



**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 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024*

---

## TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

### Next week:

5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February – Mental Health Week

5<sup>th</sup> February – Sewing workshop Dali class

6<sup>th</sup> February – **Safer Internet Day**

6<sup>th</sup> February – Year 6 Parents' meetings

7<sup>th</sup> February – Art Day (linking to Mental Health Week)

7<sup>th</sup> February – Year 6 Parents' meetings

**9<sup>th</sup> February – End of Term 3 (3:15pm finish)**

---

## TERM 4 BEGINS - MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

---

This week, we moved into February and, speaking to some, there were people who were glad to see January out. In nearly all cases this was because it was a dark, cold and long month following the joy and excitement of the festive period.

However, for one member of staff, seeing January end was a relief for a very different reason...

Miss Black set herself a New Year challenge to run 496km during January. The idea was to start with 1km on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2 km on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3 km on the 3<sup>rd</sup> etc, although any strategy could be applied as long as 496km were achieved.

Frosty mornings and wet days hampered her progress and by 20<sup>th</sup> January she was ready to give up. However, in true Miss Black spirit, she planned strategically to ensure that she succeeded her goal. This involved running the equivalent of 4 and a half marathons in the final week – 188km! Despite aching legs and stiff ankles, she kept on going - running every morning ahead of a day at school – until she reached her goal. What an inspirational achievement!

Miss Black has many running achievements under her belt but this, she said, was the hardest challenge she has faced.

She was inspired by Sean Conway; endurance athlete, who came up with the idea following the 2020 lockdown which had led to him erasing years of sporting plans due to his training schedule being interrupted. It is now an annual challenge and Miss Black is named amongst the 2024 Official 496 Finishers! If you would like further information about this challenge, take a look at the website: [The 496 Challenge - SEAN CONWAY](#)

Well done, Miss Black; we look forward to hearing of your next challenge!

## ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week is 91.61%.

Overall attendance this year to date 93.17%.

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

68 children remain in the 100 club with 100% attendance.

123 pupils currently have attendance of 98% or above.

130 late codes have been recorded this week:

Year 3 - 23

Year 4 - 39

Year 5 - 31

Year 6 - 37

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.

---

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

---



## HOUSE POINTS

**Falcons** are the winners this week with 285 house points – well done!

**Kestrels** – 282 house points

**Eagles** – 256 house points

**Hawks** – 241 house points

## TEACHING & LEARNING NEWS

### Safer Internet Day

On **Tuesday 6th February** we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating **Safer Internet Day 2024**.

Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet.

This year the campaign will be focusing on **Change Online**, this includes:

- Young people's perspective on new and emerging technology
- Using the internet to make change for the better
- The changes young people want to see online
- The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online and offline

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

We would be delighted if you would join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, the UK Safer Internet Centre have created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at:

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or a few hours to spare, there are top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher, Mrs Keam (Online Safety Lead) or Mrs Evett-Collins (lead DSL).

## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

It is Children's Mental Health Week 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> February. The theme this year is '**My Voice Matters**'.

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference, have a greater sense of community and self-esteem. This year, we want children of all ages,

backgrounds and abilities to be empowered to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing.

Place2Be visited primary and secondary schools to ask students what they wanted from the week and to help shape the activities they created for schools and the advice they give to parents, carers and families. We have attached the 'Talking to your child about mental health' poster created from them speaking to children and young people.

If you would like to find out more about the week, visit:

[Children's Mental Health Week](#)  
([childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk](http://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk))

## SEN NEWS

### SEN Surgery

Mrs Hewitt and Miss Black continue to host SEN Surgery every Wednesday. Parents book in the 30min phone call and know they can share concerns or ask for support to ensure their child is put forwards for the correct assessment or that they are receiving the support they need. Call either of us via the school office to book a slot.

Further advice for parents of children with SEN can be found using these websites:

[Special educational needs and disabilities \(SEND\) - Kent County Council](#)

[Information, Advice and Support Kent \(IASK\) - Kent County Council](#)

## SAFEGUARDING

### NSPCC- Home or out alone guide

We have attached a guide to help parents and carers decide whether their child is ready to either stay at home or go out alone. The guide provides practical tips and advice to help parents and carers decide what is best for their child.

It covers some of the risks parents should consider before making a decision, such as how their child feels about the idea and who they should contact in an emergency.

There is also a checklist for parents and children to work through together to help them prepare for different types of scenarios. This includes questions about what to do if there is an accident at home or they are approached by a stranger outside.

### Going out or staying home alone.

As your child gets older, it is likely they will want more independence, especially in preparation for transition to secondary school. But are they ready to stay home alone? The NSPCC have developed a quiz to provide advice and guidance to help you make that decision.

[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/in-the-home/home-alone/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/in-the-home/home-alone/)

---

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

---



Healthy School



## MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

### Supporting your Child with Worries and Fears: online parent workshop

The Emotional Wellbeing Team are facilitating an online workshop next week titled 'Supporting your child with worries and fears'. If your child's worries are starting to impact on their day-to-day life, the workshop will focus on ways in which you can support to manage their concerns.

If you would like to join, it takes place on Monday 5th February, 12.30-2.30pm. We have attached the poster which includes the Teams link and joining information.

## INCLUSION BEAR

### **Awarded:**

Mr Hewitt nominated Archie, in Kahlo class. Mr Hewitt said, "Archie has been carrying out litter picking at break time and lunchtime for about a week now. He is a very polite and enthusiastic lad." Thank you for caring about our school environment Archie.

### **Nominated:**

Mr Manning would like to nominate Athena, in Anning class, for spending time at the end of lunchtime last week with another child when she was sad and upset. Mr Manning said Athena was very calm and caring.

