



Respect Resilience High Expectations

18th October 2019

We are off school next week for half term. There is then a teacher training day on 28th October so we will see you back in school on Tuesday 29th October. I hope you all enjoy the break.

MET Police Talk to Parents

I was so pleased to see over 20 parents attending this talk yesterday. It was really interesting and offered some good advice about how parents can prevent their children getting involved in criminal activity. If you were unable to come, please come and talk to me or email and we can send you the PowerPoint presentation.

Black History

Celebrations for Black History Month will be taking place at Heathmere from Tuesday 29th October – Friday 1st November. Children will be learning about and taking part in a range of activities around Black History. On Friday 1st November from 2.15pm parents from all backgrounds are invited to come and join our Black History Month Festival where there will be food and drinks to buy and activities to take part in. Children can wear their traditional clothes on this day. We look forward to seeing you there!

Arrangements for the Black History Month Festival

- *All families are invited – regardless of background
- *The Festival is 2.15pm – 4pm on 1st November
- *Parents can arrive from 2.15pm
- *Parents can come to the front office and we will get your children so you can join the Festival together
- *Morning Nursery children are welcome to return
- *School finishes at normal time. Children are not to be collected early if parents are not attending the festival

School Improvement

There has been a significant change in our Governing Body at Heathmere. Freya Guinness, who has been Chair of Governors for over 7 years, has stepped down recently. I would like to thank her for all of the support she has given to Heathmere in her time as Chair of Governors; she really has made a difference to the children here through constantly pushing the school to improve. Thankfully, Freya will remain on the Governing Body. Our new Chair of Governors is Adrian Sia Lu; many of you will have seen him at Parents Evening this week. I am sure he will do an excellent job of stepping into this very important role. If needed, you can contact him through the school office.

Parents in School

Thank you to all parents who came to Parents Evening on Tuesday. We were able to gather some helpful views to move the school forward. Homework continues to be the thing that several parents feel we should be doing more of. At Heathmere, we consider 20-30mins of reading every day to be the children’s homework. The research shows that children reading for pleasure at the age of 11 is the biggest indicator of future academic success. We want our children to all love reading as this will make the most difference in their future; this has to start when the children are very young. Please continue to support this and make sure your children value their reading time at home. I will however have another look at parental views on homework in the new year.

Attendance

The first 100% attendance badges will be given out on Friday 8th November!

| | Events | Clubs |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Monday 28 th October | School Closed – Teacher Training Day | |
| Tuesday 29 th October | Y5 Swimming Children celebrating Diwali can wear their traditional clothes 2pm 6B to Ubuntu Museum | |
| Wednesday 30 th October | Trumpets 9am Y2 Parents meeting to discuss KS1 SATS 3.15 – 4.15 EYFS and KS1 Disco 4.30 – 5.30 KS2 Disco 2pm 5T to Ubuntu Museum | Y3/4/5/6 ProTouch Multi-sports club (free of charge -details to follow) |
| Thursday 31 st October | 3.30pm Y6 Parents meeting to discuss KS2 SATS 10am 5G to Ubuntu Museum 11am 6L | Tim and Matt will both be running a club – details to follow |
| Friday 1 st November | Story Storks to EYFS 2.15pm – 4pm Black History Festival – all parents invited Some children to a Beanstalk Readers trip Y5 SEND Review Meetings | |