



The Heatherlands Way

Spring 2025 19th Edition



Heatherlands Vision

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter, celebrating another fantastic term at Heatherlands! As we step into the brighter days of spring, it is the perfect time to reflect on the achievements, experiences, and memorable moments that have made this term so special. From the excitement of Emile times tables battles to thought-provoking discussions around Fairtrade, this term has been packed with opportunities for our children to challenge themselves and learn in new ways. We have explored the wonders of Science Week, dressed up and delved into stories for World Book Day, and been inspired by visitors who have enriched our learning. Children have also embraced adventures on class trips and taken to the stage for Shakespearean performances—all demonstrating enthusiasm, **resilience**, and a love for learning.

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A huge thank you, as always, to our dedicated staff, who go the extra mile to provide these enriching experiences, and of course, to our families, whose support makes such a difference in our school community.

So, as we head into a well-earned break, take a moment to enjoy this edition and celebrate the wonderful achievements of our pupils this term. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable holiday!

Aspiration

Actions	Words
We do our best	Ambitious
We aim high	Dreams
We think BIG!	Hopes
We set goals	Goals
We make plans	Successful!
We work hard	I will get there

Motivation

Actions	Words
We keep trying	Well done
We praise each other	Keep going
We accept praise	Congratulations
We are motivated	Motivation
We are proud of our successes	Success
We learn from our mistakes	I feel proud



Spotlight on Success: Junior B.U. Falcons Shine!

A huge congratulations to Marnie and Omie Innes and Heidi Hewitson for their incredible performance at their recent Cheerleading Showcase! As the youngest performers in a show featuring National Champions over the age of 18, they took to the stage with confidence and delivered a flawless routine. Despite performing right at the end of a 1.5-hour show, they showed no nerves in front of a big audience and achieved a prestigious 'Zero' rating - meaning zero mistakes!



As part of the Junior B.U. Falcons (Bournemouth University) team, their hard work and dedication truly paid off.

Well done - we are so proud of you!

Emile Maths Battles

This term has seen the start of some epic **Emile times tables battles**. Our pupils have been bravely facing off against the teachers in these quickfire competitions, tackling some tricky questions and showing off their **resilience**. The school has been buzzing with excitement as the children share how much practice they have been doing so they can beat their teachers and we've seen some incredible displays of **motivation** and quick thinking.



The results have become a highlight of our Monday assemblies with the school going wild to find out who would be crowned champion. **Keep practicing those times tables because the next battle is just around the corner and who knows, you might just be the one to claim victory!**

Fairtrade Fun: A Sweet Success for Year 4!

In Year 4, we had a fantastic end to our topic 'Food and Fairtrade' by welcoming in Sarah from DEED who spoke to all the children about the impact of Fairtrade on the wider world. The children impressed her with all the knowledge they had been learning all half term! We then had a fantastic time getting our classrooms ready for our Fairtrade Sale. Thank you to all the parents that attended and bought some of the Fairtrade products, we raised £261!

As a reminder, when shopping, please consider buying **Fairtrade** products whenever possible. Fairtrade ensures that producers in developing countries are paid fairly for their work, helping to support communities and create better futures.

Every small purchase makes a big difference in the lives of those who grow the products we enjoy every day!



Spring Celebrations: Exploring Festivals Across Cultures in EYFS

This half term, EYFS have been exploring the vibrant festival of Holi, also known as the 'Festival of Colours'. As part of our learning, the children have been encouraged to appreciate different cultural celebrations, such as Holi, Nowruz, and Easter. This reflects our school value of **respect**, as the children learned about the diversity of traditions and beliefs celebrated around the world.

The children have been **motivated** to engage in creative activities related to the festival, including tasting traditional Indian foods and learning about the colourful traditions of Holi. On **Friday, 14th March**, the children took part in a colourful celebration, throwing powder paint and water in the spirit of Holi. This exciting event was not only fun but also provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to appreciate and **respect** other cultures, while showing great **motivation** in their participation.

