

# HEATHER GARTH STAR Monthly News



ISSUE 31

SPRING TERM 2 2024

## REMINDER -

PLEASE NOTE - To book for the breakfast club, which is open from 7.30 am every morning, every school day, please contact Julie Quinn on 01709894149

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**SCHOOL BREAKS UP ON FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2024**

**AND RETURNS ON**

**MONDAY 8 APRIL 2024**

**WE HOPE YOU HAVE A LOVELY EASTER BREAK**

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### COFFEE MORNING

Don't forget to visit our  
coffee morning every  
Wednesday

8.30am—10.00am  
in the Blue Building

EVERYONE WELCOME

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## FUNDRAISING

Christmas raffle - £430.00

*Thank you for your continued support.*

Christmas jumper day - £170.00

Citizenship day - £135.00

*Please support our non-uniform days, as all monies raised, are used towards helping reduce the rising costs of school trips. Thank you*

## Extra Curricular Clubs - SUMMER TERM 1

<b>GRASSROOTS</b> <u>Year Groups</u>	<b>Day of Club</b>	<b>Club activity—Please note that these clubs won't start until week 2.</b>	<b>Time of Club</b>	<b>Number of Sessions</b>
<b>Year 1, 2 and 3</b>	<b>Wednesday 17 April to 22 May</b>	<b>Multisport Club</b> - In the club, the children will have the opportunity to play sports such as hockey, dodge ball, tag rugby, basketball, indoor athletics and gymnastics.	<b>3.05 pm – 4.30 pm</b>	<b>6 weeks</b>
<b>Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6</b>	<b>Thursday 18 April to 23 May</b>	<b>Boys Football</b> - In our boys' football sessions children will have the opportunity to learn how to pass, receive and shoot in football.	<b>3.05 pm – 4.30 pm</b>	<b>6 weeks</b>
<b>Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6</b>	<b>Monday 15 April to 20 May</b>	<b>Girls Football</b> - In our girls' football sessions children will have the opportunity to learn how to pass, receive and shoot in football.	<b>3.05 pm – 4.30 pm</b>	<b>5 weeks</b>

<b>Year Groups</b>	<b>Day &amp; Time of Club</b>	<b>Details of Club</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Number of Sessions and Costs</b>
<b>Year 1 and 2</b>	<b>Tuesday 16 April to 14 May</b>	<b>Computing Club</b> - In the club, the children will have the opportunity to learn coding using Beebots, use digital painting tools to draw, as well as become more competent at using a mouse.  <b>Please note that the club won't start until week 2.</b>	<b>Mrs Driffield-Mobbs</b>	<b>5 weeks - £10.00</b>
<b>Year 1 and 2</b>	<b>Thursday 18 April to 16 May</b>	<b>Sewing Club</b> - In the club, the children will work with grown-ups to practise both running stitch and cross stitch. Using these skills, we will then create a number of projects including creating a greetings card, a decorative piece of wall art and also a wooden door hanger for their bedrooms.  <b>Please note that the club won't start until week 2.</b>	<b>Mrs Carr and Mrs Brown</b>	<b>5 weeks - £10.00</b>
<b>Year 3, 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>Thursday 25 April to 23 May</b>	<b>Games Club</b> – In the club, the children will have the opportunity to play a variety of games including Uno, Dobble, Monopoly and Cluedo.  <b>Please note that the club won't start until week 3.</b>	<b>Mr Fisher and Mrs Little</b>	<b>5 weeks - £10.00</b>

# SUMMER TERM 1

## TWO WEEK EASTER BREAK

W/C 25 MARCH AND  
W/C 1 APRIL 2024

School breaks up for half term on **Friday 22 March 2024** and returns on  
**Monday 8 April 2024**

## PARENT CONSULTATIONS

These will run from 3.30 pm to 6.30 pm on Wednesday and 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm on Thursday.  
Details are as follows:-

10 & 11 APRIL 2024

Parents/carers will be able to see their child's class teacher for a 10-minute appointment. Your child is welcome to attend the meeting with you. This will enable teachers to share information with parents/carers about their child's progress so far, this academic year, and to share their individual pupil targets.

## NON-UNIFORM DAY - CRAZY PATTERN DAY

17 MAY 2024

Our 4th non-uniform day in order to raise funds to help reduce the cost of school education trips for parents and carers. £1.00 Per child.

