

AUTUMN TERM 1, 2025

Welcome to our latest edition of The Heights Academy Newsletter!
Take a look at what we've been getting up to this half term.

IN THE NEWS THIS HALF TERM...

- Hello Yellow Day
- Birmingham City Foundation
- Birmingham REP
- PE
- Bikeability
- Uniform Promotion
- KS2 Topics
- PC Garner visit to KS2
- Safeguarding updates
- Catering
- 3D Printer
- Road Safety

PE WITH MR HARRIS

During PE this half term there has been a range of activities based on inclusion, teamwork and tactical decision-making running through PE lessons.

PE lessons have been primarily focused on two sports this term, Handball and Dodgeball. This has helped students develop their agility, balance, co-ordination and throwing skills as well how to throw a ball at Mr. Harris which some students have excelled at.

Other lessons have included concept based PE lessons focusing on movement, patterns and following instructions.

It has been a pleasure to teach PE this term, next term the focus will be on Basketball and Football.



BIRMINGHAM CITY FOUNDATION WITH JESS

It has been a fantastic term working with the children at The Heights Academy, using football as a fun and engaging way to build teamwork, communication and confidence.

Our year 5 and 6 pupils have worked incredibly hard this term on expressing their ideas and emotions while playing as a team. They have shown real progress in supporting on another both on and off the pitch and are growing into a group of young leaders.

Year 7 have been using small-sided games to learn that football is more than scoring goals. They've been developing their teamwork, problem-solving and sportsmanship skills, while enjoying friendly competition. Year 8 and 9 have been exploring their freedom in learning and creating their own football skills.

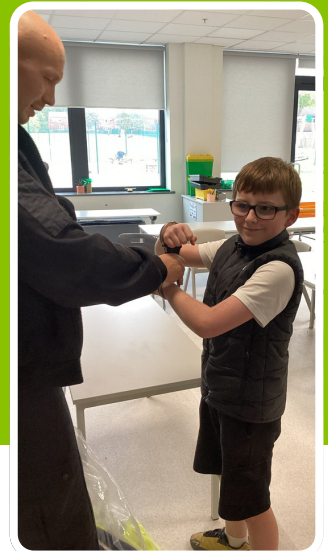
Overall, the football sessions have continued to provide a positive and engaging environment for all pupils, helping them grow not only as young athletes but also as teammates and individuals.



DRAMA WITH SUMMER



Within our drama sessions, we've been working on engagement, self-expression and pupils taking pride in their achievements. We've started to explore Shakespeare scripts to understand Classic theatre and even created theatre posters to promote performances! Exploring creativity and teamwork through performance.



PC GARNER VISIT

PC Garner came in to school to talk to our KS2 children. The children were very engaged and got asked PC Garner questions about his role and what it involved. The children also got to experience sitting in a real life police car too.



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

On Friday 10th October, pupils and staff took part in Hello Yellow Day in support of YoungMinds, joining thousands of schools and organisations across the country to raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing among young people. "Hello Yellow" is a campaign that takes place on World Mental Health Day to show young people that they are not alone with their mental health.



UNIFORM PROMOTION DEAL



PROMOTION DETAILS:

DISCOUNT: 10% OFF

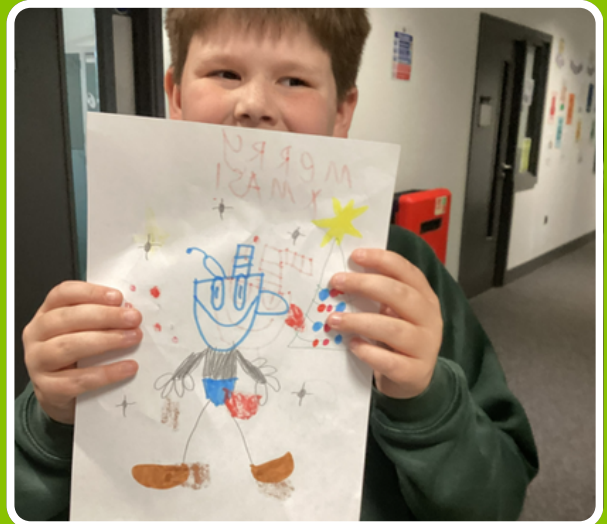
PROMO CODE: PUMPKIN10

LIVE FROM: FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER AT 12AM

ENDS: SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER AT 11:59PM

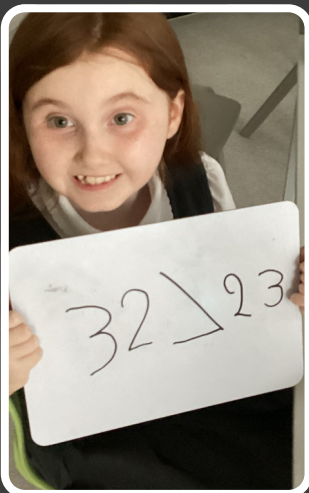
KS2 NAVIGATORS

In Navigators this term, we've been busy exploring lots of exciting topics! In Literacy, we've been learning all about the United Kingdom, using our skills to research, take notes, write informative texts, and use descriptive language to bring our writing to life. In Science, we've been classifying plants and animals, learning how scientists group living things based on their features and habitats. Meanwhile, in Art, we've been inspired by the dramatic realism of Caravaggio, experimenting with light and shadow to create our own expressive artworks. It's been a fantastic term full of curiosity, creativity, and new discoveries!



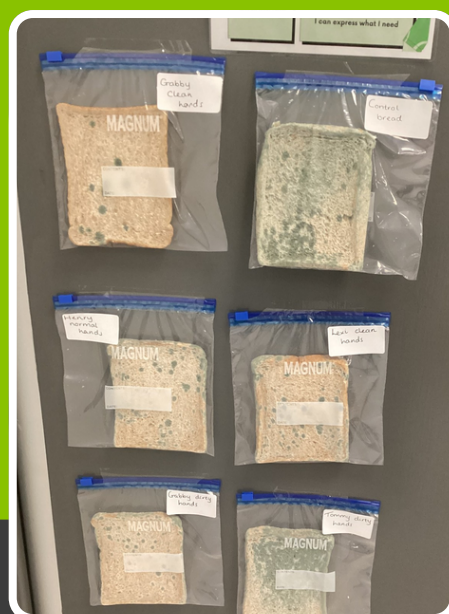
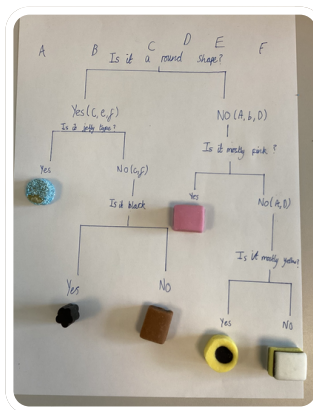
KS2 EXPLORERS

KS2 Explorers have been busy baking cheese straws and chocolate cornflake cakes. We discussed what happens to the ingredients when they are cooked. We had a visit from one of our parents who is a police officer. The highlight was definitely sitting in the driver's seat of the police car. We have also been exploring aerial views through Google maps as well as using greater than and less than symbols in Maths.



KS2 ADVENTURERS

Adventurers have had a fun-filled half term packed with exciting learning experiences! In Science, they explored classification, discovering how living things are grouped and organised. Their Art and Geography lessons were bursting with creativity and culture as they learned all about Africa — its landscapes, traditions, and vibrant art. In RE, they deepened their understanding of Christianity, reflecting thoughtfully on key beliefs and values. To top it all off, everyone completed their baseline SATs assessments with very pleasing results — a fantastic start to the year!



