



HEADLINES

• Issue10/July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

We come to the end of another academic year and what a year it has been!

The school has embraced large amounts of essential change during the course of the year with brand new strategies introduced to support the teaching of reading, writing and maths. Such change, at pace had to happen to ensure that our children at least achieved in line with national expectations. In the past too many of our children have left the school below government expectations and we are putting a stop to this through the introduction of new strategies, leadership structures and expectations. All such change has taken place against the backdrop of significantly increased expectations of primary school children from the government. Throughout the year, we have reflected on the impact of such change on the attitudes and outcomes for children.

This year the outcomes for children in Year 6 have increased when compared with those achieved nationally and are the best outcomes that Headlands has ever had. More children achieved the expected outcomes combined in reading, writing and maths than last year and progress in these subjects from the end of Year 2 to Year 6 has also increased.

Our young children leave Reception very ready for Year 1. Next year, Mrs Worrell, who will continue leading Reception, will be based in Year 1 to ensure that good practice of highly effective play based learning to secure good standards is promoted during transition to the year group. The vast majority of our children meet national expectations with their early reading (phonics) in Year 1, ensuring that they are well placed to read for meaning in Year 2 and beyond. Both with Reception outcomes and Year 1 phonics outcomes, the school has exceeded national averages.

To ensure that children achieve their best, Headlands has the most amazingly committed teachers and assistants who have all embraced change this year and, like me are unapologetically ambitious about what we want your children to achieve. They understood that standards had to rise significantly to compare with national outcomes and they are making it happen! I am full of admiration for their professionalism and dedication in all that they do. Headlands will be a high achieving school over time and the staff we have are the people to make it happen.

Most importantly, we want the children to be safe and happy in school. Planning the core subjects within an engaging curriculum is the most exciting part of my job. This year, with the new themes for learning introduced, we have immersed children within inspiring themes. We have opened our Emporium as the pinnacle of the curriculum. We are looking forward to developing the themes of learning next year and making learning magical and memory making. We are also really pleased that you have been a part of so much of what we have done by attending the many curriculum events that we have hosted enabling you to enjoy being part of school life with your children.

And so to the future... Next year, we will be embedding all that we have put in place to date. A major priority for us will be to develop the children's wellbeing and sense of mindfulness. We will do this through the introduction of a brand new Personal, Health and Social Education programme (PSHE), as well as promoting protective behaviours to ensure that children know how to keep safe and know their support network. We will also be increasing pupil voice with a new look school and class council. More information about this will be sent to you in September.

We had 137 responses to the questionnaire about homework. Thank you for your positive comments. We have reviewed our expectations for homework and will be introducing the amendments to you in September. The online questionnaire appears to be an effective way of gauging parental thoughts and perceptions. To continue to listen to parents, we will be taking a new approach to parent forum which has not been well intended. It is critical that we work together, again we have thoughts about how we can do this with you that will be discussed in September.

In September, we will again send you the dates for the academic year so that you can plan ahead. Please continue to explore the school's website (www.headlands.org.uk) which contains all relevant information. The blogs from teachers about what happens in class have been positively commented on by the Trust, they are updated at least once a fortnight. Please take a look.

The summer holidays will see the major refurbishment of our special provision for children with communication and interaction difficulties. The provision is changing from a resource provision to a School Unit to meet the needs of the children. Thanks to the generous donation of £6000, the proceeds from the Speedy Cup, held on the Racecourse recently, the School Unit will also have an amazing sensory room. I would like to thank Mr & Mrs McCarthy Dixon for and the Speedy Cup charity for supporting us to achieve this goal.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the HSA for all of their fundraising this year. You and they provide the 'icing on the cake' for all the children in school enabling us to have the added extras (although we would like more members next year to ensure the HSA's survival). Huge thanks also our academy trust (Northampton Primary Academy Trust) and to Catherine Capell, our brilliant Chair of Governors. Catherine and the governing body have provided support and challenge in equal measure during this year of change and this has been much appreciated. Next year, we will be looking for new governors to hold the school to account and celebrate what we do.

Finally, and most importantly - your children. Headlands children are incredible and they are of course the reason for everything we do. We are determined that they continue to reach their potential in all aspects of school life. As a team, and by working together we will ensure this goal is achieved so that the children can be the best that they can be and shape the world in which they live.

Have a great summer holiday with your family and I look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 5 September 2017.

