# **Herne Flyer 6**

### Knowing Every Child – Inspiring Every Mind – Achieving Every Day

Herne Junior School

Friday 11th October 2019



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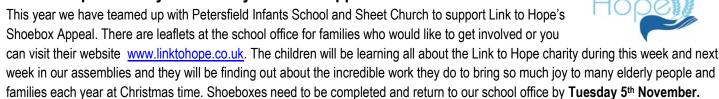


### Parents in Partnership – The Way Forward

We really value feedback from parents and carers because this helps us to improve our school for the children. The first Thursday of each month is our OPEN SCHOOL and, we appreciate that this timeslot doesn't always suit everyone. Going forward we will extend this from 3.30 until 5.30, giving parents a chance to look at their children's books. We are also putting together some dates for a later *Evening Open School* sessions. This will need advance notification from you by email or phone call to the office so that we can get books ready to go into the Music Room. We'll publish those dates next week. We are also keen for parents to meet senior leaders face-to-face at 'Parents in Partnership' meetings; look out for

those dates next week too. Don't forget that senior leaders (Head, Deputy and Assistant Head) are often available at the beginning and end of the day to talk to parents, so don't be afraid to pop in if something is on your mind. Thank you. ©

### Link to Hope's Family and Elderly Shoebox Appeal



### A Little Kindness



Linked to the idea of helping others, we have played the song 'One Day' through YouTube (Life Vest Inside). It's a lovely demonstration that the smallest kindnesses can make a difference to someone else. If you can't click the link, just copy the link into your web browser or search for 'Life Vest Inside'. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwAYpLVyeFU

### Car Parking On Love Lane and Hoadlands

As a link to those little kindnesses, could we please request that parents and carers parking near to the school on our local roads respect our near neighbours. Do not park over driveways, sit with your engines idling or block oncoming traffic. Your help with these matters is really important, especially when we had to call an ambulance right at the end of the school day a couple of weeks ago.

### Parents Evening Bookings - Update

Online bookings on our parents evening system is <u>live again until midday on 15<sup>th</sup> October</u> for bookings for next week's evening on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October. A guidance sheet for signing up is available in our foyer. The email address you use to sign up with must be the one we already hold on our system for you, or you will not be able to book online. If you are not sure which email this is, please give us a call.

### Halloween Disco

As ever, our Halloween Disco run by Friends of Herne, brings some questions about what is and isn't allowed. We have banned scary clowns and please don't bring any pretend weapons! See you for all the fun on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October. Lower School is from 5.30 – 6.45pm and Upper School is from 7.15 – 8.30. Tickets are available at the door. ©

## School Photos – Yellow Photography



As a reminder, the closing date for orders is 15<sup>th</sup> October next week. Please ensure all orders are with the office or completed online by that date. Also, please note that the Friends of Herne and PISA photoshoot with Tina Allingham is in Herne's school hall over this weekend...smile!

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#### Pokemon Cards – Rules!

As mentioned last week, we are allowing Pokemon Cards in school, but there are some important rules to abide by, which we have discussed with many of the children.

- If your cards are valuable to you, consider if they should even come to school in the first place!
- Keep your packs of cards safe your teacher can help you by showing you where you can keep your cards.
- You cannot trade with children in other year groups.
- Any trading can be reversed on the same day of trading if one person isn't happy with the trade. (This is known as a 'cooling off' period', like in real life).
- Cards must not come out in lessons, in the dining room (hall) or in the cloakrooms. They can only be played
  with at breaktimes and lunchtimes.



### **FOH Christmas Cards**

With Christmas fast approaching, children in all classes have spent time producing artwork to create their own Christmas cards, mugs, wrapping paper and gift tags for you and your families to order. This year, orders and payments are to be made online – full details are included with the artwork coming home in bookbags today or early next week. It is critical that the artwork form in the plastic wallet is returned to school should you wish to order. The final date for orders, and returning artwork, is Thursday 24th October. Thank you everyone!



