Heather Field School

October 2020 Newsletter

As we head towards half term, I think it is important to say how impressed we have been with the resilience of our children in dealing with this new world in which we find ourselves. This half term has seen many changes taking place in school, all of which, our amazing children have adapted to and taken in their stride. We have welcomed many new children and staff to Heather Field since September and are proud with how quickly everyone has settled into our school family.

What is really important is, that in times of real challenge, we pull together to support each other. Not just those in Heather Field but in our wider family and community too. We have to care for everyone and do our best to support the health and well-being of all who we come into contact with. That is our responsibility to ourselves, our family, our friends and our community.

The maturity that the children have shown in following the guidance on handwashing and where necessary social distancing, really does make a huge difference in minimising the risk to those most vulnerable in our families and society.

We are all very proud of each and every child at Heather Field School. As always at this time, we send our best wishes to you and your families, look out for one another and stay safe during these strange times.

At Heather Field School we have 4 key learning intentions for all pupils.

Intention 1	Maximise behaviour and skills for learning	Pupils will want to learn and have the skills to learn.
Intention 2	Reach full academic potential	Pupils will develop appropriate knowledge, skills and understanding enabling them achieve to the best of their ability academically, creatively and physically.
Intention 3	Rebuild and nurture	Pupils will be rehabilitated, enabling them to develop self-worth, a positive identity, confidence and contentment.
Intention 4	Prepare to make a positive contribution to the advancement of British society	Pupils will leave the school to engage in further meaningful study or employment. They will be community-spirited, respectful, law-abiding young citizens in full support of democracy and individual liberty.

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At Heather Field School we strive for continual improvement and we believe that pupil voice should be the loudest in the school.
As a result, we will be undertaking a number of exciting improvements during the year:

- We have completed a student survey asking pupils what they would like to have inside and outside to enhance their experience and have ordered equipment based on pupil requests.
- We have renovated the hobby development space.
- To continue to expand the number of learning experiences taking place off school site.
- We are creating more outdoor seating areas and further develop our garden area in order to support social and academic progress.

Thank you for continually working with school to ensure that your child attends in the correct school uniform and PE kit.

As a reminder this is as follows:

School Uniform	PE Kit
Black/grey formal style trousers Black/grey knee length skirt Grey school logo polo shirt Black school logo Sweatshirt Black shoes	Black/grey joggers Grey school logo polo shirt Black school logo sweatshirt Trainers

Facebook

Our fantastic Facebook page is a closed group which enables all parents and carers the opportunity to view work produced in lessons, outings and lessons experienced.

Important dates and information are regularly shared.

We remain very pleased with the comments made and hope that more of you become involved and show your support.

If you have not yet joined, simply search 'Heather Field School (you will see the school logo) and ask to be a friend. You will then receive an invitation via messenger to join the group.

Important dates for your diary.

A reminder that school will also be closed for children on Friday 6th November.

Remembrance Day - Wednesday 11th November

We will be selling poppies in school as part of the Royal British Legions annual poppy appeal. We will sell a range of wristbands, stickers and paper poppies to show our support.
All donations will go directly to the Royal British Legion, with a suggested donation of £1.00 for each item purchased. Students can wear a poppy on the day.

Children in Need - Friday 13th November

We will be joining in with Children in Need again this year and inviting our students (and staff!) to wear something spotty. Can this be an additional accessory. **Children are to attend in full school uniform** -. Events will be taking place across school to mark the event. A suggested donation of £1.00 with all proceeds going to Children in Need.

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Anti Bullying Week - Monday 16th November

Heather Field will be focusing on bullying and the impact it can have on health and wellbeing. Students are invited to wear odd socks to show their support.

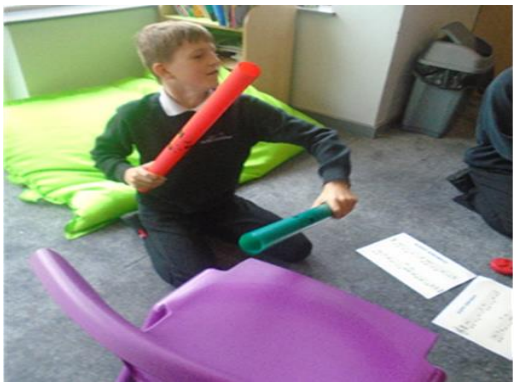
Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 18th December

Students (and staff) are encouraged to wear a Christmas Jumper as we raise awareness for the Save the Children charity.
Suggested donation £1.00 with all proceeds going directly to Save the Children.

Our children have been working extremely hard over the last half term and have had lots of fun producing amazing work that we are all very proud of...

