



Growing together,

Every day,

In every way.



Spring A - Week 1 - Friday 12th January 2018



Happy New Year to you all! We do hope that everyone has enjoyed their Christmas break and are now feeling refreshed for all the fun that 2018 will surely bring!



Congratulations to our 100%er's!



Huge congratulations to our 38 children who came to school **EVERY SINGLE DAY** for the whole of the Autumn term. As we know, attendance and punctuality has a huge impact on a child's academic performance so it was thrilling to award all of these children certificates and a small reward in our school assembly on Tuesday. Thank you to all of the families who ensure that we live out our vision by 'Growing together, **EVERY DAY**, In every way'

Reception Robins	Year 1 Blackbirds	Year 2 Barn Owls
Dylan	Dylan	Ethan A
Evie	Noah	Toby-Jay
Belle	Nina	Ava
Jacob	Jake	Baran
Cara	Alfie	Tay
Jake	David	Isabelle
Jessica	Emily	Olivia
Amelia	Lacey	Elle-Mae
Theo	Leo	Maxx
Oscar		Samuel
Finn		Rosie
Poppy		Jade
Isobel		Colson
Eric		Millie
		Jessica
14	9	15

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HIGH MEADOW INFANT SCHOOL

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Reception Robins 100%ers!



Y1 Blackbirds 100%ers!





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Y2 Barn Owls 100%ers!



Attendance Reports



In your child's book bag today (Friday) you will find their attendance report for the autumn term which runs from September until the end of December. We have also attached (behind it) the 'thresholds' letter to remind everyone about the strategies we have in place to help every child attend school every day.

Please do take the time to read the letter as it also reminds us all about the legal framework in which our attendance policy is written. As a result of your child's attendance, you may be invited in to chat to your child's teacher or myself. Please be assured that this is not a punitive step, just a 'reaching out' conversation to see how we can work together to support you in improving your child's attendance. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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Morning Procedures



As we start a new year we thought it would be useful to provide a gentle reminder about our morning procedures.

First thing in the morning is always a really busy time for our teachers as they strive to ensure that all children are welcomed into their classroom between 8.50am and 9.00am. The children are all now well versed in the procedures to ensure a prompt 9.00am start to their learning. Getting 30 children through the door and settled in a short 10 minute window can be challenging, especially if a child is finding it tricky on a particular day.

In order to help support the smooth running of that 10 minutes we respectfully remind parents that if you need to say more than a quick 'good morning' to the teacher, then please write it in the class notebook that is positioned outside the classroom. (If you write a note in the book then you do not need to tell Mrs Eling too) If you need to speak face-to-face to the class teacher then please request a 5 minute meeting after school to talk. This can be arranged by calling Mrs Eling on 01675 462312. Our class teacher's time is very limited in the morning and unfortunately they just do not have the capacity to chat to every parent in the morning, please understand that this is not that they do not want to talk, it's just that they have 30 children to welcome and settle in.

Thank you to all of the parents who work really hard to ensure that their child/ren arrives on time every day, however, at the end of last term this was beginning to slip for some families. Please be aware that EVERY class teaches phonics from 9.00am until 9.30am every morning so if your child is just 5 minutes late, they end up missing at least one third of their phonics learning, by the time they have put their coats and bags away. This can have a huge detrimental impact on the child's reading progress. A child who arrives late into class often feels that they are starting the day 'on the back foot' and miss out on essential teaching. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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[High Meadow Forest Schools on Twitter - January 2018](#)

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter where every week you will find lots of photos from the children's Forest School sessions. Follow us here.... <https://twitter.com/HMInfants>

Here's a small example of what is shared each week....

For a fresh, healthy start to the New Year, Year 2 incorporated fruit into our fire session; bananas and strawberries... it's just that they were also accompanied with Xmas' leftover mini chocolates!!! Extra yummy!!!



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[Home Room Photographs](#)



Thank you to the many parents who have commented so positively on our sharing of class photos through the safe and secure environment of Homeroom. Isn't it fantastic to have a 'peek' into the daily lives of our children at school, through Homeroom, indeed it makes us realise why they go home soooooo exhausted at the end of the day!

As with any photographs or live video of our children, I would like to remind parents (as I do at every performance event) that in order to keep every child safe, please DO NOT download and share any photos from Homeroom (or the website, or twitter) that are not of just your child. If there are other children on the photo you MUST get that child's parents' permission. Over the past three years this trust has not been abused so we continue to be in the (very rare) position to be able to share photos of the fantastic learning that happens here at High Meadow on these platforms. If in the future, this trust is broken then we will have to sadly remove this facility. Thank you so much for your continued drive to keep all of our children safe.



