



HERNE BAY JUNIOR SCHOOL

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**HERNE BAY JUNIOR SCHOOL IS A SAFE, INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT
FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY.
APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS SHOULD BE UPHELD AT ALL
TIMES.**

For safeguarding, the school office will be closed from 8.35am-8.50am and 3.15pm-3.25pm daily. This is to allow the children to enter and exit the site safely. Please call or use the intercom during these times for assistance.

Friday 12th January 2024

TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

Next week:

- 15th January - Emotional Wellbeing Team workshop for Year 5 pupils
- 15th January – 2:30pm Dali Class parents invited in for AR session
- 16th January – O2 Young Voices choir event
- 19th January - Picasso and Da Vinci classes swimming

- 24th January – Da Vinci class assembly (parents invited 8:50am)
- 26th January – Picasso and Da Vinci classes swimming
- 31st January – Safer Internet assembly
- 2nd February - Picasso and Da Vinci classes swimming
- 5th – 9th February – Mental Health Week
- 6th February – Safer Internet Day
- 6th February – Year 6 Parents' meetings
- 7th February – Art Day (linking to Mental Health Week)
- 7th February – Year 6 Parents' meetings
- 9th February – End of Term 3 (3:15pm finish)**

TERM 3 BEGINS - MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

Following all the recent rain, it now seems that we are faced with some very cold weather ahead. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing suitable clothing and a coat for outdoor wear. Hats, gloves and scarves are also recommended but must be named please.

It is unclear at this stage whether we will have snow next week but, in the case of inclement weather, please look at the KCC Schools Closure web-page or our social media platforms where we will let you know if the school is unable to open safely. May I also remind you that during Forest weeks the children are advised to wear wellies. The area can be very muddy at this time of year.

Thank you to the parents of Nightingale class who came and enjoyed their assembly this week. Class assemblies are listed in the dates section of the newsletter so do look out for your child's in the coming terms!

Parents' evenings for Year 6 will be held at the end of this term; you will be receiving an email to inform you of this shortly. Please remember to book your slot as this meeting is very important at this stage of the children's learning journey ahead of the transition process to secondary school.

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week is 92.38%.

Overall attendance this year to date 93.31%.

Well done to Parks class for achieving 97+% attendance this week.

91 late codes have been recorded this week:

- Year 3 - 17
- Year 4 - 15
- Year 5 - 19
- Year 6 - 8

All children must arrive at school **by 8:45am** each day to avoid being coded as 'late'. A late arrival results in a disrupted start to the day. Learning begins at 8:45am: a child arriving late will find it difficult to join in a lesson that has already started.

Early Morning Sports Club is free of charge and open for all children to attend. It starts promptly at **8:20am** each day. Please

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consider this if your child is held up by you dropping siblings to other schools.

HOUSE POINTS

Hawks are the winners this week with 306 house points – well done!

Falcons – 281 house points

Kestrels – 244 house points

Eagles – 240 house points

TEACHING AND LEARNING

In this week's assembly, Nightingale class told us all about the life of Florence Nightingale. She was a remarkable woman most known for her influence on nursing and infection control. However, not many people recognise her as a successful mathematician. It was through her use of statistics that she was able to collect data, analyse it, draw important conclusions and present it as evidence to bring about change regarding infection control - saving countless lives during the Crimean War and for generations to come. Maths is often seen as an abstract subject disconnected from the real world, leading children to question its usefulness. However, the story of Florence Nightingale - the lady with the lamp - highlights a powerful example of how useful and wonderful maths is and how it can give us insight into our world and reveal new, significant findings. In this case, maths saved lives and it continues to do so today. Advances in medical healthcare, brain and body imagining have come about due to individuals finding practical applications for maths. In fact, maths has, and continues to have, an impact in all areas of our lives, often without realising it. So, if your child comes home and asks, 'What's the point of learning maths?', look to Florence Nightingale who used maths to save thousands of lives.

SAFEGUARDING

Kent Fostering

Could this be the year you become a foster carer or host for Kent County Council?

Kent Fostering and Supported Homes are looking for new carers and hosts to join an outstanding fostering community in helping to care for some of Kent's most vulnerable children and young people.

