



# 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.

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*Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024*

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## TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Term 6 begins

3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 Residential – NB Y6 children not attending may come into school in non-uniform for the week.

5<sup>th</sup> June – **Kestrels** Term 5 house point winners' non-uniform day

5<sup>th</sup> June – Picasso class assembly – Parents invited 8:50am

7<sup>th</sup> May – Tolkien class Swimming

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10<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> June – TTRS whole school competition

10<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 PTA Father's Day Shop

11<sup>th</sup> June – Year 3 PTA Father's Day Shop

11<sup>th</sup> June – Year 3, 4 & 5 Parents' Evening

12<sup>th</sup> June – Anning class assembly – parents invited 8:50am

12<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5 PTA Father's Day Shop

12<sup>th</sup> June – Year 3, 4 & 5 Parents' Evening (except Curie class)

13<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 PTA Father's Day Shop

13<sup>th</sup> June – Curie class Parents' Evening

14<sup>th</sup> June – Tolkien class Swimming

14<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 Reports home

17<sup>th</sup> June – Class Photos

17<sup>th</sup> June – Year 3, 4 & 5 termly projects due in

18<sup>th</sup> June – Da Vinci and Picasso classes to visit Activity Box

18<sup>th</sup> June – Nick Cobb, visiting artist in to Year 5

19<sup>th</sup> June – Hawking class assembly – Parents invited 8:50am

21<sup>st</sup> June – HBJS SUMMER FAIR

21<sup>st</sup> June – new classes emailed to parents for current Y3, 4 & 5 pupils

24<sup>th</sup> June – Kahlo and Dali classes to visit Activity Box

25<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5 parents invited to see projects 9am – 9:30am

25<sup>th</sup> June – Year 2 Parents meeting and tours – 6pm

26<sup>th</sup> June – Tolkien class assembly – parents invited 8:50am

26<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 parents invited to see projects 2:30pm – 3pm

27<sup>th</sup> June – Year 3 parents invited to see projects 9am – 9:30am

28<sup>th</sup> June – Tolkien class Swimming

1<sup>st</sup> July – SPORTS DAY (times to be confirmed)

4<sup>th</sup> July – Whole School Transition Day

5<sup>th</sup> July – Tolkien class Swimming

10<sup>th</sup> July – Parks class assembly – parents invited 8:50am

16<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Production matinee performance 1:30pm

17<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Production evening performance – 7pm

18<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Leavers Service at Christ Church (Y5 children to attend) Y6 Parents welcome

19<sup>th</sup> July – End of Term 6 – 1:15pm finish (After School Club closed)

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No sooner do we finish term 5 do we start thinking about term 6 and, as you can see from the dates listed above, it will be busy! Please come back to these each week as we will update with further relevant information including times for the events.

Our celebration assembly this morning focused on the achievements of our children in their learning. Please read the sections further on in this newsletter which highlight some of the children who were awarded.

Next term begins with our Year 6 PGL to Bawdsey Manor in Suffolk. I am sure that the children attending will have an enjoyable time and will make lasting memories of the experience with their friends.

Back at school, Mrs Roman has announced next term's TT Rock Stars Competition and, this time, it will be a big challenge for Year 4 as they take on the rest of the school! These children have been practising hard for their MTC (Multiplication Tables Check) in June and this will be an opportunity to secure their skills in answering questions quickly and accurately. I'm sure that the rest of the school will be up for the challenge of this of this contest – we will be watching the progress closely!

Parents Evenings will take place in week 2; please ensure that you have signed up for your slot. During, you will be given the opportunity to look at your child's progress in their books as well as discussing their next steps with the class teacher.

## ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week is 90.13%.  
Overall attendance this year to date is 92.81%.

No class achieved 97+% attendance this week.

