



Newsletter

Heber Primary School

Heber Road, London, SE22 9LA

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Welcome Back!

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Welcome back to the new school year. I hope that you all had a lovely summer. The children have settled back into school brilliantly. We have lots of exciting plans to develop our provision this year, so I thought it would be good to set out some of our key priorities in this newsletter.

Curriculum

For many years, Heber has provided a rich and balanced creative curriculum. Last year our staff spent a great deal of time scrutinising our curriculum to ensure that our pupils are being appropriately challenged in an engaging curriculum that meets their needs and ignites their interests. All subject leaders have reflected on the intent of their curriculum area and as a team we have updated our topics for the school. Our children demonstrated a particular interest in environmental and social justice last year, so our topics now encourage this further.

Improving writing

Last year we focussed on improving grammar and its application in order to develop children's writing. As a result, we achieved our best ever results in the national Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling SATs. The children scored significantly higher than pupils in other schools nationally, with 89% of our pupils achieving age related expectations and 40% achieving at greater depth. This year we have identified the need for our pupils to develop a rich vocabulary across the curriculum. We believe that this will improve our pupils' writing even further. The second year of our partnership project with the Globe will see the whole school embedding drama techniques in lessons with a focus on enhancing pupils' vocabulary with lots of staff training targeted in this area throughout the year. By the time Book Week arrives, the whole school will study Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' and we are sure that you will be delighted with the outcomes produced.

Progress in maths

This is a target that we have focused on for two years already as there was lots of work to do! Our three-year plan saw us introduce a new curriculum and approach to teaching maths. Many of you attended our maths workshops on what this involves, and the sessions received great feedback. We have added some more workshops in this area, see our website for more details. Last year we focused on training our staff in mastery techniques that ensured that all pupils were challenged at a level appropriate to them. We also focused on developing pupils' reasoning skills. Our results last summer showed the improvements in this area with 34% of our pupils achieving greater depth; the highest since the new SATS papers were introduced to all schools in 2016. This year we will be focusing on fluency and application of skills and teaching the children to select the most efficient strategy to improve their speed and accuracy in solving mathematical problems.

For more information on your child's specific year group, come along to our curriculum meetings next week.

Here's to another great year!

Rivka Rosenberg

Music and Art Classes

A new year, a new start! We go from strength to strength in the creative subjects, and we start with some exciting news. In Music and Art this year, the children will be in new classes. We will be mixing the year group together to create new classes for these lessons. Having another opportunity for our children to interact together in their year group is valuable, and this also allows them to get their creative juices flowing in the creative subjects as well as developing their social skills. Our trial last year in Year 4 provided some of the best outcomes in Music and Art across the school and the children liked their new classes too. The new year starts here! **Mr Treen and Ms Davies**



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Punctuality and Attendance

Please make sure that your children arrive at school on time for the start of the day. Our timetables are very full and every minute of the school day is important. Punctuality and attendance are key to the success of your child's education, and good routines contribute significantly towards preparing your child for his or her future. Children who arrive late at school often;

- miss vital parts of the lesson, information and news
- disrupt the class when the lesson is underway
- find it embarrassing entering a class, once the lesson has started.

New Look Bulletins

All teachers are currently working on our new and improved class bulletins. We are hoping that the new bulletins will give you a great insight into what each class will be covering this term and how the subjects are linked to our topics. You will notice that bulletins will now include some information about the topic's outcomes. We begin each topic with an introductory Immersion Day/activity to ignite children's interest and they will be working towards an 'Outcome' which parents/carers will be invited to view. This celebration of their work will be instead of one of their class assemblies. Therefore, classes will only lead one assembly this year in the Spring or Summer Term. The performance focus for this term will be the Christmas productions (see calendar for dates). We have also tried to give as much notice for events as possible and have been busy planning ahead! Bulletins will be handed out at the curriculum meetings next week and will then be shared on our website.

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following children who were chosen as the Star of the Week in Merit Assembly this week:

Year 1 – Tamarrio (1L) and Holly (1H)

Year 2 – Stanley (2DJ) and Scarlett (2B)

Year 3 – Nelly (3P) and Callum (3A)

Year 4 – Zyreece (4S) and Talah (4P)

Year 5 – Laila (5M) and Artur (5C)

Year 6 – Chisom (6F) and Vi (6K)

HEBER P & F AGM



Wednesday 18th Sept.

7-9pm: The Lordship Pub

...All Welcome ... Meet other families involved with the Heber Parents & Friends ... Find out more about what we do & the events we run ... Help plan events & fundraising for the coming year ... Join the Heber Community ... Or just come along and say hello!



Enrichment Clubs

Please can we thank all parents and carers who have booked their children onto our enrichment clubs for the Autumn term. We have taken on board the feedback from the parent survey, and we are really pleased to be offering two new activities this term; taekwondo and computer coding. Clubs will commence on Monday 23rd September. There are a few clubs with some limited availability; bookings are open until this Sunday so it is not too late! Clubs currently showing availability are:

- Monday Girls Football KS2
- Tuesday Mixed Football KS2 - 8am
- Tuesday Spanish KS2
- Tuesday Pop Choir KS2
- Tuesday Multi-Sports KS1
- Wednesday Street Dance KS2

We would especially like to encourage KS2 girls to sign up for Monday football, to ensure that the club can go ahead.



