



Headlines

Term 2, 2023-24

*Educational Excellence
Creating Opportunities
Enriching Lives*

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Term 2.

The first term got the academic year off to a cracking start. It was great talking to some of you at TLCs about your children's progress and sharing your joy in their achievements. As ever, I am enormously proud of our school community and the strong commitment that we all share to ensure that our school thrives.

At the end of last year, I told you that we had been accredited as a School of Character by the Association of Character Education at Birmingham University. Last term, we received a detailed report written in response to their visit. The report said that:

'There is an authentic focus on a set of core Values (DARE) and more recently the contributing Virtues which shows that character development is an authentic feature of the school. This has helped to create a set of conditions where character development is highly valued by pupils, parents, and staff'. ACE (2023)

Additionally, all schools in the trust have recently had a visit from an associate head to evaluate Inclusion in the school (how we support children with additional needs, although not Woodlands). Headlands, has for a long time considered ourselves, and has a reputation for being, a highly inclusive school, and we offer significant and embedded provision to meet the needs of children who have barriers to learning or pastoral needs. Our work, led by Mrs Harvey (Deputy Head Teacher and Mrs Redman (SENDCo) was recognised in the evaluation.

As an established school, with a committed staff, we do things well although we are always looking to continue to improve what we do. Mrs Green (Deputy Head Teacher) supports all staff to think critically about their practise. Most teachers are visited each week by Mrs Green and other trained staff for coaching which is then followed by a conversation. Headlands leads on the improving teaching strategy for the trust and as such Mrs Green is supporting other schools on this journey.

We are all learners at Headlands, and teachers have the opportunity to engage in government funded National Professional Qualifications. We have several staff who have completed such NPQs in leading teaching, leading teacher development, leading maths, English and behaviour/ culture. I am incredibly proud that we have a committed and professional staff choosing to take advantage of such opportunities that impact positively on the children.

Additionally, last term, a group of parents have established a Parent Teacher Association (PTA), led by Emelia Hendel. This further strengthens who we are and what we do for the children. We can look forward this term to the return of school discos and the Christmas Fair.

I look forward to the coming Christmas term, with all the excitement that this will bring. Please see below a list of upcoming events in school this term.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Darren

Please share your views about school on Parent View

As you know, OFSTED is highly likely to inspect Headlands this academic year although we are not told when this would be. One measure they use to gauge parental opinion is via Parent View. Please would parents log onto this and tell OFSTED what you think of the school. Your views really matter, and it is important that all views are shared. The questionnaire takes about 3 minutes to complete. Please log onto Parent View via <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> Thank you.

Year 6 at Longtown

To start the school year, Year 6 visited Longtown, Wales. The children engaged in caving, gorge walking, climbing and initiative activities on site. The Year 6 residential always happens at the start of the academic year and is part of our DARE Endeavour strategy. Beyond the school grounds and away from home, the children demonstrated independence, resilience and collaboration. The memory making experiences that they gained from the residential can be drawn upon in their learning in Year 6 and beyond. We are very proud of the children who took part and how they represented the school so well.



Supporting you to keep your child safe online

To support parents with keeping children safe when online, we have subscribed to Knowsley Online Safety Newsletter. This will be sent out monthly via email to your inbox. The newsletter has up to date advice about how to safeguard your child with what they encounter online every day. We will continue to support children learning about online safety through the curriculum at school. We hope that you find this additional information helpful.

Remembrance- Pots of Peace

This year, to mark Remembrance, the children will be working with their buddies in other year groups to make 'Peace Pots'.

The children learn about the significance of the poppy and why it is worn as a symbol of Remembrance. The children will then make their own poppy to decorate their Peace Pot. They will also consider a synonym for peace that they will also montage onto their tin.

At home, we would like you to consider what Peace means to your child and your family. Your child will bring home a 'Make a wish for peace' postcard for you to write their/ your reflections on. The children may also decorate this as well if they wish to do so. These postcards will then be placed in their Peace Pot and the children's work will be used as a centre piece for our Remembrance assembly on Friday morning.

Please ensure that your child's named postcard is back in school by Thursday.

Upcoming dates this term...

- Fri 10th Nov - Remembrance assembly – Children only
- Fri 17th Nov - Friendship Friday (children only) as part of Anti-Bullying week
- Charity Cake Sale – details to follow
- Fri 24th Nov - **Year 4** Bikeability
- Wed 29th Nov - Nursery and Reception Christmas Carol Concert
- Fri 1st Dec – “Deck the Halls” afternoon starting at 1.30pm
- Mon 4th – Thurs 7th December – **Year 5** Bikeability
- Wed 6th Dec– Christmas Concert at 6.30pm
- Tues 12th and Wed 13th Dec – **Year 1 and 2** Nativity starting at 2pm
- Fri 15th Dec – Choir singing at Windsor Castle
- Mon 18th Dec – Samba drumming concert
- Wed 20th Dec - Christmas Party