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

53 late codes have been recorded this week:

Year 3 – 8  
Year 4 – 15  
Year 5 – 20  
Year 6 – 10

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

**Kestrels** are the winners this week with 182 house points

**Falcons** – 152 well done!

- house points

**Eagles** – 151 house points

**Hawks** – 133 house points

This term's overall house point winners are **Kestrels** with 1198 points collected. These children will be able to come to school in non-uniform on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

## YEAR 6 CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING

### PGL

Year 6 children who are not attending the PGL may come into school in non-uniform for the week: 3rd – 7th June.

## SUMMER FAIR

Herne Bay Junior School's spectacular Summer Fair will be held on 21st June this year and we need to make sure that everyone knows about it!

We would like the children in Years 3 and 4 to design the front cover of the leaflet that will be given out on the day.

We would like the children in Years 5 and 6 to design the poster to advertise it.

The details have been given to the children, this week. Entries need to be in by 6th June. All entries cost 50p. Proceeds will go towards the Summer Fair fund so please encourage your children to have a go.

Good luck - we can't wait to see the designs!

### Tombola

This year, we are going to have separate adult and children tombola and we are looking for donations for both. For the children's tombola, the sort of things we're looking for are sweets, books, games and stationery. For the adult's tombola, beverages (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic), gardening equipment, home furnishings and fragrance would be ideal. Please send in any donations with you child; alcohol must be brought into the main reception please.

Thank you for your support!

## TEACHING & LEARNING NEWS

### Year 5 PESE presentation:

On Tuesday, Mr Thomas talked through the Kent Test process for children who will be attending Year 6 in September 2024 (current Year 5). The presentation slides can be found as an attachment alongside this newsletter. Within these slides, you will find key dates and an overview of the test. Online registration opens on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and closes on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July. We will share a link to the website in the first newsletter in term 6.

Over the coming months, secondary schools will be releasing dates for open events for Year 7 admissions in September 2025 (current Year 5). There are a number of routes to consider,

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including independent schools such as St Lawrence college. A flyer for their open events is attached alongside this newsletter. They offer a wide variety of scholarships and the opportunity for means tested support through bursaries.

### **Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)**

Next term, Year 4 will be participating in the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). It is a statutory national assessment to check whether children can fluently recall their times tables up to 12. This is a key skill that will help support your child's progress in Maths. It is an online assessment that consists of 2 practice questions followed by 25 times tables questions. They will have 6 seconds to answer each question. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes. The MTC will be carried out on Wednesday 12th June. Schools will receive the results on Monday 24th June and your child's results will be shared with you. It is important to note that there is no pass mark for this assessment. It is a national check carried out for the purpose of allowing schools to identify any pupils who may need additional support. However, the national average score last year was 20/25 and the most common score was 25/25.

The children in Year 4 have been working incredibly hard this year to learn their times tables and have had opportunities each week to practise carrying out the check. Fluent recall of times tables facts will be hugely beneficial as your child moves further through their Maths curriculum. We ask for your support in encouraging your child to continue practising their times tables at home. Times Tables Rock Stars has been great for this so please continue to encourage your child to engage with this platform. However, it doesn't have to involve electronic devices. Some of the children will have flashcards of key facts they've yet to master, so just spend a few minutes a day going through them or fire some questions off around the dinner table or during their bedtime routine. The confidence gained by those children who have really grasped their tables in Maths has been fantastic to see - the subject becomes more accessible, the children are more successful and, as a result, they are enjoying their Maths lessons more and remembering more. [Multiplication Tables Check - 2023 - Timestables.co.uk](https://www.timestables.co.uk) is a website where children can practise a times table check similar to the assessment they will be completing in June; it is set out using the same format of answering 25 questions with 6 seconds to answer each question.

### **SEN NEWS**

Please note that our SENCO, Sammy Black, will not be in school for the first week after the Half Term break. Please direct questions and concerns to your child's class teacher.

### **Holiday Reminders**

With the lighter evenings and school holiday, it's easy to drop routines and be more relaxed about bedtimes. These changes can greatly affect a child's ability to manage leading to a higher frequency of dysregulation. Try to maintain expectations such as

mealtimes and bedtimes to support your child in maintaining calm.

