

# Heron Newsletter – Term 1



## Dates for your Diary

### Term 2

- 3 Nov – Return to school
  - 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parent consultations
  - 19 Dec –Last day at School
- End of term – 20 December  
Inservice Day – 5<sup>th</sup> January  
Term 3 Starts – 7<sup>th</sup> January  
Half Term 16<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> February

## Welcome from Mrs Brookes

Dear Parents/ Carers

Wow! The summer holidays seem to be in the dim and distant past! I hope you all managed to have a relaxing break. The children have settled well back into school life and are working hard; we have presented lots of celebration certificates which I hope you look forward to seeing on Dojo. We have hosted a successful Wear Red Day supporting 'Show Racism the Red Card' raising over £150 for the charity. The Year 6 children have participated in a week of Bikeability and the feedback from the trainers was very positive. Thank you for your generous donations at our Harvest assemblies, this will go to support Gloucester Food Bank and be distributed to families in need around Gloucester. We look forward to seeing you for parents' evenings during Term 2.

Have a great half term!

Mrs Brookes

## EYFS NEWS

What a fantastic start to school Reception have had! We have been so impressed with how well they have settled into school life and it has been great to watch them making lots of new friends. The children have adapted well to our new routines and they have started their Phonics, Maths and wellbeing lessons.

## Attendance

Possible attendance 100%  
Actual Attendance this term is **96.34%**

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## Contact Us

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## YEAR 1 NEWS

Year 1 have settled in well and have been enjoying our new topics and learning as we explore the polar regions through our book 'Lost and Found'. We have been busy learning lots of new and exciting things. The children have enjoyed learning about primary and secondary colours in Art and in Geography we have been learning about the weather and seasons, exploring outside. We have worked hard on developing their skills in writing and have written some fantastic character descriptions. We have focused on 2D and 3D shapes and sorting them according to their properties during our Maths lessons. We are so proud of how much confidence and independence the children have shown this term. Well done, Year 1—you've earned a wonderful break, and we can't wait to see what next term brings!

## YEAR 2 NEWS

What a busy start to the term for Year 2! We have enjoyed reading Traction Man in English and finding out what adventures he gets up to. We loved seeing an author at Cheltenham Literacy festival and finding out about their book. We have also been exploring colours and shapes in art and creating our own abstract pictures. During our Maths lessons we have started learning about 2D and 3D shapes and testing them in different ways. We've had a close up look at seeds in Science and created our own maps in Geography. What amazing hard work Year 2!



## YEAR 3 NEWS

Year 3 have had a great start to the year and have settled really well. We have loved reading Leon and the Place Between and have created some amazing persuasive leaflets encouraging people to visit our own Circus. In Maths, we have been working on Place Value in 3 digit numbers and counting forwards and backwards from any 3 digit number in hundreds and tens. During our Wellbeing lessons, we learnt about democracy and voted for our School Council representative and some children showed bravery when sharing their speeches for class council representation.

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## Year 4 NEWS

Year 4 have had a wonderful start to the year and we are really proud of how well they have settled in. They have already started working hard on learning their Times Tables. Please make sure they are regularly accessing Times Table Rock Stars at home as this will be tailored to the multiplication facts they need to work on.

In Art, we have created portraits in the style of Hans Holbein the Younger. The children used paint layering techniques to create some fantastic pieces. In Geography, we have been learning about physical and human characteristics of the United Kingdom. Can your child tell you which four countries make up the United Kingdom?

## Year 5 NEWS

Year 5 have settled in very nicely into the new academic year and are currently learning about: Aquatic Biomes; North and South America; the properties of materials; studying the poem 'The Magic Box' (by Kit Wright); looking at 'Notan' art and recreating patterns using light and dark space; recognising place value up to 6 digit numbers; and what it means to be part of a community.



## Year 6 NEWS

It has been a busy start to life in Year 6! We began our academic year with testing our understanding of place value and arithmetic in Maths. Our first class book, Wolf Road, has inspired our first bit of story writing this year. And, Science has had our focus on: how light works, animal adaptations, and electrical circuits. In our Computing sessions, we are getting to grips with webpage designs. Whilst in our topic work, we have concentrated on how ancient societies lived and how ocean currents work. Our PE sessions have kept us very active applying teamwork and throwing skills to different games. And, our Art learning has supported us with developing our human figure drawing, using ancient myths as inspiration.

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## MUSIC NEWS

The year has started positively in music with a 50 strong Young Voices Choir rehearsing each week preparing for their January concert. The Y5&6 recorder club has also started well with a number of 'BAG' pieces having been learned already.

Save the dates: Wed 10<sup>th</sup> December - Y6 Christmas Showcase (In school hours). Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Juniors Christmas Concert (After School at St Barnabus Church). More details for both events to follow.

## MFL

At the end of September, KS2 celebrated European Languages Day, which takes place on 26<sup>th</sup> September each year. We looked at the importance of learning a language and the opportunities it may bring. Pupils also took part in an Italian taster lesson.

Seeing so many boys and girls wanting to attend Italian club after school has been lovely. Other language clubs will run throughout the year, so please don't be disappointed if you did not get a place this time!

Thank you to all pupils for your wonderful enthusiasm for learning languages and participation in lessons. A fantastic start to the year.

Merci beaucoup,  
Madame Docherty.

## Breakfast Club

The children have been enjoying a range of new toys in Breakfast Club, they include a dolls house, playsets, Paw patrol, Star Wars, magnetic blocks, a pet shop and Lego figures.

There are still limited spaces left if you would like to come and have a healthy breakfast and a fun time, please enquire at school office if you are interested.

Breakfast club times are 7.45-8.35 and cost £4 per session.



## OPAL NEWS

We were delighted to receive our third Platinum award for our Outdoor Play and Learning. This means that we are now an 'Honours' school; one of only 10 schools in England to hold this award! Well done everyone!