

# Partnership Newsletter

No. 11 Winter 2012



High Weald Hero Actions \*Find Out About \*Explore \*Take Care of \*Be Proud of \*Enjoy

Happy New Year! We hope that you had a restful Christmas break and are now ready to face all that the next term holds. Once again, thank you for your enthusiasm and engagement with the High Weald Hero actions - Welly Walks, night hikes, High Weald singing workshops and even a trip to France were just some of the fantastic High Weald Hero activities going on last term.

## Learning Zone

Keep an eye on our website for the latest free resources and opportunities as well as ideas of places to take your class, upcoming events and access to your High Weald Hero maps, Welly Walks etc:

[www.highweald.org/learn/education.html](http://www.highweald.org/learn/education.html)



We would also like to welcome **Broad Oak Primary School** to the partnership - it's great to have you on board and we look forward to working with you and supporting your adventures in the High Weald.

## Musical Heroes

Last term, over 300 High Weald Hero pupils discovered more about the local landscape through the medium of music - thanks to a new pilot project 'Songs and Sounds of the High Weald'.

Children used listening, singing, composing and percussion skills to learn more about the High Weald and its history.

Activities included learning, and adapting, traditional folk songs as well as arranging instruments to compose a 'soundscape' of the forges, hammers and rushing water of former High Weald iron workings.



Feedback from the pilot scheme indicated a high level of teacher satisfaction with the workshops, with strong support for them to continue.

If you would like to find out more about the workshops, costs and what is involved, do contact Laura - [l.sweeting@highweald.org](mailto:l.sweeting@highweald.org) - for details.

## Drama Workshops to Continue!

Over the last couple of years, more than 40 primary schools in the High Weald have taken part in the High Weald drama programme - fun, landscape-base, interactive assemblies and workshops run by Bigfoot, an arts education company.

**Due to further funding being secured, the offer of these 'drama days' has now been extended until July 2012.**

Each day-long event is kicked off by a whole school assembly, led by 'Professor T. Travel', who introduces pupils to the history and development of the landscape. Individual Key Stage 1 or 2 classes are then able to get involved in drama workshops to learn more about the Romans, Tudors, Farming or the Environmental story of the High Weald.



Teachers have rated delivery and quality of the experience as 'excellent' and 'useful for providing a context for geographical and historical understanding'.



**We are continuing to offer, at a heavily subsidised rate, a whole school assembly plus 4 hour-long workshops for only £100 (normally £400!).**

If you would like to know more, contact Laura - [l.sweeting@highweald.org](mailto:l.sweeting@highweald.org), T: 01580 879500. Spaces are limited and will be available up to July 2012 - book yours now!

## Have you got our logo?

Have you got the High Weald Hero logo on your school website or letterhead? Many High Weald Hero schools have!

As a member of the High Weald Hero scheme you are welcome to use the logo to show your affiliation to the scheme.



## Even Ofsted have noticed..!

In a recent Ofsted inspection for one of our partnership schools, it was noted that, "pupils make an impressive contribution to their local community, for example developing a 'welly walk' guide in the area, as part of the 'High Weald Heroes' project". So if you'd like a copy of the logo to show you're involved in the project too, just let us know.

Don't forget - every High Weald Hero school has their own page on our website - [www.highweald.org](http://www.highweald.org) - where you can download your bespoke maps and learning resources e.g. Welly Walks and see news articles and pictures relating to your High Weald Hero actions.

Go to [www.highweald.org/learn/education](http://www.highweald.org/learn/education) and click on 'HWH schools' to find your school's page. If you'd like an article published about what you've been doing, just let us know.

## Wonderful Welly Walkers

Last term saw a number of schools out on High Weald Welly Walks - many of whom were working hard planning new routes to create a Welly Walk for their school.

5 more Welly Walks are now available. St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Crowborough, Sir Henry Fermor, Turners Hill, Leigh and High Hurstwood primary schools all published their leaflets last term. Ashurst Wood, Icklesham and Parkside school also completed their routes and are just awaiting the leaflets to be returned from the printers!



### Some recent Welly Walk highlights:



Apple picking in Icklesham

Foraging in foggy Heathfield



Mud squelching in Crowborough



Sketching in Ashurst Wood



Making journey sticks in Leigh



Visit [www.highweald.org/learn/education](http://www.highweald.org/learn/education) and click on 'Welly Walks' to see if there is a Welly Walk near you or to download further copies of your school's leaflet.



## Heroic Farm Visits

High Weald Heroes at Leigh Primary School have made links with Hazel Street Farm - a fruit farm in Horsmonden that welcomes school visits. Below are 2 extracts from articles written by the children about their day:



"Our trip to the apple farm was amazing! We got to ride on a tractor in crates - it was epic. Every few minutes we had to stop so Richard could tell us about the different varieties of apples and then he'd pass us some apples so we could try them. He drove round the farm and back and then he parked by the huge fridge!" By Nathan

"When we arrived a farmer called Richard greeted us. Then he took us to a tractor that has lots of crates in it, they were big crates. We all got on and off we went. We tried about 7 types of apples, but I can only remember these - Gala, Bramley, Braeburn, Discovery and Golden Delicious. We also tried some wine grapes. Then we went down a big hill at full pelt. Next, we went in to a building that had two big fridges full of apples - the smell was really sweet and strong..." By Bethany P



Looking for a farm to visit with your class? Check out [www.highweald.org/learn/education/out-and-about.html](http://www.highweald.org/learn/education/out-and-about.html) to download a list of farms that would love to see you!

## Find Out More

High Weald Heroes is a partnership of primary schools that have demonstrated their commitment to the local landscape by undertaking the High Weald Hero actions - Find Out About, Explore, Take Care of, Be Proud of and Enjoy.

For more information, please contact:

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News needed - If you have any news or stories you would like to be included in the next newsletter or to appear on our web site please let us know



Check out the learning zone - [www.highweald.org](http://www.highweald.org)