

Heatherlands Primary School

‘Churchill Chats’

I always enjoy November. After the excitement of Halloween, we move into a month that feels full of community, reflection and togetherness. As the leaves continue to fall and the temperatures begin to drop, there is a noticeable change in the season. The darker mornings remind us that winter is on its way, but they also bring opportunities to enjoy some of the special traditions that make this time of year so memorable.

Many families will be looking forward to Bonfire Night and the spectacular displays that light up the night sky. If you are celebrating, please do take a moment to remind your children about the importance of firework safety. Fireworks can be great fun when enjoyed responsibly at organised events or under careful adult supervision.



November is always a busy and rewarding month at Heatherlands. Children will continue to take part in a wide range of learning experiences, sporting events, visits and enrichment activities, as well as coming together to mark Remembrance Day. These moments help our children develop not only their knowledge and skills, but also important qualities such as respect, kindness and gratitude.



As we head towards winter, I am continually grateful for the warmth of the Heatherlands community. Whether it is children supporting one another, staff going above and beyond, or the kindness shown by our families, there is so much to celebrate. Thank you for your ongoing support, and I hope you enjoy all that November has to offer.

Mr Churchill

Dates for your diary – November 2026

These dates and times are a guide for parents to ensure that you have all the information you will need this month. There may of course be amendments or additions nearer the date/time due to unforeseen circumstances, but we aim to inform you of any changes as soon as we possibly can. Some of the dates will not be relevant to you as they are specific to different year groups/groups of children.

We will send a communications email on/around the 1st of every month and hope that it is of use to you all. This information will also be published on the school website: https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/all-communications-from-school

AUTUMN TERM
WEEK 9

Monday 2nd November 2026
Back to school
Celebration assembly
Tuesday 3rd November 2026
9-12 Year 3 & Year 4 SEND Panathlon at Longfleet **BY INVITATION**
Prospective parents open afternoon 2pm **BOOKING ONLY**
Wednesday 4th November 2026
9-12 Year 5 & Year 6 SEND Panathlon at Longfleet **BY INVITATION**
9am – 9.30am EYFS Phonics Wednesday – **All EYFS parents invited**
Thursday 5th November 2026
Outdoor classroom day
Friday 6th November 2026
Year 1 Forest School Friday
EYFS vision checks

WEEK 10

Monday 9th November 2026
SEND parents evening week – **BY INVITATION**
Harvest festival assembly
Lulworth class swimming 1
Wednesday 11th November 2026
Remembrance day
Primary Leadership Academy training Year 5 – **BY INVITATION**
'A taste of play' – For prospective EYFS parents. 3.45 – 4.30pm
Thursday 12th November 2026
EYFS vision checks
Friday 13th November 2026
Year 2 Forest School Friday

WEEK 11

Monday 16th November 2026
Lulworth class SWIMMING 2
HOME LEARNING DUE IN/COMMUNICATION WEEK
Year 3, 4 and 5 MTC MOCKS
Year 3, 4 and 5 NFER test week

Wednesday 18th November 2026
Prospective parents open afternoon 3.30pm **BOOKING ONLY**
Thursday 19th November 2026
STEM day
Friday 20th November 2026
Year 3 Forest School Friday
Saturday 28th November 2026
Xmas Fair

WEEK 12

Monday 23rd November 2026
Lulworth class SWIMMING 3
Year 6 SATS MOCK
Year 3, 4 and 5 MTC MOCKS
School nurse visit – **BOOKING ONLY**
Wednesday 25th November 2026
HOME LEARNING PROJECT SET
'A taste of play' – For prospective EYFS parents. 3.45 – 4.30pm
Thursday 26th November 2026
Year 3 – Year 6 cross country – Chapel Gate - **BY INVITATION**
Friday 27th November 2026
Year 4 Forest School Friday
11.30am Football match – Blandford **BY INVITATION**

WEEK 13

Monday 30th November 2026
Lulworth class SWIMMING 4
Tuesday 1st December 2026
Year 1 & Year 2 Phonics Screen MOCKS
Friday 4th December 2026
Year 5 Forest School Friday

Questions to ask your child – November 2026

The year teams publish blogs on their year group web pages to keep you informed of the activities taking place and to enable you to ask your children questions about their learning. We also publish homework on these pages and knowledge organisers can be found here. Have a look at our school website at www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk

Early Years Foundation Stage

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/page/?title=EYFS+blog+posts&pid=250



Year 1

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/page/?title=Year+1+blog+posts&pid=247

Who were Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole? How did they help people?
Can you roll two dice and add them together? Can you write an addition number sentence and show your answer on a part-part-whole model or tens frame?
Play, cook, jump, talk, look are all verbs. What letters (suffix) do we add to regular verbs to show they are in the past? Can you write a sentence?

