



Newsletter | 1st December 2023

We are blown away by how quickly this term is going!

And so impressed by how much progress all the children have made in their first term of this school year.

This last part of term is always busy and this year is no exception – We have lots of events planned.

Today we have our FOHA Christmas Fair with Mini Enterprise stalls selling the amazing creations made by the children, for the purpose of raising class funds for the children to choose something to purchase for their whole class to use/share. We are really excited to see you there.

We have our dental health talks next week for all classes.

Class visits - Year 1 will visit The Chapel and Reception visit the Church (Year 2 have already been to the Cathedral and Reception have been to see a Gruffalo's Child at the Theatre).

We have a group of children singing at the Limes Care home in the coming weeks and of course our Christmas performances

Christmas Performances: This year we have a Nativity show presented by Squirrels children on Monday 11th December at 9.30am and 2pm and Tuesday 12th December at 9.30am in the school hall. Tickets have been going fast - We only have limited spaces so are only able to allow 2 quests per child initially and then if we have further spaces we will offer these at a later date.

Year 1 and 2 will also be sharing a Christmas show on Thursday 14th December at 2pm and Friday 15th December at 9.30am and 2pm. Again, tickets have been going fast, we only have limited spaces so are only able to allow 2 quests per child initially and then if we have further spaces we will offer these at a later date.

We will also post a recorded version of the performances on Tapestry for those who are not able to attend.

Please take time to read our regular newsletter as we use this to try to keep you informed of all the different events taking place in school. Information is also available on our school website; please visit www.heatheravenue.co.uk, our Facebook page [Heather Avenue Infant School](https://www.facebook.com/HeatherAvenueInfantSchool) or follow us on twitter [@HeatherAvenue](https://twitter.com/HeatherAvenue).

We are part of...



FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

FOHA (Friends of Heather Avenue)

It has been wonderful to meet with FOHA in recent weeks and plan some of the wonderful events for this term!

Following our AGM our committee members are

Chairperson: Rafaella Cullum

Vice Chairperson: Jo Tooke

Secretary: Emma Withers

Treasurer: Lorraine Pointer

General committee members: Shelby Molloy, Sarah Smith and Elizabeth Allen

Of course our whole school community is welcome to support our FOHA efforts as well as come along to any of the meetings/events!

The events we have planned for this term include:

A Festive film event: On Wednesday 6th December (3pm – 4.30pm), children are invited to stay at school for a festive film and refreshments, if you would like your child to be involved please book a space via Scopay – this event is £3 per child

Virtual Family Christmas Quiz: Friday 8th December for this festive treat! Please book a space via Scopay, £5 per family to take part with amazing prizes including a festive Christmas Hamper as first prize filled with wonderful Christmas treats!

Christmas Fair – Today (2.30pm-5.30pm)! Please do come along and enjoy our Mini Enterprise stalls, Alpaca's, Refreshments, a very special guest . . . and much more!

Raffle Tickets are on sale now for £1 per strip and we have some fabulous prizes - Including fantastic festive hampers!

This term FOHA will be contributing to the cost of trips, gifts from Santa and wet weather gear for our Reception children.

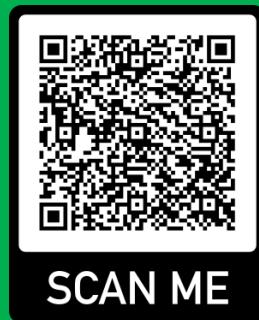
And finally - a special thank you to all who have donated to our FOHA charity! We are blown away by the donations that support our events as well as the time and financial contributions made – Thank you!

Attendance Reminder

We know that sometimes children are just too unwell to come to school and obviously this cannot be helped.

However for other issues impacting on attendance we are here to support your child in coming to school each day – please do talk to your child's class teacher, myself (Miss Coleman -Head Teacher), Miss Lilley (Deputy Head Teacher) or Mrs Muff (our Parent Support Advisor) if you would like further support.

If you would like to access other support please scan the QR code below



Attendance is a national issue and one which all schools are trying to address. We are grateful for your support and recognise the efforts that you all go to, to ensure that your children are in school on time each day – Thank you.

Start of School Day

Please remember that doors to school open at **8.30am** for all children.

Please ensure that children are in school by **8.40am**, lessons start promptly once children are registered so please ensure that children are in school by **8.40am**.

