



HEATHBROOK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

4th October 2018 Issue No. 503

Parent Forums Next Week

Your views are very important and we need your help to explore how to enable even more children to access our popular after school activities in a fair and transparent way. Our parent governors will facilitate discussions at 9am next Thursday (11th) and Friday (12th). Overleaf you will find some of the challenges we are trying to overcome. If you are unable to join us, please email suggestions to the office (see footer) or put them in a box in the lobby.

PTA Coffee Morning

Our PTA coffee morning for the end of this half term is next Friday (12th). It will be combined with our Parent Forums, so come and share your views.

Linking Up With Other New Parents & Carers

Our PTA aims to provide a range of ways for new parents and carers to meet each other (eg. coffee mornings, Saturdays in the garden, film nights). A number of you have already shared your email address with the PTA. On Monday (8th) a new parents' email group will be started. If you want to be part of it please contact heathbrookPTA@gmail.com (For data protection reasons, your personal details cannot be shared without your permission.)

No Pens Wednesday

Yesterday the whole school enjoyed activities to focus on our speaking and listening skills as part of the Communication Trust's '[No Pens Day Wednesday](#)'. When children can talk through their ideas it improves their thinking skills which raises their attainment in all curriculum areas including emotional development.

Astro Pitch Delivery

It isn't every day you watch a £300,000 articulated lorry deliver a 40 foot container into your playground. Have a look at our [sports webpage for photos!](#)

Picture Frames

We are looking for donations of picture frames for displaying children's work. Please leave them in the front lobby.

Fire Drill

Last week, as part of our safeguarding systems, we had one of our termly fire drills and cleared the entire building in just 2 minutes and 35 seconds.

Ace of Clubs Charity reminder

Bring in donations by tomorrow for the Ace of Clubs' in Clapham harvest appeal. Leave them in the front lobby for school councillors to deliver before half term.

Parent Forum Questions

Our website currently explains this rationale for our after (and before) school activities:

After School Activities

Our After (and before) School Activities are a key part of our commitment to providing exceptionally varied opportunities and stimulating children to *Be the Best they can Be!* They particularly focus on our four curriculum pillars of Art, Music, Outdoor Learning and Sport. We make full use of our extensive indoor and outdoor facilities, building on the strong relationships children have with adults.

We do this by:

- Encouraging staff, parents and community members to lead activities they have an expertise in – School Councillors share children's requests for activities we don't have anyone to run
- Trying wherever possible to ensure that there is a range of activities on a daily basis
- Trying wherever possible to ensure that all age groups are involved on a daily basis
- Offering remaining spaces to children who already attend our Heath Kidz after school club.

Due to the significant increase in demand for places, our Parent Forums this term will review what is most important about after (and before) school activities moving forward.

We will consider what we value most about our after school activities:

- A range of activities?
- All ages taking part each day?
- Activities being affordable for everyone?
- A fair and transparent signing up process?
- Anything else?

Then we will go on to explore the challenges that these values raise, for example:

- How do we ensure there are enough adults to lead the activities we want?
- How can we put in place a sign-up system that is fair for everyone?
- How do we enable siblings to take part in activities on the same day?

[Remember that if you are unable to join us, you can email suggestions to the office or put them in a box in the lobby.]