



# Heathwood Lower School Newsletter

March 21

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term.

It is a very busy time of the year, with every classroom buzzing in anticipation of all the children returning to school.

We are thrilled to be holding virtual Parents Evenings this week, fingers crossed that it all goes smoothly on our first attempt. I hope you are able to have a useful meeting with your child's teacher.

Attendance in the live remote lessons has been amazing and it has been lovely to see so many children attending in their school uniforms - well done everyone!

We can't wait to see you all on the 8th.

Spring is definitely on its way - our 50th Birthday Daffodils are coming up!

Have a super month.

**Susanne Dove**  
Head Teacher



## Pre-School News



In Pre-School we have been working on being helpful and the children have enjoyed receiving their 'I have been helpful ...' badge and have shown pride in wearing it (as can be seen in the photograph). The children have been being helpful by caring for a friend or helping to tidy up. They have also shared news with us when they have been helpful at home.



We have also made a great start on our new topic of 'People Who Help us' and children have been keen to find out about who they are. Here are some of our children joining in with a circle time to talk and learn about the range of people and their job; how they might help us in our community and everyday life.

## Fairtrade Council News

### Fairtrade Fortnight

We are going into the second week of Fairtrade Fortnight and there has already been lots of fantastic learning going on across the school, all centered around Fairtrade! As a FairAchiever School we already know lots about Fairtrade and we continue to sponsor two children and support their communities in Africa. We look forward to re-starting our Fairtrade Tuckshop and invite all of our children to bring 50p to purchase their Fairtrade Double Choc Cookie!

## Dates for your Diary

### March

- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Virtual Parents' Evenings
- 4<sup>th</sup> World Book Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> All children return to school
- 12<sup>th</sup> PTA Mother's Day Gift collection
- 26<sup>th</sup> PTA Easter Craft Bags issued
- 26<sup>th</sup> PTA Easter Eggs issued
- 26<sup>th</sup> PTA Krispy Kreme Doughnuts
- 26<sup>th</sup> End of Term**

### April

- 12<sup>th</sup> INSET day
- 13<sup>th</sup> Back to School**

## Staffing News

We will be very sorry to be saying goodbye to Mrs Natalie Alexander (one of our Pre-School Practitioners) who will be leaving at the end of this month to take on a new role with the NHS. We wish her all the very best in her new role. A big welcome to Mrs Sue Stone who joins us as a Midday Supervisor in Class R.

We are presently advertising a number of vacancies across the school, please see the School website for details. We will let you know, in due course, the appointments that we have made.

### Playground Safety

A reminder - please ensure the safety of all our children, parents and carers by reminding your child **not** to ride their bike or scooter **on the playground before or after school**. Your child **must** wear a helmet when riding a bike or scooter to and from school.

### Jewellery etc.

We would like to remind all parents that the wearing of jewellery, nail varnish, tattoos etc. are not appropriate in School. If your child has pierced ears, they should only wear small, neat studs which they can remove or tape themselves for PE (please supply appropriate tape or remove earrings and leave them at home on PE days).

Please also ensure that long hair is always up or tied back.

### Toys in School

Please discourage children from bringing in toys or other special things from home as this can result in items being lost or damaged.  
Thank you.

### Ofsted Parent View -

#### please let us know your thoughts

At this time of the year we usually ask that you complete your parent response to the OFSTED questions on Parent View which can be completed by both parents every school year.

**The questions asked on Ofsted Parent View were changed on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 to support the introduction of the education inspection framework.**

Ofsted Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think of your child's school, including:

- how happy your child is at the school
- how the school manages bullying or challenging behaviour
- if your child has special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), they will ask how well the school supports them.

The survey can be completed at any time - you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected - click on the link below



<https://mobile.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

### Nut Free School

We would like to remind you all that, for the safety of our children with known and diagnosed nut allergies, we are a **NUT FREE** School.

In school we check all our ingredients used for breakfast, lunch and Enrichment, staff are not bringing in any nut snacks, and we have replaced our bird feeders with nut free alternatives.

We ask that you **do not** send any child to school with peanut butter or Nutella in their sandwiches, cereal bars containing nuts or any nut snacks.

We trust that you can all support us in this. Thank you.

Wow, how exciting! March is here and very soon all children are going to be back in school so I am looking forward to seeing you all again and receiving lots of challenges. Last month only a few children sent in their challenges but they all deserve credit for their achievements.

★★★ A very well done to Freddie N (year 3) who has completed both challenges; sending in a video of his Lego zip wire challenge and creating happiness posters to share with everyone passing by his house, by painting them directly on to his windows. Also special mention to Ellie (Year 4), Isaac and Leo (Year 2) and Sophia (Year 1) for their Lego zip wire challenges; it looked as if you had fun with them.

#### March challenges

- **Creative challenge:** As Easter is on its way, I would like to challenge you to make an Easter Egg Suncatcher to decorate your house. Have a look on our website (under 'children' and then 'monthly challenge'), and in the Hall for some examples and ideas. You can use whichever materials you think will work and let the light shine through.
- **Construction challenge:** Using recycled materials, design and create your own Cereal Box Marble Run. Again, there are examples for you to look at in the Hall and on our website to give you ideas. Please take a photograph of your challenge and send it in to me via [office@heathwood.beds.sch.uk](mailto:office@heathwood.beds.sch.uk) or via [preschool@heathwood.beds.sch.uk](mailto:preschool@heathwood.beds.sch.uk)



Have a great month and enjoy the challenges.



Mrs Elaine Dicocco

## PTA News

The PTA have purchased some lovely gifts for children to buy for their Mummy for Mother's Day. These will be priced at £3.00 each and can be collected on Friday 12th March - look out for the PTA Mother's Day Gift letter.

Easter Craft Bags - after the success of the PTA Christmas Craft Bags, they are making 90 Easter Craft Bags which will be priced at £5.00 each. These will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Look out for the letter, which will be coming out soon.



## Our Value in March Trust

### What does trust mean?

If you trust someone you believe that they will do what they said they would do.

If you trust in something, you believe it to be true or right.

Trust is really important. It can take a long time to trust someone but it can take only a moment for that trust to be broken. That's why it's important to take very good care of trust.

### Who do you trust?

In school we will talk about 'Handy People'; the people who each child knows they can trust and talk to about anything.

In the Bible there are lots of stories about trust. In some of the stories people trust in God; in other stories people break other people's trust.

Joseph was very good at trusting. How did he show trust?

Look at the story of Daniel (Book of Daniel). Who did he trust? What happened to him because he showed trust?

Look at the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19) who was not a very trustworthy person at all at the beginning of his story. How did he change?

Can you think of something which shows that people are really trustworthy?

### Let's talk about Trust at home....

Trust is a really important value. It must be earned. If we do not trust someone it is very hard to build a good friendship with them.

Talk together about:

- people who you know that are trustworthy
- practical ways that we can show others that we are trustworthy
- why it is important to be able to trust others when working together as a team.



## WOW!



Let us know how your child has demonstrated this month's Value of Trust at home.