The TAs in Year 6 would like to nominate Mrs Widdows for Patch this week. They said, "Since Mrs Widdows joined the HBJS team she has been nothing short of amazing. She is always the first person to offer any adult help and support, whether that is with work or something personal. Without hesitation she instinctively shows each of our school values, working late every day to offer support to all members of her class and year group. She always goes above and beyond for all the children in her class which is amazing. Her kindness and selflessness extend to all adults too. She is one in a million and HBJS are so lucky to have her. Everyone deserves a Mrs Widdows in their life. 😊"

Rosie nominated Violet, in Parks class. Rosie said, "I really think Violet deserves Patch as she is always kind and respectful and looks after everyone. I think she is amazing."

Millie, in Jemison class, nominated Victoria, in Johnson class, and Martha, in Turing class. Millie said, "The other day I was feeling incredibly sad, and Victoria and Martha had a chat with me. They both made me feel a lot better. They are both kind, funny and talented and everything is better when they are around".

Esmee, in Dali class, nominated Mr Tadman. Esmee said that Mr Tadman is kind, wonderful and caring and always makes sure she gets her brain breaks.

## ROCKING READERS

Turing class are this week's Rocking Readers. They were recognised by Miss Wilkinson as the class with the highest average minutes spent reading (39 minutes) as well as the highest average quiz scores (89%).

The following classes are also recognised for their 85% average quiz scores this term: Da Vinci, Anning, Jemison, Johnson, Nightingale and Turing.

All classes across the school are reading for an average of 15 minutes+ a day – this is a super achievement!

## TT ROCKSTARS

We have 17 Rock Heroes across the school – these are children (and adults!) who, on average, answer questions in under a second!

The TTRS trophy goes to Kahlo class this week for 100% participation – keep it up, children!

## TTRS COMPETITION

Over the last 10 days, the children have been participating in the Y3&4 v Y4&6 competition. This has been a fantastic battle eagerly followed by Mrs Roman who announced the winners today – Years 5 & 6!

In each group **Most Valuable Player** certificates were awarded to:

### **Year 3&4**

Hamza Mutlu – 1<sup>st</sup> place  
Keandra Goulden – 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Bruno Nugent-Watkins – 3<sup>rd</sup> place

### **Years 5&6**

Darcy White – 1<sup>st</sup> place  
Ava Austin – 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Emma Cooper – 3<sup>rd</sup> place

## SPORTS AWARD

Keeva 'Kevin' Chidgey was awarded the Sports Trophy today. Mr Hobbs explained to the children that during this week's Cross-Country trials she was challenged to keep up with the boys – which she did! Kevin is a playful nickname that Keeva has adopted to demonstrate that she will not be outdone by the boys in her sporting achievements!!

---

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

---



Healthy School



## MR FOREMAN'S ECO CORNER

My corner on the school's weekly newsletter has amused and bemused many. Hopefully, the information I bring you has been relatively interesting, and at least made you think about ways you could be greener.

But it's OK me banging on about green this and eco that, sometimes you have to take the lead and show the masses how easy it is. So, I was thinking before Christmas, what can I do that's eco-friendly, easy for all, yet out of my comfort zone in order to inspire others? It was a hard task as all the HBJS staff know I am generally fantastic at everything I turn my hand to... but, as hard as it is to believe, I'm not really a natural in the kitchen. I thought maybe I could knock something up from my veg patch, but that's not really inspiring, and then it dawned on me... 'I'll make a loaf of artisan sour dough bread!' It's eco-friendly, tasty, and I've never made bread before. With only a few ingredients required, off I went to the shop for my flour. This turned into a bit of a major issue, as there are so many to choose from: wholegrain, plain, self-raising, freshly cut. I bought some plain as the packaging looked good and thought that'll be fine. Back at home it began to dawn on me the scale of the process. I had to make a 'starter', i.e. a fermentation process because the bread is yeast free. It all looked a bit confusing but I followed the instructions and 3 weeks later (yes 3 weeks), I had my starter ready to rumble. Then it was just a case of adding flour, a bit of salt and some water and, hey presto, my dough was ready! Of course, there were doubts of whether it would work but I carried on regardless. I let it rise, popped it in the oven and this was the result.



Well what can I say? It looked good and tasted even better. It turns out that even I can make a loaf of tasty bread, and more importantly, without any yeast, making it super eco-friendly - all of which means you can too! I used no special pots or pans or equipment, it really was a case of

using what I had in the cupboard to the point it was nearly a round loaf as I couldn't find a rectangular tin to bake it in.

Watch out Jamie Oliver!

These are the links/websites I used to make my bread:

[Beginner Sourdough Starter Recipe - The Clever Carrot](#)

[Sourdough Bread: A Beginner's Guide - The Clever Carrot](#)

Do share pictures of your loaf if you have a go at making one yourself!

## 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	Marshall Durnian
Shakespeare	Omer Mutlu
Tolkien	Keandra Goulden
Da Vinci	Parker MacDonald
Dali	Sienna Edwards
Kahlo	Oliver Thomson
Picasso	Oliver Nichol
Anning	Henry Gale
Curie	Betty Clark
Hawking	Oliver Emptage
Jemison	Nelly Cowling
Banneker	Joseph Cloke
Johnson	Gabe Kelly
Nightingale	Flavius Petre
Turing	Oscar Reeves

## 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	Sienna Webber
Year 4	Zaahid Barakat
Year 5	India Geeves
Year 6	Amelie Martindale

Wishing you all a happy and restful weekend.

With my best wishes,



Melody Kingman  
Headteacher

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



Healthy School

