Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome everyone to the new academic year at Heyes Lane. I’d like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new parents and carers to the school who are joining us in Nursery and Reception and to the few children joining us in some of the older year groups too. I hope you all had a restful summer break; I know the children have come back bursting with tales about their adventures and the wonderful places they have been taken on holiday.

Being the start of the term there are lots of points and events we’d like to draw your attention to, please have a read through the rest of the newsletter and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to your child’s class teacher or contact the school office.

We look forward to a successful academic year, supporting your children and making sure they reach their full potential and create happy memories of their primary school life.

Kind regards

Ms S Foord
Headteacher

Pupils with Medical Care Needs

In order to support our pupils with long-term medical needs in school, an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) is completed. The aim of these plans is to ensure information is easily and effectively communicated across the school and to put in place any necessary steps to ensure your child’s health and safety.

Pupils with long-term medical needs are defined by one, or more, of the following criteria:

- The medical condition affects their participation in school activities.
- The pupil is required to take medication in school for their condition.
- The pupil requires extra care and support for their medical condition.
- The pupil may have periods of absence from school due to their medical condition.
- The medical condition has the potential to be life threatening.

We have already contacted Parents and Carers of our pupils with known medical needs, however if you have not yet been contacted and feel your child has long-term medical needs, please speak to your child's class teacher and a member of staff will contact you for further information.

Pupils who need medication administering in school for short-term medical needs do not need an IHP, but a Short-Term Medicines form must to be completed by parents/carers. These are available from the Main Office.
**Pupils with Asthma**

Pupils with asthma require an Asthma Card to be completed by parents/carers and an inhaler in school. We have sent out Asthma Cards to all parents and carers of our known pupils with asthma.

If your child has developed asthma recently, or your child is new to Heyes Lane and has asthma, please let your child’s class teacher know as soon as possible and collect an Asthma Card from the Main Office. Please send in an inhaler for your child to leave in their classroom. This should be clearly named and in date.

If you have any questions regarding medical needs in school, please contact Mrs Harkin via the school email office@heyeslane.co.uk or phone number 0161 973 9850.

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**Attendance and Punctuality**

The children have made a wonderful start back to the term, with attendance for the week being 97.6%. Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to get the best possible start in life. It enables them to access, and engage in appropriate educational opportunities that provide them with the knowledge and skills to achieve their full potential. Before the holidays we emailed the new Attendance and Absence Policy to you all, which outlined the strict guidelines that all Headteachers’ are bound by, allowing them to only authorise absence in exceptional circumstances. This year Mrs Buckley will be taking on a new role within school, supporting both children and parents in a pastoral capacity. She will work with individuals or families who require some additional support socially, emotionally or with attendance and punctuality.

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**Twitter**

We have now launched our new Twitter feeds, this year we have created Twitter handles for each year group so that parents and carers can get regular posts specifically about the year group your child is in. The links are as below:

- **Year 6**: https://twitter.com/HeyesLaneY6
- **Year 5**: https://twitter.com/HeyesLaneY5
- **Year 4**: https://twitter.com/HeyesLaneY4
- **Year 3**: https://twitter.com/HeyesLaneY3
- **Year 2**: https://twitter.com/HeyesLaneY2
- **Year 1**: https://twitter.com/HeyesLaneY1
- **Reception**: https://twitter.com/HLPSReception
- **Nursery**: https://twitter.com/HLPSNursery

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**PTA Events**

We would like to invite all our EYFS and new parents to Heyes Lane to an informal Coffee Morning on **Monday 17th September at 9.00am** in the Staff Room (enter school via the School Office). This is an opportunity for you to meet other new parents, meet some of our PTA members, have a hot drink and maybe even a biscuit! Stay for 5 minutes or the whole hour, and feel free to bring any younger siblings.

Also on **Thursday 4th October** we will be holding our annual AGM meeting at **6.00pm** in the Staff room with drinks and nibbles. We will be voting in the chair, treasurer, class reps and minute takers and would welcome nominations from people willing to co-lead or shadow positions to build up knowledge of the roles for the future. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting and remember, you are automatically a member of the PTA if your child attends Heyes Lane.
Classes

The children have only been in their new classes for five days but already they look very settled and happy. Getting the correct balance within a class is a tricky job but last years’ teachers worked hard on ensuring all children were in the best possible group for their academic and social needs. After listening to some feedback from parents, we will aim to only move classes around in the move between KS1 and KS2 and the transition into four teaching groups in Y6.