Being part of their team, you'll receive excellent support, fantastic training opportunities and could really make a positive difference to a child's life.

If you'd like to find out more please have a look at the attached leaflet, have a look at their website - kentfostering.co.uk or give them a call on 03000 420002.

SEN NEWS

Understanding ADHD in Children: Online Parent Workshop

Do you have questions about ADHD? Would you like to meet with other parents & carers and learn about ways to support your child? The Emotional Wellbeing Team (EWT) are hosting a workshop about understanding symptoms of ADHD. You will also discuss helpful strategies that you can use at home to help support your child.

The workshop will be held on Teams on Thursday 18th January, 12.30-2.30pm. If you would like to join, see the details on the poster attached to this newsletter.

Countywide Improvement Plan for Children with SEND

Currently there is a countywide improvement plan for children with SEND in Kent: CATIE, [Countywide Approach to Inclusive Education - KELSI](#). The county is also seeking parental views for a report with recommendations that could impact children with SEND nationwide.

We are in a time of consultation and the voices of parents and carers of children with SEND are being sought to ensure the provision improves. Changes are being proposed in the way access to services are delivered.

Research so far indicates that strong and consistent mainstream provision leads to positive outcomes for children. The proposed model would call for KCC, schools, the NHS and other SEN service providers to work together locally to secure improvements.

Have your say! Use the links below to complete a questionnaire to provide feedback on the Locality Model being proposed. Your response will be analysed and presented in the consultation report which will be considered by the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee later in the Spring. Your voice is crucial in ensuring provision for children is in line with what families want and need.

Consultation Summary [Summary Document \(amazonaws.com\)](#)

Parent questionnaire [Have your say! | Let's talk Kent](#)

#WAKEUPWEDNEDAY

What you need to know about Amazon Alexa

Alexa is an artificial intelligence (AI) software assistant created by Amazon in 2014 through which smartphone, tablet and smart device users can issue voice commands and ask questions in a range of languages by issuing the 'wake' or activation word Alexa. It can be accessed in several ways and is integrated into a growing number of 'smart' products including speakers, phones and clocks. Once viewed as expensive gimmicks, Alexa is now one of the most used voice assistants in the world. In the guide attached, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as privacy risks, age-inappropriate content and insecure devices.

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Healthy School



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING NEWS

Family Support Practitioner



My name is Gemma Wood and I am the newly appointed Family Support Practitioner at Herne Bay Junior School. This is a new post within school and my role is to work with and support families to ensure that children can succeed.

This is my second week in school and I have really enjoyed getting to know the children and some of you too. I'm looking forward to meeting more parents & carers to see what support I can offer you.

I have worked with young people and their families for over 20 years, this has included as a youth worker, being school-based as a Family Liaison Officer and, in my most recent role, as a Senior Early Help worker. Through these roles I have gained a good knowledge of local support that is available to families and can either work with you or signpost you to services that can help your family. These services could include Early Help, parenting support, charities that can help with the cost of living, young carers or bereavement support.

So, please come to see me with any questions you may have; these could be in or out of school issues. I will be on the gate each morning and afternoon or available by phone.

I look forward to meeting you.

INCLUSION BEAR

Awarded:

Sophie, in Hawking class, nominated Tilly, in Anning class, for Patch Jr. Sophie said, "When doing cross country practise on Monday, I felt like I couldn't carry on. Then, Tilly gave me her hand and held it until I was ready to run by myself again!"

Nominated:

Miss. Findeis would like to nominate Patch to all the children and adults in year 4 for giving her such a warm welcome to year 4 again. Miss Findeis said "Initially, I was quite nervous joining the year group partway through the school year, when everyone is already settled and familiar with each other. The thought of getting to know every single child and learning so many new names was quite overwhelming. I can truly say the first couple of weeks of this term have been a pleasure because of how open and welcoming everyone has been with me; I have even received some thoughtful pictures from children. I'm really enjoying getting to know each of you and your individual characters. Remember to always try your best and be good, kind and helpful to each other. A small thing can really make someone's day and give them something to smile about. You have all certainly done that for me."

