



# 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 22nd March 2024*

## TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

### Next week:

- 26<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 Project Exhibition – 2:30pm (parents invited)
- 26<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 Project Exhibition 2:30pm (parents invited)
- 27<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Service at Christ Church (whole school – pupils only)
- 27<sup>th</sup> March – Year 3 Fizz and Quiz afternoon
- 28<sup>th</sup> March – Year 3, 4 & 5 annual report home to parents
- 28<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 interim report home to parents

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – End of Term 4 (1:15pm finish)**

## TERM 5 BEGINS - MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

- 16<sup>th</sup> April – Kahlo class swimming (in lieu of cancelled lesson)
- 30<sup>th</sup> April – Dali class swimming (in lieu of cancelled lesson)

Thank you to all those who responded to our recent communication survey. 120 people took part which gives us reasonable insight to support future development.

One question asked was: "Where do you find most school information?"

The overwhelming response was the school newsletter with 82 people using this weekly publication to gain information about school events.

As we seek to improve our communication links between home and school, we will continue to review and improve the newsletter and social media platforms so that more information can be shared with you.

Next Wednesday morning, the children will be attending Christ Church, William St, for our annual Easter Service.

Unfortunately, parents are not invited on this occasion due to limited space in the church.

A reminder that term 4 ends next Thursday at 1:15pm. After School Club will not be available that day.

## ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week is 90.53%.  
Overall attendance this year to date is 92.92%.

Well done to Parks and Tolkien classes who achieved 97+% attendance this week.

49 children remain in the 100 club with 100% attendance.  
104 pupils currently have attendance of 98% or above.

86 late codes have been recorded this week:

- Year 3 – 17
- Year 4 – 30
- Year 5 – 20
- Year 6 – 19

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.

*Compassion, Courage, Hope, Integrity, Justice, Respect, Responsibility, Wisdom*



**Early Morning Sports Club** is **free of charge** and open for all children to attend. It starts promptly at **8:20am** each day. Please consider this if your child is held up by you dropping siblings to other schools.

## HOUSE POINTS

**Eagles** are the winners this week with 263 house points – well done!

**Hawks** - 248 house points

**Falcons** – 239 house points

**Kestrels** – 230 house points

## Y6 SCHOOL EXIT

Following our concern about parking around the Y6 exit at the end of the school day, it has been brought to our attention that this continues to be an issue.

As a matter of urgency, we would like to ask parents to please put the safety of our children and other members of our school community first and park safely away from the exit.

Thank you

## TEACHING & LEARNING NEWS

### Turing class Assembly

Pupils had the pleasure of learning all about Alan Turing in this week's assembly. Turing class led an informative, thoughtful assembly about a remarkable man who impacted the outcome of the Second World War and pioneered the beginnings of computers, but whose life ended tragically due to persecution over his sexuality. Alan Turing's work, alongside colleagues at Bletchley Park, on breaking the Enigma machine codes saved many lives and, historians argue, shortened the war. It is one of many powerful examples where maths has been used to save lives and better humanity. Unfortunately, Alan Turing never received the recognition he deserved during his lifetime - an issue that was addressed in 2009 when the government apologised for the way he was treated. Thankfully, societal views have changed and changes to the law reflect this. Prejudice must be challenged so that it does not limit individuals from contributing positively to our society. This is one of the many lessons we can learn from Alan's life.

### Year 4 Poetry Workshop

On Wednesday afternoon, Mr Rowland accompanied a group of Year 4 pupils to attend a Poetry workshop at Swalecliffe Community Primary School. This was a fantastic event hosted by Charlotte Cornell (winner of the Canterbury Festival Poet of the Year 2021) and focused on this year's National Poetry Theme 'Counting'. Students were encouraged to consider what the word 'counting' can mean and used editing techniques, imagery and collage to create their own unique poetry zine. Our students represented the school impeccably and left feeling proud of what they had achieved.

Below is a poem that one of our students produced:

One person wished for weekends  
I like Ronaldo on tele  
Another person met friends  
I like sleep  
Others fill their minds with Maths  
I like fortnight  
Everyone sees the light  
I like darkness  
Do I?  
Denied!

