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Friday 15th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the end of another week in school, I am pleased to write to you to share some school updates, celebrations and reminders.

Rainbow Baby Bank - Pre-Loved Clothing

Thank you for your generous donations for the Rainbow Baby Bank in Heckmondwike. We received a large quantity of baby products and pre-loved clothing, which were very gratefully accepted by the Baby Bank.



Your kindness will help to improve the lives of families in our neighbourhood.

Our School Vision

As you are aware, we are currently consulting with parents, pupils, staff and governors to review and revise of our school vision. Thank you to everyone who has completed the parent survey. We are keen to hear the views of ALL parents and carers. Therefore, we have reopened the survey until 9:00am on Monday 18th October. **Please follow [this link](#) to make sure your views are represented.** There are only seven questions (and you don't need to answer all of them)!

Pupil Voice

It is extremely important that our children are included in decisions that involve and affect them. We are currently reviewing pupil participation in school, to ensure pupils have a voice in all aspects of school life such as:

- Improvements to the school environment (e.g. school buildings, playground, toilets)
- Fundraising, links with charities and with the wider community
- Involvement with planning extra-curricular activities
- Involvement with planning, reviewing and implementing school policies
- Involvement with School Development Plan and School Budget
- Involving pupils in school self-evaluation and assessment
- Involvement with staff recruitment

One of the ways we encourage pupils to express an opinion is through the development of pupil voice committees and groups (e.g. school council, junior leaders, cyber sheriffs, collective worship committee).

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After a rigorous recruitment process, we are pleased to introduce you to this year's Cyber Sheriffs (eight pupils from across KS2). It is their role to assist pupils and adults in the appropriate use of technology throughout school. From setting up laptops, managing the woodland cameras, trialing new technology, assisting with code club and delivering a session using BBC:Microbits in KS1. In addition to supporting the use of technology through school, the Cyber Sheriffs are the pupil voice for online safety, gathering data on how children are keeping safe online, providing information on the latest apps and games played by children and sharing online safety information with pupils, parents and staff.



Our 2021-2022 Cyber Sheriffs

We are also pleased to introduce you to our School Councilors. Pupils wishing to be school councilors were asked to write a manifesto and promote themselves to the rest of their year group - by creating a poster to convey why they would be a good representative. A polling station was then set up in school to allow pupils to vote for their preferred candidate. We now have ten school councilors in place from Year 2 to Year 6. These pupils will represent the views of their peers and will be consulted on aspects of school development. School Council also provides a means by which children can make suggestions about how to improve our school.



Some of our 2021-2022 School Council*
(*Unfortunately, we have some absences at the moment.)

Friends of Headlands (FOH)

The first Friends of Headlands meeting of this academic year was held last week. Thank you to those parents, carers and staff who attended; it was a positive and friendly meeting focusing on how we can bring our community together following 18 months of separation and fragmentation. We are lucky to have lots of support and volunteers who are eager to get things up and running again. Initially, we have scheduled the following events:

- Thursday 21st October - Tuck Shop
- Friday 19th November - Tuck Shop
- Friday 10th December - Tuck Shop
- Friday 12th November- Movie Night (EYFS and KS1)
- Thursday 25th November - Christmas Disco (bring a bottle/chocolate)
- Friday 3rd December - Christmas Fair (also Christmas Jumper Day)
- Monday 6th December - Christmas Gift Room

More information about these events will be shared closer to the time. However, **we still need lots of help to make the events happen.** Please follow the [Friends of Headlands Facebook](#) page to find out more information about the events (including how you can help).

Safeguarding

Please be aware that, from Monday, the Nursery pedestrian gates will be locked between the hours of 9:05-11:55am and 12:05 - 2:55pm. Should you arrive at school outside of these hours you will need to report to the main office. Thank you for supporting us to keep everyone safe.

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies are back! 6 Cedar started our calendar of class assemblies with their informative, dramatic and entertaining assembly based upon the history of crime and punishment. This was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended. Thank you to the pupils and staff of 6 Cedar.

Today, at 2:30pm, parents of 5 Sycamore pupils are invited into school for their class assembly. We are really looking forward to this event.

SEND Coffee Morning

Yesterday, Mrs Cowling welcomed a number of parents into school to find out about our SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) and pastoral school offer. Representatives from PCAN (Parents of Children with Additional Needs) and the Spen Hub Family Support Team were also present, and talked about the wide range of support that they can provide. More information about these provisions can be found [here](#), on our school website.

The coffee morning was very well received. There will be more events like this in the future, but should you require any help or information in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Cowling via the school office (or in the playground at the start and end of the school day).

Parents' Consultations Reminder

Parents' consultations will be held in school next week on either

- **Tuesday 19th October from 3.30pm to 6.00pm; or**
- **Wednesday 20th October 4.30pm to 7.00pm.**

You should have received a slip detailing your appointment day and time. We look forward to welcoming you into school to meet your child's teacher and to discuss how they have settled into the new academic year. Your child's books will also be available for you to look at. Refreshments will be served and there will also be an opportunity for you to complete our online Parent View Survey in the school hall. Your views are important to us; we encourage all parents to provide feedback about your child's experience of Headlands.

Please note, 10-minutes have been allocated for each parent-teacher consultation. To allow the evening to run smoothly for everyone, teachers must stick to these timings. Should you have any significant concerns or questions please contact the class teacher in advance of your scheduled consultation meeting.

Training Days and School Closure

A reminder that school will be closed to pupils on the following days this term:

- **Friday 22nd October - Training Day**
- **Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October - Half Term Holiday**
- **Friday 26th November - Additional Day of Holiday due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**
- **Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January - Christmas Holiday**

Best wishes,



Ashleigh Dunn
Headteacher