Congratulations to the children from Year 6 who were confirmed by Bishop Phillip on Sunday. The Bishop of Burnley took a lovely service and everyone who attended commented on the wonderful atmosphere and sense of celebration as the children took their next steps in their Christian journey. They made their vows with confidence and it was a delight to see them supported by a full congregation. The children will take their first communion with our school family at our next Eucharist. We are all very proud of the children.

Congratulations to: Danielle Cocking, Alexander Cooke, Will Coyle, Lucy Dulay, Eleanor Fletcher, Katie House, Theo Heavyside, Esme Hollows, Daniel Killick, Finley Meakin, Leo Pomfret, Alexandra Rudd, Alexander Urquart, Mya Vaughan, Summer Wilson, and Jack Cryer.

We are delighted that Bishop Phillip has been called to serve as the new Bishop of Sheffield. Bishop Phillip has impressed the Heyhouses community with his enthusiasm, understanding and personal warmth. We wish him many years of happiness and service in his new post.
The main school timetable will be replaced by a new timetable providing every year group with a range of specialist activities. It is a very special time in the life of our school and plans are well under way for the event. It looks set to be our best yet. The Festival begins on May 17th and with a break for the half term holiday will continue until June 12th 2017. The Festival events are being staggered across these dates and timetables will be produced for each year group. We are currently booking new companies and artists to work with the children. The children get amazing opportunities for a payment of £8, the same as last year. We are asking for £8 per child, £15 for a family of two children, £20 for a family of three children, £25 for a family of four children. This is excellent value for money. MAD Festival costs at least £16 per child, school and PTA fund 50% of the Festival. Please support the continuation of MAD Festival. This year we are continuing to explore other countries and their cultures and will ‘travel’ to Asia to explore the music arts and drama of India, China and Japan.

MAD FESTIVAL 2017

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day (SID) is organised by Insafe in February of each year to promote safer and more responsible use of online technology and mobile phones, especially amongst children and young people across the world. Safer Internet Day 2017 has been celebrated today, 7th February.

We are increasingly concerned in school about how vulnerable our children are to on-line bullying and distress. Many parents have complained about other children who have used bad language or typed intimidating comments onto web-based games or social networking sites. Texting issues have been increasingly cited by parents and also Instagram. Our pupils are all too young to have Instagram accounts, the age limit is 13. The Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board have created a new Online Safeguarding section to the LSCB website. The new section has been developed as a central Pan-Lancashire hub across the region for Online Safety-related topics and contains a variety of useful news, guidance and recommended resources through a variety of dedicated sub-sections including Schools & the Children’s Workforce and Parents & Carers. The website can be accessed through the following link http://www.lancashiresafeguarding.org.uk/online-safeguarding. This link has been added to our school website.
On Friday 27th January three Year 6 pupils were chosen to represent Heyhouses at the Holocaust Memorial Day Service at St Annes Synagogue. The pupils, Eleanor Fletcher, Benjamin Mangnall and Euan Norman attended the service with Mrs Gaston Ross. It was a very moving service and the children were deeply touched by the Holocaust survivor, Arek Hersh, who spoke to them. Our pupils were a credit to their families and school in their behaviour and thoughtfulness on the day.

Thank you children, it is so important that we remember then such atrocities will not happen again.

Eleanor wrote; ‘I felt very sad because of what the Jews had to go through and yet there is still war around now. … I think I have learnt a lot from this trip and I hope that everything in our world settles down. Its just impossible to think that someone had to experience something as horrible as that.’

Earlier in the month Year 6 had visited the synagogue as part of their R.E curriculum. They all found the visit tremendously useful in understanding another faith. They found many similarities and some interesting differences between the Jewish faith and the Christian faith. They also learnt the importance of respect, tolerance and understanding of differences. If these values had been present the Holocaust might not have happened.

Growing Together Groups

In school we have a packed curriculum, particularly over the next two terms and we feel it is important to work with the children in smaller groups sometimes. So this term we will be starting some ‘Growing Together’ groups to give children the chance to chat, socialise, learn new skills and have some non-curriculum time. We will be enjoying all sorts of activities, including baking, art work, team games and skills building exercises. The groups will run for a few weeks at a time and then some of the children will change to give others a chance to take part.
SERIOUS DANGER

The police have been informed about a spate of dangerous driving and parking issues which have happened this week at Heyhouses. As a school we are appalled that parents could be putting children’s lives at risk through their thoughtless driving and parking. There have also been cases of verbal abuse towards staff and other parents. This is not the type of behaviour we wish the children to see. Please consider how you are behaving in the school grounds or near school.

The car in the picture to the right mounted the pavement in front of a child and its mother. The car registration has been passed to the police. Sadly, a long list of illegally parked cars have had their registration numbers given to our community police officer. Please stop before a child is seriously injured or worse.

CLEANER WANTED

An opportunity has arisen to work within Heyhouses C of E Primary School as cleaner. The position is for 16.5 hours per week Monday to Friday from 3.30pm to 6.45pm. Please contact Joan Murphy on 07896041089 if you are interested.

Forthcoming Dates

School closes on Friday 10th February at the normal times for the half term break.

School re-opens on Monday 20th February.

MAD Festival 2017
A Festival of Music, Arts and Drama across all year groups and classes. Begins May 17th!

Parent Interviews for all Year groups.
Wednesday 8th February and Thursday 9th February.
Please ring school if you have not received an appointment.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Beetle Drive on Friday. It was a great success. Congratulations to former pupil Lucinda Heavy-side who won with an incredibly high score! Years of practice have paid off! PTA raised £198 at the beetle drive. Thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed themselves. It was a good evening.