

Highlight from the desk of the Maths Lead

Having been on a walk around the school earlier in the week, it was lovely to see all of the exciting and engaging activities that have been happening in all year groups. Focus in these first couple of weeks has been on understanding of place value and children have been hard at work building those secure foundations of number to enable them to achieve throughout the year.

Year 1 have been using practical resources to compare numbers, finding which numbers could fit between two others on a number line. In Year 3 the children have been developing their understanding of greater than and less than, using the relevant symbols accurately.

It was also great to see that Year 2 had been using our outdoor environment and taking part in some exciting maths trails. The children in Year 5 were playing an enjoyable game using digit cards to make numbers that they could round to the nearest 10 and 100.

I look forward to seeing how children across the school use the knowledge and skills they have acquired over the coming months.

Mr Harwood

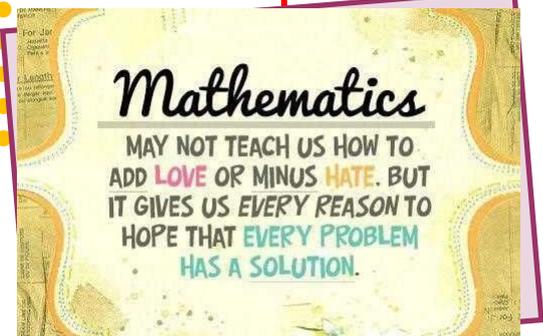
Key Dates

Friday 8th October – World Mental Health Day - children to wear something yellow with their uniform

Monday 11th & Tuesday 12th October — Harvest donations to be brought into school

Friday 22nd October— INSET day

The school calendar is also available on the school website




Safeguarding corner

Online Grooming

The NSPCC have recently reported a significant increase in online grooming with Snapchat and Instagram being the most common tools used by offenders. However, grooming can happen anywhere, for example it can start in a game and lead to a private chat within an app or within the game.

Useful websites:

www.internetmatters.org/issues/online-grooming/
<https://talk.iwf.org.uk/>
<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>
<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/online-grooming/>

ADVICE:

Talk to your child. Their online lives and countless games and apps they use can appear overwhelming. It is important that you understand their online lives so the support you can give them isn't limited.

Use **parental controls**. All games, apps and consoles comes with parental controls such as turning off chat. Children and young people use gaming to socialise with each other so if you do allow them to use the chat functions, keep a watchful eye on their friends list and question if you don't recognise someone.

Report it—if you know or suspect your child has or is being groomed you can make an online report to CEOP— <https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre>

Make sure your child also knows that they can make a report.



Celebrating 5 years at Heathcote!

Birthday message from Mrs Everett

I have so many memories and experiences from Heathcote that have changed my life and it all started on my first day when I turned up to an empty shell of a school and was expected to build furniture. It really has been a unique experience watching the school grow into the great place that it is. I had never really considered the impact of outdoor learning but was persuaded to train as a forest school leader which has been an inspirational process and has completely transformed my outlook on education.



SPOTLIGHT ON

Rabbits & Foxes

Rabbits and Foxes have hit the ground running with our new topic – Colossal Castles. Already we have learnt all about the different parts of a castle and have located where castles are across the United Kingdom. We launched our topic by meeting author and illustrator, Kristina Stephenson who wrote the Sir Charlie Stinky Socks series. We used our skills in drama and descriptive language to explore Sir Charlie’s “big adventure”! This week we’ve dived into learning all about non-fiction. We have used dictionaries to create our own glossaries and have written our own non-fiction texts about castles. Well done Year 2 for a brilliant start to the academic year!

