



Heygarth Primary School

Heygarth Road
Eastham
Wirral
CH62 8AG

Telephone: 0151 3271570

Email: schooloffice@heygarth.wirral.sch.uk

Website: www.heygarth.wirral.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Hazel Beamish

"Learning and Achieving Together for Life"

16th December 2022

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents & Carers,

Christmas is very nearly here and it is wonderful to see all of the children so excited for the festivities that lie ahead! This has been a long term of learning which has ended with wonderful Nativity performances, Christmas parties, Christingle and even a trip to a Christmas Pantomime!

Christmas Winter Wonderland

The children enjoyed meeting Father Christmas in his magical grotto and many of you joined us, taking advantage of the stalls and activities on offer. There was a lovely Christmassy atmosphere and, as always, our heartfelt thanks go to our wonderful PTA, who worked tirelessly beforehand organising everything in school and rallying the troops to ensure that the event was the success that it was. Many thanks also to all parents who donated many of the bottles, chocolates and prizes for the tombola and stalls, without which this event would not be possible. All of the money raised (approximately £1200) will go into the PTA and school fund to further help with the purchasing various items for our children here at Heygarth. It was also lovely to see so many ex-pupils returning to school to spend their money and catch up with old friends.

Year 5 Ukulele Concert

Year 5 performed a 'finale' concert for us on Monday 12th December to showcase their talents from their music lessons this year as well as from Year 4 - everyone who attended was very impressed. Next term Year 4 will start their ukulele lessons with Mrs Ward.



F1 (Nursery) Christmas Stories & Songs

On 6th & 8th December, our youngest children in school, our F1 (Nursery) children invited their parents and families into school to listen to some Christmas stories and sing some Christmas songs. We have received some thoughtful messages from parents about how lovely these events were - thank you to everyone who came along.

F2 (Reception) Nativity Performances

Our F2 (Reception) welcomed their families to school for their performance the 'Christmas Nativity'. It was wonderful to see some of our youngest children up on stage speaking, singing and dancing their hearts out.

Both performances were a huge success - well done to all of the children and staff involved.



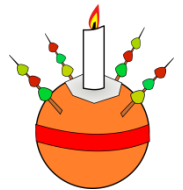
Key Stage 1 Nativity Performances

Once again, our Key Stage 1 children excelled themselves in their Nativity performance - 'Gabriel's Big Break'. They demonstrated clear speaking voices and acting skills, beautiful singing and superbly choreographed dancing. It was lovely to see the children thoroughly enjoying themselves whilst performing - altogether a wonderful performance! There was lots of fabulous feedback from many of the parents and grand-parents who came to watch. Well done and thank you to all who were involved!



Key Stage 2 Christingle

Key Stage 2 presented an absolutely beautiful Christingle Service at St. Mary's Church, Eastham. The children spoke and sang beautifully, creating a special, magical atmosphere singing by candle light whilst holding their Christingles. Our Year 4 children created a lovely nativity tableau and our school choir were magnificent with their angelic singing of some very challenging songs. Thank you to all of the staff, families, friends and ex-pupils who came along to support our children - it was lovely to see so many of you there!



School Pantomime

All of our children from Year 1 - Year 6 children enjoyed a trip to the Pantomime to see 'Beauty and the Beast' this week - what a wonderful way to end the term. All of the children behaved wonderfully and were fabulous ambassadors for our school.



Uniform

Please ensure that your child has a suitable coat in school to keep them warm during playtimes and lunchtimes - it is now much colder and all children continue to play outside, even if it is cold, so need to keep warm.

School shoes **MUST** be plain black - no white soles or other white or coloured marks of any description - **PLAIN BLACK**. A few non-school shoes have appeared.

Attendance

Attendance at school matters... a lot! Our children learn new things every day in school so it is very important that children miss as few school days as possible. There is a **direct link** between children's **attendance** at school and their **academic achievement** (progress). Attendance also impacts greatly on your child's physical, social and emotional well-being.



Please do not book holidays during term time as all absences can have a detrimental impact on your children's learning and progress.

Currently our whole school attendance is 94.6%, but there have been lots of nasty bugs going around this month so we are hopeful our overall attendance figure will improve in the New Year.

National Online Safety - Put your phone down this Christmas

Christmas is an exciting time, with a whole lot going on in the world, so it's all too easy to let our fascination with the online world distract us from what's really important - spending time with our families. National Online Safety provide parents with advice and support (and hopefully a few laughs) with a new song for parents all about not spending Christmas glued to our phones!

View the video on Youtube

here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Edc08Jlm1MA&feature=youtu.be>

Equally, our children are likely to spend more time on digital devices over the Christmas period, please can we ask that you consider ways that you can ensure they are safe on-line. To raise your own awareness of dangers and ways to make children safer, please visit CEOP's on-line safety pages at www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents. At the bottom of the opening page there are links to pages with detailed advice for parents, these are categorised by ages of children.

Parking in our Local Area

We sadly continue to receive a number of complaints from local residents regarding parking. We really want to maintain positive relationships with our neighbours and ask all parents to please respect our neighbours by not parking on double yellow lines, in front of driveways or on grass verges. Please also do not park on the pavements, blocking the route for pedestrians - our children and their parents. Please also ask your children to refrain from walking on walls of our neighbours' properties. Thank you.

Run up to Christmas staffing across school

I would like to apologise for any upset caused this week when, due to shortages of staff across the whole school, we had to close our F1 (Nursery) for 2 days. In addition, there have been some supply teachers in and some suitably qualified Teaching Assistants doing a fantastic job of covering classes. This has been far from ideal but has been essential to keep the school running smoothly. We really appreciate your support and understanding and the hard work and efforts of all of our staff who have stepped up to help out wherever they can.

Staffing Update

Mrs Hastings leaves us today to start her Maternity Leave and we will let you know when her new baby arrives safely. Miss R. Ralfe will be teaching Year 1 Rowan class 3 days per week from January, job-sharing with Mrs Furlong.

Miss Howell also leave us today to set off to join her family in New Zealand and start her new teaching job there in January. We welcome Miss M. Lindsay to Heygarth - she will be teaching Year 3 Oak class for the rest of the academic year.

Miss Howell also leaves her role as Pupil Premium Lead so Mrs Valentine and Miss Pattinson will be taking over this role from January too.

Learning & Achievement Awards

This term's Learning & Achievement awards have been presented to:

EYFS: Freddie R (F2)

Key Stage 1: Alexander P-B (Year 1)

Key Stage 2: Amelia F-D (Year 4)

Heygarth's Core Value Awards

This term we have introduced Heygarth's Core Values - the values which we believe every child needs to develop in order to be a positive citizen in line with our Mission Statement: "Learning & Achieving Together for Life".

The following awards have been presented in assembly today:

Resilience Award: Nancy M (F2)

Honesty Award: Daisy N-D (Year 1)

Courage Award: Elif D (Year 5)

Determination Award: Olivia J (Year 2)

Readiness Award: Joshua S (Year 4)

Respect Award: Dean M (Year 6)

Thoughtfulness Award: Callan R (Year 3)

These awards will be presented on a termly basis.

The CHARLOTTE MORRIS OWEN CUP

In memory of a very beautiful little girl we have created The Charlotte Morris-Owen Cup. The idea of Miss Jackson, having been Charlotte's teacher in Year 2, this cup will be awarded termly to someone who displays the same kind and loving character as Charlotte.

This term The Charlotte Morris-Owen Cup has been awarded to Maisy K (Year 6).

After a wonderful and busy term, we feel everyone is ready for a relaxing break. We hope you all enjoy quality family time together during this festive season.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Wednesday 4th January 2022

