



Henniker Road, Bolton BL3 3TP
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Headteacher: Mr. M. D Thornley BSC (Hons)

Friday 7th January

RE: NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carer,

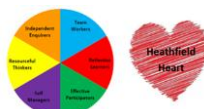
Happy New Year! I hope you all managed to have a wonderful break and spend time with family and friends. It has been lovely to welcome back Mrs. Renton, our Learning Mentor. Mrs. Renton has returned part time, working on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

POPPY APPEAL

Thank you to all parents/carers for your support...



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RECEPTION and YEAR 1 PARENT PHONIC MEETING

Reading and teaching children to read is **THE MOST IMPORTANT thing** we do at Heathfield. Even on Christmas Party day, reading and phonic lessons continue. At Heathfield, reading is not considered a subject but a vital skill that opens up all the other areas of the curriculum.

Knowledge + Reading strategy = skilled reader

Knowledge refers to our broad and balanced curriculum; giving children the knowledge and skills to help them understand and comprehend text

Reading strategy refers to the specific reading skills decoding, blending, segmenting, fluency, expression, retrieval, inference to name a few

Knowledge and reading strategy combined results in a skilled Heathfield reader.

As a school we have worked hard to develop our phonics and reading curriculum. With this in mind, we have arranged a virtual meeting for Reception and Year 1 Parents to explain how we teach phonics at Heathfield and how you can support your child at home.

*The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.
Dr. Seuss*

In the future (when COVID rates are lower) we will invite parents into school to see phonics in action.

Reception Parent Meeting Thursday 13th January

Year 1 Parent Meeting Tuesday 18th January

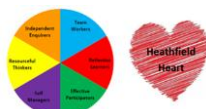
Microsoft Teams Links will be sent via email prior to the event. If you are unable to make this time, please do get in touch via [parents@](mailto:parents@heathfield.org) and we arrange for the PowerPoint to be sent to you and/or a time to meet with the phonics lead.



READING PLUS

Some of you will be aware that we in Key Stage 2, we use an online package called Reading Plus as part of our reading curriculum. Reading Plus is an online reading programme that's packed full of engaging texts for pupils to explore and enjoy. It teaches silent reading fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary with software that meets each child's individual reading level. All children have an individual log in. If your child cannot remember their log in, please email [parents@...](mailto:parents@heathfield.org) and we can send it to you and/or ask the class teacher.

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All Key stage 2 children use reading plus in school but it would really help if parents/carers could encourage children to access Reading Plus at home to help develop their reading fluency and comprehension. Reading Plus works on most devices.

We have launched a weekly competition where we celebrate the class that has read the most combined words and we give out weekly certificates to individual children that reach certain milestones on their Reading Plus journey.

KEY DATES

FRIDAY 7TH JANUARY Year 4 play in a day Octagon theatre

MONDAY 10th JANUARY Year 5 Sale Sharks 5 week programme – Positive mental health and resilience through Tag rugby. (Children should wear PE kits as they normally would on a Monday)

THURSDAY 13th JANUARY Reception Parent/carers phonic virtual meeting 5PM (Link will be sent via email)

TUESDAY 18TH JANUARY Year 1 Parent/carers phonic virtual meeting 5PM (Link will be sent via email)

Yours sincerely,

Mr. M D Thornley

Headteacher

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