One of the magical aspects about poetry is how we can use words, arrange them into patterns of sound and create layers of meaning that resonates with us all.

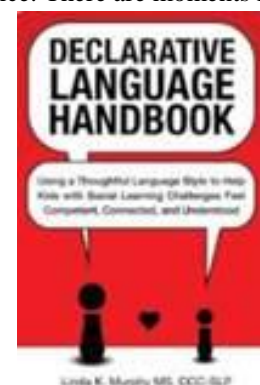
*"Poetry is a verbal expression - that subtle fire and inward light which seems at times to shine through the world and to touch the images in our minds with ineffable beauty".*

(George Santayana)

## SEN NEWS

### Emotional Regulation

Emotional Regulation is a big part of growing up. In school we support children to learn strategies to manage their emotions safely. We teach that all emotions are okay but it's what we do with them and how we manage them that can be tricky. We want children to develop strategies that enable them and others to stay safe as well as to promote their own voice. There are moments in every day that can be used to highlight when a child has managed a situation well and these can be addressed by parents, grandparents or child minders. What is said and how it is said is crucial to helping a child learn to express their emotions calmly. If you're interested in reading to learn more about how to support your child then Declarative Language Handbook, written by speech language pathologist Linda K Murphy is highly recommended.



## FAMILY SUPPORT AND WELLBEING

### Understanding Resilience: EWT Online Workshop

The Emotional Wellbeing Team will be running an online parent workshop on 'Understanding Resilience' on Monday 25th March, 5.30-7.30pm. Attached is the poster, which includes the Teams link and joining information.

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Healthy School



## #WAKEUPWEDNESDAY

### Encouraging Conversations at Home

Cultural and technological changes have made the experiences of today's children vastly different to our own childhoods; it can be challenging to engage youngsters in open, honest conversation – especially about more sensitive topics. This, combined with many children's instinct to avoid “rocking the boat”, can make it difficult to stay up to date with the goings on in their lives. However, it's hugely important that trusted adults still offer an empathetic ear and feel able to encourage young people to open up about their day-to-day activities. This #WakeUpWednesday guide provides ten top tips for promoting open conversations with children – helping to make sure there's someone they know they can turn to in times of need.

## INCLUSION BEAR

### **Awarded:**

Tilly, Emmie and the rest of Nightingale class nominated Mr Senft for Patch for a few reasons:

- He has been wanting a nomination for ages!
- He claims he is black belt in absolutely everything
- Mr Senft is really funny, even if most of his jokes are Dad jokes
- When you are upset, he gives you great advice and one of his lego figures
- We are very happy to have him as our last primary school teacher
- He likes to help the environment by reusing his drinks bottle by filling it with squash

They said “We think he REALLY deserves Patch Jr. Please award it to him.”

### **Nominated:**

Mrs Wright nominated Lucas, in Curie class, for being so welcoming to a new student during a reading group session. Mrs Wright said, “It was lovely to see such a natural reaction to a new member of school, even when they are not in the same class.”

Dolly nominated Alanna-Ann, in Parks class, for Patch Jr for being kind and respectful to her peers. Dolly said, “When I have no one to play with or I am alone, she is always there for me. She is my BFF and the world wouldn't be perfect without Alanna-Ann.”

Lily, in Hawking class, nominated Miss O'Donnell for her kindness and helpfulness. Lily, along with other members of the class, said that Miss O'Donnell deserves Patch as she is amazing.

## ROCKING READERS

Our Rocking Readers are Curie class who have improved significantly in their engagement with AR since term 1. They are now reading on average for 31 minutes per day and therefore it is no surprise their average quiz scores have increased to 84% - super effort!

## TT ROCKSTARS

Well done Jemison class for being this week's TT Rock Stars! 96% of the class have engaged for an average of 10 minutes per day.

## TTRS COMPETITION

Our Girls v Boys competition has now ended and the winners were announced in assembly this morning. Well done to... the Girls!

