# The Heath Academy

#### SIXPENNY HANDLEY FIRST SCHOOL AND NURSERY

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Spring 1 Newsletter 2 – January 12th 2024



# IF WE BELIEVE, WE CAN ACHIEVE

COLLABORATION - CONNECTIVITY - INDEPENDENCE - INNOVATION - QUESTIONING - REFLECTION - RESILIENCE

Dear parents and carers,

I think we have experienced nearly all weathers in one week which is great for our Early Years children where seasonal change plays such a large part in their learning experiences!

Theme maps have been added to the website for Adventurers, Pioneers and Navigators so please take a peek at what your child will be learning this term. We will be offering parents a chance to find out more about some of our foundation curriculum in the Spring and Summer terms so watch out for workshops in art and computing.

We are always on the lookout for parent helpers so please let the office know if you can offer time at the beginning or end of the day to help out in school.



On Mondays the children are outside for an hour at forest schools and it is essential that they are dressed in warm outdoor appropriate clothing. We are very happy for children to come dressed in readiness and wear their forest school clothing for the day if that helps.

## **Changes to reading launch timings**

Due to some delays in resources arriving in school we have needed to make changes to the reading launches for Reception/KS1 and KS2.

The first launch will be for **Reception and KS1 parents** (Adventurers and Voyagers) on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January** at 9am.

The second launch will be for KS2 parents (Navigators and Pioneers) on Wednesday 31st January at 9am.

The format will be a presentation from staff in the hall followed by a reading opportunity with your child in class.

# **Attendance**

In assembly today we awarded certificates for all children with attendance of 98% or more. If your child didn't quite manage this please don't worry as we will reset for the Spring and Summer terms. Letters have been sent to the parents of those children with 90% or lower attendance to update them. We completely understand that children can be ill but we ask if possible that dental and other non-urgent appointments be made in the holidays.



#### **Parents and Friends**

If you are a fan of the Ibiza Classics (!) then you will be keen to know that tickets are now available for the parents' disco on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February from 8pm -11:30pm at the village hall. This was a popular fundraising event last year and tickets cost just £5 and can be purchased via the school office or Clarkes the

butchers or the Penny Tap. (Flyer attached)

## **Big Brush Club**



A reminder that a dental practitioner is meeting with parents from Explorers and Adventurers next Thursday at 3pm in the school hall to launch the Big Brush Club.

# A snapshot of learning for this week:

**Explorers** have been finding out all about the moon and created their own crater bread! They have been exploring the changes in the moon and have also planted snow drops in the outside area!



This week, in Adventurers the weather has helped perfectly with the start of our Winter theme...it even snowed for us The Adventurers have been thinking about what changes happen during this season and in particular about keeping warm in cold weather. We have some very special 'Teddy' visitors in our classroom at the moment, patiently waiting for the children to put their newly found super sewing and weaving skills to practise to make them a warm winter scarf.



Voyagers have been making their lunar buggies and working out how to power them with balloons!!





In Navigators and Pioneers we have started our new theme – Rockin' Romans. We located Italy on a world map and looked at where the Roman empire spans on a timeline. We also explored storytelling through illustrations. We have also had our first ukulele lesson!







#### A snapshot of learning for next week:

In Explorers we will be basing our activities around an ice theme!

**In Adventurers we will be** exploring another aspect that Winter brings...darker evenings! We will use non-fiction books as well as our sightings of the moon to help answer our question, where does the moon go?

**In Voyagers we will be** learning a space dance and finding out about Neil Armstrong before launching their new learning unit!!

In Navigators and Pioneers we are going to be investigating who the Romans were and generating their questions of enquiry about our theme. We will also be linking our timeline learning in history to map the story setting of our favourite 5 book 'I was a rat!' in literacy.

## Upcoming Dates (Please see website dates which cover dates upto July)

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January Nursery and Reception 'Dental programme' Meeting @ 3pm

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January Reading launch for YR,Y1 and Y2 9am-10am

Wednesday 31st January Reading launch for Y3 and Y4

Skateboarding and scooter workshops for Reception-Y4

**Friday February 2**<sup>nd</sup> NSPCC Number Day

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February Safety Week

Monday 12th February HALF TERM

Monday 19th February INSET (School closed)

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March Fairtrade Fortnight

Thursday 7th March World Book Day

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March Focus on Science/STEM week

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March Years 1 and 2 Visit to Wimborne Museum

**Tuesday March 26<sup>th</sup>** Years 3 and 4 Visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace

Kind regards,

Mrs Rachael Musselwhite (Headteacher)

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