We are incredibly proud of the children's enthusiasm and teamwork throughout this experience, which truly embodied our school values.



Sparking Curiosity: Heatherlands Science Week in Action!

National Science Week took place from 10th - 14th March, and all children at Heatherlands became scientists for the week! Through live lesson workshops, they explored concepts of changing, adapting, and evaluating, embodying our school values of **aspiration** and **motivation** as they tackled exciting scientific challenges.

EYFS - Budding Scientists in Action!

Our youngest learners embraced their inner scientists with exciting experiments like the **Skittles Rainbow** and the **Rainbow Colour Crawl**. They showed **motivation** by making predictions, observing changes, and testing different variables - building key scientific skills in a fun and interactive way.



Years 1 & 2 - The Waterproofing Challenge

Key Stage 1 investigated **which materials make the best waterproof fabric**, demonstrating **aspiration** by thinking critically and testing their ideas. After experimenting, they shared their discoveries:

"Plastic is best! It wouldn't let the water go through- it's waterproof!"
- Sofia

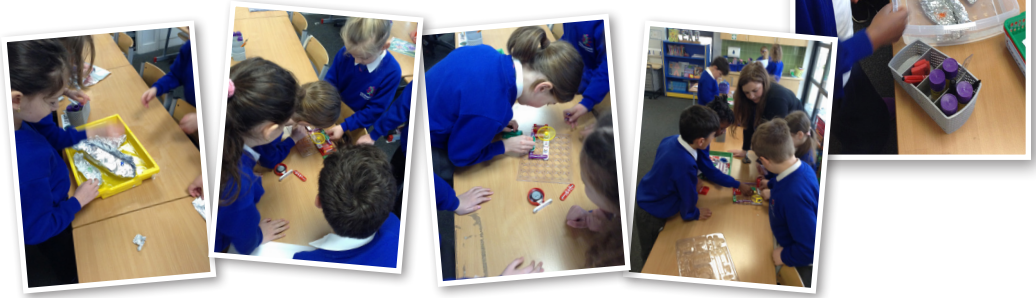
"The paper surprised me! It didn't go through, but I know it will rip - I've tried it at home." - Max

"I think the water will go through the fabric, then the oil will stop it."
- Robert



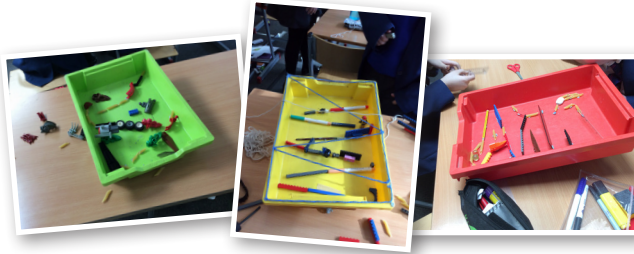
Years 3 & 4 - Friction in Motion

Pupils explored **how friction affects movement** by rolling objects down ramps made of different materials. They showed **motivation** by testing and refining their ideas, eager to understand how different surfaces impacted speed.



Years 5 & 6 - Marble Run Masterpieces

Upper Key Stage 2 took friction investigations to the next level by designing **marble runs**. Their challenge? **To make the marble move as slowly as possible without stopping!** Their **aspiration** drove them to think creatively - experimenting with angles, adding textured materials, and wrapping string around pens to increase friction. The competition was on to see whose marble took the longest to reach the finish line!



The Den - Hands-on Science Fun

The children in The Den fully embraced Science Week, demonstrating **motivation** as they explored rainbow colour investigations, created their own volcano, and investigated magnets. Their role-play science lab allowed them to step into the shoes of real scientists, igniting their curiosity and determination to discover more.

Science Week was an inspiring experience for all, with every child **aspiring** to think like a scientist and showing **motivation** to investigate, experiment, and learn.

Well done to all our young scientists - your enthusiasm and determination made this week a huge success!