### **#WAKEUPWEDNESDAY**

#### **Encouraging Healthy Friendships**

It's common for young people to have comparatively less of an understanding of social conventions. While children can benefit from this to some degree – making friends at the drop of a hat – this can also generate a good deal of confusion regarding certain aspects of any relationships that they form. Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging - but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which can last for many years.

The guide attached explores friendships between children and young people, offering advice on how to help them nurture healthy relationships with one another. It is important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

### **FAMILY SUPPORT AND WELLBEING**

#### **Red Zebra**

Rachel, a social prescriber from Red Zebra will be in school every Tuesday. Social Prescribing is a free service that links people to organisations and groups within the local community, with an aim of improving health and wellbeing.

#### **What could Rachel help with?**

- Anxiety
- Housing
- Employment support
- Benefits and financial advice
- Parenting support
- Physical, mental health and emotional well-being,
- Social isolation
- Volunteering opportunities

If you think that Rachel could support you or your family then drop in to school on a Tuesday morning.

For more information, please see the School Instagram page or the leaflet attached.

### **ROCKING READERS**

This week's Rocking Readers are Picasso class! Miss Wilkinson told us that the class have collectively read 4,560,566 words since September! And, perhaps more impressive, they have read 2,356,706 more words than the next class in Year 4!!

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## TERMLY READING AWARDS

In assembly this morning, we celebrated reading achievements across the school.

The following children were awarded a certificate by their class teacher:

Year 3: Enzo Courtney, Elijah Rogers-Morris & Flynn Hughes

Year 4: Ella Waite, Holly Clark, George Wheatley & Sienna Edwards

Year 5: Gianluca Gianicco, James Butler, Luca Streatfield & Sophie Barton

Year 6: Jewel Jijo, Dylan Baxter, Amelie Martindale & Erin Dew

100% Quiz winners:

Bea Moore, George McCarthy, Faith Gale & Marybeth-Layce Smith-Spencer

Further to celebrate in reading are the children who have read 250,000+ words or more this year.

They are:

**250,000 – 499,999**

Evangeline Medhurst, Artie Lane, Liam Harris, Sienna Edwards & Joshua O'Leary

**500,000-799,999**

George Wheatley, Abrielle Bernard, Pariya Hothi, Alexander Stumpf, Tilly Moore & Alastair Thompson

**800,000 – 999,999**

Felicity Thornhill & Jake Dobson

**1,000,000+**

Deborah Gomez – 1,023,738

William Leeks – 1,059,093

Jessica Pavey – 1,252,670

Erica Prett – 1,477,103

## TT ROCKSTARS

Curie class are this week's TT Rock Stars! Having not won the trophy since term 1, they are deserving winners this week for their most improved average daily minutes spent reading and quiz scores. Keep it up!

## TT ROCKSTARS ROCK HEROES

As we come to the end of term 5, we now have 32 Rock Heroes in school! These include Mr Senft and Mr Luck coming in at 29th and 14th places respectively! Well done to all!

Our top 5 Rock Heroes are:

1<sup>st</sup> – Emma Cooper (who, on average, is answering each question in 0.48 seconds!)

2<sup>nd</sup> – Daisy Ellis

3<sup>rd</sup> Oscar Reeves

4<sup>th</sup> Ruby Towell

5<sup>th</sup> Ellis Crowley

## SPORTS AWARD

Following the successful Netball win at St Mary's, Whitstable, Freddie Crouch was awarded the Sports Cup this week for his skills – scoring 3 goals in the first quarter!

## SPORTS NEWS

Yesterday HBJs and Whitstable Endowed played a mini tournament at home. Both schools had one Year 5 team (next season's team) and a Year 6 team (compiled of pupils who have not played for the schools before). All teams competed against each other in a league format. Watched by over 60 spectators from both schools, Whitstable's Y5's won the tournament by two points! The event was a great success and will now take place annually! Well done all!

In Netball, HBJs had a successful match away against St Mary's Whitstable with a 4-2 win! Well done!

