



Heatherlands
Primary School

'Churchill Chats'



As we head into the early days of summer, we are preparing ourselves for yet another very busy and exciting month. May is always a particularly special time in school: the weather begins to brighten, and children are once again able to enjoy our (finally!) dry school field. This really is a game-changer for breaktimes, bringing with it extra energy, excitement and fun.

May is also the month when SATs arrive for our Year 6 pupils. They have been working incredibly hard in preparation, and while the tests are an important milestone, I am sure they will be very pleased to wave them goodbye and turn their attention to the much-anticipated Year 6 leavers' show. Alongside this, they will soon begin preparing for the next big step in their journey as they look ahead to starting secondary school.

Many of us will remember that mixture of excitement and uncertainty that comes with the summer term when change is on the horizon. Leaving primary school marks the first significant transition in a child's life — the end of the 'simple life' they have known since the age of five and the beginning of new challenges and opportunities ahead. Across the rest of the school, children will also be preparing for transition, thinking about new classrooms in September, meeting new teachers and perhaps even wearing a tie or blazer for the first time. I wonder how many of you remember your favourite teacher — mine was Mr Griffiths!

May really is the month that keeps on giving. Not only do we enjoy an extra bank holiday for May Day, but here are a few interesting May facts you might enjoy:

- Blue jeans were officially invented in May 1873, when Levi Strauss and Jacob Davis patented the design.
- The birthstone for May is the emerald, which represents love and success.
- The zodiac signs for May are Taurus (20 April–20 May) and Gemini (21 May–20 June).
- The birth flower for May is Lily of the Valley.
- The month of May is named after Maia, the Greek goddess of fertility.

Jean Hersey once said, "*The month of May is the gateway to summer,*" and I think I have to agree!

Mr Churchill

Dates for your diary – May 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/emails-letters-reminders-from-school/>

SUMMER TERM

WEEK 3

Friday 1st May 2026
Wake up Heatherlands from 8.30am
Starfish class assembly 9am STUDIO

WEEK 4

Monday 4th May 2026
BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday 5th May 2026
HOME LEARNING DUE IN/COMMUNICATION WEEK
Year 2 SATS
Lulworth Class Brownsea Island trip
Wednesday 6th May 2026
Year 2 SATS
School nurse drop ins – BY APPOINTMENT
1.15pm Year 4 road safety session 3
Friday 8th May 2026
Wake up Heatherlands from 8.30am
Dragonfly class assembly 9am STUDIO
Friends of Heatherlands Quiz 6.30pm – 10pm

WEEK 5

Year 6 SATS WEEK
Monday 11th May 2026
SPAG and Spelling papers Year 6 SATS
Tuesday 12th May 2026
Reading paper Year 6 SATS
Wednesday 13th May 2026
Maths paper 1 & 2 Year 6 SATS
HOME LEARNING QUIZ SET - due in 18.5.26
Thursday 14th May 2026
Maths paper 3 Year 6 SATS
Friday 15th May 2026
Wake up Heatherlands from 8.30am
Poppy class assembly 9am STUDIO

WEEK 6

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK
Monday 18th May 2026
HOME LEARNING QUIZ DUE IN
Tuesday 19th May 2026
Kimmeridge Class Brownsea Island trip
Year 6 BSO concert – INVITATION ONLY
Wednesday 20th May 2026
Year 2 SATS
African music workshops – KS1 and KS2 (pm)
Thursday 21st May 2026
Year 2 SATS
Friday 22nd May 2026
Wessex Wishes non uniform day £1 donation
Wake up Heatherlands from 8.30am
Values assembly 9am STUDIO – INVITATION ONLY
Incredibles/Young Carers trip to Longdown Dairy Farm – INVITATION ONLY
BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM



Questions to ask your child – May 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



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

Who was Mary Anning and what was she famous for?



Can you work out which dinosaur is a **herbivore**, **carnivore**, or **omnivore**? What clues can you see?

Odd One Out!



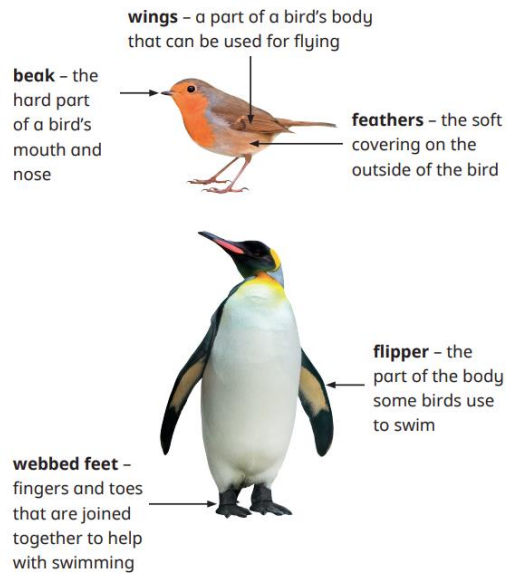
Which one is the odd one out? Why? Can you use the words **mammal** and **oviparous** in your explanation?