Resilient Rescuers

The Recovery Position / First Aid lesson

Recently, the Year 5 cohort were delivered a first aid workshop in which they were taught how to put someone into the recovery position. They practised this in pairs, receiving coaching from teachers and support staff. They were then given various emergency first aid scenarios and were asked to explain the response needed, i.e., 'if someone is unconscious but still breathing', put them into the recovery position, as well as 'if someone is badly cut and bleeding excessively', raise the wound, wrap, apply pressure and seek medical attention.

Remember - Call 999 for emergency help if it hasn't already been done. Monitor their level of response while waiting for help to arrive.



Aspiring Authors – Year 2 and Year 5 Reading Buddies

During this week's Yr5/Yr2 Reading Buddies slot, the cohort showed off their impressive writing to their older peers!

The Year 2 children read aloud their own writing to their Year 5 'Buddies' and enjoyed every minute.

Children from Galaxy class were particularly inspired by their made-up animal descriptions, some remarking, "Woah, they have even included subordinate clauses!" and "Wow, they have used expanded noun phrases too! We do those things in YEAR 5!"

Keep up the amazing work, Year 2.

You are **aspirational** authors!



Kicking Towards Success!

It has been a terrific season for our football teams this year. We have been extremely proud to take our children to away games and equally we have enjoyed showcasing home matches here. It has been very busy, that's for sure!

BOYS

Our boys team has exceeded expectations in all areas this year. Our squad selection has been open to both Year 5 and 6 children - and we have also seen a Year 4 boy earn his way into our team! It has been a joy to see the whole group show so much **aspiration** to try and earn their way into the matchday teams.

We often come up against middle schools with taller and stronger players - yet this hasn't deterred the boys at all. They have approached every game with great determination and **motivation**. They have also impressed me with how they've demonstrated **respect** - to each other and also to opposing teams.

I'm delighted to say that after a hard fought group campaign, we finished TOP of our group! We then went into the quarter finals and beat St Michael's Middle School 6-3. Our run came to an end when we lost in the semi-finals 3-0 to Bishop Aldhelm's.

I'm so proud with how the boys carried themselves in adversity. It would have been easy for them to drop their heads and feel sorry for themselves but instead, they kept battling and almost scored on a number of occasions. It just wasn't 'to be' this year - but we have built a great squad of players who will be ready to build on this next year.



GIRLS

Our girls team has been equally busy. We had a good run in our first group, where we finished in 2nd place. This meant that we then moved into a smaller three team group for the next stage of the competition. We had a particularly good result against St Joseph's - winning 9-0.

Our second group was tough! We drew against Muscliff 1-1 - a game where we played well and could have scored more. We then lost to Ferndown Middle 5-1. This group could have gone either way as the winners were Muscliff, who we could have won against.

The girls make us proud every time they play. They show so much **resilience** and always respond well after they've lost a game. They support each other fantastically and we are proud of how they demonstrate our Heatherlands Way values at all times.

A huge thank you to our coach, Mr Paulley, for his unwavering commitment and support in helping these **aspiring** footballers reach their potential. His dedication to developing their skills and fostering a love of the game has been truly inspiring.

Let's keep aiming high, and we can't wait to see what's next for our budding football stars!



Rocking Romans

We are excited to share with you the wonderful experience Year 3 had on our trip this half term!

As part of our learning about the Romans in our 'From Stone to Rome' topic, we went off on the coach to Upton Country Park. We participated in an engaging workshop that brought the history of this era to life, we practised marching like Romans and we made a clay pot and a 'standard' for our 'army'. After lunch, we made our way down to the water's edge, we explored the very spot where the Romans first invaded Dorset all those years ago.

The children were very **resilient** when faced with the chilly weather. Instead of letting the cold dampen their spirits, they continued to explore and enjoy the surroundings. They also demonstrated **respect** for nature and each other. Throughout the day, the children were eager to learn and ask questions, which demonstrated their **motivation** to learn. They showed true **aspiration** to discover more about the Roman history, enthusiastically participating in discussions and sharing their newfound knowledge with their classmates.

