



Heatherlands
Primary School

'Churchill Chats'

Welcome back to all our children and families!

I do hope you were able to enjoy a relaxing and enjoyable family holiday.

As we look towards 2026 together, all of us at Heatherlands remain committed to improving what we offer for the benefit of all the children and wider school community. Our school improvement plan provides some of that direction as we look to strengthen our maths provision, how we assess and further improve our foundational skills such as handwriting and spelling.

We will also over the year, continue to improve our school environment using the budget as best we can; to make the school the best it can be for all our users. Mr Flint has many plans, and we know he likes a challenge, so 2026 could see him with working his magic across the school.

Now, we know that January is traditionally the month that people make New Year's resolutions, often for them to fall by the wayside in February. For this reason, for most people in the Western world, January represents new beginnings.

However, January is the month of new beginnings for a more obscure reason; the name **January** itself means "new beginnings". "January" comes from the Latin *Ianuarius* meaning "month of Janus". *Janus* is the Roman guardian god of portals (doorways, gates, etc...) and transitions (beginnings, endings, time, etc...)

I have personally given up on making resolutions, because I could never stick to them, but for those of you in our school community that have made a resolution, I wish you the very best of luck.

Finally, I do hope that 2026 will be a positive, productive and successful year for everyone.



Happy flying everyone...

Mr Churchill

Dates for your diary – January 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/>

SPRING TERM

WEEK 1

Monday 5th January 2026
INSET DAY
Tuesday 6th January 2026
BACK TO SCHOOL
Creature Teachers visit – Poppy class
Wednesday 7th January 2026
Final open morning for prospective parents 9.30am BOOKING ONLY
Year 2 Fire engine visit
Creature Teachers visit – Cherry class
Thursday 8th January 2025
Year 5 trip to Winchester Science museum
Creature Teachers visit – Rose class

WEEK 2

Monday 12th January 2026
Swanage class SWIMMING 1
Tuesday 13th January 2026
Heatherlands Parenting Partnership Course 1 INVITATION ONLY
Wednesday 14th January 2026
Home learning set
Friday 16th January 2026
Mary Rose class assembly 9am STUDIO
EYFS and Year 6 parent reading afternoon 2.45pm

WEEK 3

Monday 19th January 2026
Swanage class SWIMMING 2
Tuesday 20th January 2026
Heatherlands Parenting Partnership Course 2 INVITATION ONLY
Thursday 22nd January 2026
Young Voices concert O2 arena
Friday 23rd January 2026
Comet class assembly 9am STUDIO

Year 2 and Year 4 parent reading afternoon 2.45pm

WEEK 4

Monday 26th January 2026
Home learning due in – COMMUNICATION WEEK
Swanage class SWIMMING 3
Tuesday 27th January 2026
Heatherlands Parenting Partnership Course 3 INVITATION ONLY
Friday 30th January 2026
Swanage class assembly 9am STUDIO
Year 3 parent reading afternoon 2.45pm

WEEK 5

Monday 2nd February 2026
Year 2 Great Fire of London Day
Swanage class SWIMMING 4
Tuesday 3rd February 2026
Heatherlands Parenting Partnership Course 4 INVITATION ONLY
Wednesday 4th February 2026
Home learning Topic quiz set
Friday 6th February 2026
Willow class assembly 9am STUDIO
Year 1 and Year 5 parent reading afternoon 2.45pm



Year group web pages – January 2026

The year teams publish weekly on their year group web pages. This is 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.



<https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/early-years/>

Year 1

<https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/year-1/>

Year 2

<https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/year-2/>

Year 3

<https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/year-3/>

Year 4

<https://www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk/year-4/>

Year 5

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

Year 6

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

On January 6th the school website will be taken down for around 48 hours to enable us to switch to a new service provider. This will not affect the website address or access, but the site will look different when it is relaunched.



Information & Requests– January 2026



Early Years will be starting Forest school in January. You will need to provide wellies and ensure that the children have wet weather gear in school. A poster will be sent with further information.



Year 2 will be running a Great Fire of London day as part of their topic (2nd Feb 2026). Children can dress up for this. Further information will be sent home.

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 – January 2026

Reading afternoons

Did you know that reading with your school child can significantly boost their success in school as well as their emotional well-being?

Sharing stories not only strengthens your bond but also enhances vocabulary, comprehension, and critical thinking skills. It's a wonderful way to spark their imagination and curiosity about the world. Plus, it sets a positive example, showing them that reading is fun and valuable.

With that in mind, we invite you to join your children for the next round of reading afternoons, starting in January. Bring your child's favourite book to school to share together or take one from the selection in school, and enjoy the time you share.

The dates for the next half term are:

16.1.26 - EYFS and Year 6 from 2.45pm
23.1.26 - Year 2 and Year 4 from 2.45pm
30.1.26 - Year 3 from 2.45pm
6.2.26 – Year 1 and Year 5 from 2.45pm

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>



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.

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 – January 2026

The Friends of Heatherlands are looking forward to an exciting year of fundraising for the school.

Our next event will be the Valentine's disco, information coming soon.

We also have our quiz night to organise alone with the Summer Fair.

Please join us to start planning for our 2026 events. We will have a meeting on Tuesday 13th January, 7.30pm at The Barking Cat. Everyone is welcome!

♥ **Contact Us:** 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.