



Heatherlands  
Primary School

### 'Churchill Chats'

The Easter holiday has always remained my personal favourite. The weather generally improves, the days become noticeably lighter, and the consumption of chocolate seems to be an acceptable pastime during this period. Easter is certainly an interesting time of year, and below are some facts you may not be aware of:

- Easter is named after Eostre, an Anglo-Saxon goddess.
- Painting eggs comes from Ukraine! They call their decorated eggs a *pysanka*, which means *to write*.
- The first ever Easter egg was invented in the UK! Fry's, the chocolate company, made it in Bristol in 1873. Now, around 80 million Easter eggs are sold in the UK each year.
- The most expensive chocolate egg was sold for £7,000 in London on 20th March 2012. In medieval times, it was believed that wearing new clothes on Easter would bring good luck! Luckily, we do not really think that anymore, so we can stick to our favourite "Easter jumper"!
- Easter is a Christian festival and signifies new life. That is why you see so many eggs (because chicks hatch out of them) and lots of Easter bunnies!

When we return after the Easter break, we will be very busy preparing children for assessments and tests, whilst also carefully beginning the process and discussions around transitions for the new academic year. As you can imagine, this is always a mammoth task.

As part of their work this term, teachers have also been busy writing the children's annual reports, which will outline their progress so far this year. This report will be shared with all parents and carers on Friday, March 27th.

Traditionally, the summer term also provides us with a chance to offer the children some well-planned and interesting learning experiences using our exciting grounds. There is no better sight than seeing half the school engaged in learning on the field, on the nature trail, or down in the Valley. The school grounds at Heatherlands remain our "hidden gem," and so we try, where possible, to improve and use them as part of our wider curriculum offer to all children.

The start of the summer term will also mean we begin preparing for some of the key school events that many of you may remember from your own childhood as part of traditional school life, such as Sports Day, the Summer Fair, school concerts, and a firm favourite of the year—SATs! We already know it's going to be a very busy term.

As I close, I hope our school community can enjoy the longer nights, brighter mornings, and the optimism that the sun brings with it. As Helen Keller once said, "*Keep your face to the sunshine and you will never see the shadows.*"

Happy holidays, everyone. See you all on Tuesday, April 14th, ready to take on the summer term!

*Mr Churchill*

## Dates for your diary – April 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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/emails-letters-reminders-from-school/>*

### **SUMMER TERM**

#### **WEEK 1**

<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
<b>BACK TO SCHOOL</b>
Year 2 SATS WEEK
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
2.30pm Year 4 parent volunteers meeting – ROAD SAFETY
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
Heatherlands Voice tuck shop 3.15pm
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
<b>RETURN of Wake up Heatherlands from 8.30am</b>
Year 5 African drumming workshops

#### **WEEK 2**

<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
SEND parents evening week BOOK WITH CLASS TEACHER
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026</b>
1.15pm Year 4 road safety session 1
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
<b>HOME LEARNING SET</b>
Maple class assembly 9am <b>STUDIO</b>

#### **WEEK 3**

<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
Year 4 Brownsea Island trip
Parents evening 1 by APPOINTMENT
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
1.15pm Year 4 road safety session 2
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
Parents evening 2 by APPOINTMENT
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026</b>

Starfish class assembly 9am STUDIO
<b>WEEK 4</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>
<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>
<b>HOME LEARNING DUE IN/COMMUNICATION WEEK</b>
Year 2 SATS WEEK
Year 4 Brownsea Island trip
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>
1.15pm Year 4 road safety session 3
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>
Dragonfly class assembly 9am STUDIO
Friends of Heatherlands Quiz 6.30pm – 10pm



## Questions to ask your child – April 2026

The year teams publish 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 all knowledge organisers are referenced at the top of each year group page. Have a look at our new look school website at [www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk](http://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk)



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



Can you point to and name the parts of a plant? What does each part do?



What is Georgia O'Keeffe famous for painting?