Thank you for your continued support!

## CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

20 MAY 2024

With individual photos for FS2 and Year 6 only

## ONE WEEK HALF TERM BREAK

W/C 27 MAY 2024

School breaks up for half term on **Friday 24 May 2024** and returns on  
**Monday 3 June 2024**

## EYFS - FS1 NEWS

This half term has been busy and fun filled in FS1! In the unit we have been busy observing lots of different minibeasts and learning all about lifecycles. This supported our work around our core text "The Very Hungry Caterpillar".

Did you know caterpillars only have 6 legs?

We have been very busy making our own representations of different minibeasts including caterpillars using playdough, loose parts, paints and workshop materials as well.

We have very much enjoyed retelling the story and creating wonderful story maps to help us.

We have also looked at human growth and how we change over time from babies to children, to teenagers, to adults and then to elderly and the concepts of tallest and shortest. We have also been measuring different things using non-standard measures such as feet, hands and bricks.

In phonics we have been practicing lots segmenting and blending as well as spotting how many syllables are in words and what sounds we can hear at the start of the word.

In physical development we have been learning all about safe spaces and how to move in different ways – we have loved working with the parachute and the obstacle courses.

We very much enjoyed dressing up as our favourite characters for world book day and reading all our favourite books.



**Please take a look at our blog to see regular updates and photos of what the children have been up to and learning about.**

## EYFS - FS2 NEWS

This term has been full of exciting learning opportunities in FS2. We have loved sharing a range of books including 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'The Tiny Seed'. We have developed our vocabulary linked to the texts. During our focus on the life cycle of a butterfly we have learned words such as 'pupa', 'cocoon' and 'emerge'.

We have enjoyed sharing different books at story time. We have also read some poetry together – we have noticed that some poems have rhyming words and some do not. FS2 also loved singing 'There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf' – a song explaining the different parts of the life cycle. FS2 enjoyed World Book Day, we had fun dressing up and sharing our favourite books.

Our children love to engage with our Drawing Club sessions. We have drawn the main stages of the life cycle of a butterfly, we have also drawn a range of minibeasts. Lots of children are gaining more confidence each week to write a sentence to describe their drawings. We are now focussing on sounding out words carefully for our writing as well as spelling some tricky words.

Our Maths learning has supported our knowledge of length and capacity. We are also continuing to develop our understanding of number as well as our number formation.

Our children continue to grow in independence. We are noticing lots of children who can undress and dress themselves for P.E. It is really important they can do this themselves as well as zip up their own coats for outside. Well done to all our independent children.

Within P.E we have engaged in a unit focusing on ball skills. We have focused on throwing and catching a ball. It has been wonderful to see the children becoming more confident and making progress in our weekly P.E sessions.

We have also discussed seasonal changes – linked to the early signs of Spring. Lots of us have noticed that 'blossom' is appearing on some trees and that flowers, such as daffodils, are now growing. FS2 loved our stay and play with our family members linked to Spring changes. We completed activities such as planting, painting daffodils, a matching game involving animal babies and their Mums as well as experimenting with clay. We had so much fun!



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## YEAR 1 NEWS

This half term, Year 1's learning has been all about 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets'. We have had lots of fun learning all about the history of castles and who lived in them a long time ago. We have explored Norman Motte and Baily castles and the structure of a Medieval Castle. We also had a trip to Conisbrough Castle and learnt all about why it was built, who lived there and lots of history about the castle. We had a great Day!

In Spanish we have been learning our colours and numbers to 10 and in PE we have been learning Invasion skills.

In RE, we have been focusing on Islam beliefs and the need for rules. We have contributed to discussions about how religious beliefs support community cohesion and how religious beliefs influence how people treat each other in Islam faith. We also listened to the Easter story and took part in roleplay to act out the story.

In PE our focus for this half term has been target games. We have been working on our 'under and over' arm throwing skills and throwing for accuracy and distance.



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## SUMMER TERM 1

### YEAR 1

#### YEAR 1 PARENT SESSION—THE WEATHER

**16 APRIL 2024**

To celebrate our learning, we will be inviting you to year 1's Weather Art and Craft Session. This will give you the opportunity spend time with your child being creative. During the session the children will be creating collages and crafts linked to the weather. Please come along and support your child to cut, colour, stick and enjoy being creative.