Year 2

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/blog/?pid=237&nid=10

Can you name three things a plant needs to survive?
Why is it important to wash our hands before we eat or help cook food?
How can you help take care of the Earth by reusing, recycling, or reducing?

Year 3

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/blog/?pid=238&nid=11

Questions to ask: Which one of these is not a type of seed dispersal that we have learnt about?
Animal dispersal
Light dispersal
Water dispersal
Explosive dispersal
Wind dispersal
What type of colour do you get when you mix two primary colours together? Can you name them?
In maths, can you explain what a bar model is and give/draw an example?

Year 4

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/blog/?pid=239&nid=12

What type of Anglo-Saxon artefacts have been discovered and what do they tell us about Anglo-Saxon life?
How can we classify different types of plants and animals?
Explain to me when you would need to exchange in maths.

Year 5

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/year-5/

Questions to ask: What are the factor pairs of 48? Can you try this with a different number?
Can you name the main forces and tell me some facts about them?
Can you give me a sentence that uses a subordinate clause?

Year 6

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/year-6/

Questions to ask: Find the missing number: ¾ = ?/8
Hint: What do you multiply the denominator by to get 8? Do the same to the numerator.
Which of the following fractions are equivalent to 2/5?
A. 4/10
B. 6/15
C. 3/8
D. 8/20
Choose all that apply.
True or False:
9/12 is equivalent to 3/4
Explain your reasoning.

Heatherlands notices – November 2026

All 3 gates now close at 8.45am. This is to ensure all registers can be completed on time and children who are late are recorded by the front office.

Homework

Homework is set weekly inline with our homework schedule (see attached). All homework is set on the year groups pages of the school website https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/year-group-information/

Bug club, Emile and Purple Mash log ins are in reading journals.

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/page/?title=Home+learning&pid=264

Harvest festival



We will be celebrating Harvest a little later in school this year, on Monday 9th November. As always, we will be supporting Poole foodbank by collecting tinned or packet food and delivering our donations to them. If you can spare something, please give this to your child to bring into school on Monday 9th November. They can add it to the harvest table in the hall (KS2) or studio (KS1/EYFS). Thank you.

Class assemblies

Here is the schedule for class assemblies for 2026/2027.
The assemblies all take place on a Friday morning.
Please come and join your child's class and the rest of their year group as they share their learning, from 9am to around 9.20am in the Studio.

Date	Class
22/10/2026	VALUES ASSEMBLY
13/11/2026	Galaxy
20/11/2026	Victory
27/11/2026	Meteor
04/12/2026	Kimmeridge
11/12/2026	Mayflower
18/12/2026	VALUES ASSEMBLY
15/01/2027	Sycamore
22/01/2027	Mary Rose
29/01/2027	Comet
05/02/2027	Swanage
12/02/2027	VALUES ASSEMBLY
26/02/2027	Willow
05/03/2027	Lulworth
12/03/2027	Seashell
19/03/2027	Waterlily
25/03/2027	VALUES ASSEMBLY
16/04/2027	Maple
23/04/2027	Starfish
30/04/2027	Dragonfly
07/05/2027	Coral
14/05/2027	SATs week
21/05/2027	Poppy
28/05/2027	VALUES ASSEMBLY
11/06/2027	Rose
18/06/2027	Inset day
25/06/2027	Sports day
02/07/2027	Kingfisher
09/07/2027	Cherry
16/07/2027	Values Assembly

Celebrating achievements

We are extremely proud of all the children at Heatherlands, and it is always great to hear about their achievements and successes outside of school. Please let us know if there is something to celebrate and we can add it to the monthly newsletter.

We are delighted to announce that our first Celebration Assembly of the year will take place on Monday 2nd November.
Children are invited to bring in any trophies, medals, certificates, badges or other awards they have received outside of school to share with their classmates. During the assembly, they will have the opportunity to talk about their achievements and celebrate their successes with their peers.
This assembly is for children only, but it will be a wonderful opportunity for them to showcase their accomplishments and be recognised for their hard work and dedication. We look forward to celebrating with them and hearing all about their achievements.

