

Dear Parents/ Carers

The term has got off to a flying start and the children have settled in well to their new classes. We are embedding new practices that we introduced last academic year and the children are responding well to how we are teaching the core areas of reading, writing and maths consistently throughout the school. They have been enthused by the many themes for learning taking place and we have welcomed Stone Age people, a planetarium and tropical creatures in to inspire the children amongst many other exciting opportunities.

We have also opened our new School Unit. The Unit, which is known as the Woodlands Unit, is a 28 place special provision for children with communication difficulties including autism. The provision will be completed in the half term break with the outdoor canopy provision being constructed before the end of the year. A formal opening will take place in January.

In light of this new addition to our school, we have had to give some additional capacity to our leadership structure. I am delighted to announce that Mrs Worrell has been appointed to the role of Assistant Head Teacher on a permanent basis and Mrs Green has also been appointed as an Assistant Head Teacher until December 2018 to offer additional capacity, whilst Mrs Smith continues in her role as Deputy Head Teacher/ Inclusion leader and also leads the Woodlands Unit. In addition Miss Harvey has been appointed Key Stage 1 phase leader until the end of the academic year.

I would like to congratulate Mrs Worrell, Mrs Green and Miss Harvey on their recent appointments. Headlands has an incredibly strong leadership team, driven to achieve the best outcomes for your children in all aspects of school life. The senior team is made up of Mrs Smith, Mrs Worrell, Mrs Green and myself. The middle team is made up of Mrs Evans, Miss Wilson and Miss Harvey.

						
Mr Smith Head Teacher (Curriculum/ Assessment)	Mrs Smith Deputy Head (Inclusion/ Woodlands)	Mrs Worrell Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning/ Foundation Phase Leader)	Mrs Green Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning)	Mrs Evans Year 5/6 Phase Leader	Miss Wilson Year 3/4 Phase Leader	Miss Harvey Year 1/2 Phase Leader

In addition, Mrs Smith, Mrs Worrell and Mrs Green are supporting inclusion, teaching and learning and Foundation Stage across the Trust, in a range of areas. We are fortunate to have such dynamic teachers and leaders at Headlands who also have great impact elsewhere.

After 22 years of service and commitment to the school, children and colleagues, Catherine Fryers will be leaving Headlands. We are sorry to see Catherine leave and we wish her every success and happiness for the future.

Last week I wrote to parents/carers about our huge concerns about the safety of children at the start and end of the school day. I would like to thank those parents who have praised the school for its approach to keeping children safe. The situation is slightly improved in Sheraton Close with cars now not parking or dropping off on the zig zag lines or on the disabled access white line outside the Phab Centre. We will continue to encourage parents to park further away and walk, rather than contributing to the congestion in Sheraton Close. We are all responsible for the safety of our precious children.

Thank you to those parents/carers who have applied to volunteer in school, we will be in touch shortly and we look forward to you joining us.

For the remainder of the term, we look forward to participating in a range of sporting events across the town. Year 1 have the opportunity to draw at the National Portrait Gallery in London and next term, our choir are signing at the Royal Albert Hall. We are aiming high in all that we do! We will also be introducing our 'Achievement Buddies' throughout the school, where the older children will support the younger children with aspects of the curriculum.

In the meantime, please follow my blog (www.headlands.org.uk) which, alongside class blogs, will give you a flavour of all the exciting things that are happening in school.

Darren

Homework

Your child will at last have been given a Home/School Partnership Book. We apologise for not issuing the book sooner, we have had a problem with the supplier who did not meet the deadline despite the books being ordered in good time. Nevertheless, they are with us now! Please record your child's reading achievement in their book. It is expected that you record their reading activity in the book at least 4 times a week. At the end of the week, the teacher will initial the book and award house points. The book can also be used for non-urgent notes to the teacher and will be checked in Reception, Year 1 and 2 on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In Years 3-6, children are expected to bring non urgent notices to the teacher's attention and their books will be checked each Friday. We will be using the books to promote reading activities. Details to follow soon. Unit children will have their homework set from the Unit.



Exciting residential experiences

Last week, Year 6 had an amazing time in France. We visited Le Mont St Michel, spoke with the locals at Leval market and visited the castle at Fougères. The children enjoyed using their conversational French and challenging themselves on the zip wire and climbing wall. Mr Smith's blog documented the enjoyment that was had by all during the week. Later in the year, the children visit Kingswood in West Runton for two nights. This is to enable the children to take part in outward bound activities. Both residential experiences are designed to promote independence, collaboration and self esteem, attributes that are built upon back in school. Before the end of term, we have parental information sessions for both residential (see below) and we strongly encourage parents to attend to find out more. Please note that there is a subsidy for children in receipt of free school meals, from additional funding provided by the government, however finance must not be a barrier to children taking part and we encourage parents to contact Mr Smith in confidence to discuss the matter and agree a way of making the residential happen for their child.



School finish times

Please note that to maximise time in the school day, reception finish at 3.10pm and the rest of the school finish at 3.15pm. Please collect your younger children first before collecting other children in the school.

Coming up this term...

Tuesday 10th October- Year 4 Residential trip to Kingswood, Parent's information session- 3.30 & 6.00 (In Year 4)

Thursday 12th October- Y6 residential trip to France (2018) **FOR CURRENT YEAR 5 PARENTS-** 3.30 & 6.00 (In the hall)

Tuesday 17th October- Year 1 trip to the National Portrait Gallery, London

Tuesday 17th October Thoroughly Thrilling Event Year 2 – 11.00-12.00

Thursday 19th October- Thoroughly Thrilling Event for parents and carers Years 3 & 4- 9.10-10.30

Thursday 19th October- Individual school photographs

(Please note that there will not be a thoroughly Thrilling Event for Reception this term whilst the children are settling in. Also, because of the invitation to the National Portrait Gallery on the 17th November, there will not be a Thoroughly Thrilling Event for Year 1 this term.)