



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.**

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 1st March 2024

TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

Next week:

- 4th March – Year 5 Mother's Day Shop
- 4th March – Kahlo class sewing workshop
- 5th March – Year 4 Mother's Day Shop
- 6th March – Year 3 Mother's Day Shop
- 7th March – Year 6 Mother's Day Shop
- 7th March – World Book Day – children come to school dressed as their favourite book character
- 8th March – Dali & Kahlo classes Swimming

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- 14th March – Year 5 parents invited in to AR session – 9am
 - 15th March – Dali & Kahlo classes Swimming
 - 18th March – Year 5 Home Learning Projects due in
 - 20th March – Women's History Month Art Day
 - 20th March Years 3 & 4 Home Learning Projects due in
 - 22nd March – Year 6 Home Learning Projects due in
 - 22nd March Dali & Kahlo classes Swimming
 - 26th March – Year 5 Project Exhibition – 2:30pm (parents invited) Please note change of date
 - 26th March – Year 6 Project Exhibition 2:30pm (parents invited) Please note change of date
 - 27th March – Easter Service at Christ Church (whole school)
 - Thursday 28th March – End of Term 4 (1:15pm finish)**
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TERM 5 BEGINS - MONDAY 15TH APRIL

Next week, our PTA will be running the Mother's Day Shop. Please see the list of dates above for your child's shopping day. The shop could not run without the generosity of our PTA in giving their personal time to source and wrap the presents in preparation for this event. However, they are finding it difficult to cover the running of the shop due to their own work commitments and are very low on support for Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. If you could give a couple of hours to help the team for one or both of these afternoons, please call in to the school office. Any support would be greatly appreciated; a DBS is not required for a 'one-off' commitment where people holding a current certificate are present.

Attached to today's newsletter are the term dates for 2024/2025 academic year. These dates have been set alongside Herne Bay

Infant School so that staff development days occur on the same days. We understand that the cost of holidays increases during the school holiday period but I hope that by sharing these dates with you now, you may be able to book early and avoid increased costs.

Today, we said goodbye to Miss Humphries; student teacher in Hawking class. Miss Humphries is in her final year at the University of Brighton where she has been studying towards a BA Hons degree in Primary Education. She has been a great asset to the team over the last 13 weeks and we know that she will enter her first year as an Early Careers Teacher (ECT) well-prepared and with confidence. We wish her all the very best for the future!

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ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week is 92.36%.
Overall attendance this year to date is 92.99 %.

Well done to Turing class who achieved 97+% attendance this week.

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

91 late codes have been recorded this week:

Year 3 - 21

Year 4 – 22

Year 5 – 25

Year 6 – 23

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

HOUSE POINTS

Eagles are the winners this week with 372 house points – well done!

Hawks - 321 house points

Kestrels – 292 house points

Falcons – house 228 points

TEACHING & LEARNING NEWS

Secondary school placements September 2024

Today, the majority of Year 6 children will find out their secondary school placements. It is a time of excitement and anxiety. Whatever the outcome, we are here to support where we can. If you have concerns or questions about next steps, please speak with Mr Thomas (Assistant Headteacher) who will be out on the gate most mornings or get in touch with the school office who will pass your questions to him. We always advise that you accept the place you have been offered. It does not mean your child will have to attend that school but it does guarantee a place at a secondary school. You can place your child onto the waiting list for any other school you applied for, but only the schools that were in your application.

366 days!

Time is an extraordinary concept - how we define it, how we measure it, how we spend it. Humans have, throughout history, occupied themselves with developing means, measures and tools to track it accurately and debate over how to spend it wisely. Yesterday was February 29th - a day that comes around only once

every four years. For most it would have passed like any other Thursday unless you are perhaps one of those few who were able to celebrate their actual birthday. In which case, that is quite the occasion. The day does provide some wonderful learning opportunities and discussions to be had - why does it exist? Did it always exist? What would happen if it didn't? It draws in areas from History, Science and Maths.

If you get time this weekend, why not discuss it with your children. A good question is often the start of a wonderful learning journey. Here is a link that will provide some background information: [What is a leap year? \(nationalgeographic.com\)](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/leap-year/) and here is a quote about time from the computer scientist Antony G. Oettinger:

"Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana."

