



Heronbridge News Summer 1 2017

Primary

During this half term the Primary Department have been learning about "Water". We all participated in an umbrella festival during assembly time, where we thanked God for the rain. We watched the Big Boot Theatre Show, a story about the rain and then some of us took part in a workshop to make our own puppets. Pupils from the school council have also been very busy helping with teacher interviews and the Health and Wellbeing group have been doing a survey of our school dinners to make sure we all have a choice. Some classes have been on visits to the river, duck pond, beach. Class one visited the car wash who worked hard all day to raise money for our school, so a big thank you to them and especially to Oskar's parents for organising it. We have experienced lots of fun activities in class such as jumping in puddles, painting and making craft linked to our topic.



Senior

This half term has been very busy for the Senior Department. We have had a number of visitors who have been working with the children. Robyn Windsor from Strictly Come dancing took time out of his hectic schedule to dance and take part in a question and answer session.

We have been taking part in a project with Ewenny Pottery ready for the URDD, where the children have been making different items for the URDD competitions.



Image Theatre Company put on a work hop for a group of 15 pupils and at the end of the workshop the children along with the company staff gave a production called The Selfish Giant. We have had taster music therapy sessions from Nordoff Robbins.

A number of staff have been attending CPD training, Miss Bishop has been to Poland to look at how numeracy is delivered in Europe and a number of staff have attended eye Gaze training and assistive technology training. The children have taken part in the WASPLD athletics finals where the team brought home an impressive 32 medals. Well done to all children for their hard work this term.

Centre for Autism

This term we have been working on our topic "Water". We have read lots of different stories our favourite has been Tiddalick who drank all the water from the billabong!! We have had lots of fun with water inside and outside the classroom and pupils have washed their toys, watered plants and made lots of water pictures using natural materials. The senior autistic pupils have been on several trips to parks, Porthcawl and St Fagan's. We have had another successful attendance by parents to the Story café and it was enjoyed by all. Staff have had Floortime, Autism and Incredible Years training. A big well done to all pupils in the department for their hard work during their INSTEP testing!



Dates for the Diary

29 May-2 June	Half term
05 June	Citizens Advice Bureau - Please phone for an appointment
19 June	Heronbridge Charity Summer Ball
22 June	Bring & Buy - 10 until 12.30
23 June	Bag2School - Clothing collection
26 June	Primary Pirate Week
26 June	Citizens Advice Bureau - Please phone for an appointment
30 June	Annual reports to parents
01 July	School Fete - 10 until 4pm
05 July	Reports afternoon (with cream tea)
06 July	Anxiety within the Family -Heron Hall 10.30 - 12.00
10 July	"Moving On" Fortnight begins
12 July	Sports Day
21 July	Last day in school

Leavers The Leavers Department have been working with the charity Leonard Cheshire to learn about homelessness. They have been making "bags" which contain basic provisions such as soap, deodorant, an energy drink, toothbrush and toothpaste, energy bar and much more for the homeless. They also made



cards in which they wrote messages of hope to the recipient. The charity are working with our students to make them more aware of our community and the problems that some people face. The Leavers have also continued to work hard towards their Asdan

Accreditations and one group have decided to design and produce a prototype of the latest craze "fidget spinners". Their designs have been abstract and colourful. Another group who attend Pencoed College on a weekly basis as part of their Transition have been busy selling the plants and herbs that they have grown over the last few months. The money raised will go towards their Leavers Prom in July.

The Duke of Edinburgh group completed a half marathon around school in aid of MNDA and Diabetes UK earlier in the term. We have now been able to invite Jill Jordan from MNDA and Joseph Cuff from Diabetes UK to our assembly and present them each with a cheque for £250.

Diabetes UK in turn presented the school with a certificate to mark our achievement. Thanks to all the parents, carers, friends, neighbours, Nana and Granddads etc. who sponsored our students it was much appreciated.

Another group within Duke of Edinburgh have been making a sensory garden in the Orchard for our students. This is still work in progress, so watch this space!



FAMILY MATTERS - A big thank you to the parents that attended our talk from Cerebra about Accessing Public Services. This was a very useful and informative problem solving session giving parents the tools required if they encounter difficulties in relation to the provision of health and social care and education support services.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU - CAB continue to hold hourly individual confidential sessions for parents on issues such as DLA, PIP, disability, housing, money and debt, welfare benefits etc. Appointments need to be booked for this useful service.

Our next date is Monday 5th June and 26th June, please phone 01656 815725 to book an appointment.

PRIMARY STORYCAFE - Thank you to all the parents, grandparents, aunties and uncles who have participated this year so far, our topic is **WATER**. The stories we have read include 'The Crocodile Who Didn't Like Water' and 'Who Sank the Boat?'

PARENT DROP IN - Every **Tuesday morning** 8.45 until 10.00 all parents and carers are welcome to come along to the conservatory, have a coffee, relax or discuss any issues. We always have plenty of resources available to borrow and purchase.

Check the Heronsbridge Moodle for latest information.

Please feel free to contact me on 01656 815725 at any time or karen.davies2@bridgend.gov.uk

Attendance

Attendance this half term was 91.75%. Top Attenders—Well done to Class 12 with 99% attendance closely followed by Leavers 3 and Class 7 with 98%. It is vital each and every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential through coming to school every day. Please phone school if your child is absent for any reason

If you would like to talk about any aspects of your child's education or to report a child's absence you can telephone (01656) 815725 or email admin.heronbridgeschool@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.