



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 17th May 2024

TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

Next week:

- 20th May – Art Ambassadors art session
- 20th May - Forest Parent & Pupil eveing
- 21st May – Year 5 Parents Kent Test Meeting – 5:30pm
- 24th May – **End of Term 5 (finish 3:15pm)**

TERM 6 BEGINS – MONDAY 3rd JUNE

What a busy and eventful week we have had! Our Year 6 children have made us all very proud by the way in which they have approached their SATs tests. I'm sure that they are all relieved to have finished them and can now look forward to their final term making memories alongside their friends.

Throughout the week we have raised awareness of the positive impact that movement has on our mental health. On Wednesday all children and many staff supported Mr Hobbs as he clocked up 20 miles in just over 3 hours by running laps on the school field. It was great to see parents and family members join with Mr Hobbs and the children, especially those who took part in the running! Our thanks to the PTA who supplied ice lollies and drinks to cool and refresh everyone during this event. Today was the turn of the staff to consider their wellbeing, and this was recognised with a 'Bake-Off' competition with many lovely cakes and treats on offer. Mrs Gower (our resident baking queen!) and I had the pleasure of judging with the criteria of 'best dressed', 'best tasting' and 'most unexpected' bakes. The winners were: Mrs Easton with the 'most tasty' Lemon Drizzle, Miss Hobbs with the 'best dressed' Black Forest Gateaux cake and Mrs Bryant with the 'most unexpected' (and tasty!) Cheese Muffins. Following, our staff tucked in and enjoyed their Friday treat! Pictures can be seen on our social media platforms. Tomorrow, Mrs Edwards is taking to the skies and jumping out of an aeroplane to perform her first ever sky-dive! She is grateful for all the generous donations that have been made in support of the Mental Health Foundation. We are sending every good wish to her as she undertakes this very impressive challenge!

MENTAL HEALTH GOLD AWARD

At the close of Mental Health Awareness Week, we are very excited & proud to announce that we have been reaccredited as a *Gold* school by the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools Award. We not only achieved Gold, but it was recognised that we are excelling in all areas too.

We were first awarded Gold in December 2020 but it was noted by the Centre of Excellence that we have worked extremely hard to not only maintain the high standard, but improve on it. Within the report it stated:

"The school has used the framework and content of the award to excellent effect to build and strengthen their previous Gold achievement through the ongoing development of their mental health and wellbeing strategies, structures, and practices. The school has continued to make progress in achieving an even stronger profile since their initial submission enhancing and extending the principles that had already been an integral part of their culture and ethos."

This is a wonderful accolade that summarises the school's continued commitment to improve outcomes for our children and their families.



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ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week is 92.7%.
Overall attendance this year to date is 92.91%.

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

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

51 late codes have been recorded this week:

Year 3 – 9
Year 4 – 18
Year 5 – 18
Year 6 – 6

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.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

We continue to follow DfE guidelines and unauthorise holidays taken in term time. I must remind you that a penalty notice will be issued, which may incur a fine, if your child does not attend school due to a holiday.

HOUSE POINTS

Eagles are the winners this week with 237 house points – well done!

Kestrels - 235 house points

Hawks – 228 house points

Falcons – 196 house points

YEAR 6 LEAVERS BOOK

This is a final reminder to those who have not yet ordered their child's Leavers Book. This must be done by Monday 20th May please. Payment is £4.50 via School Money or by coming in to the school reception.

TEACHING & LEARNING NEWS

Herne Bay High Transition Evenings 2024

Herne Bay High will be holding some transition evenings for pupils and parents at the start of June. Unfortunately, two of those dates (Monday and Thursday) fall during the Year 6 residential trip. However, there is a third meeting on Tuesday 11th June at 6:00pm which children starting Herne Bay High could attend.

Details of the evenings and other key dates for transition can be found below:

Transition Evenings

Monday 3rd June - 1700hrs
Thursday 6th June - 1700hrs
Tuesday 11th June - 1800hrs

All these evenings will take place in the Bay Theatre. Their Home School Agreement Event will take place on Wednesday 3rd July between 1530 and 1730.

Induction days will be Thursday 4th and Friday 5th July.

Year 5 CAT test and Kent Test presentation

Pupils in Year 5 will be receiving a letter home today, providing parents with the results of their child's recent CAT tests. These results can be used as a potential indicator of Kent Test outcomes and help inform any parents considering registering their child for the Kent Test.

Registration for the Kent Test for children due to start secondary school in September 2025 (current Year 5) opens on Monday 3rd June 2024 and closes at midnight on Monday 1st July 2024. A link to the website where you can register will be shared at the start of Term 6. Attempts to register for the test after the closing date will not be accepted.

There is a presentation for parents regarding the Kent Test and the secondary school admission process happening next week on **Tuesday 21st May at 5:30pm**. This meeting will be held in the New Hall and parents should enter via the carpark entrance. If you would like to discuss your child's CAT test results further or if you do not receive results for your child, please contact their class teacher.

#WAKEUPWEDNESDAY

School Avoidance

School avoidance is a sharply increasing phenomenon, with tangible negative effects on children's wellbeing and education. The factors that come together to make a child consciously avoid seeing their classmates and teachers can be much more complicated than is often assumed. A careful, mindful approach from parents, carers and educators is required to help children return to an environment that may be causing them intense anxiety.

The guide attached aims to help you understand the issue of school avoidance – not only its potential roots and ramifications, but also what you can do to help children and young people navigate these obstacles and continue their education.

INCLUSION BEAR

Awarded to:

Our Year 5 teachers nominated Max, in Banneker Class, for Patch this week. During Thursday break time, Max brought a child into the Year 5 area that was experiencing some issues on the playground. He clearly explained to the teachers what had happened and had already been supporting the child outside.