## Year 1

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

Can you find and name 3 human and 3 physical geographical features in your local area?

What are the parts of a plant called? Can you explain their functions?

What are the points on a compass? Use these to draw a simple map of your route to school. Can you include a key?

## Year 2

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

### Animal Diets

How do you know if an animal is a herbivore, carnivore, omnivore or insectivore?

### Animal Classification

What features help us classify an animal as a mammal, reptile, bird, fish or amphibian?

### Julia Donaldson

Which Julia Donaldson book do you prefer, and what makes it your favourite (characters, rhyme, setting, etc.)?

## Year 3

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

1 Which material did people in the Bronze Age start using to make better tools and weapons?

- A. Plastic
- B. Bronze
- C. Glass

*Extension:* Which two metals did they mix to make bronze?

What was one important change during the Iron Age?

- A. People learned to write emails
- B. People began using iron to make stronger tools
- C. People stopped farming

What are the Romans famous for building in Britain?

- A. Pyramids
- B. Skyscrapers
- C. Roads

*Extension:* Why were roads important?

## Year 4

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

How does onion-skinning help you when animating on a computer?

What are the similarities between Poole Harbour and Cherbourg Harbour?

$6 \times 7$ ,  $7 \times 8$ ,  $9 \times 3$ ,  $7 \times 4$ ,  $12 \times 6$ ,  $6 \times 6$ ,  $7 \times 7$ ,  $9 \times 6$ ,  $9 \times 7$ ,  $9 \times 8$ ,  $9 \times 9$ ,  $11 \times 11$ ,  $11 \times 10$ ,  $12 \times 11$ ,  $8 \times 8$ ,  $8 \times 6$ ,  $12 \times 12$ ,  $12 \times 10$ ,  $12 \times 9$ ,  $12 \times 8$ ,  $12 \times 7$

## Year 5

<https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/page/?title=Year+5+blog+posts&pid=248>

Can you show me how to add fractions?

What is a climate activist?

Why is the world suffering from climate change?

## YEAR 6

<https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/blog/?pid=241&nid=13>

How does light travel and what evidence can you use to explain this?

Explain how we see objects. Use scientific vocabulary such as *light source*, *reflection*, *opaque*, *incident ray* and *reflected ray*.

Why do shadows form and how can the position of a light source change the size or shape of a shadow?

## **Key Information– April 2026**

- Parents evenings for Year 1 to Year 6 children will be taking place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April. An email will be sent to those of you who need to book online via Arbor.
- Children with SEND in EYFS to Year 6 will have slightly longer appointments and these need to be made with the class teacher. These meetings will take place Wb. 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026.
- We have a new parent governor joining the governing body at Heatherlands. 102 votes were cast and Kate Peticlerc has been elected. Thank you to all who voted.



## **Celebrating our children**

Well done Adrian in Year 2.



Adrian has been interested in climbing for as long as we can remember as a family. Since he turned 7, he has been attending The Project Climbing Centre at the Dolphin Centre in Poole under adult supervision. We are currently waiting to hear from the centre about whether he could be considered for the development team and potentially start being involved in formal training and competitions.

*We are always proud to celebrate the children of Heatherlands achievements outside of school. Please continue to send in photos and information for our monthly parent communications to the office email.*

*Thank you.*

## Whole school notices & reminders – April 2026



We shall be starting 'Wake up Heatherlands' again each Friday morning, from the 17<sup>th</sup> April. As always, we welcome you all on site with your child/ren to join in with the dance routines and to encourage them to dance along too. As the gates open at 8.30am we will put on the music, and we will dance together until the children go into class at 8.45am.

### Advanced notice for sports day dates

- Wednesday June 10<sup>th</sup>: KS1 (Years 1 & 2) 9.10am
- Wednesday June 10<sup>th</sup>: UKS2 (Years 5 & 6) 1.10pm
- Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup>: EYFS 9.10am
- Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup>: LKS2 (Years 3 & 4) 1.10pm

### Uniform

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 bins are stored outside the school office near the bike shed.