This trip was not just a fun day out, but a significant part of our history curriculum that allowed our students to connect the things they have learned in class with real-world experiences.



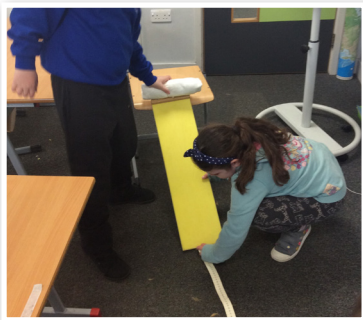
Forest Fun and Science Wonders!

The Spring term has been packed with curiosity, exploration, and scientific discoveries for Year 3!

We enjoyed Forest School Friday, where the children engaged in weaving. We crafted 'Gods Eyes' using different coloured yarn, some of us faced challenges when we were trying to figure out the pattern, but we remained **resilient** for our final creation and kept trying. Lots of year 3 showed **aspiration** by trying to use lots of different coloured yarn to create their God's eye. We also constructed bird hides to prepare for some thrilling bird watching. We showed **respect** for nature by scattering some bird seed for our feathered friends and we discussed what different birds we might see in the Valley.



Science Week was another highlight, filled with experiments that provoked curiosity and wonder! We dissected flowers, explored electricity through invigorating experiments that featured circuits using batteries, and created tin foil animals to classify. We observed experiments throughout the week in each class in year 3, looking at the effects of squash, coke and water on egg shell, and we linked this to these liquids impact on our teeth. We talked about how we can be **independent** in looking after our teeth, and making sure we are not drinking too many sugary drinks! On the topic of teeth...



EYFS Brushing Up on Dental Hygiene!

As part of their learning about oral hygiene, the EYFS children had a visit from Adele, a dental nurse from Charminster House, and Ms. Levene, one of our parents who is an Oral B Representative.

The children learned about what to expect during a visit to the dentist and what the dentist and dental nurses wear as part of their uniform to stay safe. They also discovered that they should have 20 teeth, though their estimations varied widely!

The children were taught that they should brush their teeth twice a day for 2 minutes each time. Adele demonstrated the correct brushing technique using a giant set of teeth to show how to keep our teeth and gums healthy. The children's enthusiasm to learn about how to take care of their teeth is a great example of our school value of **motivation**, as they were eager to try out what they had learned.

A big thank you to Adele and Ms. Levene for their time and for generously providing every child with a 'goody bag' full of treats to help maintain healthy teeth. These were kindly donated by Charminster House and Oral B.



Year 6 Diaries: Pumping with Knowledge - Dissecting the Heart!

In our recent science lessons learning about the circulatory system, we received an amazing opportunity to dissect a pig's heart!

Everyone was incredibly excited to take part in this activity and could not wait for the day to finally arrive. In the beginning, many students were surprised by the smell of all the hearts in the classroom but as we got further into the

lesson, everyone seemed to open up to the idea. As we sliced into the heart, we were able to clearly spot all the main chambers; the valves were my favourite section to explore.

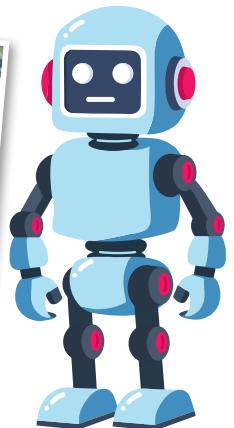
Tianie



Robots in Action

Year 6 had an exciting time in a recent STEM workshop, where they built robots and programmed them to follow a series of instructions.

