the review as soon as we have it.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/V5SVXLB>

**And finally for this week:** Please do use the [head@heenepprimary.co.uk](mailto:head@heenepprimary.co.uk) email address for any concerns you wish to raise or positive stories you would like to share with us.

**YouTube video from Miss Waelend:**

Please find the link to this week's video below:

[https://youtu.be/jNlsi8cgJ\\_s](https://youtu.be/jNlsi8cgJ_s)

With very best wishes for a lovely weekend

Joy Waelend

Co-Headteacher