### Doodlemaths – How to Get Involved FOR ALL FAMILIES

This special maths app goes from early years (age 4) all the way through to the secondary school curriculum (age 16), so it is suitable for any child. The Doodlemaths app provides a tailored pathway for your child once they have completed a simple assessment. They will then be given a series of

curriculum based activities. Each activity can be completed independently and will take less than 10 minutes. The app is designed to be accessed daily to ensure maximum impact and there is also video support and hints if they are finding the questions challenging. We have trialled the app in school with a small selection of children, using iPads, and they found it to be fun, engaging and it helped them to improve their core mathematical skills.

Doodlemaths is available to parents independently for £5.99 per month **but we have managed to get a reduction down to only** £10 per child per year (a saving of almost £60!). It is available in a variety of formats (Apple, Android, Kindle Fire, PC, Mac, LearnPad). Here is a link which explains about this program further: <a href="https://www.doodlemaths.com/doodlemaths-in-30-seconds/">https://www.doodlemaths.com/doodlemaths-in-30-seconds/</a>. All parents should have been send home a letter to register last week, but there are spare letters at the office, if needed.

The deadline for this special offer is Monday 21st October.

## **CM Sports Half-Term Holiday Club (at Herne)**



CM Sports are running a holiday club at Herne over Half-Term (Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Oct – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov) and also on the school's inset day (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 9-3.30 for £20). This club is open for Petersfield Infants, Herne and TPS (up to Year 8) pupils. The standard hours are 10am – 4pm, but they do also offer an early drop off from 8am and a late pick-up up to 6pm (please note on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> Nov the hours will be 9am -3.30pm). For every Herne child who comes the school received £5 per pupil per day. For more information about prices, activities and booking, please visit the CM Sports website on https://cmsports.schoolipal.co.uk/.

## Help Your Child at Home - Spellings

This week's helpful tips centre around spelling. If you're looking to teach your child spelling words and improve their overall skills and confidence, it's important to remember that the learning process should be made interesting, motivating and fun. This is particularly crucial for children who already experience some difficulties with spelling words. Children who struggle to spell words and mix up their letters require considerate and loving attention to help them overcome these challenges and avoid getting frustrated, defeated and unwilling to improve.



Here are some fun and simple spelling games and activities to help you teach your child spelling words and improve their confidence:

#### 1. Teach your child spelling words with 'Lily Pad Letters'

Take a large sheet of paper and write each of the letters of the alphabet. Cut the area around each letter into the shape of a lily pad and lay them out on the floor. You can even ask your child to help you decorate the lily pads and colour in.

Have two children pair up to play this game, or team up with your child yourself. To play, the first person must think of a word and read it aloud. The second must then step on the letters to spell the word.

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### 2. Use 'Stair Steps' to memorise certain words



This is an easy game to help your child memorise the way certain words are spelled. Have your child write each word as if they are stairs, adding one letter at a time. For example:



S Sp Spe Spel Spell

### 3. Toss around the 'Spelling Ball'

Here's a fun game that the whole family can enjoy. Stand together in a circle with a ball. Call out a word, toss the ball to another person, and have that person spell out the word, and so on. If the word isn't spelled correctly, then whoever has the ball tosses it to another person who will try to spell it.

### 4. Use magazine clippings to familiarise with letters

Have your child cut out the letters from a newspaper or magazine to spell words. This will encourage them to consider each letter carefully and individually, while creating visual representations of the words as a helpful memory aid.

### 5. Play 'Scrambled Spelling' using alphabet blocks or fridge magnets

Give your child a number of scrambled words. You can use alphabet blocks or fridge magnets, or even make your own by writing letters on pieces of paper. Then haven them unscramble the words within a time limit. This game makes a great competition for multiple children.

#### 6. Create a 'Spelling Train' to have fun while spelling words

Read a word aloud and have your child write it down. Using the last letter in that word, ask them to write another word beginning with that last letter. They can continue the 'spelling train' using the last letter of the word. For example:

#### 7. Play online spelling games for kids

Online spelling games designed for kids is a great way to teach your child spelling words and skills in a fun, low-pressure, and highly effective way.

### https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zt62mnb



### **Construction Club Donations**

We have been encouraging our younger children to get involved in the early stages of engineering. As so many want to take part, we are struggling to have enough LEGO, MECANNO or other similar

makes of construction toys. If you have anything at home, in the garage, in the attic etc, and you're happy to donate these to the school, could you please send them in over the next few weeks. We'd love to get as many children involved as we can. Thank you!