Parent Helpers

We would like to invite parents, carers and grandparents to come into school on a regular basis to become volunteers. Your time and support would be much appreciated both by the staff and the children. Helping in school may be a new experience but it can be both rewarding and beneficial. You could be involved in a wide variety of activities both in and out of the classroom, depending on your abilities and your interests and the particular need of the children you are working with. In line with Trafford’s Safeguarding procedures, all regular volunteers would need to undertake a DBS check; and is free of charge to volunteers in schools. To apply for a DBS check please contact the school office to arrange an appointment to complete the online application process. Please note parents/carers who undertake training courses in school will now have a £50 charge to complete a DBS check.

Please note that it is currently our policy that parents of children in Years 1 – 6 are not placed in their child’s class.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer in school or have done so in the past please email the School Office on office@heyeslane.co.uk pop in and add your name to the list.

Homework

Homework gives children another opportunity to review their learning as well as giving parents a chance to see what their child is learning about in school. The best form of support parents can give their child is listening to them read regularly at home, practising basic maths skills such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and supporting the learning of spellings.

Some of you will have received your child’s first set of homework already but if you haven’t we aim to get it out by the end of this week at the latest. If you have not received any by Friday or have any questions about it please do not hesitate to see your child’s teacher.

Cake Sale

There will be a cake sale after school on Wednesday 19th September on the Infant Playground, this will be run by some ex-Heyes Lane pupils who are raising money for their ICE (International Community Experience) trip to Finland in April next year. During this trip, the guides will volunteer at a centre outside Helsinki which recycles donated materials, buttons, beads etc, producing new clothes and accessories for disadvantaged families. The girls and their families will be making the cakes themselves so all donations will be greatly received.
School Improvement Plan (SIP)

Below are the key priorities that we will be undertaking this year in order to ensure that we are an ever improving school. Our School Improvement Plan (SIP) has four Key Priorities. These are the main focuses for the school this year in terms of the curriculum. These are:

Key Priority 1: Curriculum design
Here we are re designing our content and organisation to reflect our core principles and outcomes for the pupils at our school. Of course we have the statutory obligations of the EYFS statutory framework and the National Curriculum, but we believe that the children’s experience and learning throughout primary school reaches for wider than simply these. The teachers are working on some exciting and innovating ways to deliver all these aspects. We will be sharing more of our new content, designs and teaching approaches as the year goes on.

Key Priority 2: Core Skills
Last year, we worked hard to establish our Core Skills Curriculum. These are the skills in the two statutory frameworks that we believe are at the very core of Reading, Writing and Maths. Again, we shall be putting on more workshops and guidance on how these core skills are taught within the school day, the links we have then made to the wider curriculum and how they can be integrated effectively into homework and practising strategies.

Key Priority 3: Maths
Here, we will be focusing on three aspects in particular. Firstly, we will be developing teaching practices and skills in the delivery of Fractions and will be producing a Fractions Policy (in the same format as our Calculations Policy). Secondly, we will be pulling together the work of last year on teaching to ‘depths’. Here, we will have a policy that clearly shows the progression for learning a mathematical skill from its first introduction right through to its independent application in complex problem-solving and investigational activities. Lastly, we will be continuing to build upon the Reasoning strategies and activities that the teaching staff use with the children during Maths lessons.

Key Priority 4: English
We will continue to develop our approach to English lessons where we are closely linking Reading and Writing. We will be looking at the writing sequence and how best to support the pupils to be skilled in each phase of the sequence. We will be introducing the pupils (and you!) to Active Reading which is a framework that helps readers to have strategies to develop text cohesion and to understand the ‘big picture’ when reading. Spelling too, has continued to be an area that we would like to improve.

We will keep you informed as to the progress of our key priorities. We welcome input from you and again, I would like to thank those parents who fed back at the close of the 2017-18 SIP. We were delighted by the positive feedback that came from you and have taken on board suggestions.

The staff here are fabulous and I know are more than willing to share our ideas and improvements further and in more detail if you would like. Mrs Harkin and myself would also welcome the opportunity to talk through anything too and always welcome feedback from you. Please do not hesitate to contact school or drop in if you would like further information or to talk through anything.

Car Parking ...

Can we please remind all parents about parking responsibly on the streets surrounding school.

