

# Heltwate Round up

October 2022

[www.heltwate.co.uk](http://www.heltwate.co.uk)



## A note from the Head

Dear Parents and Carers

The year has started well, as usual there are early challenges as pupils and staff settle into the new groups and we get to know each other. The curriculum feels really thorough and young people are enjoying it. Lifting of Covid restrictions mean that things like lunchtimes, swimming, horse-riding, weekly trips, and whole school events have been reintroduced. School is purposeful and there are lots of happy faces.

I've had a bout of Covid this term and had to stay at home and work. I was so disappointed to miss the Fish and Chip supper and then the Macmillan Coffee morning, the pace is so fast if you miss a day, you miss so much. I guess this applies to children as well. Please, make sure your children don't miss a day.

The new building is looking great, and the contractors have started to fit out the inside. It is still on target to be finished in March. Have a look at the boarding outside and see if you can spot your child's artwork from the Platinum Jubilee competition, it looks fab.



I can't believe that we are making our way towards Christmas again, it is exciting though. For many of our children and staff it will be their first chance to perform in the Christmas show. I am looking forward to heading up the in-person advent activities.

We had our first in person assembly at the start of term, the music man played and we sang Autumn songs, everyone was quite emotional.

We have such an amazing staff team; I can't thank them enough. I hope you have a wonderful week and that the sun shines whilst we all recharge our batteries.

*Adam Brewster*



# What's been happening at Heltwate...

It has been wonderful to be able to welcome parents and carers back to both school sites for events this half term.

## Macmillan Cancer Support



Macmillan Coffee morning at the end of September raised over £600 in total between both sites – thank you all so much for your generosity.

## Hands on Harvest Festival



A huge thank you to everyone who came along to our 'Hands on Harvest Festival' this morning - it was wonderful to see so many families having a lovely time! Thank you as well for all the harvest donations which will be taken to the Food Bank.

## **Attendance**

The whole school attendance percentage for this half term is 91.2%.

If you feel there are issues other than illness that are affecting your child's attendance please do contact school. We want to work with you and your child to ensure that your child can attend and help in any way which we can.

To report a school absence please either send a class dojo message or telephone the school office on 01733 262878 by 9.00 a.m.

## **EHCP Reviews**

The EHCP annual review cycle has begun for this school year 2022 – 23 and all pupils will have their EHCP reviewed. The meeting will be taking place either virtually or face to face and your class teacher will be in touch with the meeting date in the weeks before your child's EHCP date.

Our Earwig online assessment programme is proving to be an excellent tool for tracking your child's EHCP targets and is regularly updated by teaching staff.

## **New Starters**

Our new starters who joined us in September have settled well into school life at Heltwate. Those who have needed a bit more support with the move to a new school are starting to feel more settled. Well done to parents / carers and staff.

## **Parent / Carers vehicles onsite**

Please can we remind those who bring and collect their child into school that the school site cannot be accessed between 8.40 a.m. – 9.00 a.m. and 2.40 p.m. - 3.15 p.m. by vehicles. If you do come onto site it obstructs and slows down school transport making everyone late. We have seen a more streamlined start and end of day with transport this term which is great.

## **Class Dojo**

Please make sure you are signed up to class dojo – we use it for all communication home from school.

## **School Transport**

All transport is managed by Peterborough City Council. If you need to speak to the transport team about your child's transport please ring 01733 317455 and NOT the school office.

## **Contact Numbers**

Please make sure that you let the school office know if you change your phone number or move house so we always have the correct details for you.



# School Dinners

The school dinner menu is changing after half term – it will be sent out to you all via Class Dojo.

Dinners are £2.70 a day for Years 3-6 and £2.90 a day for Year 7 upwards. Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and 2 do not need to pay.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

The application is an online form which can be accessed from our website or from the link below:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/free-school-meals>

## Upcoming dates:

Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	End of half term
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Start of half term
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	COVID booster vaccinations
14 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parents evenings will be taking place during these dates – class teachers will be in touch for your dates

***School breaks up for half term on THURSDAY 20<sup>st</sup> October at 3.00 p.m.  
Pupils return to school on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October at 8.40 a.m.***