SAFEGAUARDING UPDATES

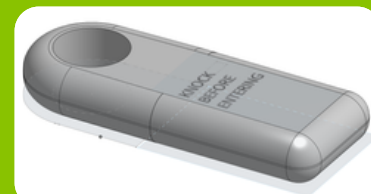
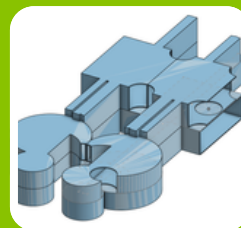
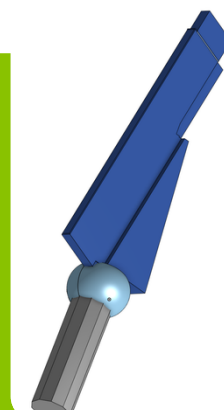
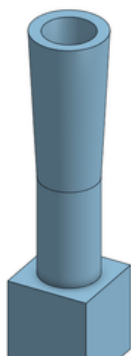
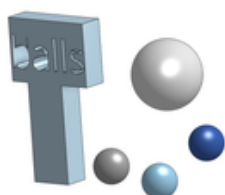
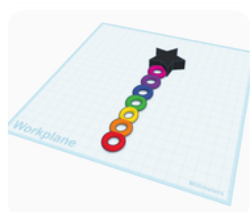
The Heights Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and requires all staff, students, volunteers, and visitors to share this commitment.

Please see the updated list of DSL's in school:

Lisa Walker Headteacher & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Louise Thomas Deputy Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead	Sarah Baker Assistant Headteacher & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Elysha Hughes Pupil Wellbeing & Engagement Lead & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
			

3D PRINTER

Our new 3D Printer arrived this after time - Pupils have been learning how to use 3D CAD apps. Y7's have designed keyrings on TinkerCAD and fidget toys – keyrings have been printed this term. Y8's and 9's have been learning how to use OnShape and been independently designing items.



ROAD SAFETY

This term, our Year 7 pupils have been learning all about road safety and how to stay safe when travelling. They explored the Green Cross Code, practising how to Stop, Look, Listen and Think before crossing the road. Through discussions, videos, and practical activities, pupils learned how to make sensible choices as pedestrians and developed confidence in recognising potential hazards. We're really proud of how thoughtfully our students engaged with this important life skill — showing great awareness and responsibility both in and outside of school!



YEAR 7 NAVIGATORS

This half term our Year 7 Navigators have been very busy. In Maths they have practised the four operations to build confidence with numbers whilst in English they have read The Iron Man and used it to inspire their own writing. In History they have studied the Battle of Hastings and why it mattered and in Science they have explored living organisms and simple classification. In addition to this, in Catering they have learned safe food skills and tried a variety of recipes and in PE they have built teamwork and communication. Well done for a great first half term!



BIKEABILITY

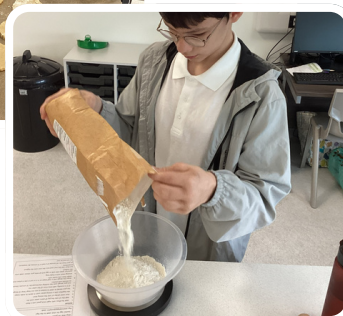
During Bikeability KS2 have been developing their confidence when cycling. Most children who weren't able to ride a pedal bike previously now can and those who were able to ride a pedal bike were taught how to safely. We are so impressed with the progress all children made. A massive thank you to John, Jill and Baggy from Bikeability.



CATERING WITH MISS ROBERTS

Pupils in KS3 have had a great first half term in their Catering lessons. They have made lots of different things including, Vanilla biscuits, Chicken nuggets, Bread, Fish fingers, Kebab wraps, Pasty treats, Flapjacks, Fruit tarts, Sausage rolls and Cheese straws.

- Have you taken a pack of breakfast club bagels home?
- Need some inspiration on how to use them creatively?
- Follow this link to find example recipes that we have been doing in school (pizza bagels have been a firm favourite 😊)



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