

Dear Parents/Carers,

We can't believe we are writing the summer newsletter to you all already, where has the time gone? We hope that you have had a relaxing Easter holiday and are ready for an exciting term of learning with our new topics, in geography, 'What is it like to live in Shanghai?' and history, 'How have explorers changed the world?' We also have many fun activities planned to learn together, hopefully including a visit from Julian known to the children last year as Legoman and a trip to Crooklets beach (Date to be confirmed)



In English we will be continuing to read fiction, non-fiction and poetry books linked to our topic and using skills learnt from these texts in our own writing. We have been working really hard in handwriting sessions to form our letters correctly, linked to our Little Wandle phonics, and now we are beginning to learn pre-cursive handwriting, encouraging the children to transfer this style of writing into everyday use, including homework. If you are unsure how to help your child with pre-cursive writing then please contact us. Thank you for your continued support in learning the common exception words, on their dinosaur sheets in their home learning folders, and ensuring children speak in concise sentences as this enables them to write in sentences using capital letters and full stops confidently. We will be continuing to extend our sentences this term to incorporate the conjunction and, joining two simple sentences, as well as using question marks, exclamation marks and plurals s or es in our writing.

Reading is really important to help your child segment and blend words. We would appreciate it if you could read with your child, at least 4 times a week, as it will really help them to progress in all areas of their learning. Often, 5 or 10 minutes at a time is long enough and children are not expected to finish the whole book each time as the books become longer in phase 5. The books are linked to our phonics phases in school and are carefully chosen to match individual phonic assessment results, which means any book brought home via ebooks, will be accessible to your child to read independently to you. Children are now more fluent in their reading recognising and reading words automatically as they reappear in new books, increasing their confidence and encouraging them to want to reread books, extending understanding and love for reading. It has been a



real pleasure to see the children thoroughly enjoying reading three times a week to us, adding prosody with greater independence. Discussions about the text is also important to ensure they are understanding what they are reading. This is incorporated into our reading practise sessions. We want the children to develop a love for reading and the more they read, the more it will help them to identify graphemes within words and help them to be independent readers and writers. Children are awarded certificates for reading more than four times a week in achievement assembly, so please ensure you record every time you read with them in their red reading diaries (dates and book title). Phonic screening for all year 1 children takes places during the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

In Maths we are continuing to consolidate the children's understanding of place value to 100, addition and subtraction, then moving on to multiplication and division, fractions and time. Children will be consolidating their counting in 1s and 10s to and from 100, and 2s and 5s to 50. This can be reinforced at home putting socks in pairs and counting them when sorting washing, animals on an ark, pebbles on a beach, counting 2ps, 5ps and 10ps to show the children counting in different equal amounts can be represented in so many different ways. We would really appreciate your support in helping our teaching of time on an analogue, not digital clock. Children need to recognise o'clock and half past the hour and the more practise they can get doing it the easier it will be for them. Many clocks, phones, ipads, tablets etc are digital but you can change many of these devices to show the analogue clock face to support your child's learning of time.



Remember you are also able to use Numbots website, to practise your maths skills at home through various games and activities. This can help them to become confident in applying what they know when they are faced with different number sentences. If you are not sure of your password please contact us.

In Science we are going to continue learning about seasonal changes, summer in particular, observing weather patterns and temperature and daylight changes. We will also be learning about nature protectors, thinking about materials suitable for animal housing, litter pollution on land and in the sea and think about how humans can help care and protect our planet.

This term we are going to be continuing to do our Creative Thursdays looking at various art skills including sculptures, weaving and textiles and in DT we are going to be designing and making fruit kebabs.

This term in PE we will be continuing to follow the 'Getset4PE' programme thinking about athletics. We will also be doing some cricket sessions on a Thursday this half term. It is vital that the children keep active to ensure good mental health and wellbeing. Please can you ensure that your child has named trainers or plimsolls in school **everyday** to allow us to alter PE sessions when necessary, depending on the weather. We will be changing for longer PE sessions, so they will need to have a white t-shirt and black or blue shorts. Please can we remind you to make sure **all** clothing, drinks bottle, hat, lunch boxes etc have been clearly renamed because it helps the children to independently look after their own belongings. Also, can we remind you to **put sun cream on your child before coming to school in the morning**, this should then give protection all day without the need for cream to be in school. We are hoping to use the woodland area for some of our learning so it would be really useful if you have a spare pair of wellies if you could send them in with your child to stay in school.



If you have any queries please contact either of us via [year1@hatherleigh-pri.devon.uk](mailto:year1@hatherleigh-pri.devon.uk) or via [admin@hatherleigh-pri.devon.uk](mailto:admin@hatherleigh-pri.devon.uk) and we will try and reply as soon as possible.

Thank you again for all your support over the past two terms, we really appreciate it and can see the children's confidence grow in their own capability in all areas of the curriculum. We look forward to another exciting term ahead of us at school and would love to share some of it with you in our class assembly on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 2.45pm.



Mrs Jacob and Miss Chauhan