Headlands Community Primary School

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Monday 2nd November 2026

Mr. Buttery's Update

Welcome Back

Welcome back to all our children, families and staff. I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and enjoyable half term break and managed to find some time to relax and recharge. As we move towards the end of the autumn term, our thoughts inevitably begin to turn towards Christmas and all the wonderful activities and celebrations that make this such a special time of year at Headlands. Over the coming weeks, we will be sharing important dates and arrangements for our Christmas events, giving families plenty of notice to plan ahead.

Open Afternoon Success

It was wonderful to see so many prospective parents, carers and children attending our Open Afternoon on Wednesday 21st October. We made the decision to hold the event during the school day, as we felt this would provide families with the most meaningful and informative insight into everyday life at Headlands, allowing them to see first-hand the exceptional teaching, learning and holistic opportunities that our children experience.

As many of you will be aware, Headlands has experienced a drop in pupil numbers over recent years; we are working hard to address this. One of the most powerful ways of promoting our school is through the positive experiences and recommendations shared by our existing families. Word of mouth plays an incredibly important role in raising the profile of Headlands, helping us reach families not only within our immediate catchment area but also across the wider community.

We never underestimate the value of your support and the positive messages you share about our school. Your continued confidence in Headlands, and your willingness to recommend us to others, means a great deal to the entire school team. For this, we are immensely grateful.

PTA Disco

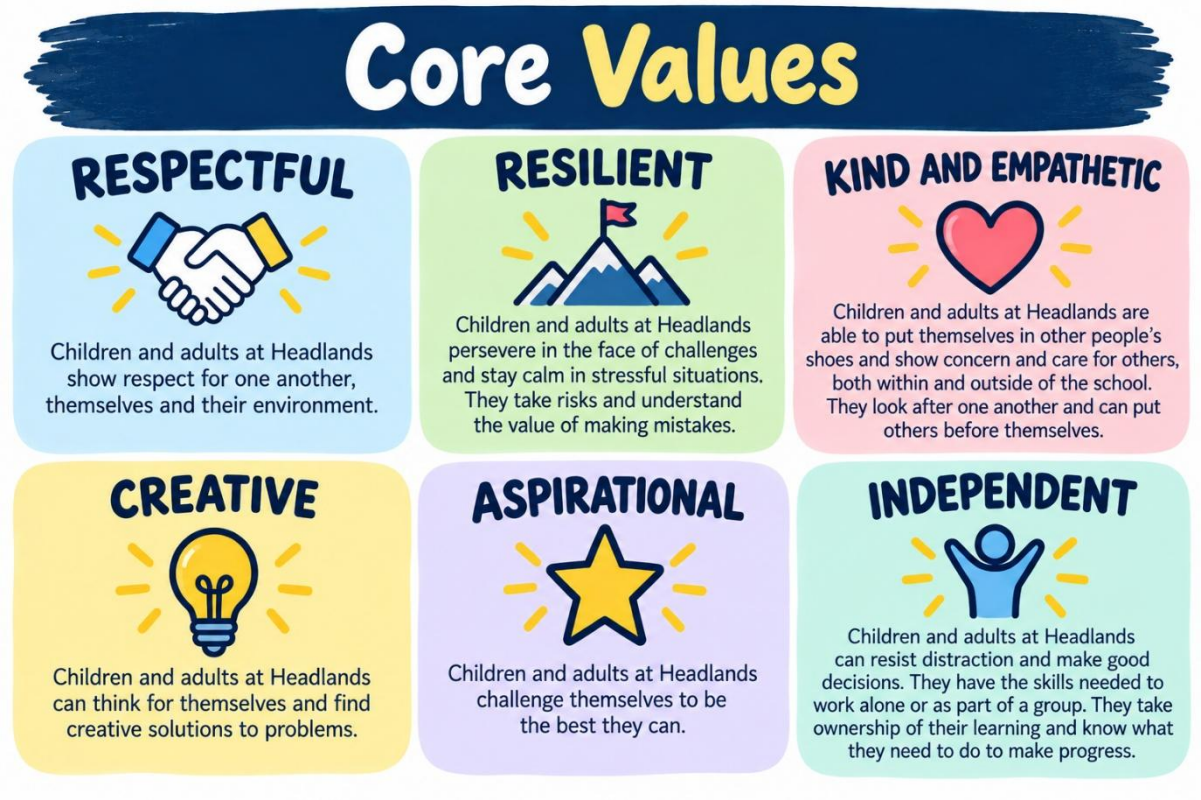
I am delighted to share that the PTA's recent disco raised a fantastic £750 profit!

On behalf of the whole Headlands community, I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a success, whether through organising, volunteering or attending. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and makes a real difference to our school and the opportunities we can provide for our children.

Our Core Value Focus – Kind & Empathetic

This half term, our whole-school core value focus is Kind & Empathetic.

At Headlands, we believe that kindness and empathy are essential in creating a happy, caring and supportive school community. We want our children to understand the importance of putting themselves in other people's shoes, showing care and concern for others, and recognising that even the smallest acts of kindness can make a big difference.



Throughout the half term, we will be encouraging and looking out for children demonstrating these qualities in their everyday interactions, whether that is helping a friend, including someone in a game, offering support or simply showing consideration for others.

We will be celebrating examples of kindness and empathy across school, and I am sure that you will also see your children demonstrating these important values at home and in the wider community. By working together, we can help our children develop into thoughtful, compassionate individuals who look out for one another and make a positive difference to those around them.

Be Bright, Be Seen, Be Safe This Winter!

As the days get shorter and the evenings become darker, we would like to remind all our children and families of the importance of staying safe when travelling to and from school. Whether walking, cycling or scooting, please help us ensure that everyone can **Be Bright, Be Seen and Be Safe** this winter!



Wearing bright or reflective clothing, using lights when cycling and taking extra care when crossing roads can make a real difference in keeping everyone safe. We would encourage parents and carers to take a few moments to talk to their children about road safety, particularly as visibility becomes more limited during the winter months.

For further information and helpful advice, please visit: iTravel York – School Travel and Road Safety.

World Diabetes Day at Headlands – Friday 13th November

On Friday 13th November, we will be marking World Diabetes Day by inviting all children to come to school wearing blue to show their support and help raise awareness of diabetes.

This year's campaign focuses on 'Early Action on Diabetes', emphasising how recognising the signs early and accessing timely treatment can make a life-changing difference. As a school community, we want to help children develop understanding, kindness and empathy towards those living with diabetes, including children and young people who manage the condition every day.





Families will also have the opportunity to make a voluntary donation to York Hospital Children's Diabetes Team, helping to support the invaluable work they do for local children and their families. York Hospital's Charity Team has kindly offered to provide collection buckets for donations on the day. However, there is absolutely no obligation to donate, and all children are warmly encouraged to join us in wearing blue.

There will also be a bake sale outside school at the end of the school day on Friday 13th November, with all proceeds going towards this worthy cause. Together, we can raise awareness, show our support and make a positive difference! To find out more about World Diabetes Day, please visit www.worlddiabetesday.org.

Upcoming Dates

13th November 2026 - World Diabetes Day at Headlands

Autumn Term Parents' Evenings will take place on the dates below.

- **Wednesday 11th November**
- **Tuesday 17th November**
- **Thursday 19th November**

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Andrew Buttery