

Friday 27th March 2020



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KEEPING WELL, SANE and KEEPING A BALANCE!!



My message to you amazing parents and carers is that MOST of the staff at Herne privately share your worries and anxieties. We also, in many cases, have our own children to 'keep busy' whilst trying to go about the daily chores and working from home. A huge thank you from Herne to ALL Critical Key Workers who are keeping things going in these difficult times.

A massive round of applause in particular to our fantastic NHS staff who are saving lives on a daily basis. **STAY AT HOME** is the big message, so we really appreciate the huge number of parents and carers who have creatively found ways to cover their own childcare. The children who we are remaining open for have been delightful even though the situation for them at school is rather strange for them. I must personally thank Peter Castle who has been at school from 6am onwards every day, to make sure staffing is rotated to work with the children and that people are social distancing to the government regulation of two metres. Thanks also to Kathy Hall, Simon Sherwood and Ben Cuthbertson on our cleaning team who have kept cleaning regimes to an exceptionally high standard. Lynne Tandy also has a special mention for all of the computer work she has done in the background. Well done team!



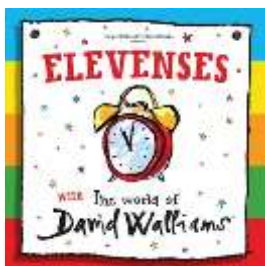
The staff who have been in school this week are a real credit to our school. I must also pay tribute to the 'eager beavers' who are working from home on our website and a new J2E platform, to support learning at home. There have been some incredibly creative things that have been put on our website (click on the 'Children' tab, then the relevant year group) and we know several other schools are tapping into our resources.

For information, several staff are home-bound for the foreseeable future due to underlying health conditions and that sadly includes me. However, we are all doing our bit from a distance and are very much looking forward to seeing this thing through and keeping us all super-safe. I couldn't help having a chuckle when I saw a clip that was sent to me during the week. I've posted this on our Twitter feed today...I hope you see the humorous side of this; we all need a little light-heartedness in the midst of this crazy situation from time-to-time. ☺

Mr Markham

Home Learning Expectations

There are many things available for parents and carers (and the children) to tap into via our website and other places online, like Doodle Maths etc. It is virtually impossible for the children to replicate a normal school day of five and a half hours in your homes, so little and as often as possible is a reasonable position to take up. At the end of next week, the children would have had two weeks off, so don't feel guilty if you plan in 'no homework' days, especially if the sun is shining. If your child wants to tackle harder work, they can look at other year groups. If their year group's work is a bit tricky, look at the one below...we don't mind.



Reading or listening to books regularly is the real key to helping your child. Being able to read well opens the door to all of their other learning. Read books, listen to books and talk about books. If you haven't already done so, we can arrange for you to tap into the audio books held by Hampshire Schools Library Service. Why not listen in to David Walliams 'Eleveneses' where he reads a short story every day: <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/eleveneses/>

Keep the **writing** ticking over in whatever way you can think of...write your own short story, keep a diary of the crazy things you've done at home, try writing a Blog or a Vlog (making sure to keep yourself safe online), create a map with imaginary places labelled all over it.

Keep the **maths** ticking over. There are many resources online and one that we have been made aware of has Carol Vorderman behind it: <https://www.themathsfactor.com/>

If you child can't do something and you can't help them, please don't panic. If all our parents were teachers, our poor staff would be all out of a job! ☺ Just skip that task and pick up something else.



This is a genuine photo Mr Castle sent to Mr Markham this week of his 4 year old son turning him into a cat, whilst he worked on the school website.

Celebrating Successes

We are currently looking at lots of different software packages that will help with our home-learning at Herne. We have some year groups experimenting with the *J2E platform* and we have some teachers who like using the class dojo. We are always very conscious that, like many of you, a large percentage of our staff are attempting to work from home whilst they are trying to teach their own children (which is so much harder than teaching a lovely class at Herne). Therefore, any system we put in place, has to be realistic for all our teaching staff. **As an interim trial, we would like to open up our staff emails for parents.** This is an **optional** way that parents can send over photos and a message about any home-learning work their child is particularly proud of. Please use these emails no more than **ONCE A WEEK**, but the teachers would love to see what their class have been working on at home and will really enjoy responding to help motivate our young learners. The children are welcome to put in their own message, however we ask **the email comes from the parents** who will need to top and tail it (i.e. Dear Mrs x, this is such and such parent and here's a message from my child...) For safeguarding reasons, teachers must not have direct email contact with the children. This is just a trial and we will review it in a few weeks. The teachers are thoroughly missing their classes and are excited to see some of their hard work and hear what they have been up to.