[Road Safety Workshops](#)



On Thursday this week the children in reception and year 1 had a special road safety visitor who came to talk to them about keeping safe by roads. The theme of their learning was to...

- **THINK** about roads
- **STOP** at the kerb
- **LOOK** and **LISTEN** for traffic

The children learnt about...

- Staying close to an adult
- Holding hands
- Stopping at the kerb and using their senses to detect traffic

We would like to encourage you to use this as a starting point (or reminder) to always talk to your child about road safety. Keeping everyone safe on our busy roads, means that we all need to be talking all of the time to the children, about the strategies above. Year 2 will be attending their road safety workshops later in the term. Thank you for your support in this.

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Parents Maths Workshops



On Wednesday 31st January at 2.15pm we will be running our annual Parents Maths Workshop. The teaching of early (reception, year 1 and year 2) maths is fundamental in ensuring key skills are embedded before moving onto more challenging mathematical concepts and research shows us that getting parents involved in their child's learning is key....

"The more parents are engaged in the education of their children, the more likely their children are to succeed in the education system." (Goodall and Vorhaus, 2011, p. 16)

Last year our workshops were all about the new maths games that are sent home each week, this year the focus will be on sharing the 'key skills' that children are taught at High Meadow. Our maths teaching is based on sound research and the approach created by the White Rose Maths Hub. We will share this approach with you at the workshop and make the class presentations available online afterwards. We really do hope you can make it!

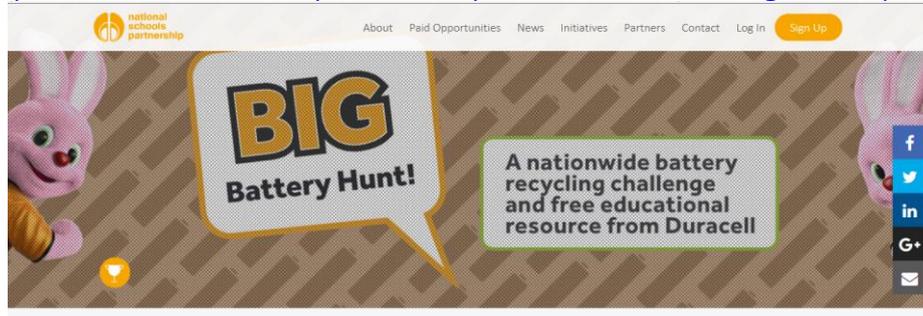


The Big Battery Hunt!



Please remember to return your box of old batteries into school which will then be recycled at school as part of our Eco-schools recycling initiatives. Here's a link to find out more...

<https://nationalschoolpartnership.com/initiatives/bigbatteryhunt/>



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Our High Meadow Superstars!



Due to the Christmas break we have no Superstars to share with you this week but will resume to normal from next week.



Attendance - 'Every Child Attending Every Day'



Good attendance (97%+) is key to academic success and missing just one or two days each half term can have a detrimental impact on a child's learning and progress. The LA may send out fines to families who are deemed to be 'persistently absent'. Our Attendance Policy can be found on our school website if you need further clarification.

Our target for this year is 97%. This week we achieved 97.6% well done everyone! Please remember ANY requests for holiday leave during term time will not be granted.

Position	% attendance	Class
JOINT FIRST PLACE	98.7%	Y2 Barn Owls
JOINT FIRST PLACE	98.7%	Y1 Blackbirds
THIRD PLACE	95.3%	YR Robins

School Events and Activities

January 2018

Date	Time/place	Activity
Wednesday 31 st January	2.15pm High Meadow Infant School	Parents Maths workshops

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February 2018

Date	Time/place	Activity
Friday 2 nd February	2.00pm High Meadow Infant School Hall	Grandparents Concert
Tuesday 6 th February	High Meadow Infant School	IEP review day - by invitation only
Wednesday 7 th February	3.30pm - 6.00pm High Meadow Infant School	Parents Evening
Thursday 8 th February	3.15pm - 5.00pm High Meadow Infant School	Parents Evening
Tuesday 13 th February	4.45pm - 6.00pm High Meadow Infant School	PTFA Valentines Disco
Wednesday 14 th February	All Day Tamworth Castle	Y2 class visit to Tamworth Castle

HALF TERM HOLIDAY - MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY - FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY INCLUSIVE

Best wishes

Mrs Debby Hughes - Head teacher head2569@welearn365.com

Mr Jonathan Smith - Chair of Governors governors2569@welearn365.com

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