International Award

This year we will be seeking re-accreditation for our International award and have planned lots of activities for the year ahead.

We will continue our international themed week each term and complete further work with a school in Spain, our shared learning will include finding out about Christmas traditions in Spain, writing letters/emails to ask about the daily life of a school child in Spain and learning about the local area as we compare it with our own and learning some basic Spanish words.

Keep Talking!

Talking is so important – please see some of the stem sentences we use to encourage children to talk more, some of which you may wish to use at home.

Teacher Talk Tactics for early language development

Instigate Present an idea or open up a new line of inquiry “ I think ____ “ Let’s begin with ____ “ I have a great idea, I’ll go first ____ Invite: X would you like to go first?	Build Develop, add to or elaborate on an idea “ X’s idea made me think ____ “ I’d like to know more about ____ “ Yes, and ____ Invite: Can anyone add to that?	Clarify Ask questions to make things clearer and check your understanding “ Do you mean that ____? “ I think you are saying ____ “ So, what you’re saying is ____ Invite: Do you have any questions about X?	Challenge Disagree or present an alternative argument “ I don’t think ____ “ You said ____ but what about ____? “ I disagree with ____ Invite: Does anyone disagree with X?
Stretch Add more detail; use more complex language or introduce new ideas “ Yes, it’s ____, you could even say it’s ____ “ That’s right, it’s ____ because ____ “ Yes, it’s a ____ Invite: Can you tell me more about...?	Speculate Encourage creative or abstract thinking and consideration of alternative viewpoints “ I wonder what would happen if ____? “ Perhaps ____ “ Do you think ____? Invite: What do you wonder about X?	Suggest Support thinking and problem solving by guiding next steps “ What if we tried ____ next? “ Have you thought about ____ “ Let’s give ____ a try Invite: What do you think we should try?	Encourage Offer praise to encourage and motivate “ You did such a good job of ____, now let’s think about ____ “ You really made me ____ “ Your use of ____ was ____ Invite: What do you like about what X did/ said?

© 2022 Voice 21. Voice 21 is a registered charity in England and Wales. Charity number 1152672 | Company no. 08165798

Winter Advice Hub

Norfolk Community Advice Network has created a Winter Advice Hub with step-by-step guides on boosting income and cutting costs, from trusted independent organisations. Please see link below

[Winter Advice Hub](#)

Charity events

We are so proud of the work we have done to support various good causes this term. We really value our Golden rules and feel that our 'Do be kind rule' is fully demonstrated via this work. Thank you so much for all your support in helping us to achieve the following

Harvest: We were able to donate support packages to several families and support our local food bank too with all your wonderful donations – Thank you

Poppy Appeal: Thank you for your contributions – we are awaiting a final figure

Children in Need: We raised an amazing £156.15 to support the Children in Need Charity

Colder Weather

With the colder weather please ensure your child has a warm coat in school to wear when outside. Please also remember hi-vis jackets for their journey to and from school.

Worried or concerned about an element of your child's education/well-being?

If you have any worries or concerns about an element of your child's education or well-being, please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of our Senior Leadership Team (Miss Coleman, Miss Lilley, Mrs Stevens and Mrs Howes). We are here to help and always work to support where we can. Our Parent Support Advisor, Mrs Muff who works in the school office is also contactable and able to offer various levels of support including advising of other agencies that can be of help.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 1st December: FOHA Christmas Fair- 2.30pm - 5.30pm

Wednesday 6th December: FOHA Festive Film Night - 3pm - 4.30pm

Friday 8th December: FOHA Festive Quiz event online - 6pm

Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th December: Reception Christmas Nativity

Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December: Year 1 and 2 Christmas Show

Monday 18th – Wednesday 20th December: Wear your Christmas Jumper to school

Tuesday 19th December: Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 20th December: Last day of Autumn 2

Thursday 21st December – Tuesday 2nd January: Christmas holidays

Wednesday 3rd January: INSET day 3 (Staff in school only)

Thursday 4th January: First day of Spring 1

Friday 16th February: Last day of Spring 1

Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February: Spring half term

Monday 26th February: First day of Spring 2

Wednesday 27th March: Last day of Spring 2

Thursday 28th March: INSET day (Staff in school only)

Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April: Easter holidays

Monday 15th April: First day of Summer 1

Friday 24th May: Last day of Summer 1

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May: Half term

Monday 3rd June: First day of Summer 2

Friday 19th July: Last day of Summer 2