Reminders – November 2026 2026

Please ensure you have labelled all your child's uniform, PE kit, hat, coat etc. We always seem to have an enormous amount of lost property with no names and nowhere to store this. We frequently clear this and have to throw a lot away! The lost property box is now accessible on the top playground outside the entrance to Year 6.

Space net

The space net which is situated on the lower playground is **not** for use before or after school. The children have timetabled slots during the school day which is monitored by specific staff for health and safety reasons.

Afterschool clubs

Please contact the office or the organiser directly if you wish your child to attend any of these clubs.
https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/afterschool-clubs/

Breakfast Lounge & Explorers

The school provides wrap around care from 7.45am - 8.45 am and from 3.15 to 5.15pm. This needs to be booked and paid for at least a week in advance. Please book via Arbor or contact the office for further information. https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/wrap-around-care-at-heatherlands

Please do not hesitate to contact the office via phone 01202 743918 or
email: heatherlands.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk if you have any questions.

The office opening hours are **8am - 4.15pm.**

The school website also contains a lot of relevant and useful
information: www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk

Friends of Heatherlands - November 2026

Reminder.
Our first event of the year will be our **Christmas Fair on Saturday 21st November, 11am–3pm.**

- **Bags 2 School** - Flyers have gone out for donations of clothes to be brought into school on the 3rd November. Time for a clear out over the half term! Please can you only bring the bags in on the morning of the 3rd as we do not have any storage space for them. The pick up will be around 9am so will not be able to take any bags after this time.
- **Donations days** - Our first donation Friday is coming up on Friday 6th November for our chocolate tombola.

- 🎄✨ **CHRISTMAS FAIR – CRAFT STALLS WANTED!** ✨🎄

Would you like to have a craft stall at our **Friends of Heatherlands Christmas Fair** on Saturday 21st November? 🎁
We'd love to hear from local crafters and small businesses who would like to showcase and sell their handmade creations!

📧 For more information or to book a stall, please email **friendsofheatherlands@gmail.com**.

🎁🎄 **CAN YOU HELP US? RAFFLE PRIZE DONATIONS WANTED!** 🎄🎁
Do you run a local business that could donate a prize for our **Friends of Heatherlands Christmas Fair** on Saturday 21st November?
We'd be incredibly grateful for any donations, whether it's a gift voucher, a product, a service or a special experience. Every contribution helps us raise valuable funds for our school and children. ❤️
If you or your business can help, please get in touch via email at **friendsofheatherlands@gmail.com**.

We'd love more parents to get involved!
We're looking to get more parents involved as volunteers and would really appreciate your feedback on how we can make this work for everyone.

We've put together a short questionnaire which will only take a couple of minutes to complete: Complete the Complete the Friends of Heatherlands Volunteer Questionnaire

If you'd like to get in touch, please email friendsofheatherlands@gmail.com or feel free to speak to one of us at school pick-up.

We're looking forward to a fantastic year of fundraising and bringing some great events to the school!

Coastal Learning Partnership (CLP)

Heatherlands continues to work closely with our multi academy trust (CLP) to help us to become even better at what we do and to help us to work consistently with our partner schools.

Heatherlands INSET days and term dates 2026 – 2027

https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/key-information-incl-holiday-dates

Autumn term 2026 : 1 September to 18 December
Inset day 23/10/2026 – School Closed
Autumn half term break: 26 October to 30 October – School closed
School re-opens 02/11/2026
School Closes Friday 18/12/2026 at 1.15pm
Christmas holiday: 21 December to 3 January

Spring Term 2027: 4 January to 25 March
Inset Day 04/01/2027 – School Closed
School re-opens Tuesday 05/01/2027
Spring half term break: 15 February to 19 February – School Closed
School re-opens 22/02/2027
School closes 25/03/2027 at 1.15pm
Easter holiday: 26 March to 11 April – School closed

Summer Term 2027 : 12 April to 21 July
Inset Day 12/04/2027 – School Closed
School re-opens 13/04/2027
Bank holiday 03/05/2027 – school closed
School closes 28/05/2027
Summer half term break: 31 May to 4 June – School closed
School re-opens 07/06/2027
Inset Day 18/06/2027 – School Closed
School Closes 20/07/2027 at 1.15pm
Summer holiday: from 21 July