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Before he left, he reminded the child that he could always come and find him or an adult outside if he needed to. What a wonderful role model for kindness to have in our school!

Mrs Bryant added, "I would like to nominate Max for the very sensitive way in which he supported a member of our class who was upset yesterday. Max showed real empathy and compassion and was an excellent role model to others. Thank you, Max."

Nominated:

Patch nomination from Ivy to Artie in Tolkien class: I nominate Artie because he is always kind to me and lets me play any game. He deserves Patch. I am so lucky to have him as my friend. Life would not be the same without him.

The whole of Curie class nominated Mrs Tomlin. They said, "We would like to nominate Mrs T as our teacher has been away and Mrs T has been in every day. She is a lovely TA and we are lucky to have her."

Sienna nominated Eva, in Shakespeare class. She said, "Eva has always been there for me. She makes me laugh, smile and brightens my day every day. I am so lucky to have a friend like her"

Bobby nominated Jack, in Kahlo class. Bobby said, "Since I moved to this school, he has helped me and cheers me on. I do not know what I would do without him. He always deserves Patch."

Arabelle, in Da Vinci class, nominated Sophia, in Johnson class. Arabelle said, "I nominate her because she is the best friend to everyone. She cares about her friends. She makes people happy, and I think she really deserves Patch this week."

Mrs Kingsland nominated Mrs Deacon in the kitchen. She said, "She is not only doing a stunning job with new delicious food, but she also made our Year 6 children sausages every morning before their SATS. It's so very appreciated."

ROCKING READERS

Shakespeare class are this week's Rocking Readers. Miss Wilkinson has noted that there had been a recent dip in quiz scores in Year 3 but this class have maintained an average of 80% this term – well done!

TT ROCKSTARS

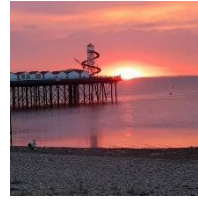
Well done Jemison class for being this week's TT Rockstars! This class are standing out within the upper school in their accuracy. On average, they are participating for 4 minutes each day which is a fabulous team effort.

SPORTS AWARD

Princess Akinsunmade was awarded the Sports Cup this week. On Wednesday, she joined Mr Hobbs throughout lunch time to run laps on the field. New to running, Princess showed determination to keep going for as long as she could. Well done!

MR FOREMAN'S ECO CORNER

Whatever happened to Roly the dog?



As most of you are aware, this week is the Mental Health Foundation Mental Health Week - dedicated to highlighting ways in which we can support ourselves, others and the various agencies/charities with our mental wellbeing. The link with this and my corner of the school's newsletter maybe obvious but to some it may not. So, take a seat, get yourself comfy, and let me have two minutes of your time.

Now I know I bang on every week about saving the planet and all the animals including ourselves, (well it is my job), but are you really aware how the environment around us is key to how we feel or how big a part it plays on our mental health? Let me explain. Each year millions of people spend millions of pounds on their homes, be it decorating, furnishing etc, so they can live/come home to a nice environment where they can chill out, unwind and recharge. That's their environment. It has a positive effect on their lives.

The outside is just the same. Areas such as our neighbourhood, place of work, school etc all have an effect on us, regardless of whether we work there or are just visiting. It all plays a part. This is why it is so important for us to look after our parks, beaches, forests and green spaces. All our eco efforts go toward protecting what nature we have left. It is intrinsically linked to us and how we feel. It's no surprise that research shows that people who are more connected with nature are usually happier in life and more likely to report feeling their lives are worthwhile. Nature is very good at generating many positive emotions, such as calmness, joy, and creativity. This connection we have with nature is also associated with lower levels of poor mental health, particularly depression and anxiety. There are so many studies out there that have linked nature with good mental health, I could go on for hours, but I won't...

We are so lucky where we live, we have a wonderful beach and seafront. Not everywhere has this, especially bigger cities where green spaces are sparse - so use it, enjoy it, look after it and reap the benefits it can give you.

Challenge for the week

Instead of sitting at home watching your favourite soap, take yourselves and your family down to the beach for a walk. It only has to be half an hour or so, and I bet you'll get back home feeling a bit brighter, a bit happier and a bit less stressed, allowing you to then catch up with all of Dirty Den and Angie's shenanigans...



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Eco dates this week

May 22: [World Biodiversity Day](#)

The United Nations has proclaimed May 22 The International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.

May 20 to 25 - Walk to School Week.

Keep the car at home at walk to school! [Walk to School Week - BBC Teach](#)

ACTIVE LIFE HALF TERM SPORTS CAMP

Attached to this newsletter is a poster giving information about a Sports Camp at the Herne Bay Arena during half-term.

HERNE BAY LIBRARY CRAFT EVENT

Attached to the newsletter are details of a Father's Day craft event being held at Herne Bay Library on Saturday 8th June.

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	Eliza Waddington
Shakespeare	Betsy Cowling
Tolkien	Aylanur Beyhanova

Da Vinci	Tobias Manser
Dali	Izzy Dixon
Kahlo	George McCarthy
Picasso	Leon Wylie-Hanna

Anning	Aiden Lee
Curie	Ernie Boyns
Hawking	Josie Carr
Jemison	Tommy Gray

Banneker	Whole class
Johnson	Whole class
Nightingale	Whole class
Turing	Whole class

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	Eliza Waddington & Dolly Crane
Year 4	Harry Harding
Year 5	Bethany Clayton
Year 6	Mollie Adams

Wishing you all a positive, happy and sunny weekend.
Best wishes,



Melody Kingman
Headteacher

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