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Hello and a big welcome back from the P&F

For those of you new to the school, the Heber Parents and Friends (Heber P&F) are a group of parent volunteers looking to enhance the community spirit and raise funds that will go towards projects, events, and equipment for the benefit of all the children attending Heber Primary School.

In previous years we have raised funds to improve the acoustics in our school hall, built an activity trail in the Lordship Lane playground, and transformed the nursery outdoor space. We do this by holding regular events (disco's, cake sales, winter and summer fairs, sponsored runs...)

The next Heber P&F AGM will be held on Wednesday 18th September from 7-9pm at the Lordship Pub - please come and join us - everyone is welcome! It is a great opportunity if you would like to know more about what the P&F does, have any suggestions regarding events / sponsorships / funding options, get to know new people at the school, or if you would like to get involved in any capacity.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can also e-mail us at: Heberpandf@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you,

Pauline & Jen

Co-chairs of the Heber P&F

Premises Update

The school was very busy over the summer with various projects taking place. The most exciting of these is that thanks to the P&F Committee, we have had a set of acoustic panels and boards installed in the main hall, which will help enormously with controlling the noise levels at busy times such as lunchtimes. They have also been located to block out some of the sun, which will help with the heat levels on warm summer days. We are incredibly grateful, both to the P&F for supporting this project, and to everyone who has donated to an event in whatever way, large or small across the year, as without this support we would not have been able to go ahead with this project which will benefit our children so much.

The Local Authority have made some essential improvements to the building, such as installing a brand new fire alarm and improving our heating system.

We are also in the process of developing the Nursery outdoor gardening area with some new raised beds and a brand new compost bin, to help us to dispose of some of our food waste in a more eco-friendly way. We will be developing this area further in coming months.

Weekly Music Awards

Key Stage 1: Joseph from 1L is our Key Stage 1 music star of the week. In assembly where he is learning to use his singing voice accurately, and in class, where he is learning key musical terms, he consistently shows energy, enthusiasm and progress. He is a future musical star in the making. Bien hecho Joseph!

Lower Key Stage 2: We have a pair of Lower Key Stage 2 music award winners this week. Jakane from 3P and Trey from 3A earned the accolade with their energy and participation in our musical scales learning and their team work and endeavour during our instrumental learning. Los dos deberían sentirse orgullosos.

Upper Key Stage 2: It was tough choosing just one Upper Key Stage 2 music award winner this week, as the year 5 children and the year 6 children shone so brightly in our lessons, but William from 6F showed particular eagerness and patience in his instrumental learning, and skill and long-term perseverance in his performance at the end of the day. He tried hard to push himself to the highest expectation, and so rightly gana el premio esta semana.



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September

All diary dates are available on the school website calendar.

Tuesday 17 th – Thursday 19 th	Years 3 & 4 Curriculum meeting
Wednesday 18 th	Years 1 & 2 Curriculum meeting
Thursday 19 th	Years 5 & 6 Curriculum meeting
Wednesday 18 th	Year 3 Immersion Day – Chiltern Open Air Museum
Friday 20 th	Year 6 Maya Workshop – Chocolate Museum
Monday 23 rd	4 week enrichment science project at Alleyns begins for 4P
Monday 23 rd	Speak Out, Stay Safe – NSPCC assembly
Tuesday 24 th (9:15am)	Story & inference workshop for parents (nursery –Year 2)
Wednesday 25 th	Reception Sound Walk
Friday 27 th	Year 5 Immersion Day – Portals to the Past workshop
Monday 30 th	NSPCC fundraiser 'Dance-athon' begins

October

Tuesday 1 st	Year 5 boys football competition at Dulwich College
Friday 4 th	4S – British Museum
Monday 7 th (9:15am and 5:30pm)	Mathletics parent workshop
Monday 7 th	Due date for NSPCC sponsorship forms and donations
Friday 11 th	4P – British Museum
Friday 11 th	Reception Autumn Walk
Tuesday 15 th and Thursday 17 th	Parents' Evening
Monday 21 st – Friday 25 th	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 28 th	4 week enrichment science project at Alleyns begins for 4S
Monday 28 th – Friday 1 st	Year 3 swimming lessons at Alleyns
Wednesday 30 th	Year 2 BrightSparks Concert at Royal Festival Hall - Zog
Thursday 31 st	Secondary school application deadline

November

Monday 4 th (9:15am and 5:30pm)	Maths Workshop – How to support at home (Art Room)
Thursday 7 th	Flu immunisations for Reception – Year 6
Wednesday 13 th and Thursday 14 th	Individual and sibling photos

December

Monday 2 nd and Wednesday 4 th (2:30pm)	Nursery and Reception Christmas performance
Monday 9 th (2:30pm) and Tuesday 10 th (9:30am)	KS1 Christmas performance
Friday 13 th (9:30am and 2:15pm)	Years 3 and 4 Christmas performance
Thursday 19 th (9:30am and 2:15pm)	Years 5 and 6 Christmas performance
Friday 20 th	Last day of term – School closes at 2pm