Outstanding library books

With World Book Day upon us, it is a timely reminder for children to ensure that they have returned any outstanding overdue books to the library. We currently have 136 overdue meaning stocks are depleted for other users. Please help your child to ensure that they return their borrowed book on time.

WORLD BOOK DAY AT HBJS

A reminder that next Thursday 7th March is World Book Day. As part of this celebration of children's literature we would like to ask that everyone comes to school dressed as one of their favourite book characters.

Please do not feel that you need to purchase anything special for this. For over 100 quick and easy costumes, see the ideas at [126 easy World Book Day homemade costume ideas 2024 with pictures | MadeForMums](https://www.madeformums.com/easy-world-book-day-homemade-costume-ideas-2024-with-pictures/).

In each year group there will be a £10 book voucher awarded to the child with the most creative and original costume.

SEN NEWS

Having just received the most recent Speech and Language Magazine for Schools, I was interested to read an article entitled 'Learning a new word'. Children accrue new language every day. Vocabulary knowledge is key to academic progress and continues to be needed throughout life when we come across new words related to a new job or hobby or even a new recipe. Sometimes children assume that adults know all the words and might be surprised to see us using google to find a definition. We need to model to them that we don't always know the meaning. Learning new vocabulary together can teach children skills for life but how do we do this?

- **Talk:** Be open about not understanding the work being used. Share a learning moment of how to clarify the meaning via a dictionary or google.
- **Repeat and Review:** Model repeating the word aloud. Try to use the word in sentences straight away and then again for the next few days.
- **Record:** Make a note of new words being learnt and revisit them.

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- Play games: Try to use the words in in/correct sentences to catch each other out. Use post-it notes or letter cards/magnets to jumble the order and then spell the word out.

These techniques will hopefully enable you and your child to put new words into your long term memory and develop strategies that can be used for retaining other information too.

Year 5 EHCP

Is your child in Year 5? Do they have an EHCP? In the summer, the Local Authority will invite you to name the school you'd like your child to attend when they transition to secondary school. If you haven't researched potential schools for your child, I'd advise that you do so. The more schools you visit and get familiar with, the easier it'll be to make a choice. You are only able to name one school and you want to ensure this move is positive for your child.

If you need to discuss any further, please call Sammy Black to book in for SEN Surgery.

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Action for Happiness calendar:

This month's Action for Happiness calendar is Mindful March to encourage us all to pause, breathe and notice, so we can respond more mindfully. We have attached the calendar to this newsletter should you wish to print a copy at home.

Sunlight Project

The Sunlight Project is a free programme aimed at children between 7-13 who are affected by someone else's drug or alcohol use. The project does not seek to punish parents/carers or loved ones that may use substances, and children do not have to share any details of their home life even if they attend group sessions.

Once a young person has been referred to the Sunlight Project, a worker will meet them 1:1 to check they are suitable and are happy to come along to the group. There will be seven group sessions of 4-5 children. Each group is held weekly and run by two experienced workers.

We have attached a leaflet, containing more information, to this newsletter. If you have any questions about the Sunlight Project or think your child is suitable, please speak to Mrs Edwards by 15th March.

#WAKEUPWEDNESDAY

Tips for supporting children experiencing bullying

Bullying has long been a pervasive issue in schools – and, being realistic, it's regrettably a problem which is always likely to exist to a certain extent. There are still plenty of steps we can take as trusted adults, however, to lend support, comfort and reassurance to children who are going through this deeply upsetting experience. Such a highly emotive topic can be a difficult one to talk about with children but honest, open communication

remains vital to young peoples' wellbeing. It's important to be aware of effective ways to broach and explore the subject. The #WakeUpWednesday guide attached to the newsletter, has expert advice on effective ways to support children who are being bullied.

INCLUSION BEAR

Awarded:

Holly nominated Amity, in Kahlo class. Holly said, "I nominate Amity for being a great friend. My life would not be the same without her. She is kind, respectful and she helps me."

Nominated:

Mrs Bryant nominated Antonia, in Anning class. Mrs Bryant said, "I would like to nominate Antonia for showing great empathy to another child and encouraging them to join in with her group's game when the child felt upset. She took that person under her wing and explained the game and the child then had a lovely time playing with them. Thank you, Antonia."

Mr Hewitt nominated Holly and Amity in Kahlo class. He said, "I would like to nominate Holly and Amity as they have been litter picking for me for the last two weeks during morning break and lunchtime." Thank you, girls!