The workshop was a huge success, with students fully engaged in the hands-on activities and showing great **aspiration** as they tackled new challenges. They demonstrated **motivation** and **independence** while working through problems to get their robots to perform specific tasks. **One robot even took flight, adding an extra element of excitement to the day!**



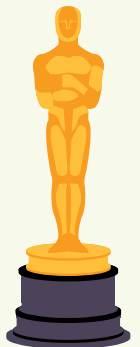
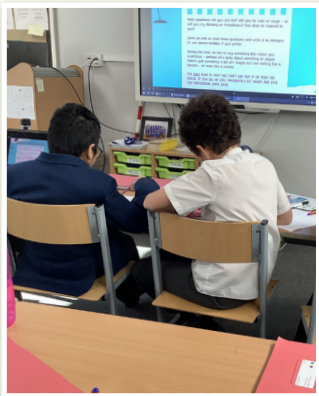
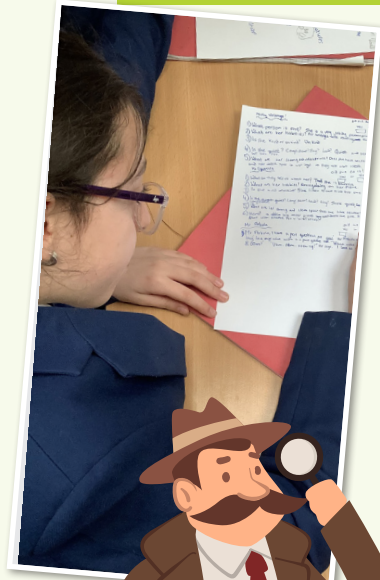
A 'Who Done It?' Adventure with a Published Author!

Year 6 had a fantastic time during our World Book Week activities with a visit from a published author!

The children were immersed in the mystery of Mr. Arrowsmith's stolen Oscar Award (he wishes!), working together to explore potential suspects and plan their own 'who done it' style story. The session was filled with **aspiration**, as the students were **motivated** to think creatively and share their hilarious ideas.



It was a memorable experience that sparked their imagination and love for storytelling!



Women's History Month – 'Motivation in March'

We are pleased to share that, in March, HPS welcomed "Women's History Month" and all of the Science, History and JIGSAW links that came with it. We specifically celebrated the achievements of influential female scientists during Science Week.

Taking place on 8th March every year, International Women's Day (and 'month') is a chance to acknowledge the achievements of women whilst also raising awareness about discrimination and gender inequality.

We have been studying 'Wonderful Women' throughout history during our 'Early Morning Work' sessions.

Want to know WHY they are so 'wonderful'? Find out more about their ground-breaking achievements here: www.weareteachers.com/women-scientists

There are also some lovely short stories, resources and videos available here: www.bbc.co.uk/teach/articles/z7rr6v4#zmtycxs

1. Maria Sibylla Merian, Entomologist and Artist (1647-1717)



NINE INVENTIONS DEVELOPED BY WOMEN

Laser eye surgery

[Patricia Batch] — 1986

A pioneer in her field, she improved **cataract operations** using lasers.



Anti-reflective lenses

[Katherine Blodgett] — 1938

She experimented with molecular coatings applied to glass. **They are used on spectacles, camera lenses, etc.**



Emergency flare

[Martha Coston] — 1859

This **lifesaving signal** was used in **maritime emergencies** during the American Civil War.



Liquid corrector (Tippex)

[Bette Nesmith Graham] — 1956

She got the idea from painters, who fixed their mistakes by painting over them. **She created her own company to manufacture and market it.**



The syringe

[Letitia Geer] — 1896

This was a **great innovation** compared to others more rudimentary and it allowed the **use by a single person.**



The floor mop

[Julia Montoussé and Julia Rodríguez-Maribóna] — 1953

It wasn't until **1953** that someone got the idea of **sticking a cloth onto the end of a pole.** They also invented the wringer basket.



Windscreen wipers

[Mary Anderson] — 1903

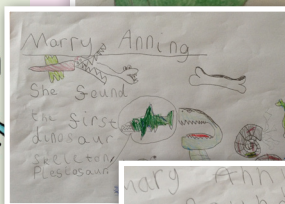
She thought up a mechanism that could be **operated by the driver.**



Wi Fi

[Heidi Lamarr] — 1942

History remembers this actress as the **inventor of the technology that was the forerunner of Wi Fi and GPS,** during World War II.