Year 1

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

Can all mammals be pets? How do you know?

What are the differences between these two birds?



How is a fish different from a mammal?

Year 2

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

What is the name of a baby koala?

What do we call a baby horse?

What is a baby sheep called?

What is a microhabitat, and can you give one example of a microhabitat found in nature?

Describe the life cycle of a butterfly, starting from the egg and ending with the adult.

Year 3

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

What is a river?

- A. A road for cars
- B. A natural stream of flowing water
- C. A type of mountain
- D. A place to build houses

Where does a river usually start?

- A. In the sea
- B. In a city
- C. On a mountain or hill
- D. In a desert

What do we call the place where a river meets the sea?

- A. The source
- B. The middle
- C. The mouth
- D. The bank

BONUS QUESTION:-

Can you describe the journey from the source of the river to the mouth of the river?
What vocabulary have you learnt to describe the features along the way?

Year 4

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

What is the difference between an open circuit and a closed circuit?

What is a subordinate clause and a main clause?

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Year 5

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

What can you tell me about Africa?

What were some challenges faced during Apartheid?

Can you create some art in the style of Gakonga?

Year 6

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

Who was Charles Darwin and why is he famous?

What is 'evolution' and how did Darwin say animals change over time? Try to include the idea of survival and adaptation in your answer.

Why was Darwin's theory important, even though some people disagreed with it at first?

Key Information – May 2026



A reminder to all parents/carers - SATs week begins on Monday 11th May. Please ensure your child is in school on time and has had a big breakfast for lots of brain fuel!

Walk to School Week is back for another year! This May, pupils from all over the UK will take part in Living Streets' exciting five-day challenge as they walk, wheel, scoot or Park and Stride to school every day of the week. This will take place from the **18th to 22nd May** and encourages pupils to enjoy the many social, health and environmental benefits of walking and wheeling.

This challenge links directly into our school travel plan, which can be viewed at

<https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/heatherlands-travel-plan>

This plan is our commitment to encouraging active travel and to supporting a healthy, happy school environment.

Non-Uniform Day – Supporting Wessex Wishes

Wessex Wishes have kindly supported our school this year by providing our children with extra resources and special surprises. To help support their fundraising efforts, we will be holding a non-uniform day on the last day of this half term, **Friday 22 May 2026**.

We kindly ask for a £1 donation, or whatever you are able to give. Every contribution makes a real difference and helps Wessex Wishes continue to support our school and other children across Poole.

Thank you for your continued support.

National Year Of Reading 2026 - Let's Go All In!

We are excited to join Pop-Up Bookshop's new collective community fundraising campaign bringing together local businesses, families and schools... 10,000 Hours Of Fun Reading!

The Pop-Up Bookshop will launch the campaign in assembly next week and the printed reading challenge sheets will be sent home and via email. The Heatherlands sponsored reading challenge runs from 27th April for 6 weeks until 5th June.

- The Heatherlands annual target is to achieve 1,000 hours of reading!
- Pupil reading targets can be tailored to individual abilities and interests.
- The challenge focuses on Reading For Fun - any and all texts your child wants to read are encouraged!
- 100% sponsorship funds new books for school to benefit all pupils! The sponsorship form and time tracker included in this email.
- This challenge is fully inclusive for all pupils - sponsorship is optional. Full instructions are listed in the printed challenge sheet.

Thank you for supporting Heatherlands in this fun reading campaign.

www.popupbookshop.co.uk/go-all-in-campaign

Advanced notice for sports day dates

Wednesday June 10th: KS1 (Years 1 & 2) 9.10am

Wednesday June 10th: UKS2 (Years 5 & 6) 1.10pm

Thursday June 11th: EYFS 9.10am

Thursday June 11th: LKS2 (Years 3 & 4) 1.10pm

Celebrating our children

Well done Oscar B in Year 2.



Oscar in Seashell class completed a 5k walk in the easter holidays to raise money for the National Autistic Society. This is an important cause to the family as Oscar's brother has autism.

He wanted to share some photos of the walk with his class, and we wanted to celebrate his achievement as a school.

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 reminders – May 2026



'Wake up Heatherlands' runs each Friday morning, on the top playground. 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.

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.

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.

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

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 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 - May 2026

We are busy planning this year's quiz night, On **Friday 8th 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 halfway 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.



♥ **Contact Us at 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.