



Heatherside Junior School Newsletter

23rd February 2024



Dear Parents

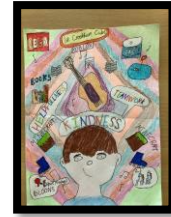
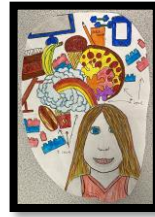
I hope you all had a good break last week; this is quite a short Half Term and so I'm sure the Easter holiday will be here before we know it!

This term teachers are busy writing your child's Report and these will be sent home on Wednesday 27th March (last day of term) along with a Parent Questionnaire which we would appreciate you filling in for us! I always enjoy reading the children's Reports, especially their own evaluation and will be busy myself adding my comments to them all!



Mrs Dunn

Our Voice Matters



It was so wonderful to see the children's creations as part of the work we did to coincide with Children's Mental Health Week. Our focus on the importance of physical and mental wellbeing will continue on **World Sleep Day on 15th March** and our Wellbeing Ambassadors will be helping to tell the rest of the school all about it soon!

We are also looking forward to seeing lots of our children wear their Cubs/Brownies/Scouts/Guides uniforms tomorrow as part of World Thinking Day.



WOW – Walk to School Challenge



Our school, along with Heatherside Infants, has chosen to be part of an exciting behaviour-change initiative to encourage more children and their families to walk to school. WOW – the walk to school challenge is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school. The pupil-led challenge enables children to self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk, scoot or Park and Stride) **at least once a week for a month**, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that simple!

What are the benefits of walking to school?

- Children feel happier and healthier
- They arrive to school refreshed and ready to learn
- Helps reduce congestion and pollution at the school



We have set up a page on our website with lots of extra information, including some videos that tell you all about this challenge, please click [here!](#)

Kindly note that **we do not allow the children to cycle to school.**

This is based on our Risk Assessment of the busy roads around school, lack of safe cycle routes and the hazard of turning in and out onto Reading Road. However, Year 6 will be completing their Bikeability next week (ready for when their move to secondary school) and so there will be lots of bikes on site!



Thursday 7th March – Bring a Book & Competition

As part of WBD our Reading Champions would like all the children **to bring in a favourite book from home** (or they can get this out from our Library or Fleet Library) to share with their classmates. The Reading Champions are also running a competition where children can draw, paint, collage a book character. This picture can be any size and there will be a prize for each year group. Entries must be named and be the children's own work. The closing date is Wednesday 6th March.

1000-mile Challenge

35 of the lovely staff here are collectively walking 1000 miles in February to **raise a £1000** for Cancer Research. This cause is very close to our hearts at the moment and I wanted to share with you how proud I am to work with a team who really do go the extra mile.

Pea Planting!

Please join us from **8.20am** on Thursday 27th February (in our newly fenced and tidied allotment) to plant some peas to grow at home. All years welcome! Enter via the gate at the vehicle exit end.