A Magical Night at Poole Lighthouse

On 25th March, under the leadership of Mr Arrowsmith and Miss Manzi and the support of Mrs Grady, a group of talented year 5 children from school dazzled the audience at Poole Lighthouse with a vibrant production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' as part of the Coram Shakespeare Festival. This extraordinary performance transformed the classic play into a disco, featuring raving fairies twirling in colourful costumes, dapper Athenians in sharp suits, and a band of lively bouncers keeping the peace amidst the excitement.

The children were **motivated** to share their interpretation of Shakespeare's timeless tale with everyone, rehearsing every Friday after school and even for a day during half term! Their enthusiasm shone through every dance move and line delivered, illuminating the stage with their creativity and spirit. Even when rehearsals were tough, the children showed remarkable **resilience**, pushing through challenges with determination and joy.

Respect was a vital element when putting the performance together, as each member of the cast supported one another, listening carefully and helping each other to shine. On the day of the performance, they displayed excellent teamwork, ensuring that everything ran smoothly and that they lifted each

other's spirits, and represented our school outstandingly in the community.

This magical night not only celebrated Shakespeare but also showcased the dedication and talent of our school community. **The applause from families, friends and several members of staff from school echoed through the venue, sealing this unforgettable experience in the hearts of everyone involved.**

A large number of staff and parents attended **A Midsummer Night's Groove**, and the rapturous applause showed just how well received it was. It was a long day for the children who took part, but their beaming smiles and proud bows at the end proved it was well worth the effort.

Some lovely comments from the organiser included:

"An absolute delight to watch... a colourful and humorous ensemble... an up-to-date and modern performance."

A huge thank you to Mr. Arrowsmith and Miss Manzi for their dedication in putting the production together and rehearsing with the children, ensuring its success. Thanks also to Mrs. Grady for her invaluable help on the day and late into the evening.



Eco Council News

Environmental respect is so important because it helps to preserve the beauty and diversity of our planet.

This year the Eco Council has set a target to recycle 1000 yoghurt pots! Each day a team of children give up a little of their time to rinse all the pots from the KS1 lunch hall, before the pots are repurposed or recycled.

Since we have returned from February half term, we have smashed that total and have now recycled 1,092 pots.



Quick Fact!
The UK binned a huge 743 million yoghurt pots last year.

Figures came from WRAP (a global environment action group)



Everything is coming up Spring!

Environmental respect is so important because it helps to preserve the beauty and diversity of our planet.

The Valley is looking very colourful and fresh with a variety of spring bulbs on display.

In the autumn term children from Years 4, 5 and 6 Gardening Club planned and planted their own spring flower displays. Amongst the variety of bulbs, they chose were anemones, tulips and daffodils. They worked in teams to layout their beds looking at colour, size and the spacing of the bulbs.

The effects are wonderful and they can all be super proud of their work and **motivation**.



Exploring Nature in Forest School with EYFS

Wow what a half term in Forest School. The children have really enjoyed exploring the Forest School every week. They have met some of our new Forest School friends, Sophie the Squirrel, Helen the Hedgehog, Freddy the Fox and Ollie the Owl and explored the new areas such as Base Camp and the Great Fairy Tree. The children have enjoyed the activities on offer such as bug hunting, bird watching, fairy post, shape hunting and showing great team work in building traps.

As the weather continues to improve there will be more improvements to the Forest School so watch this space!



A huge thank you to Miss Harvey for all her hard work and creativity in developing the Forest School provision and environment. Her dedication has truly brought these outdoor experiences to life for the children.



Year 5 Kicks Off Learning with AFC Bournemouth Visits

Throughout March, Year 5 have had visits from AFC Bournemouth to help us learn about future careers that are available in our futures. We found the visits helped our **aspirations** and we were **motivated** to join in.

On one of the visits, Year Five were joined Tash, Sophia and Abby- Captain of the Bournemouth Women's football team. They came to help us celebrate World Book Day. The children discussed how we need to use reading in everything we do and then they completed an A-Z of reading challenge where they named books and authors related to each letter of the alphabet.

