



Working together so that all may flourish  
Head Teachers Letter  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new school year at Heytesbury C of E Primary School. It is a thrill to have the children back into school today as they begin to settle into their new classes, make new friends, learn and re-learn the school routines. A new school year always feels so special, full of opportunity and wonder. This morning I shared with the children part of a poem by Dr Seuss:

*"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose."*

Everyone of us has the opportunity and the ability to be ourselves, to move forwards, to go in the way that we choose. I cannot promise it will always be smooth sailing, we all make mistakes and are sure to again but we grow and learn through our mistakes. They give us the knowledge and the skills to ensure that we move forwards in the right direction.

Today I am delighted to welcome our new starters into EYFS. They were all incredibly excited and they have all got stuck in straight away. When I visited them in Otters this morning they were making handprints. I am also delighted to officially welcome Mrs Roberts to Otters Class and our Heytesbury team. I want to thank Mrs Roberts and indeed all of the other teachers who have worked hard over the summer to make the school and classrooms look fabulous and ready for the year of learning ahead.



New display boards



Our main corridor has been painted and smartened up.



Intervention space in the library

The star of the show: Otters Class outside area has been extended and re-floored. Doesn't it look fantastic! It was only finished on Thursday evening I know Mrs Roberts is excited to get it all set up.





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We have a few changes to our school timetable this year including the timings of Collective Worship. We will now start our day with Collective Worship from 9:00 to 9:15. I am letting you know this because I am also now able to invite all parents to come and join us for Celebration Worship on Friday mornings any week you would like. We will continue to individually invite the parents of the Values Champion certificates via Class Dojo. Please do not feel that you need to come every week, equally if you would like to come every week you are very welcome to do so. To help us with this communication, this afternoon your child will have come home with the login details to join their new class on Class Dojo. Everyone will need to follow these instructions to link in with the new classes, even if your child is in the same class that they were in last year. If you are having problems please do come and chat to me or your child's class teacher and we will see if we can help.

We have already got some brilliant events planned in for the year. I am sure that you will all be keen to meet your child's class teacher and find out a bit more about what is happening in school this term. We will be running a Meet The Teacher session on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September. In this session your child's class teacher will share some key information and reminders about expectations within the school, events and trips planned in for the year ahead, information about learning and assessment specific to the different year groups and classes. These will take place after school as follows: Otters 3:15-3:45, Foxes 3:45-4:15, Badgers 4:15-4:45. I would encourage you to attend with your child. Please feel free to bring children under school age if needed.

This year we will also be running several stay and learn sessions where we will be inviting you to come and join in with one of the lessons in your child's class. The first of these will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 9:00-10:00. Your child will come into school as normal, you can then come into the hall for a cup of tea or coffee. When the children are ready you will be able to go and visit them in their different classes. You will be able to move around the classes during the hour as I know lots of you have children in more than one classroom. Due to the nature of the stay and learn event I am afraid it will not be possible for children under school age to attend.

As we look to the year ahead we have already got some events timetabled in a few more events for both children and parents. Of course other events that will be added in over the course of the year but I wanted to give you a look at what is coming up. Please be aware that some of these dates may change if necessary.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September- Meet the teacher

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September- Stay and learn

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September- Parents coffee morning

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September- Disco

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October- Harvest Worship and picnic

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October- Parents Evenings

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October- Last day of term

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October- Teacher training day



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Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October- First day of term  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November- Stay and learn  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November- Remembrance Service  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November- Children in need  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December- Otters nativity performance  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December- Christmas lunch  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December- Christingle  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December- Data reports out to parents  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December- Last day of term

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January- Teacher training day  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January- First day of term  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January- Year Six SATs information evening  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January- Young voices Y4/5/6  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February- Parents evenings  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February- Last day of term

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February- Teacher training day  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February- First day of term  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February- Pancake day  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March- World book day  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March- Red nose day  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March- Easter service

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March- Data reports out to parents  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March- Last day of term

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April- First day of term  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May- KS1 SATs window opens (Y2)  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May- Start of SATs week (Y6)  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May- Whole school Picnic  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May- Last day of term  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May- Heytesbury Picnic in the Park

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June- First day of term  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June- Times table check window opens (Year 4)  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June- Phonics screening week (Y1)  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July- Transition week  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July- Sports day  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July- End of year report out to parents  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July- Y4/5/6 end of year production  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July- End of year service  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July Last day of term

This year I will be sending out a Head Teacher Letter on Friday afternoons. It will contain details of the week ahead, parent information and school updates. All of the information that I will be sharing with you will also be available on the school website. Teachers will keep in contact with you via Class Dojo to let you know what your child has been learning. You can also email any of the members of staff, speak to us on the gate, or phone the school office to arrange a meeting. If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer to help in school please speak to Miss Williams in the school office for the volunteer application form. Thank you so much for all you do for your children and the school, we are a team and as parents you are such a crucial part of our team. Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Elson  
Head Teacher