

Friday 8th October 2021



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Covid Catch-Up : Changes to School Times Message from the Headteacher

This week, I am concentrating on making sure that parents and carers have an understanding of why we are moving some of our times back to the official times of the school from before the pandemic. So far, we have continued to manage windows for arrival and collection in order to reduce risk of transmission of the virus. As stated before, children can still arrive from 8.25 through to 8.40 in the mornings but after half-term, this will revert back to our official time of an 8.30 drop-off from November 1st.



The reason for this is that we have a huge number of staff delivering interventions to pupils first thing in the mornings and this leaves us short-staffed to supervise other children who are not in these groups. Catch-Up groups start shortly after 8am and are part of our strategy to help many of our children make up the gaps in their learning caused by 18 months of disruption to schools.

We have now taken the end of our day back to 3.30 for all children and, as of next week, will release the children from their classrooms to meet parents and carers on the playgrounds or at a safe place, for example at the school gates.

Please make sure your child knows where they are going to meet you. Once again, can you please remind your children of the mantra that **“if your parent or adult are not there to meet you, you must come back to the school office so that we can contact someone to collect you and keep you safe.”**

If you would like to contact me, you can email on: headteacher@hernejunior.com

Stay Safe & Best Wishes - Tony Markham

Travel To & From School: Joint Consultation for Parents & Carers

Herne and Petersfield Infant School have both teamed up to seek your views on your needs for coming to and from our schools. This link was sent out yesterday, but if you missed it, please click the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1AU_4GUN6YWru6u6Glr0g5Gzpegl4wH1Clfhiwsl9YBq/edit?ts=615c5723

The deadline is Friday 22nd October. As part of our schools jointly working together, we are legally obliged to consult widely if we propose to make a permanent change to the beginning and end to our school days. Any final decision has to be ratified by our respective governing bodies. Thank you in advance for your participation in this survey.



The Kitchen Is Back in Action! 😊

We are pleased to say that our school kitchen is back in action next week and that they can resume the meals service, as before. We jointly apologise that this may have caused you some disruption and hope that this will be the only time that the kitchen will be affected in this way during the window and door replacement programme.

Classes ‘On Tour’

As if running the school with a myriad of extra catch-up classes taking place in every nook and cranny of the school isn't enough, we will be moving classes out of their usual rooms and into the hall as each class has its windows and doors replaced in turn. We have also just had nine brand new interactive Active Boards arrive in school today for installation in Years 3 and 6 during next week. Throw in some tarmacking on the playground and, as you can see, we are playing with logistics left, right and centre! Next week Willow and Damson classes will spend the week in our hall whilst all of their windows and doors are replaced. The children will have their usual furniture, trays, books and equipment with them and we hope they have some extra benefits by being taught by the combination of all the staff of those two classes running the ‘large classroom’ together. They may even get in some dancing together in the larger space! 😊

NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY NEXT FRIDAY – FRIDAY 15th OCTOBER

On Friday 15th October we will be participating in the **NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe.** online programme. This consists of an online assembly and supporting classroom-based activities. Speak out. Stay safe. is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK. It aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline. **We would love the children to wear non-school uniform and, if possible, bring a donation in for the NSPCC to support this amazing charity.**

Harvest Week (18th-21st October)



In the final week before half-term, **we will be collecting food items for the Petersfield Foodbank.** The foodbank has requested tinned and packaged items (and please make sure that the items have not expired their use by date). Linda Clist from Sheet Church will be giving the children a special assembly in this week and reflection on this special time of year. We think that this tradition is especially important as it connects in our community with our position as a market town in the midst of a rural economy.

Inset Day Friday 22nd October

Just a reminder to parents that we have a staff training on **Friday 22nd October and the school is closed to all pupils.** The remaining Inset days this academic year are: **Tuesday 4th January 2022 and Monday 6th June 2022.**

In addition to this, the end of the summer term is now **Thursday 21st July 2022** (previously it was Friday 22nd July). It has been moved by Hampshire County Council a day earlier because of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June falling in half-term.



Parents' Evening

We are using 'School Cloud' again for our autumn term Parents' Evenings to ensure that we keep safe whilst infection levels consistently remain above 30,000 a day. **Years 5 and 6 will go 'live' to book from 5pm today.** Year 3 and 4 parents have till the end of Sunday to book their virtual appointment. A separate email came out last week to explain how to login and book your appointment. Please keep to one appointment per family if possible, because the teachers won't have enough time if there are too many double-appointments for an individual child. If this is unavoidable for any reason, please put a note in the School-Home Link Book and if they have a spare slot this might be able to be accommodated.

Parent Governor Applications

If you think you would be interested about the role and would like to talk to Mr Markham or our Chair of Governors, Mary Fair, then please contact us here in the school office. Please email admin@hernejunior.com for an application form or pick one up next time you pop in. The deadline for applications is **Monday 18th October 2021.**

DOODLE MATHS AND DOODLE ENGLISH: Both for 12 months for £12.



Hopefully all families have received a letter now regarding our special DoodleMaths and DoodleEnglish offer for our parents. Both computer programs/apps are usually £55 each per year (£110), but we can sell you both products for £12, **saving you £98!** This special offer is only open until the end of this half term. The closing date to sign up is **22nd October.** Please read the letter for more details. This is a fantastic deal and just 10 minutes a day of 'doodling' (English and Maths) has really shown to make a significant impact on children's progress. Quite a few of the staff use these apps with their own children at home and would strongly recommend them to all parents. 😊

'DoodleLearning are hosting free 20 minute parent webinars to help you make the most out of your child's Doodle subscription! These are being run on Tuesdays at **8pm on 5th, 12th and 19th October, and 10am on 26th October.** In the webinar, you will learn: How Doodle works - What the programmes look like from a child's perspective - How to use the Parent Dashboard and Parent Connect app to monitor and motivate their child - How to get help with anything Doodle related

To join the webinar, or to find out more, please [visit this page](#) 5 minutes before the webinar start time and click on the link to join. New to Doodle? Please [visit this page](#) made just for parents/carers, that explains Doodle and suggests next steps!

October		November - continued	
Mon 11 th	Maple Class to Chichester – Planetarium PARENTS' EVENINGS – Lower School throughout week	Mon 15 th	Anti-Bullying Week 2021: 'One Kind Word' Odd Socks Day (linked to this week) – details to follow.
Fri 15 th	NSPCC – 'Speak Out – Stay Safe' Day	Thu 18 th	Elm Class to Selborne – Environmental Detectives
Mon 18 th	PARENTS' EVENINGS – Upper School throughout week	Mon 22 nd	Oak Class to Selborne – Environmental Detectives
Fri 22 nd	SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET Day	Mon 29 th	Nasal Flu Vaccinations – all year groups
November		December	
Mon 1 st	Return to School Plum Class to Butser Ancient Farm	Wed 1 st	Christmas Post-Box Starts at school.
Tue 2 nd	Palm Class to Butser Ancient Farm	Thu 2 nd	3.45 – 5.30 OPEN SCHOOL
Thu 4 th	3.45 – 5.30 OPEN SCHOOL Fir Class to Selborne – Environmental Detectives	Fri 17 th	School Finishes at 12.30
Fri 5 th	Pear Class to Butser Ancient Farm	January	
Mon 8 th	Ash Class to Selborne – Environmental Detectives	Tue 4 th	SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET Day
Tue 9 th	Lime Class to Butser Ancient Farm	Wed 5 th	Children return for the spring term 2022
Thu 11 th	11.00 2-minute silence for Armistice Day		