The children then looked at an AFC Bournemouth match report and used their existing knowledge of skimming and scanning to answer the questions with a partner. Some of us showed great **resilience** as the task was difficult.

In an additional visit, players from AFC Bournemouth Ladies visited our classroom to discuss the importance of a healthy lifestyle. The children were **motivated** to engage with the players and share their thoughts about well-being.

During this informative session, children listened **respectfully** and the players helped us review what a healthy, balanced diet looks like. We learned about the 'Eat Well Plate', which is a helpful guide for understanding how to nourish our bodies properly. The players explained how they eat carbohydrates before matches to fuel their energy and protein afterwards to help with recovery. They also mentioned the use of a small snack with sugar at half-time or just before the match for an energy boost.



We explored the significance of drinking enough water. The players discussed how everyone should be consuming a certain amount of water each day to stay hydrated. The children learned how to calculate their own healthy water intake for a 24-hour period.



The players highlighted the need for regular physical activity, suggesting that children should aim for at least an hour of exercise each day and ensure they get 10-11 hours of sleep each night.

To conclude the visit, the children planned a pre-match meal, a snack, and a post-match meal for a football player. Everyone appreciated the visit and was engaged. Next week, we look forward to welcoming the players back for a reading workshop.



Heatherlands Stars: Noah and Amelie's Musical Triumphs!

Michael Dooley the Lord lieutenant of Dorset presented Bournemouth Youth Marching Band the Kings Award for voluntary service at their recent spring concert and he asked to speak to some young people and had a conversation with Noah and Amelie about what instruments they play, why and how they joined the band.

Amelie was also presented her certificate for passing out of academy by the Mayor of Ferndown, meaning she is now part of the main band.

In June they will be taking part in London Band week and perform in the London Tattoo with the band.

At the band awards evening, Noah received the shield for winning the percussion award - showing the most dedication and improvement over the year. Amelie received the runner up award alongside another child for the under 11's. They couldn't decide between the two as their improvement and attendance/dedication was on par.

They were presented these by Lieutenant Colonel Powell from the Royal Marines.



We are very proud of Noah and Amelie, who have demonstrated The Heatherlands Way. Well done!



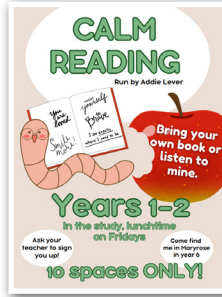
Heatherlands Voice

Heatherlands Voice have been very busy this term organising fundraisers for both school and Helpful Hounds.

In February we organised a successful Valentines Bake sale raising nearly £200 for our playground equipment fund.



We were very lucky to have another signed Bournemouth FC ball which we successfully raffled raising over £150 for Helpful Hounds. Bournemouth FC also gave us tickets to have another Stadium Tour which the lucky runner-up winners enjoyed. Sadly, no famous footballers were seen!



We have also been running some very exciting clubs for the children in school including a Lego Club, Chess Club and Coding Club. Addie has been supporting a love of reading by running a book club with some Key Stage 1 children on a Monday lunchtime.

Alice is our resident poster designer and has made some wonderful posters for all our events and clubs. Thank you, Alice, for your creativity.

Coming up we have organised a very exciting Easter Egg hunt which will be happening in the last week of term.



News just in: In the summer term, the Heatherlands Voice are planning a children's and family quiz, and the much-loved ice lolly sales will be making a return - always a firm favourite!



So, stay tuned and watch this space - exciting opportunities to get involved and make a difference are just around the corner!

A big thank you to Mrs Lloyd-Christie for chairing the Heatherlands Voice meetings.

Heatherlands



Primary School

A big thank you to all staff and children who have contributed to this edition of the newsletter. We couldn't do it without you and appreciate your commitment to the 'Heatherlands Way'. Please let Mrs Allen know, if you would like to contribute to future newsletters.

