

The Haven School Newsletter

11th February 2015

Headteacher: Wendy Bray
Deputy Headteacher: Sharon Trathen

Dear The Haven School Family,



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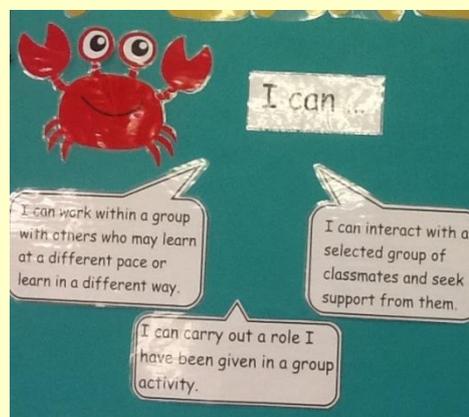
To claim child care costs back please quote our Ofsted Number: **131381**

INSET DAYS
13th April 2015
7th May 2015
1st June 2015

Over the last three weeks we have been focusing on a whole school theme 'Learning with Others'. The objective of this whole school theme is to help the children build their skills of Learning with Others.



The children have been taking part in activities designed to develop their skills of collaboration. To help progress the children's learning, each class has been focusing on three specific skills in each class expressed as 'I can statements'.



The children will be continuing to develop these skills next term and we hope you will take the opportunity to visit the classrooms during the Parent Consultation evenings and look out for your child's class 'Learning with Others' display.

The **Parent Consultation** evenings will take place next term on Tuesday 3rd March, 5 – 8pm, and Wednesday 4th March, 3.30 – 6pm. The consultations are an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with your child's teacher. You will be able to sign up for an appointment from Monday 23rd February. Please note that there will be no teacher's clubs taking place during the week of the consultations.

Finally, we hope you all have an enjoyable February break.

Wendy Bray
Headteacher

Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader is first and foremost a comprehension programme. Once children reach the juniors, the focus shifts from decoding to comprehension and it is this skill that Accelerated Reader develops. The children take a comprehension test, known as the STAR reading test, using a computer and this then generates a reading range for each individual. This is known as a Zone of Proximal Development or a ZPD range. The test is focused on comprehension of the text and not just decoding the words. This means that children may be given a reading range which might seem low for their level of fluency. Whilst the children may be fluently reading the words, they may not fully comprehend the meaning. By ensuring that the children are reading books that they are able to decode, we can then work on their comprehension skills.

Once a child has read a book within their range, they can then take an Accelerated Reader test. The computer generates 5-10 questions specifically about that story or information book and the child then answers these questions using the text. A good score is 85% or more, but most children are aiming for 100% on Accelerated Reader tests! The child's teacher can track each individual's results on Accelerated Reader and this can be used to target children who may need more help, or raise the ZPD of those children who consistently score highly. The children will take the STAR test periodically throughout the year and their ZPD scores will rise or lower as a result.

In order to support your child at home, please listen to them read and ask questions about the text to check their understanding. Even if your child sounds like a fluent reader they still need support to understand the text and begin to understand the wider references and meanings within their books. Being able to decode is not the end of the journey!

If you do have any questions or would like some support with helping your child to improve their comprehension skills then please do get in touch. Miss vanHaeften ~ Accelerated Reader Manager

Governor Visit

As a governor looking at reading at The Haven, I discussed Accelerated Reader (AR) with Miss vanHaeften and the Friday assembly AR quiz results. I learnt that AR is really more about comprehension than learning to read quickly. Each reader answers an electronic multiple-choice quiz on the book that they have just read, they are given a level which determines the range of books from which they then choose. The children's quiz scores have gone up from 60-70% range to 80-90% range. The school AR success rate is nearing the 85% target, currently standing at 81%. This percentage has been reached fairly quickly. If a child has a low score, e.g. 50%, teachers are able to intervene. Continuity between classes is achieved by a set of skills illustrated in a "Spider Diagram".

The children read 98% fiction, a high figure partly due to girls' preference for it. The internet keeps children informed and up to date on current affairs, for example 1st News covered the recent comet probe landing. Against the general trend, Haven boys are currently enjoying reading more than girls are. Evidence for progress in reading is gained from AR quizzes and will also be from the new assessment scheme, based on Classroom Monitor, which was launched at The Haven on 1st December 2014.

A variety of books is important for top level (Level 6) readers as it widens what they would read. Encouraging side effects from widening the variety has been an improvement in writing and debating skills for high ability children.

My interesting and enjoyable introduction ended when a Pearl Class pupil did an AR quiz on computer on the book she had just completed. When she looked up the answers, she scored 8/10 - right on target!

Vaughan Schulze, Chair of Governors

Christian Distinctiveness ~ Teamwork

In Collective Worship this term we have been exploring the Bible's teaching on what it means to show teamwork/fellowship through the Christian value, koinonia.