## MR FOREMAN'S ECO CORNER

**Wind power provides the largest source of UK electricity over winter months**

Well, I didn't expect this, but a new study ranks the UK top in the global league table for decarbonisation.

Wind power was Britain's largest single source of electricity last winter. Over the six months between October last year and March 2024, the UK's fleet of wind turbines supplied more electricity than any other power source.



During the first quarter of this year alone, wind provided 33 per cent of the UK's power, just ahead of gas on 28.8 per cent, while imports provided almost 15 per cent, biomass almost 7 per cent, and solar 2.5 per cent. Coal provided just 1.4 per cent of electricity. Further data for this April shows wind power on average provided more power than gas over the past year, making this a new milestone for the technology.

A league table of the world's 30 largest countries that emit more than 200 million tons of CO2 per year places the UK at the top spot for cutting its carbon emissions: 52 per cent since the country's emissions peaked in 1971.



That places the UK ahead of any other major country in terms of decarbonisation. France sits in second place after cutting its CO2 emissions by almost 45 per cent and Germany is the only

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other nation to have achieved emissions reductions of over 40 per cent.

No other major economy has cut its carbon emissions faster than the UK, which is a real achievement. A large part of the progress has been phasing out coal-fired power stations and investing in renewables. However, even with the last remaining coal plant closing in the UK later this year, we will still need to find new ways to meet the government's 2050 net zero ambitions.

But what a great start the UK has made, this is something we can all be truly proud of. Long may it continue.

#### **Eco dates for the coming week:**

[National Children's Gardening Week](#) – end of May  
National Children's Gardening Week supports 'Greenfingers' a charity which creates inspiring gardens for children who have to spend time in hospices. Check out their website for lots of ideas and things to do.

#### [30 Days Wild](#)

The whole month of June is '30 Days Wild'. 30 Days Wild was created by The Wildlife Trusts to help everyone be more connected with nature by doing something 'wild' every day. When you sign up you will be sent a digital pack with ideas for you and your family. I highly recommend joining.

#### [Let It Bloom June](#)

Following on from No Mow May, is Let It Bloom June. Allow the flowers to grow in your garden and leave them be for the wildlife, and you, to enjoy 😊

## **HALF TERM ACTIVITY** **RNLI ART COMPETITION**

Did you know that the RNLI are turning 200 in 2024?!

In order to celebrate this and the 61st birthday of Whitstable Lifeboat Station, they are holding an Art Competition across all of the local primary schools.

The brief is to **design an A4 poster**, on any theme relating to: 'birthday congratulations', saving lives, having fun whilst staying safe at the beach - and can be done in any medium.

There are prizes up for grabs for the chosen winners and those entries will be displayed at the Lifeboat Station Open Day on Monday 26th August.

So, if your child would like to take part, please ensure that we have received their entry by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June; there will be a collection point in the school office.

## **KENT CRICKET AND KENT COLLEGE CRICKET COMPETITION**

One for the diary:

Kent Cricket and Kent College are hosting a Cricket Tournament at Kent Cricket ground on the 27th June 2024 from 9.45am until 1pm. If your child would like to take part, please click the QR code that can be located on the poster attached to this newsletter.

## **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	Nina Stolecki
Shakespeare	Evie Turner
Tolkien	Bea Moore
Da Vinci	Arabelle Kent
Dali	Ozzie Mustafa
Kahlo	Willow Batchelor
Picasso	Charlie Birnage
Anning	Summer SHarpe
Curie	Jack Rose
Hawking	Pariya Hothi
Jemison	Millie Robinson
Banneker	Ruby Towell
Johnson	Joseph Papademetrie
Nightingale	Abhin Sujith
Turing	Daniel Barnes

## **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	Jayden Gayton-Reeves
Year 4	Harry Harding
Year 5	Evie Tracey
Year 6	Jake Dobson

Wishing you all a restful and happy half term break.  
Best wishes,



Melody Kingman  
Headteacher

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