Darren

A message from the Chair of Governors- Catherine Capell

Can you believe that the summer break is upon us? On behalf of all the governors of Headlands, I would like to wish you and your children a safe, healthy and happy summer.

I would also like to thank each and every one of you for entrusting your children's education and care to us. As I hope you know, Headlands staff are completely committed to ensuring that your children are safe and receive the best possible education. They strive tirelessly to plan lessons and extra-curricular activities that inspire and engage your children. There are far too many events to mention but it has been a privilege to see your children enjoying their learning and life at Headlands.

For those children who are moving on to the next stage of their education, we want you to know that we are exceptionally proud of what confident, polite and caring young people you are. We wish you continued success and happiness in your new school.

As governors it is with great excitement and anticipation that we look forward to the beginning of the new academic year; welcoming the new children and their families and seeing them flourish alongside our fabulous children already in the school.

We, as governors, will continue to support, monitor and challenge the school closely. It has been a busy and extremely positive year and in September we will be looking to increase the number of governors so that we can benefit from additional expertise. If you think you might have the skills and time to support us, we would love to hear from you.

Here's to a summer filled with sunshine, joy and good health.

Best wishes,

Catherine Capell (Chair of Governors) - on behalf of all the governors of Headlands Primary School

Uniform expectations

Our children look really smart. Please ensure that your child complies with the uniform expectation. A list of what is expected can be found on the website www.headlands.org.uk.

Over time, we are replacing coat hooks with lockers. Please would you ensure that your child has a book bag for school in September so that this will fit into lockers. These can be purchased from the school wear shop on the Wellingborough Road. (Year 6 may continue to use rucksacks if they wish.)

Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school all week, every week. Also, we are lucky to have a pool, please ensure that your child has their swimming kit on the allotted day.

If you wish to have your child's ears pierced, please would you ensure that you do this at the start of the holidays. Children are unable to do PE if they are unable to remove jewellery themselves.

Good luck Sian and Katie

We wish to congratulate Miss Francis and Miss Brook who will be marrying their respective partners this summer. In September Miss Francis will become Mrs Wall and Miss Brook will become Mrs Rashid. We wish Sian and Michael and Katie and Attif every happiness for their future married life together.



New entrance from September

From September, please would parents and carers use the entrance on Sheraton Close or James Lewis Court when dropping children off at the start of the day and on collection at the end of the day. This is because the front of the school is a bottle neck, the office area becomes congested and confidentiality is compromised. In addition, there is the potential for your children's security to be compromised. Thank you for your understanding of this.

Where to leave and collect your children from in September

Nursery and Reception will enter through the Nursery and Reception classroom and will be greeted by their class teacher. Year 1 will also enter through their classroom doors, off the lower playground and again will be welcomed by their teachers. Year 2 will enter through the side door opposite the field by their class teacher, Years 3 and 4 from the top playground by their class teacher. Years 5* and 6 will also enter from the top playground. A staff representative will be available to take messages to pass onto the teachers at this time. The Unit children will enter via their classroom doors on the lower playground. Your class teacher will see your children out and we would be grateful if you would discuss any non urgent issues with them at the end of the day, rather than at the beginning. (* Miss Carlton's class will enter and depart from the door next to the main school entrance at front of the school).



Books

We are really proud of the children's work in books. We are keeping some books back to show them to children new to the year group next year and for OFSTED if our inspection comes at the beginning of next term. We will return all books at the end of next academic year.

THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

**ANIMAL
AGENTS**

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2017

animal-agents.org.uk

Last week the children were visited in assembly by a librarian from Abington library. She informed the children of this year's reading event, 'Animal Antics'. The children's mission is to read 6 books over the holidays, to find clues, to answer the questions and win a medal and certificate. This is a great way to support your child's reading over the summer and to experience the library. The more children from Headlands take part, the greater chance we have as a school to win the cluster trophy. Go Headlands!



Safeguarding Children

“Our school is committed unreservedly to safeguarding and protecting all of our children”

Designated child protection members of our staff are:-



**Mr Darren Smith
Head Teacher**



**Mrs Karen Smith
Deputy Head Teacher**



**Mrs Sharon Green
Family Support Worker**



Safeguarding Governors

Catherine Capell, Adam Eakins and Tony Covington

**Mash Team Contact
0300 126 1000 Ext 13**