Grace nominated Lillyanna, in Kahlo class, for being the best, all the time.

India, in Curie class, nominated Miss Higgins. India said, "Miss Higgins really deserves Patch. She helps everyone and is kind and caring. I think she will be a great teacher."

ROCKING READERS

It was between Curie class and Jemison class who both scored an average of 93% in their AR quizzes this week. However, one class were slightly ahead in the minutes spent reading – Jemison class who are this week's Rocking Readers!

TT ROCKSTARS

Well done to Nightingale class who doubled their average minutes spent reading from 2 to 4 minutes. Enjoy being this week's TT Rock Stars!

Emma Cooper remains at the top of the Rock Heroes leader board – she is answering her questions on average in 0.58 seconds!

SPORTS AWARD

Well done – Jack Rose! Mr Hobbs and Mrs Lewis-Taggart agreed that Jack should be awarded the cup this week for his dedication to the Netball team. He has taken time to learn the rules of the game, reading about them and discussing it with his Dad. It appears that the rules are pretty complicated – so with his knowledge, Jack is able to support the team in their practice for upcoming matches.

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MR FOREMAN'S ECO CORNER

Pollinators, what do you know?

So, we all know bees are really important, pollinating flowers and the food we eat, but what do you really know apart from that? Probably not much. Well I had a little loo on the interweb and I was quite shocked by what I didn't know!

Firstly, what is a 'Pollinator'?

A pollinator transports pollen from the stamen (male part) of the flower of a plant to the stigma (female part) of the original or another flower. Moving the pollen is necessary to fertilize the plant so that it can produce fruit, seeds and new plants. While the pollen of some plants gets carried by water or the wind, many plants that are not self-pollinating rely on other means to transport their pollen, pollinators.

So, who are these pollinators?

Bees (obviously) but check out the list below, you'll be surprised at some other less well-known pollinators.



Wasps - while bees are the biggest pollinators on the planet, wasps are also useful pollinators.

Birds - there are 2,000 bird species worldwide who feed on the nectar.

Spiders, insects and beetles.

Ladybirds - important, if accidental, pollinators.

Bats - pollinate crops and spread seeds at night (although not all bats are pollinators).

Butterflies and moths.

Flies (yes, that's right, flies!) - not as well-known as pollinators as bees, flies are extremely important pollinators of plants and crops. One study involving 105 crops found that flies visited 72 percent and bee's 93 percent, flies can sometimes even out pollinate bees in early spring. Who'd have thought that!

Why are Pollinators important?

One third of all food on the planet is pollinated. Plants are dependent on pollinators, and all organisms on Earth are dependent on plants. Plants provide oxygen, clean the air and stabilize the soil. Flowering plants make up around 90% of the vegetation on our planet and provide an important food

source for many animals. Biodiversity literally depends on pollinators.

How can we help encourage pollinators?

One thing we can do is create a garden where flowering plants they are attracted to can flourish. Planting in clusters can help pollinators locate flowers. Planting so that you have consistent blooms throughout the growing season helps ensure pollinators have enough nectar from spring through autumn. Pollinators need to stay hydrated, so leaving a shallow dish of water with several partially submerged stones in your garden, on a tree stump or a windowsill, can provide a safe place for pollinators to land and get a drink without risking drowning. All easy stuff really!

The future of our planet, as we know it, depends on us developing a harmonious relationship with pollinators - so let's give them a hand to do their job!

MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT EVENT

Herne Bay Library are hosting a Mother's Day Craft event this Saturday 2nd March. Please see the poster attached to the newsletter for further details.

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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	Delphin Chintu
Shakespeare	Effie Simms
Tolkien	Jaxon Cutress

Da Vinci	Parker Macdonald
Dali	Ivy Austin
Kahlo	Holly Clark
Picasso	Ronny Love

Anning	Lexi Foreman
Curie	Ziyad Barakat
Hawking	Rafael Chipisinov
Jemison	Jessica Chen

Banneker	Rico Nash
Johnson	Joseph Papademetrie, Max Abbs & Isla Humphreys-Scarman
Nightingale	Lucas Manser
Turing	Ellis Crowley

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	Flynn Hughes
Year 4	Amity Lee-Jones
Year 5	Cheyanna-Louise Hadley
Year 6	Frazer Hutton

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

With my best wishes,



Melody Kingman
Headteacher

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