



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 UPHOLD AT ALL TIMES.

Friday 8th September 2023

TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

Next week:

- 11th September – Year 6 Meet the Teacher 2:30pm
- 12th September – Year 5 Meet the Teacher 2:30pm
- 14th September – Year 4 Meet the Teacher 2:30pm
- 15th September – Year 3 Meet the Teacher 2:30pm
- 15th September – Swimming - Anning & Curie

- 22nd September – Individual Pupil Photographs
 - 22nd September – Swimming – Anning & Curie
 - 26th September – Mr Stone Age – Year 3
 - 27th September – Mr Egypt – Year 4
 - 29th September – Swimming – Anning & Curie
 - 6th October – Swimming – Anning & Curie
 - 10th October – Year 5 parents (only) invited to Harvest assembly
 - 11th October – Harvest Festival
 - 13th October – Arty Day – Black History Month
 - 13th October – Swimming - Anning & Curie
 - 17th October – Parents Evening
 - 18th October – Parents Evening
 - 20th October – Year 3 singing - Parents invited 2:30pm
 - 21st October – Parent Workshop – Emotional Regulation 2pm
- Term 1 ends – Friday 20th October (3:15pm finish)**

Staff Development Day – Monday 30th October

Term 2 begins - Tuesday 31st October

A warm welcome to the new school year! In particular, we welcome our new Year 3 families and those who have started HBJS in our other years. I hope that you all had a restful summer despite the warm weather finally reaching us in time for our return!

We have had a lovely week with transition activities taking place across the school. All year groups have enjoyed a team building day making use of the lovely weather and our extensive outdoor space. I think that our resident pigs, Peggy & Stacey, were curious about sharing their environment with so many humans after a very quiet summer!

Ivy, our school dog, was happy to be back (she took a cooling dip in the pond while Mr Hobbs' back was turned), while the guinea pigs gave a chorus of happy squeaks as the children ran by. Colin the gecko has enjoyed being visited by friends, old and new, and has helped some children to settle back into school. How lucky we are to have our animal friends to care for and to be with each day!

On Thursday, many of our Year 6 children sat the Kent Test. They all approached the day with a positive mindset and, despite

the extreme heat, coped very well with the experience. We are very proud of them all.

Above, are a list of dates that you will need to be aware of. These will be added to as further activities or events are planned so please check on the newsletter each week. We will also give reminders of key dates on our Facebook page.

TERM DATES

There has been a change to the earlier published term dates for this academic year. Attached is the up to date and final copy. This can also be accessed on our website.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Is your child entitled to free school meals? Even if your child would rather have a packed lunch from home, it is essential that you make an application for your child. This will ensure that they receive additional support through the Pupil Premium. You will also receive support during the school holidays towards the cost of food, energy, holiday activities, travel etc.

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SCHOOL DINNERS

Our school dinners are prepared and cooked on site by our experienced and talented kitchen staff. Meals are priced at £2.50 each and provide a variety of healthy and balanced food. Attached to the newsletter is this term's meal choices.

ATTENDANCE

We know that being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation and that the greatest benefits come from children attending school regularly. However, we recognise that children pick up illnesses from each other and there will be times that this will lead to absence from school.

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above.

Below is a link giving information about individual illnesses and when it is appropriate to keep your child at home:

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Please speak to Mrs Botzet if your child is unwell and you are unsure whether they are able to attend school.

Low mental health can also affect a child's attendance at school. Worry and mild or moderate anxiety, whilst sometimes difficult emotions, can be a normal part of growing up for many children; being in school can often help alleviate the underlying issues. We will work with you to provide care and emotional support for your child, if they are experiencing difficulties. If you have any concerns, please speak to your child's teacher.

Our whole school attendance is calculated from Thursday to Thursday each week. Our total this week (to Thursday) was 96.88%.

Well done to Da Vinci and Johnson classes for achieving 100% attendance in the first week back!

Well done also to all of our Year 3 classes for achieving 97%+ in their first week at HBJs – keep it up!

Dali, Picasso and Curie classes also achieved 97%+ attendance – well done 😊

362 children have entered the 100 club. Any child who does not miss a day of school will remain in this club and be celebrated each week.

67 late codes have been recorded this week. All children must arrive at school **by 8:45am** each day to avoid being coded as 'late'. A reminder that Early Morning Sports Club is open for all children to attend and starts at 8:20am each day (there is no requirement to book a place).

SAFEGUARDING

On Wednesday in assembly we spoke to the children about how to keep safe and the importance of safeguarding each other in school. This is something we introduce at the beginning of every year and discussions continue further through their learning in PSHE.