Toby, in Picasso class, nominated Erin for being a good friend to him.

Izzy, in Curie nominated Rosalie. Izzy said, "Rosalie has been a very good friend to me especially these past few days when I have been upset."

Lexi, in Anning class, nominated Miss Leeks for being kind and for helping her when she needed it.

Raya, in Kahlo class, nominated Fred for playing with her and making her laugh.

Lily, in Hawking class, nominated the teachers and adults in her class for always being supportive.

ROCKING READERS

Tolkien Class were recognised as this week's Rocking Readers. For the first time this school year, as a class they achieved 85%+ in their AR quizzes! Keep it up!

TT ROCKSTARS

Banneker Class are this week's TT Rock Stars! All children logged on and played multiple times throughout the week – well done!

We now have 12 Rock Heroes amongst our school team – Joseph Papademetrie remains in the number 1 position!

SPORTS AWARD

Ernie Boynes received the Sports Cup this week for incredible demonstrations of how to kick box and for leading all year groups in this activity! Pictures can be seen on our social media sites.

MR FOREMAN'S ECO CORNER

The Ocean Cleanup Revisited

I've spoken about the Ocean Cleanup project before and personally, from around 2017, have followed the journey it has taken.

Many experts had their doubts as to whether it would work (you may remember this was the idea of Boyan Slat, a 16 year old school boy), however he persevered with his €300 of pocket money and has proven many, many people wrong.

So, what's new?

Well, Boyan and his team have now deployed river interceptors to help catch and collect rubbish before it goes into the sea. And what a success it's been. Check out the picture.



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It really is an eye opener as to how much rubbish a river can carry out to the sea. This particular one is in Guatemala, and there are currently another 13 interceptors of varying designs around the world, with others planned.

Why is this important? Trillions of pieces of plastic are in our oceans today and the problem is worsening. This plastic has a devastating impact on marine wildlife and ecosystems. Plastics can hang around for many decades, degrading into microplastics. These can be ingested by wildlife and later enter the human food chain. The Ocean Cleanup aims to clean up to 90% of floating plastic pollution in our oceans and, so far, has collected 8000 tons of rubbish. There is a super long way to go. It is estimated there is 269,000 tons of rubbish in our oceans: 70% of it sinks into the ocean's ecosystem, 15% floats, and 15% lands on our beaches. It really is a massive problem to tackle so please check out their website to learn more and see all of their projects and successes:

[The Ocean Cleanup](#)

CAMP PHOENIX

Last year, a travelling theatre group – Zest Theatre – visited the school to deliver a workshop with our then Year 5 children (now Year 6) to gather their thoughts, feelings and ideas to help research a brand-new production *Camp Phoenix*.

Camp Phoenix's script, storylines, lyrics, and learning outcomes are shaped by the young people across the process to create a show full of the things they asked to be included.

Excitingly, the production will be at **Gulbenkian Arts Centre on Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd Feb** with characters directly inspired by two of our Y6 pupils: Bobby and Rico. The attached flyer gives details of the performances and tickets.

STAR OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children for being identified by their class teachers as this week's Stars of the Week. Certificates will be emailed to parents/carers.

Parks	Elijah Rogers-Morris
Shakespeare	Razvan Ion
Tolkien	Aylanur Bayhanova
Da Vinci	Dolcie Mills
Dali	Ella-May Trimmings
Kahlo	Ralph Austin, Raya Reeves & Amity Lee-Jones
Picasso	Kitty Cooke
Anning	Noah Coombs
Curie	Harley parker
Hawking	Felicity Thornhill
Jemison	Georgie Alleeson
Banneker	Emma Cooper
Johnson	Ollie Foster
Nightingale	Noah Caruso
Turing	Dylan Baxter

TA RECOGNITION AWARD

Each week, our TAs recognise those children who consistently shine as positive role models to others during break and lunch times. Certificates will be emailed to parents/carers.

This week's awards go to:

Year 3	Enzo Courtney & Edward Stygle
Year 4	Ella-May Trimmings
Year 5	Jacob Foad
Year 6	Bentley Gray

With my warm wishes,



Melody Kingman
Headteacher

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