

Heathfield Primary School

School Newsletter – April 2025



A message from Mr Kirby-Bowstead Headteacher

"Time waits for no-one..."

This half-term is an unbelievably short one: four weeks, with May bank holiday in the middle as well... however, we have no time to lose! Despite its brevity, every day this half term is invaluable in ensuring your child's continued success. On time, in school; that's our motto, that's our rule!

And it was a pleasure to share your children's success with you at our recent parent/carer consultations; thank you so much to everyone who made an appointment and attended. For those who didn't, please make sure your absence was a one off and you do make the effort in the future – not only does this keep you fully informed of your child's progress and their next steps, but it is a way of showing your child that you hold their education at high importance and that you are just as proud of them as we are!

As we head towards the warmer weather and we get to spend more time outdoors and on the school field, please remember to send your child into school in appropriate clothing (in line with our uniform expectations) – including a water bottle and a hat/cap when necessary. Please also remember that any sun screen worn by children and brought into school **must** be nut-free – check the ingredients carefully, as we do have children in school with severe allergies. We really appreciate your support with this.

Across the whole country, this time of year at schools brings with it a range of tests and assessments. Here at Heathfield our Year 6 children will shortly be completing the End of KS2 Assessments (commonly known as SATs); our Year 1 children will soon be completing their Phonics Screening Check; and our Year 4 children are not far away from completing the Multiplication Tables Check as well. Our children – and staff – are all working incredibly hard in preparation for all of this, and it is again vital that **all** children are **in school – on time – every day** so they can do their very best; both now and in their future! We place high importance on good attendance, as research shows us that the children who fall behind in their learning are generally those with poor attendance.

In regards to school holidays, for the next academic year Heathfield term times will be in line with those set out by Darlington Local Authority. This information can be found at <https://www.darlington.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-years/school-holiday-dates/>. Information regarding the dates for the three additional PD days for 2025/2026 will be sent to you over the next few weeks as we make our final arrangements.

Important Dates

Monday 28th April: School reopens for the start of the Summer term.

Friday 2nd May: To mark the end of our 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' week, our children will be taking part in a colour run! See the separate letter for more details, including what your child should wear on the day.

Monday 5th May: May Bank Holiday, school closed.

Tuesday 6th May: We will once again be hosting the Darlington Parent Carer Forum in our hub – check Facebook for more details.

w/c. Monday 12th May: SATs Week for our Year 6 children (we've pinned the timetable to the top of our Facebook page)

Wednesday 21st May: To celebrate National Numeracy Day we will be holding an after school family event – Mr Carass, our Maths Lead, will be in touch with more information soon!

Friday 23rd May: Break up for May half term.

Monday 2nd June: Teacher Training (PD) Day – school closed.

Tuesday 3rd June: Children come back to school for the final half term of the academic year.

The Heathfield Virtues:

kindness courage curiosity fairness resilience respect