The children understand that every adult working in school is a trusted adult and they know who the DSLs (Designated Safeguarding Leads) are.

We spoke about how school keep all children safe, the things we want them to be safe from and reassured them that all adults in school will listen if they have worries or feel unsafe.

A link to the presentation can be found on the home page of our website [Our School - Herne Bay Junior School \(hernebay-jun.kent.sch.uk\)](https://www.hernebay-jun.kent.sch.uk)

Attached to this newsletter is an introduction to our Safeguarding Team.

KSCMP Management of Asthma and Allergies in Children Survey for Parents and Young People

Does your child have asthma or allergies?

KSCMP (Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership) have developed a short survey for parents/carers and young people to complete.

It has been designed to help understand how different professionals work with each other to support those who have a child (or are a child) with asthma or allergies.

The survey can be accessed by visiting <https://forms.office.com/e/eHDnYDpm2E>. Attached to the newsletter is the QR code.

The end date for the survey is the 20th September 2023.

HOUSE POINTS

House points are awarded to children in recognition of their efforts. Each week, we celebrate House Points in assembly and announce the winning House. Across the term, the points are accumulated with the winning House enjoying a special activity as a reward. The termly House Points then accumulate until we have the overall winning House at the end of the school year. Last year, the winning House, **RED**, came back to school to enjoy an activity afternoon and a picnic on the field!

LEARNING NEWS AND INFORMATION

Meet the Teacher meetings

Next week, we would like to invite you to come into school to learn more about the year ahead for your children. It will be an opportunity to find out about how we can work together - home and school - to ensure they continue to progress in their learning and enjoy their time here. Your child's new class teacher is eager to introduce themselves to you and share what the class will be

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learning about this year. Dates and times were emailed to you and can be found at the top of the newsletter.

Year 6 Parents

Applications for secondary school places for children entering Year 7 in 2024 opened on Friday September 1st 2023 and **will close on Tuesday October 31st 2023**. Parents **must apply** for a secondary school place before this deadline. More information can be found using this link [Secondary school places - Kent County Council](#). Parents can identify 4 secondary schools on their child's application and we **strongly recommend** naming 4 secondary schools. Dates for secondary school open evenings/mornings can be found on their school website. If your child has an EHCP then there is an alternate process for selecting a secondary place. If you require more information on this, please speak to Miss Black, our SENCO.

SEN NEWS

SEN Surgery

Every Wednesday, Miss Black (SENCO) and Mrs Hewitt (SENCO Assistant) hold telephone calls with parents. We always advocate speaking to the class teacher first about how your child is getting on but they may also refer you forwards to speak to the SEN Team.

The calls might be about recently written reports or diagnoses, referrals or interventions. Primarily, they are to ensure that families are following the right avenues for their child if Special Educational Needs are halting them from reaching their potential.

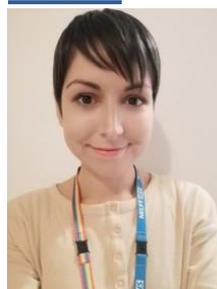
If you have already spoken to the class teacher and believe that a more in-depth discussion is required with the SEN Team, please book with one of us using the school office number. Although we aim to keep these calls to a Wednesday afternoon, we are flexible so do state if this time is not convenient.

Melt downs at the end of the day? Difficulty in controlling those big emotions?

Date for your diary...

On Thursday 21st September, 2-3pm, Miss Black (SENCO) will be hosting an informal gathering to share strategies used in school that can support your child in developing their emotional regulation. There is no requirement to book but do let Miss Black know that you are planning to come so we have an idea of how many parents will attend.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING NEWS



Emotional Wellbeing Team

Hello, my name is Clare and I am the Senior Emotional Wellbeing Practitioner for the Canterbury Team. In addition to me, our team consists of 4 Emotional Wellbeing Practitioners, 1 Senior Clinician, and 1 Clinical Lead. The purpose of our team is to support children and young people with their emotional wellbeing.

When supporting primary school-aged children, we typically work with parents and carers to support with understanding children's emotional wellbeing needs as well as strategies to help children and families move forward with any difficulties they may be experiencing. We work with parents and carers in a variety of different ways. Some of this includes delivering one-off workshops (both face-to-face and online), sharing signposting information and raising awareness of further services and resources that you can access, as well as delivering more targeted long-term support through either 1-1 or group sessions. Occasionally, the Emotional Wellbeing Team delivers workshops and assemblies to children in the school too. These workshops typically focus on friendships, understanding worries, and supporting with the transition to secondary school. We can also work with schools to develop more bespoke workshops and activities for children. We work as a team across all our Canterbury and Coastal schools so hopefully you will get to know a few of us as you see us at Herne Bay Junior School.