We'll trial this next week, then have two weeks off from emails over Easter, then continue with this in the summer term, if successful. Here are the relevant work emails for our teachers:

Elm k.andrews@hernejunior.com m.armitage@hernejunior.com	Palm n.clack@hernejunior.com (just for 2 weeks before her baby is due)	Maple e.burgess@hernejunior.com l.markham@hernejunior.com (starts with lower case L not a 1)	Mimosa o.hepworth@hernejunior.com
Fir c.edmondson@hernejunior.com	Lime c.morphew@hernejunior.com	Rowan t.gore@hernejunior.com	Quince s.zenklusen@hernejunior.com
Ash d.whitehead@hernejunior.com	Plum p.garforth@hernejunior.com s.lee@hernejunior.com	Beech k.elliott-smith@hernejunior.com c.castle@hernejunior.com	Willow c.tiqwell@hernejunior.com
Oak b.thakore@hernejunior.com (just for 2 weeks before her baby is due)	Pear j.meckiffe@hernejunior.com t.knight@hernejunior.com	Cedar a.buckle@hernejunior.com	Damson b.choularton@hernejunior.com

Rapid Read

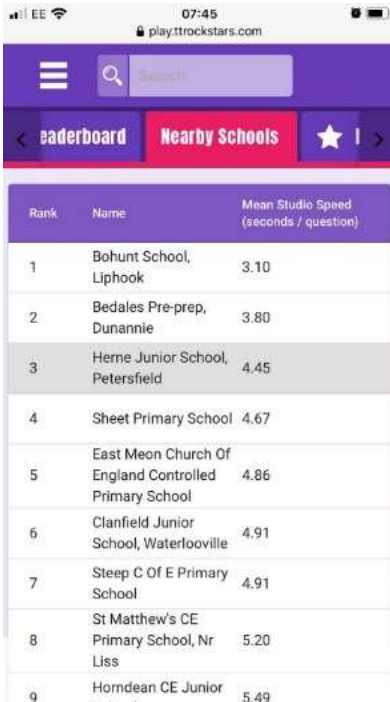
If you would like us to release new books for your children, please email your child's name and class to p.walker@hernejunior.com and Mrs Walker will arrange this for you. However, this may take one or two days to organise.

Doodle Maths – Special Offer for Herne

We've arranged a special deal with Doodle Maths where Herne pupils can get a 6month licence for the amazing price of £5. If parents would like us to set up an account for them, go onto ParentPay, pay the £5 and then email our ICT technician Lynne Tandy (the first letter is a lower case 'L') on: l.tandy@hernejunior.com

Treefrog Art

Mrs Ostersen (art teacher, parent and friend of the school) is posting art activities for children to do at home every day on her Facebook and Instagram pages. Every post has step-by-step instructions and photos to encourage people to fill their house with beautiful creations. She is using materials that people will already have at home, including up-cycling and recycling. Check out these activities on Facebook @treefrog123 and Instagram is @treefrogart..



Rank	Name	Mean Studio Speed (seconds / question)
1	Bohunt School, Liphook	3.10
2	Bedales Pre-prep, Dunannie	3.80
3	Herne Junior School, Petersfield	4.45
4	Sheet Primary School	4.67
5	East Meon Church Of England Controlled Primary School	4.86
6	Clanfield Junior School, Waterlooville	4.91
7	Steep C Of E Primary School	4.91
8	St Matthew's CE Primary School, Nr Liss	5.20
9	Horndean CE Junior	5.49

Times tables Rock Stars

Congratulations to our Year 3 pupils who have been working hard on their tables on the Times Tables Rock Stars website. We were really pleased to see that on the Studio Speed League Table, Herne have snuck up to 3rd place in the local area. Fantastic! Keep practising Year 3, just two places to go before we top the chart.

Did Someone Mention School Testing?

The government has confirmed that there will be no tests for Year 4 Times Tables and Year 6 SATs this year, which is understandable, given the circumstances.

We have yet to be given any further information about this by the government, not least because they have many more pressing priorities...kind of puts these tests into perspective don't you think? 😊

School Annual Reports

One task that teachers have been asked to do are to complete school reports covering the first two terms of this academic year. Parents will therefore still receive a report in July about their child's maths, reading, writing and personal achievements this year.

Follow us on Twitter ☺

This week, we have put out via Twitter helpful links to support for parents, some slightly amusing things, PE with Joe Wicks and many more pieces of news. In order to Follow us, download the Twitter app then look for: [@HerneJunior](https://twitter.com/HerneJunior)



Supporting Mental Health

Hampshire has a CAMHS service, which may come in useful for parents as the weeks go by. Here are the details:

<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/help/young-people/coronavirus-help-support-and-advice/>

Twitter: [@HANTS_CAMHS](https://twitter.com/HANTS_CAMHS)

Facebook: [Fit Fest Hampshire](https://www.facebook.com/FitFestHampshire)

BREAKING NEWS:

We've been in touch with all Free School Meal families today to give you support.

If you haven't heard from us let us know:

admin@hernejunior.com

Next Week's Flyer:

We will send out another Flyer next Friday.

For information, we are intending to continue Critical Key Worker childcare cover over the two-week Easter Holiday period.

WHATEVER IT TAKES!

Good Luck, Keep Safe & STAY AT HOME.