This term these children have been recognized for demonstrating one of our Christian values: Bethan, Chase, Teddy J, Evie E, Jothi, Kai M, Jasmine A, Zac P, Freya, Louise S, Joseph F, Leke, Harry, Ruby D, Zak, Taleb, Max T, Jacob, Jack F, Fred, Katie H, Sydney, Emily, Aliesha, Joe M, Adam C, Darcy, Hannah A, Jasmine H, Robert S, Archie B, Tyler H, Drew, Lola B, Angel, Harry H, Lily M, Bethany D, James B, Charlie C, Summer, Ailsa, Daisy May, Sophie L, Daniel B, Jack K, Lenty, James S, Joseph P, Jessica L, Nathan S, Alex D, Oscar, Gregory, Millie, Nathan, Allen, Owen, Maxwell, Aimee, Freddie C, Henry B, Issac, James, Alex, Lottie, Bella, Evie, Louis, Jack K, George J, Josh D, Holly M, Lilia, Ryan H, Callum M, Amy, Natalie, Lewis, Dolli, Connie, Scarlett, Ardit & Sebastian. Well done everyone.

Keep on Going

This term we are continuing with our learning to learn skills – Keep on Going! As one of our school priorities, we aim to help our pupils develop a set of learning to learn skills that they can take with them into secondary school and on into the world of work. Each week pupils are awarded a special certificate in our celebration assembly in recognition of them demonstrating this learning to learn skill.

This term: Jayden, Tiana, Anna U, Daisy G, Hollie G, Riley, Angelo, Tabitha, Chloe, Jack O, Mya, Peter, Joe D, Connor B, Alfie E, Cameron E, Marissa, Emily D, Flossie, Keira, Eloise T, Ellouise B, Regan, Tyler H, Rory, Lola B, Amber C, Max M, James S, Jude, Harvey H, Maxwell, Arty, Jacob H, Isabelle D, Jasmine A, Joey, Austeja, Joseph H, James S, Ruby C, Flossie, Harrison, Jake C, Jade, Bradley H, Daisy May, Sid, Mackenzie C, Isabelle K, Daniel K, Myka, Logan, Ellie C, Jorja, Naiem, Joshua B, Daisy May, Elliot, Max M, Callum K, Ethan H, Maddix, Millie J, Lilia, Alfie M, Ethan TT, Summer, Katie, Demi, Maddie J, Lola, Ahmed, Lily, Raffy, Charlee C, Essien, Alisha, Ryan S, Rose, Oliver S, Isobel, Favour, Zahim, Harry K & Seb. Well done everyone.

Sickness

Please could we remind you that if your child has been sent home from school with diarrhoea or vomiting they should not be returned to school for at least a further **full 48 hours after they have been last sick**. For example, if your child has been sent home on Monday lunchtime, as long as they are not ill again they may return to school on Thursday. If pupils return before this time parents will be asked to collect them and take them home. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Polling Day – 7th May 2015

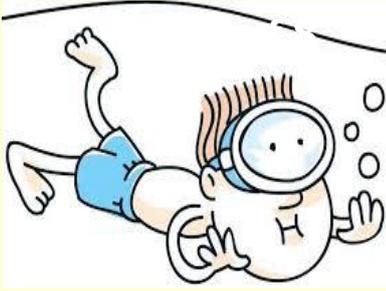
The school has recently received notification that the Haven School needs to be used as a Polling Station on Thursday 7th May 2015. When we have challenged such requests in the past the council's reply was that they were 'mindful of the disruption that closure of the school would cause and the impact on parents but had no choice but to insist that we comply with their request.'

The matter is therefore out of our hands and we have to inform you that the school will be closed to all pupils.

Please accept our apologies for this and any inconvenience it might cause.

Diary Dates for Term 3 & 4

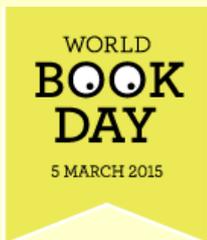
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**February**

- 12th Amethyst F swimming (6)
13th End of term 3 ~ school closes at normal time
23rd School reopens for term 4
 26th Amethyst F swimming (7)

**March**

- 2nd NO STAFF RUN CLUBS**
 3rd Parent consultation evening ~ 5.00 pm – 8.00 pm
 4th Parent consultation evening ~ 3.30 pm – 6.00 pm
 5th World Book Day
 5th Amber S swimming (1)
 5th Emerald W Worship ~ 9.05 am
 6th Ranger trip
 11th Diamond school trip
 12th Amber S swimming (2)
 12th Hockey tournament
 19th Amber S swimming (3)
 20th PTFA Disco ~ Infants -2.10 pm - 3.10 pm & juniors 3.20 pm - 4.20 pm
 26th Amber S swimming (4)
27th End of term 3 ~ school closes at normal time for Easter Holiday

**April**

- 13th Inset Day ~ school closed**
 16th Amber S swimming (5)
 23rd Amber S swimming (6)

**May**

- 4th May Day Bank Holiday ~ school closed**



God in all we do

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