To find out more about the Emotional Wellbeing Team, or to make a parent/carer referral, please visit our website or speak to Mrs Edwards (Director of Mental Health & Wellbeing).

#WAKEUPWEDNESDAY

What you need to know about sharing photos online

One of the more heart-warming, life-affirming aspects of social media is being able to share special moments in our children's lives with family and friends: from the first day at school or blowing out birthday cake candles to smiling holiday selfies and cute Hallowe'en costumes. Is there, however, such a thing as too much sharing – and can it actually put children in danger?

With potential risks such as accidentally displaying identifying details (images showing where a child lives or what school they go to, for example) and photos being seen and saved by strangers, perhaps we need to take a little more caution over what we post and where we post it. The #WakeUpWednesday guide attached to the newsletter runs through some safety considerations when sharing images.

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INCLUSION BEAR

Patch Junior, our school inclusion bear, is awarded in assembly each week to a member of the school community.

Mrs Edwards asks for nominations that recognise those who have stood out for acts of kindness, compassion or generosity toward others during the school day. Nominations are invited from children, staff and parents. She must receive these by Thursday evening each week.

Mrs Edwards awarded Patch Junior to Alice in Shakespeare Class today. She said, "On the first day, as the Year 3 children made their way into the school, Alice noticed another child who was feel nervous. She took the child by the hand saying 'don't worry, you can come with me.'"

This is a shining example of kindness and compassion that goes above and beyond.

Thank you, Alice. We are so happy to have you join our HBJS community 😊

ROCKING READERS

Each week, Miss Wilkinson awards the Rocking Reader trophy to an individual class. The purpose of the award is to identify classes that have either excelled or improved in our school expectation for reading. The Rocking Reader trophy is linked to the Accelerated Reader programme that is used to promote, track and support our pupils in their reading progress.

Look out for the first winning class of the school year, next week!

SPORTS NEWS

Mr Hobbs will use this space each week to keep you all informed of any Sports News. He will also award the Sports Cup to children that demonstrate capability or resilience in sports. We look forward to sharing our school's successes with you all!

ECO CORNER

In our weekly Eco Corner, Mr Foreman will share informative news items to broaden our knowledge and understanding of ecological issues.

Here is an interesting article to start the new school year with:



Bread: a bit of a boring subject, but before you go off and read something more interesting, pause for thought; how common is the plain old loaf? How many loaves are made each day in the UK? 1 million, 2 million?

Around 11 million loaves are made every day. So, what has this got to do with being green and saving the planet? Quite a lot

really. Your average loaf uses many ingredients, including commercial yeast. Commercial yeast heavily relies on petrochemical-derived ingredients. And, as you can guess, petrochemical-derived ingredients come from oil or natural gas. Considering the amount of bread that is made every day throughout the world, this is not good for the planet. So, what's the alternative? Making the move to sourdough bread. Genuine sourdough bread is made from just three basic ingredients: flour, water and salt. The fermentation process relies on naturally occurring wild yeast and lactic acid bacteria, so no harmful petrochemicals, better for the environment and better for you! Grab a traditionally made sourdough loaf from your local bakers and give it a go, I think you'll like it.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

DATES

[Sourdough September](#) is a month-long event led by the Real Bread Campaign to help everyone worldwide to discover that life's sweeter with sourdough!

[Secondhand September](#) is a campaign led by Oxfam to encourage people to buy only second-hand items for 30 days in the month of September.

Organic September

A month-long campaign designed to encourage more people to try organic. A way to promote and educate people about organic food & farming practices. Find out more via [The Soil Association](#)

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.

Parks	Rosie Martin
Shakespeare	Evangeline Medhurst
Tolkien	Ronnie-Jay Watkins

Da Vinci	Lola Lee
Dali	Paige Till
Kahlo	Lexi-Mae Crowther
Picasso	Alfie Elvidge

Anning	Krina Patel
Curie	Laylah McArthur
Hawking	Amelie Potter
Jemison	Daisy Santer

Banneker	Riley Burns
Johnson	Alex Bryce
Nightingale	Matilda Buss
Turing	Ellen Foxley

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TA RECOGNITION AWARD

Each week, our TAs recognise those children who consistently shine as positive role models to others during break and lunch times. This week's awards go to:

Year 3 Milly Slade
Year 4 Abrielle Bernard
Year 5 Beth Clayton
Year 6 Alex Bryce

I hope that you all enjoy the continuing sunny weather this weekend.

Best wishes,



Melody Kingman
Headteacher

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