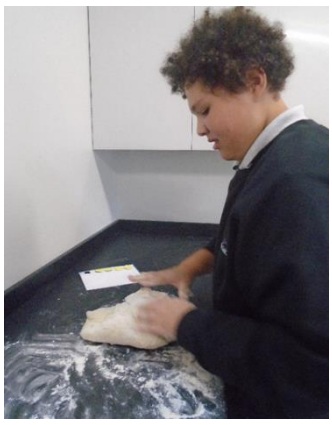
Class Blithe

In Blithe during science children have used Boom whackers to play 'Happy Birthday' and the 'Star Wars' tune...



In order to extend their sensory experiences, children have been playing with bubbles...

Children in class Blithe have been using the Home Skills room to showcase their baking skills...



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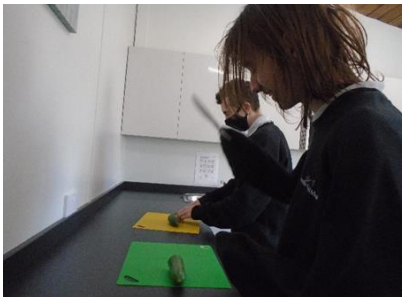
Class Dove

In Dove, the KS4 students have been making excellent use of the 'Home Skills' room to develop their BTEC skills...



KS4 have also been using clay to make pots and animals...

In mathematics, the KS2 students have been developing their understanding of shape...

We have also been challenging ourselves with ginormous puzzles to develop our problem-solving skills and explored our favourite characters using different mediums...

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In PE, the Dove students have demonstrated excellent ball skills including perfecting their dribbling in basketball …

KS2 have also enjoyed yoga during PE and exploring rocks during science…

KS3 have loved using water beads and playdough to create a beautiful rainbow…

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Class Penk

Class Penk have been enjoying exploring Anglo-Saxon culture. Children had great fun designing and eating an Anglo-Saxon feast...

Children were able to demonstrate their creativity through designing Anglo-Saxon jewellery...

KS1 have had great fun exploring and painting different famous figures including Queen Victoria...

...and adapting Da Vinci's parachute design...

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Class Severn

Severn has had an exciting first term beginning their Key Stage 4 studies.

Each week, Severn have visited the Stafford swimming academy and develop their skills. All members jumped into the water, improved their stroke and Aidan even splashed his way to his 10m badge.

Severn has also began their BTEC Home Cookery course.

They have been working on their skills starting with peeling and mashing potatoes. Pupils learnt how to carefully hold the potato in one hand, and the peeler in the other. They were able to carefully start of the base of the potato and peel the skin off away from them! To consolidate their peeling and mashing skills pupils were able to make a delicious banana milkshake.

The next skill which pupils are working towards is mastering: bread! At first the class examined the different types of yeast and discussed the conditions needed for multiplication and successful production of carbon dioxide. Then, pupils thoroughly enjoyed their first attempt at making bread.

Key Stage 4 requires advanced understanding of the world of work. Severn pupils learnt about the fast food sector and the impacts COVID has had on the reduction of people visiting these places. They were able to learn more about the jobs available in the hospitality industry and then used this to carry out a role play of order, buy and enjoy a hot drink.

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Class Sow

In Sow, we have been very lucky to complete a number of exciting activities. We have been particularly fortunate to be able to go horse riding every Thursday! The children absolutely adore the horses and they are learning new skills each week. The pupils of Sow have learned to both walk and trot with their horses, they have been taught to ride the horse with their hands above their heads, and now they have mastered the skill of using the reigns. Sow have also been able to explore how to care for horses. Each week they are shown a new way to care for the horses, learning the different names for each brush and how to clean the horses' hooves.

In science and topic, Sow have been learning about dinosaurs and fossils. They can all explain how fossils are formed and have been able to dig for fossils as well as create their own from plaster of paris.
In French, the pupils have been learning about music and how to talk about different musical instruments in French. They have been able to build their own instruments through 'junk modelling' and they have been playing these instruments in class.

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Class Trent

Class Trent have settled brilliantly into their new class and have had a very busy half term. Students have been working extremely hard and have produced some fantastic work that they are rightly very proud of. In science, students have been working collaboratively to further enhance and deepen their understanding of the functions of key body systems.

As part of their individual learning prescriptions, Class Trent have been having lots of fun developing their auditory skills through communication games such as the blindfold game. Students took it in turns to direct their blindfolded partner around obstacles on the playground.

As part of Black History Month, students have been learning about the significance of black history in creating a fairer and more compassionate society.

Class Trent have been developing their baking skills and knowledge of food hygiene in the home skills room.