#### YEAR 1 PHONICS SCREENING

**W/C 3 JUNE 2024**

Year 1 will be undertaking their phonics screening test week commencing 3 June. We may send your child home with words/sounds to practice in preparation for the test. Please support your child in practising these words and sounds and continue with home reading too.

We are hoping to organise a meeting for Year 1 parents regarding the importance of Phonics and share ways you can support at home. Please look out for information regarding this after the Easter holidays.

We politely request that parents/carers try to avoid this period when booking holidays



## YEAR 2 NEWS

In Year two this term we have been exploring Marvellous Monarchs!

As part of this learning, we found out about the lives of Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and our current monarch, King Charles. We looked at what each monarch did that has made them memorable. Our science work has covered the topic of plants. We started the topic looking at what bulbs and seeds were and how they germinate. We asked the question 'Does it matter which way up you plant a bulb?' We have also planted some bean seeds and tested our ideas of what plants need to survive by removing air, water, light, warmth and water. In our computing lessons, we have been learning how to 'code' using a programme called Scratch Jr.



In Literacy we have studied the text 'The day the crayons quit' and responded to a letter from our own felt tips who felt they had been badly treated! We are currently exploring 'George and the dragon' which is the story of a legend...with a twist!

In Maths we began our work on multiplication and division strategies. We have explored grouping and sharing and have also used arrays to help us with these calculations. Then we moved on to fractions. Our work on division has really helped us to understand fractions a little bit better!

This half term has been very busy as we have also been singing in music lessons, dressed up for world book day and decided on the best food combinations for a healthy wrap in DT!



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## YEAR 3 NEWS

This half term in Year 3, the children have been learning about 'Mining Life' as part of their local history work. They have learnt about what it was like to be a miner and how this type of work changed over time. They also learned about how disasters (some of which were very local to us) changed the way children were employed in the mine. As part of this learning, the children visited the National Coal Mining Museum and were able to go down into a real life mine to see what it was like.

In Science the children have been focussing on plants. They have looked at the life cycle of a flowering plant and how the different parts of the plant have different functions. They have also learned how plants are able to disperse their seeds in different ways.

Year 3 have been reading a range of texts over the half term including a shared book 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons'. We have been looking at different extracts from books and thought about how we can answer questions about what we have read. Linking to reading we also had World Book Day this half term where the children were able to dress up as different characters. They all looked amazing!



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## SUMMER TERM 1

## YEAR 3

### YEAR 3 EGYPTIAN DAY WORKSHOP

7 JUNE 2024

We have a special visitor coming to talk to us about Egyptians. The children will take part in different activities and learn lots more about the Egyptians .



## YEAR 4 NEWS

This half term, our learning has been all about 'The Anglo-Saxons and Scots'. In history, the children have learnt all about who the Picts and Scots were, where they lived and that they were divided by the Grampian mountains. They have revisited the terms invaders and settlers and learnt why the Anglo-Saxons invaded and settled in Britain. They have also found out about where the Anglo-Saxons came from and that they were a mix of tribes. Then the children found out about Anglo-Saxon life including homes, food, leisure and religion. As part of their Religious Education, Year 4 have learnt about how Christians celebrate Easter all around the world. As part of their science lessons, the children have identified how sounds are made, learnt all about how vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear, learnt about the pitch of a sound, the patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it and that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases. In design technology, the children used their knowledge of electric circuits to design and make a unique 'Doodler'. The circuit that they created had to include a motor. Check out our blog for more information about our learning and to see more photos.



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## SUMMER TERM 1

### YEAR 4

#### YEAR 4 VIKING HISTORY TO LIFE WORKSHOP

**10 APRIL 2024**

During the day, the children will learn all about the Vikings through investigating Viking artefacts. They will learn all about Runes, how to play a strategy game, and learn all about Viking homes. They will also learn all about the Vikings as raiders and experience battle formations. Finally, they will learn about the Vikings as traders. The decision not to take the children out of school for this workshop has been made due to the high cost of transport, and our aim is to always keep costs down wherever possible for parents/carers.

#### YEAR 4 PARENT SESSION—VIKING LONG BOATS

**7 MAY 2024**

You will be invited to join us for a parent session, where, with your child, you will be using lolly pop sticks and dowelling to create your own 3D Viking Long Boat

#### YEAR 4 ORIENTEERING EVENT AT THE DEARNE

**10 MAY 2024**

Y4 will be attending an orienteering event on Friday 10 May at the Dearne Academy. Further information will be sent out nearer to the time.


#### YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION CHECKS

**W/C 3 JUNE 2024**

**W/C 10 JUNE 2024**

**W.C 17 JUNE 2024**

The statutory Year 4 multiplication checks will take place weeks commencing 3, 10 and 17 June. Please ensure that your child is at school these weeks.



## YEAR 5 NEWS

This half term, year 5 have continued learning about Ancient Greece. We have looked at what the main ideas and beliefs of some of Ancient Greece's most famous philosophers and scholars were. We then got to look at the Olympic games and how they have changed since they were first held in Ancient Greece and finally we have looked at the influence that Ancient Greek architecture has had on the modern world and how this has affected structures today.

During science we have learnt about plants and animals in living things and their habitats. During this we have spent time looking at gestation times of various mammals and we concluded that the larger the animal the longer the gestation period. We learnt how plants pollinate via insects or wind and how to take a cutting from a plant to get it to grow.

During computing we have spent time looking and investigating the Mars Rover. We looked at how long it took for it to get to Mars and how it sends its messages and information back to Earth. The children have then spent some time looking at binary codes, and decoding messages.

During DT, the children worked in pairs to construct a bridge, measuring and sawing the pieces exactly to ensure they fit together.

During literacy we have spent time looking at David Attenborough's life and writing a biography based on our findings.

In PE we have looked at Netball and Volleyball, looking at the different types of passes as well as the rules behind the games.



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## **SUMMER TERM 1**

### **YEAR 5**

#### **YEAR 5 RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO ROBINWOOD**

**17- 19 APRIL 2024**

Children will need to be in school for 8.00 am for an 8.30 am departure.

#### **YEAR 5 PARENT SESSION—ESCAPE FROM HEATHER GARTH**

**3 MAY 2024**

You will be invited to join your child for our parent session, where, with your child, you will be using a map of Heather Garth School and your child's knowledge of co-ordinates, to find the location of a series of questions. You will then need to crack the code and answer each question before you can move on to the next task. Will you make it out of Heather Garth?



## YEAR 6 NEWS

In science we have been studying fossils and how these give us evidence of what lived on the Earth millions of years ago as well as how they can provide evidence to support the theory of evolution. We have also looked at how fossils are formed.

In history we have been studying how the changing power of monarchs over time has affected Britain. This led us to study a number of key monarchs throughout British history including: William the Conquer, King John, Henry VIII, Queen Anne and Queen Victoria. This was a thoroughly enjoyable topic which allowed us to explore our history and key events, such as the Magna Carta and the Acts of Union, and what impact they have had on Britain as we know today.

In RE, we have focused on the Christian faith, particularly Holy Week and the Easter story.

In Computing we have been studying Big Data which includes learning about: barcodes, QR codes, how infrared is used to transmit data and how RFID is used and kept secure.

In our DT Electrical Systems unit, we designed and built a 'Steady Hand' game, using our science knowledge of electricity and circuits to support us.

In PE we have been working on our basketball skills, including passing and dribbling.



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## SUMMER TERM 1

## YEAR 6

### SATS WEEK


As you can appreciate this is a very important week for our Year 6 children, and we would ask that parents/carers ensure that their child/ren attend, and that family holidays are not taken during this week.

13 - 16 MAY 2024

During this week, Monday to Thursday, Year 6 will be able to come into school earlier than usual. The school will be open from 8.15am. We will be serving breakfast: toast, hot drinks and juices.

Over the years, we have found that this breakfast session is a great way for the children to relax and unwind before the tests, as they have the opportunity to chat with their friends, laugh and prepare themselves for the tests.

Children should enter school via the Reception gate and go to the Year 6 classroom as normal.







**JOIN THE PTA**

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL FOR MORE INFORMATION

WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US

TO HELP ARRANGE AND RUN FUN EVENTS FOR OUR  
CHILDREN

AND TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL

Up and coming events to watch out for -

**Fathers Day Gifts - order your gift on School Gateway before  
24 May 2024 - further information to follow.**

**Summer Fair - 11 June 2024 - further information to follow.**

**You can find out more about the Heather Garth PTA via our  
facebook page. Search for us at Heather Garth PTA for all  
the latest updates and to find out more about what is  
happening.**



Heather Garth  
Primary Academy  
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