



Heronbridge News Summer(1) 2015

Leavers

Work experiences are well underway. With the support of Elite, the supported employment agency, five students have taken part in a 'Preparation for Work' course, and six are now involved in weekly work placements, supported by Elite staff. The staff from Elite work closely with the Leavers' Department to identify strengths and interests of individual students so they can best match students to a placement they will enjoy. This year's choices include working with animals, working in a large plant and garden supplier and working for a local retailer.

Autistic Department

This term we have been working on our topic transport and exploring the story of The Train Ride. All classes have been working hard looking at all different modes of transport and producing some fantastic artwork. A1, A2 and A3 have been celebrating the creation story where they have explored and experienced the story of our creation. A4 and A5 have been working with the art students and have produced some fantastic hot air balloons! A6 and A7 have kept on their healthy life and fitness regime making some natural and healthy recipes, delicious too! A8 have been reading and listening to the story of the BFG looking at his adventures around the world. A big well done to all pupils in the department for their hard work during their INSTEP testing!

Primary

This half term our topic in the primary department has been Travel. Lots of classes have enjoyed getting out and about visiting the local bus station and going on the bus. Class 2 and 3 have also enjoyed taking part in the story café with their parents / guardians based on our topic. All of the pupils have also had a special treat this half term—it was Kia Lee's birthday and her mum kindly paid for us to all to watch a puppet show to celebrate. Class 4 also enjoyed some extra treats as Kia is in their class! Class 4 also enjoyed going on an early summer class trip as sadly Tracey Jones the SSO in class has decided to leave us. In addition to all of this primary staff have had Incredible Years and POPAT training and all of the pupils have been busy showing the teachers how clever they all are in their annual assessments!

Senior

The Choir sang with Llangewydd School Choir for the Mayor's Charity in March and in May for our French Lions visitors. At a Music in Schools concert in April we enjoyed hearing a saxophone and piano playing together. With Caitlyn from Ewenny Pottery we created self portraits in different styles and colours, to be displayed in the foyer soon. Students went fishing in May and Richard Pugh caught the biggest trout at 2lb 1oz! The Llangrannog residential trip gave 25 KS3 pupils the chance to try out skiing, go-karting, bushcraft, and other outdoor learning activities over 4 wild, wet and windy days in West Wales. KS4's "After School cookery club" continues to be popular and has created some delicious healthy foods.

Six children achieved their PE Moderation stds for the WJEC Healthy Living Award.

Dates for the diary

May

21st Inset day

22nd Inset day

June

1st First day back for pupils

1st Healthy eating week

8th History week

8th Citizens Advice Bureau—please contact school for appointment

11th Bring and Buy

12th Bag2School

15th Knoll Challenge

22nd Gorwelion

23rd Welfare benefits Clinic—please contact school for appointment

July

4th School fete

9th Family Matters—Stress management

18th last day of school

Training

This term our teams have continued delivery of training courses for staff, parents and other professionals including: NAS Healthy Minds, Earlybird+, Cygnet Siblings & Incredible Years. Our Behaviour Support Team delivered a full twilight programme of Proact SCIP training and there was a wide variety of support/advice available at our Family Information Day—although family attendance was lower than previous days. Thanks again to our dedicated staff for putting on these events.

We are all eagerly awaiting our INSET days on whole school approaches to reading and pre-reading, school will be closed to pupils on May 21st & 22nd.

Friends of Heronsbridge

Our meetings are every month -if you would like to support us by either coming to the meetings or attending our events, please look at the moodle site for dates of meetings or upcoming events. Thank you again for all your support.

Family Matters

FAMILY INFORMATION DAY - A very informative day for parents, carers and families with advice and information from over 20 organisations. Please try to attend the next Information day in October - It's well worth a visit! **PRIMARY STORY CAFÉ** - PCSO Heather Dobbs kindly came in to read the Train Ride to classes A2, 2 and 3. Pupils and parents then enjoyed the arts and crafts relating to their topic of Transport. **WELFARE BENEFITS CLINIC** - David Williams hosts individual half hour sessions for parents giving advice and information about welfare benefits. This is a very beneficial support for parents and carers. An appointment is essential and the clinic books up very quickly. Next clinic will be **June 23rd**. **CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU** - Steve Miller will be holding individual confidential sessions for parents on issues such as disability, housing, money and debt, welfare benefits etc. Next date **June 8th** Please give me a call for an appointment.

Attendance

Our most recent whole-school attendance figure is 91.1% showing a slight increase since Easter—thank-you. If you have any queries about attendance please contact Jeremy Evans or Karen Davies at school to discuss. We would like to remind you that it is vital that you give your child every opportunity to reach their full potential by ensuring that they come to school every day. If your child is absent for any reason please could you phone the school office to let us know, thank-you for your consideration and co-operation. Congratulations to class A5 who currently have 98.1% attendance, followed very closely (in rank order) by classes C8, C10, A1, C9 & C11 who all have over 95% attendance.

Heronsbridge Moodle Website

Keep up to date with all school information and our latest news by visiting our Moodle website on <http://moodle.bridgend.gov.uk/heronsbridge/>

*If you would like to talk about any aspects of your child's education
you can telephone (01656) 653974*

or email admin.heronsbridgeschool@bridgend.gov.uk.

*We would like to remind parents that we do have an open door policy and welcome all
contact with parents and families.*