



HELPING EVERYONE SHINE THEIR LIGHT

Dear Families

It has been another busy couple of weeks, with lots going on at the school.

Despite only being here a few weeks, I have already begun to review various areas of the school. Over the coming weeks and months, I will begin to outline my vision for the school, in line with putting together an aspirational long-term plan for Heathlands. At times, I will seek your thoughts and opinions and, where appropriate, consult with you via surveys. Please expect one next half-term on uniform.

On that note, thank you to everyone who completed the recently closed parent survey. When I applied for the job, I outlined my intention for my first 100 days, with a key part being how I wanted to listen and gather the thoughts of different stakeholders. Please see the section below on how I will share the results of this with you.

I'm keen to improve communication between school and home, and one of my first steps is to provide more regular newsletters. Over time, I anticipate that these will increase in content, as I want to use newsletters to share both important information with you, but also to celebrate the learning and achievements of our school community.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend, and I look forward to seeing you next week.

Mr D. Crawley
Headteacher

HEATHLANDS' CORE VALUES

TRECK

Trust

Respect

Enjoyment

Courage

Kindness

SPRING TERM KEY DATES

13.02.25 - PTA Spring Disco
14.02.25 - INSET Day

HALF-TERM

24.2.25 - Return to school
25.2.25 - Y6 Mayan Enrichment Workshop
28.02.25 - Parent Workshop: Maths
04.03.25 - Parent Consultations
06.03.25 - Parent Consultations
06.03.25 - World Book Day
12.03.25 - Science Event (BT Ipswich)
15.03.25 - Red Nose Day
20.03.25 - Parent Forum (morning)
20.03.25 - Virtual Parent Forum (evening)
25.03.25 - Y1 Zoo trip
01.04.25 - Easter Services

SWIMMING LESSONS

Mr Minter has been hard at work sorting out provision for Key Stage 2 swimming lessons to take place at the school.

We will be providing more information about this next week so please keep an eye out for an email about this.

PARENT SURVEY

Thank you to everyone who completed the parent survey. Alongside the parent survey I have started collecting the opinions of staff, children, governors, residents and the parish council.

I intend to collect and collate all of the opinions, which will I'm sure you will understand will take some time. I intend to share the key messages as well as my plan for Heathlands at my next Parent Forum (20th March - details will be given nearer the time).

What is clear is that everyone in our school community is invested in making this fantastic school the best it possibly can for our children, and through cooperation, support and leadership we will.

AROUND THE SCHOOL



In December, Mrs Gibson entered a competition, called 'Book Burst' run by www.justimagine.co.uk. The great news is that she has won over £400 worth of new books which she has donated to our school library! Look out for some of these new exciting titles appearing very soon.



Year 3 had their Stone Age visit this week. The children wrapped up warm and headed into the tent, where they learnt about how people survived and thrived in the Stone Age era. They were amazed by the innovative aptitude of Stone Age folk and disgusted by the grizzly truths of the past, but ultimately they LOVED it!!



YEAR 1 HAVE BEEN
LEARNING HOW TO
CLASSIFY ANIMALS IN
SCIENCE.



PIC COLLAGE



This week, our youngest children took part in a range of activities to support Children's Mental Health Week. Each child made a 'feelings monster' to encourage them to talk about their feelings and listen to others talk about theirs.

FOREST SCHOOL



Dear Families,

Thank you so much for all of your kind donations for our forest area. They have been much appreciated. We are still looking for more pots, pans and utensils and den building equipment. If you have items lying around that you no longer require the donation drop box is still in the entrance. The children have had lots of fun den building with all the items donated so far. The tarpaulin has been very successful.

I have a small plea. If any of our parents, family friends, grandparents are tree surgeons please could you get in touch. We are looking for some donations for forest school in the shape of tyres, wood chip, tree stumps, big branches for whittling etc.

We are also looking for some wooden pallets for our next shelter project, if you have had any building work recently and you no longer require them. Again, please get in touch.

Thankyou as always for your kind generosity and support in developing our area.

Katy Koala



EXCITING EVENTS

Spring DISCO

Thursday 13th February 2025

If you love Art and Reading, then this is the competition for you!

Miss Wiggins is looking for an exciting design for a painting, that merges a love of reading with a love of art.

MUST BE:

- A4 in size
- 2D (so, nothing stuck onto it and sadly, no glitter)
- Creative!

COULD BE:

- A representation of your favourite book
- A representation of lots of your favourite books/characters/plots in one
- Colourful
- Black & white
- Have an inspirational quote from a famous author
- Have an inspirational /phrase from a book



Entries must be handed in to Miss Wiggins by Wednesday 12th February at the latest. The winner will be announced on Thursday 13th February.



COLCHESTER
PREP AND HIGH SCHOOL

Wellesley Road
Colchester
CO3 3HD



Year 3 & 4 pupils,
you're invited to a
morning of
Kitchen Science

Saturday 8 February
9.30am - 11.30am
Registration 9.15am

Uncover the world of science
through experiments with
everyday kitchen items!



Please find the **Spelling Bee** words for this term, on your child's Seesaw account.

Your children's teacher will be running heats in their classroom, on the week beginning 17th March. This will determine who will go on to represent their class in a whole school assembly on Thursday 27th March.

Good luck to everyone entering!

PARENT WORKSHOP

Multiply Maths



for parents of children 5 to 11 years
(Key Stages 1 and 2)

Want to support your child with their maths homework and increase your confidence in maths?

Learn how to quickly and easily help your child with their maths homework. Increase your confidence in maths. Lots of tips, activity ideas and resources!

Claim a £10 celebration voucher on completion of the course!

Heathlands Primary School

New Church Road, Colchester, CO6 3JF

The course consists of three sessions:

28th February, 7th & 14th March - 9am to 11am



Book your FREE place today! [Click here](#) to book online

Contact the school office or email: info@tiegr.org