



# Heatherside Junior School Newsletter



10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**Coming Soon.....HSA Quiz Night for Parents! Click [here](#) for details and to book!**

Dear Parents

Welcome to the start of 2025! The children all seemed to have a good rest and have enjoyed telling us about their Christmas gifts and time spent with family. In school, we had some exciting news as Miss Cain got engaged; congratulations to her and her partner!

As many of you will know, Heatherside Infants had their Ofsted inspection this week. We are sure our inspection will be very soon as were we expecting the Juniors to be inspected before the Infants! As Ofsted now call schools on a Monday (and are then in school on the Tuesday and Wednesday) it will always be a Monday that we notify you...which could be as early as next week but will definitely be by the end of this school year.

Next week sees the start of Clubs, Year 4 Cooking and Forest School and reminders will be sent via Parentmail. I hope it warms up a bit for Forest School, although it is always cosy by the camp fire!

Mrs Dunn

## Fleet Carnival Artwork Competition

The Artwork Competition for this year's Fleet Carnival will be open from **Monday 6th January 2025 and closed on Friday 28th February 2025**. Winning entries will be announced in March. The theme this year is 'Rio de Janeiro' so the children are encouraged to be as creative as they wish. They are hoping for some colourful entries which might include holiday themes, masked characters, glittery dancers and a Latin American feel. Please click [here](#) to locate the Competition application form.

### Watches in school

Please can we ask that, if children want to wear a watch to school, that this is either a simple analogue watch or basic digital one. I know that a number of children have had smart/Apple style watches for Christmas, some of which have additional functions and cameras. Unfortunately, it is very hard for us to know which of these 'smart' watches are expensive or have extra functions/cameras. As children are not permitted to have electric devices or phones in school, please can we ask that these 'smart style' watches also stay at home.

Ideally, we would prefer the children to have a watch with a clock face so that this supports their Maths learning; many children find telling the time tricky and so a watch with a face and hands will really help. We have updated the section on our uniform page to clarify that 'a watch' does not include Fitbits or smart/Apple style devices. For details on how to manage safe setting on devices and other helpful online safety information for parents, see our website [here](#).



## Fabulous Photographs!



We have created a display with lots of our amazing Photography Competition entries; do pop in and have a look! Some of the children who entered (or wished they had!) may be interested in submitting the same or a different photo in the Rotary Club Young Photographer Competition, details can be found [here](#).



### Free sessions at Everyone Active

As part of our 'Adopt a School' link, families can apply for free sessions between the 15<sup>th</sup> January and 15<sup>th</sup> February. Scan the QR code to register or click [here](#) for further information.

### Homework and Curriculum Newsletters

Thank you so much to all those parents who completed the Homework survey. We have made some changes based on the comments and results but it was great to see that parents overwhelmingly supported our focus on reading and having the dates in advance. We have **added the dates of the planned homework, onto the curriculum overviews** for this Half Term so that everything is in one place. These overviews can be found on our website and provide information on what is being taught across all the different subjects this Half Term. Please click below

[Year 3](#) [Year 4](#) [Year 5](#) [Year 6](#)