The Girls team answered 217,33 questions while the Boys team answered 129,954 making the Girls worthy winners.

Most Valuable Players in each group were announced as follows:  
Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> Shruti Chinnien, 2<sup>nd</sup> Zishan Lin & 3<sup>rd</sup> Emma Cooper  
Boys: 1<sup>st</sup> Oscar Reeves, 2<sup>nd</sup> Isaac Prevett & 3<sup>rd</sup> Luca Nugent-Watkins

These children were each awarded a Most Valuable Player certificate.

## SPORTS AWARD

Taylan Bernard sensed his luck would be in this mornig when he said to Mr Hobbs, “I have a feeling I will get the Sports Cup this week.”

Taylan was absolutely right – he was recognised for the confidence that he has demonstrated when taking on new challenges. This week he stood out in the inter-schools' hockey competition, scoring a hat-trick for his team. Well done!

## SPORTS NEWS

### Girls Football

Our girls fought valiantly this week in their match and, despite the result ending in a 0-0 draw, this was thanks to our goal-keeper Millie who saved a penalty!

### Hockey Competition

A number of children across the school took part in a hockey tournament this week. Some of the schools taking part play hockey regularly. Our teams, with very little experience of the game, took on the challenge with remarkable results.

The upper school team reached the quarter finals before getting knocked out. Team 1 from the lower school, reached the semi-final before losing their final match and were placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> place play-off! These children came back to school proudly wearing bronze medals – well done to you all!

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## MR FOREMAN'S ECO CORNER

### A meteorological problem



Clouds: fluffy, white and relatively harmless right? Well no, apparently not.

But how can our floating friends harm us? Micro plastics!

These tiny pieces of plastic have found their way virtually everywhere on Earth, in the air, water, soil, food, even blood and now that list includes clouds. A group of scientists from Shandong University in China collected cloud water atop Mount Tai, and found microplastics in 24 out of 28 samples, all commonly found in synthetic fibres, clothing and textiles, as well as packaging and face masks. And this isn't the first-time micro plastics have been found on top of a mountain. A study from Japan showed that microplastics were present at the peak of Mount Fuji and Mount Oyama.

So, how are they getting there?

Other than contamination from people visiting these sites, the particles may have been transported through the air. Samples from low-altitude and denser clouds had large amounts of microplastics in them. These microplastics could potentially affect cloud formation, and cloud formation has a huge implication for not just our local weather patterns, but for our global temperatures. Clouds affect the climate in lots of ways. They produce rain and snow, affecting global rainfall and vegetation. Clouds block sunlight, cooling the surface of the planet and providing shade on the ground. But they can also trap heat and humidity, subsequently warming the air.



So, what can we do?

More research is needed to fully determine the impact of microplastics in clouds and on the weather, but what remains clear is that we need to reduce your use of plastics. It really as simple as that.

Humans are the only ones on this planet that use plastic, so it's down to us to make the change.

### ECO days this week

World Water Day– 22nd March

Every year, since 1993, the United Nations raises awareness about the importance of freshwater and the staggering 2.2 billion people worldwide who don't have access to safe water.

### Earth Hour – late March

Every year in late March, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) encourages everyone around the world to switch off their (non-essential) lights and appliances for just one hour. It's an easy way to express your support and show that you care about the planet.

### 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	Jack Finch
Shakespeare	Bruno Nugent-Watkins
Tolkien	Bodhi Geeves

Da Vinci	Lily Kershaw
Dali	Izzy Dixon
Kahlo	Grace Vivash
Picasso	Deborah Gomez

Anning	Sonny Harris
Curie	Izzy Gaskin
Hawking	Sophie Barton
Jemison	Alex Stumpf

Banneker	Billie Foster
Johnson	Tyler Woods-Barlow
Nightingale	Abhin Sujith
Turing	Lacie-Rae Birkett

### 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	Isabelle Willis
Year 4	Paige Till
Year 5	Maisy Marley & Sophie Hills
Year 6	Lyla Armstrong

With my best wishes,

Melody Kingman  
Headteacher

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