### Preloved book sale - Spring Term Results

Well done to the Heatherlands community and for all of your hard work promoting the event!!!

Pre-loved Book Fair = £460

Community Book Fund share = £144

**Subtotal = £604**

Each year group will be given £150 to spend at the 'pop up book shop' to top up their resources. Thanks to Vanessa for organising and selling all the books.

### Supporting Reading Through Bug Club

While we are mindful of screen time, our online 'Bug Club' platform provides a safe, structured way for children to access a wide range of texts perfectly matched to their reading level. The embedded comprehension questions help strengthen children's understanding—an essential part of becoming a confident and capable reader.

A healthy balance of physical and digital reading is absolutely fine, and in the long term it does *not* negatively affect progress. If your child is using a tablet, using it for reading is a genuinely positive choice. The key factor is consistency.

### Our Key Stage 2 library

At Heatherlands, we are always exploring new and exciting ways to inspire a love of reading. Our new library wall has already created a real buzz around school, and we hope it will continue to encourage every child to enjoy and engage with books.



### **Easyfundraising**

As you know, Heatherlands Primary School is registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our easyfundraising page at [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/heatherlands-primary-school/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_content=gs-email1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/heatherlands-primary-school/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1)

Thank you so much!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/heatherlands-primary-school>



### **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.

### **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.

Please do not hesitate to contact the office via phone 01202 743918 or email: [heatherlands.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk)



## **Friends of Heatherlands - April 2026**

We are busy planning this year's quiz night, On **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 6.30pm arrival for 7pm start**. We have decided to run it ourselves with the lovely Mr Arrowsmith and Mrs Nolan volunteering to be quiz masters!!! It will be a fun, interactive quiz, covering different categories.

So book the babysitter, Yes this is an adults only event!!! Get you team together and be in for a fun evening.

We will break half way for food, don't forget to order in advance. We will also be running a bar with a selection of alcoholic and soft drinks at reasonable prices.

All money raised will go towards things that the school budgets don't stretch too!

You can book your team in by completing the google form sent in Friday's email.

We also have another bag2school collection booked. If you are having a spring clear out over the Easter holiday's please save your clothes for us. They will be collecting on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April**.



The poster is for a Quiz Night event. It features a dark blue background with a pattern of small white dots. At the top left is a yellow lightbulb icon. At the top center is the Friends of Heatherlands logo. The main text 'Quiz Night' is in large, pink, bubbly letters. Below it, 'FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY' is in white, and '6.30PM' is in large yellow letters. A large pink question mark is on the left, and a yellow lightbulb icon is on the right. Below the time, it says 'TEAM UP FOR THE ULTIMATE FUN QUIZ NIGHT' in white, followed by 'Adults only!' in large white letters. A horizontal line separates this from 'FUN & INTERACTIVE QUIZ HOSTED BY MR ARROWSMITH & MRS NOLAN' in white. Another horizontal line follows, with 'ALCOHOLIC & SOFT DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BUY' in white. At the bottom, it says 'Email friendsofheatherlands@gmail.com to book.' in white. There are also white starburst and crescent moon icons at the bottom corners.

Friends of  
**Heatherlands**  
charity number 1114229

# Quiz Night

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
**6.30PM**

TEAM UP FOR THE ULTIMATE FUN QUIZ NIGHT  
**Adults only!**

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FUN & INTERACTIVE QUIZ HOSTED BY  
MR ARROWSMITH & MRS NOLAN

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ALCOHOLIC & SOFT DRINKS WILL  
BE AVAILABLE TO BUY

Email  
friendsofheatherlands@gmail.com  
to book.

♥ Contact Us at [friendsofheatherlands@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofheatherlands@gmail.com)

If you'd like to be involved with the PTA — whether it's helping behind the scenes, supporting at events, or spreading the word — we'd love to hear from you.

✦ The more help we have, the bigger and better our events will be! ✦



**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.