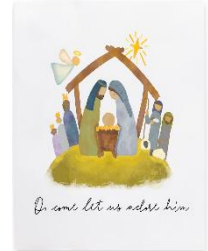




## Newsletter

# December 2025



Welcome to December's edition of our school newsletter.

As we move into this special time of year, the children are busily preparing for their Christmas performances and seasonal celebrations. It is wonderful to see their enthusiasm and creativity shining through as they rehearse and get ready to share these with you.

Alongside the excitement of the festivities, our core focus remains firmly on the children's learning. Staff continue to plan rich, purposeful lessons that challenge and inspire every pupil. We are proud to maintain high aspirations for all of our children, supporting them to achieve their very best and to develop the skills, confidence, and curiosity that will help them thrive.

The Department for Education recently praised Heartwood as we have been recognised as a high performer for attendance compared with similar schools and our attendance outcomes are amongst the strongest. Thank you for working with Heartwood and recognising the importance of good attendance for your child/ren. Regular attendance is essential because every day in school helps your child build the learning, confidence, and progress that they need to succeed.

Mrs Starman, Headteacher

# Respect



This half term the school value that we are focusing on is 'respect'. The children will be receiving value certificates in our celebration collective worship on a Friday for showing respect. They will also identify respect when others show it. Our Nursery children will also bring home certificates for showing respect this half term.



## Newsletter

In Collective Worship, we have been discussing the Sustainable Development Goals 13 (Climate Action), 3 (Life Below Water) and 15 (Life on Land) and how respect relates to them.

Home Learning booklets with suggested activities for each Sustainable Development Goal have been sent home for all children. Let a staff member know once your child has completed an action towards an SDG so that we can celebrate them and give them a certificate.

Is your child due to start Reception in September 2026? If you missed the Open Events and Stay and Play and would like to come and see our school and the Reception classroom, please contact the school office to arrange a visit (01760) 721357 or [office@heartwood.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@heartwood.norfolk.sch.uk)

*class of*  
**2026**



We have a few places left for our January intake for Nursery. If your child is aged 3 or is turning 3 before the end of the year, please contact the school office for more information.

Voting with the [blue tokens](#) is now live! We'd really appreciate your blue tokens. Please spread the word.

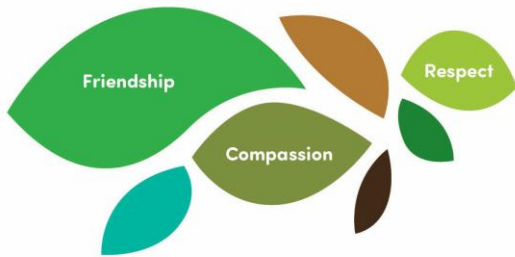
**Stronger Starts** **TESCO**  
*Every little helps*



**All aboard the Heartwood Express!** There are limited spaces left so book now! Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 4-5pm or 5.15-6.15pm. £6 per ticket (payment on Parent Pay).

**SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The School Council have carried out a health and safety walk with Mrs Starman recently and suggested ways the school can improve. These have been sent to all staff and actioned already! The school council have also been busy packing all the shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Thank you so much for all the donations given. We filled 39 shoeboxes! This will make a real difference to children this Christmas.



## Newsletter



Free pre-loved uniform is now available from the school office, the class teacher and there are 'grab and go' bags in the children's area of St Peter & Paul's Church in town.

**Parent Workshop Programme: Understanding and Supporting Behaviour** 9<sup>th</sup>  
December 12 – 1.15pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/understanding-and-supporting-behaviour-tickets-1414858643289?aff=oddtcreator>



**Santa Dash:** Friends of Heartwood have organised a Santa Dash on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December from 3.45pm on the school field. £3 per child (payment on Parent Pay).

Just One Norfolk supports parents' mental health through confidential advice lines, practical wellbeing resources, and signposting to specialist services, helping families manage stress, anxiety, and low mood with friendly, accessible guidance.

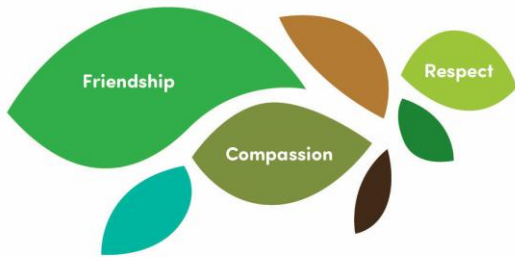


### Travel Survey for Parents and Carers (Winter 2025)

Heartwood has secured a grant from Norfolk County Council Active Travel team. We are going to install a new secure bike shelter and purchase sets of bikes for each key stage, including safety equipment, such as helmets, promoting this form of sustainable and active travel.

Norfolk County Council is conducting a survey to gather information from families which will help improve road safety and travel at Heartwood and within the local community.

Your responses will be confidential and anonymous, so please take a couple of minutes to complete this survey, following the link or the QR code below. You will be helping us to improve our school street, ensuring your child's safety. Survey closes on Monday 1st December 2025. So far 29 people have taken the time to complete the survey - Thank you!



## Newsletter

*'When we walk, scoot or ride our bikes, we help our bodies stay strong and keep the air clean'*  
Year Two Child

[www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/P3ParentCarer2025/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/P3ParentCarer2025/)



**Swaffham Christmas Tree Festival:** Heartwood has a tree in the Swaffham Christmas Tree Festival held in St. Peter and St. Paul's Church at the end of November. If you have any spare change, we would appreciate anything you can give.



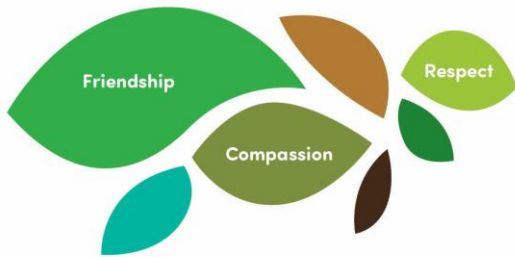
**Swaffham Light Switch On:** Heartwood children are invited to sing to everyone from 3pm until 3.30pm. It will be a mix of Christmas Carols learnt at school and potentially some songs from Nativities this year. We would love for you to join us there on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Mrs Starman, Mrs Cornwell, Mrs McKenna and Mrs Watts will be singing with the children.

**Lantern Parade:** All Heartwood children are invited to the lantern parade on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm.

**Heartwood Hygge Market:** If you would like a stall at Heartwood's Hygge Christmas Market on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, please contact the school office.



For further information email [reception@swaffhamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:reception@swaffhamtowncouncil.gov.uk) or call 01760 722922



## Newsletter



### Diary Dates

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Year 2 Norwich Cathedral trip

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Years 3 and 4 Carol Singing at the Buttercross, 2.30pm

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Workshare at 3.30pm in classrooms

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – School Christmas Dinner

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Nativity at 2.30pm

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Heartwood Express (please book on Parent Pay)

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Years 1 and 2 Nativity at 2.30pm

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Year 6 singing Carols in local care homes

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Year 5 singing Carols around the Bonfire

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery Nativity at 2.30pm

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Heartwood Hygge Market 3.30 – 5pm

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas service in Church at 2.15pm

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas jumper day

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Family Christmas craft at 2.30pm

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – School starts for the Spring term 2026.