Cars should not be parked on yellow lines or across neighbours’ driveways. We have also received complaints of parents parking behind the shops on Woodhouse Lane East, please note that this is a residents only parking area.
Staffing

We are happy to announce Miss Abbott gave birth to a healthy baby girl in the holidays, exactly on her due date, to be precise! Miss Abbott and her partner have named her Ella Rose; we wish them lots of luck with their little bundle of joy!

We have two new pregnancies to celebrate as well, Mrs Peattie is expecting her second child at the end of the year and Miss Connolly is expecting her third at the start of the new year! Myself and Mrs Harkin are in the process of recruiting for both of these roles and we will inform the parents from these specific classes when appointments have been made. Due to the dates when Mrs Peattie and Miss Connolly are planning to commence their maternity leaves we are hoping to have a few weeks where both current and new teacher will teach the class’ at the same time to ensure a smooth transition.

Mid Day Assistant — Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a mid-day assistant in Nursery to cover lunchtimes. The days/hours are Monday to Friday 11.30am-1.30pm (10 hours per week).

If you are interested in applying please see Mrs Harkin.

(Please note that unfortunately parents of children in our Nursery are unable to apply for this post.)

Upcoming Dates for your Diary:

Y1 Maths Workshop – Monday 10th September at 3.10pm – Junior Hall
PTA Coffee Morning – Monday 17th September at 9am, come to the Main Office Entrance
Y2 Maths Workshop – Monday 17th September at 3.10pm – Junior Hall
Y3 Maths Workshop – Monday 24th September at 3.10pm – Junior Hall
EYFS Reading Meeting – Thursday 27th September at 3.45pm - EYFS Unit
Y4 Maths Workshop – Monday 1st October at 3.10pm – Junior Hall
Travelling Book Company Visit – Wednesday 3rd Oct – Mon 8th Oct at 3.45 – 4.30pm – Main Entrance
PTA AGM – Thursday 4th October at 6pm – come to the Main Office Entrance
Y5 Maths Workshop – Monday 8th October at 3.10pm – Junior Hall
EYFS & Y1 Handwriting Meeting – Thursday 11th October at 3.45pm – Junior Hall
Y6 Maths Workshop – Monday 15th October at 3.10pm – Junior Hall
Break up for October Half Term Holiday – Friday 19th October
PTA Spooky Spectacular – Thursday 1st November at 5.30 – 7.30pm – Junior Hall
Individual & Family Photos – Friday 2nd November
Flu Vaccinations (Rec-Y5) – Monday 5th November / Wednesday 28th November
PTA Christmas Market Night – Thursday 22nd November at 7.00 – 9.00pm – Junior Hall
PTA Christmas Fair – Friday 7th December at 5.30 – 7.30pm
Break up for Christmas Holiday – Friday 21st December
SCHOOL CALENDAR 2018 - 2019

AUTUMN TERM
Tuesday 4th September 2018  to  Friday 19th October 2018

Half Term Break
Monday 22nd October 2018 — Friday 26th October 2018 (school closed)

Tuesday 30th October 2018  to  Friday 21st December 2018

Xmas Break
Monday 24th December 2018 — Friday 4th January 2019 (school closed)

SPRING TERM
Monday 7th January 2019  to  Friday 8th February 2019

Half Term Break
Monday 11th February 2019 — Friday 15th February 2019 (school closed)

Monday 18th February 2019  to  Friday 29th March 2019

Easter Break
Monday 1st April 2019 — Friday 12th April 2019 (school closed)

SUMMER TERM
Monday 15th April 2019  to  Friday 24th May 2019
Friday 19th April 2019 (Good Friday) and Monday 22nd April 2019
(school closed for Easter Weekend)

Whitsun Break
Monday 27th May 2019 — Friday 7th June 2019 (school closed)

Monday 10th June 2019  to  Friday 26th July 2019

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NON PUPIL DAYS (school closed)
Monday 3rd September 2018
Monday 29th October 2018
Friday 4th January 2019
Thursday 2nd May 2019 (Polling Day) (To be confirmed)
Friday 3rd May 2019

School is also closed on the following days:
Monday 6th May 2019 (May Day)

TEST WEEKS
Week commencing Monday 13th May 2019

IMPORTANT
The law gives no entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time.
Any application for absence must only be made in exceptional circumstances.