

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020



Website: [www.hernejunior.com](http://www.hernejunior.com)

Email: [admin@hernejunior.com](mailto:admin@hernejunior.com)

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

Telephone: 01730 263746

## Message from the Headteacher – Lockdown Until Half-Term?

This week marked the official 'return' to school and, in ordinary circumstances, we would have welcomed 480 children and 75 staff back into our school building. As you can imagine, putting well over 500 people into the same building just isn't a consideration at this stage and we know for certain that this will last for at least another two weeks. In all likelihood, this will extend to half-term, which starts on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May. On the assumption that June is the very earliest return to school, it is really important that your child accesses some of the learning that we have been setting out during the next five weeks. **However, we do appreciate that this is extremely hard for some families.**



The idea of little and often is important in our experience because we know that many parents can't mirror a typical school day at home very easily, especially when there are still many extra stresses and strains as a result of the Lockdown. We also know that many children are reluctant to sit down and do anything school-related, but as the term goes on, they do need to realise that they need to do something. Our big message is that children should carry on regularly reading and there are many resources out there to help with this (see further down on this Flyer). For those children who are hungry to learn more, our teaching team continue to set up weekly timetables on our website. **Our teachers will be checking in with every family over the next two weeks either by email or over the phone, just to see if you need any further support and to check your family are well.** (Please contact us if you think you need to update your email or phone number(s). Thank you ☺)



The first port of call for home learning is to go to our website. From there, using the J2E facility to post work or emailing things to teachers (emails from parents, but can include your child's messages) is a great way to keep in touch with us. We really encourage you to post or email things to us. ☺ If you'd like to contact me personally, my email is: [headteacher@hernejunior.com](mailto:headteacher@hernejunior.com)  
**Keep Safe.** *Tony Markham, Headteacher.*



## The Importance of Home Learning (J2E Opening to Year 3)

On Monday, our Year Group Home Learning timetables returned to our website. They can be found under the 'Children' tab. Completed work can be uploaded onto our J2E platform for teachers to comment on or, alternatively, photos of completed work can be emailed to the class teacher once a week. We are now officially opening the J2E platform for Year 3 (joining Years 4 to 6).

All of the staff have now been trained on the platform and are looking forward to receive any work on the online service. As a reminder, we have a dedicated web page on how to use our J2E platform and this can be found under the 'Children' tab and then 'J2E Help Files'. Watching these online web videos will be essential for Year 3 Children (and Parents) who are new to the site. If your child is having any issues with remembering login names or passwords, please email our lovely ICT Technician Lynne Tandy (and Doodle's Teacher of the Month!), on [L.TANDY@HERNEJUNIOR.COM](mailto:L.TANDY@HERNEJUNIOR.COM). The teacher emails are on the bottom of the year group home learning web pages. Thank you.

## Doodle Maths and English Webinars for Parents

Parents can access free daily webinars to support working on Doodle by going to this link: <https://www.doodlemaths.com/free-parent-webinar/>

## Maisie Supports our NHS Heroes!

We thought you might like to know that Maisie Bishop (Oak Class) is attempting a sponsored silence today to raise money for the NHS after being inspired by Captain Tom. Her target was £40 for 3 hours of silence. When she hit £125 she agreed to increase her silence by an hour for every additional £50 raised. She has now raised £275, which means she will attempt to be silent for at least 7 hours today! Her parents have told us that this will be hard as she is a chatterbox and even talks in her sleep! Her mum asked if she wants to cap the number of hours and she said she will go to 24 hours! Her Dad, Molly (in Quince Class) and mum are looking forward to some peace and quiet! If you would like to support her to support our NHS, please click on this link: <http://justgiving.com/fundraising/silence-maisie>



## Free School Meals Update

If you originally told us that you didn't want the Free School Meals package, which is provided by Hampshire Caterers (HC3s) from Herne's kitchen, and you would like to change your mind, that's not a problem! 😊 Each package contains enough food for one child for five days' worth of lunches, e.g. bread, sandwich fillers, fresh fruit and salad items, yoghurts, drinks etc. All you need to do, if you are already eligible for Free School Meals, is email us on [admin@hernejunior.com](mailto:admin@hernejunior.com) and we will make sure you are provided for.



In a similar vein, we are increasingly aware of families having to access Universal Credits and other schemes to bring an income into the family household. It may be possible that you are now eligible for Free School Meals and the Local Authority could help you with lunches for your child or children in your household. Below is the link to apply for free school meals on HC3s' website. As soon as you receive notification from them that this is approved please let the school know, so that we can add you on to our list and make sure the kitchen has the information. Thank you. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>

## Critical Key Workers – Are You Eligible?

Many parents will be aware that Herne has remained 'open' during the Lockdown in order to support parents who are Critical Key Workers. If you think you might be eligible for this childcare support and to book a place at the school between now and the end of May, please look at the government's link here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

We will need to authorise your role if you are a new applicant, so contact us in the first instance by email: [admin@hernejunior.com](mailto:admin@hernejunior.com) Mr Markham will carry out a check, which will include contact with your employer and then will be in touch with you directly within a matter of days. A really important point to help us with our staffing rota is for Critical Key Workers to let us know if you don't need your childcare provision at the school, then we can adjust our staffing accordingly. **The government continues to advise that, if parents can keep their children safe at home, then this is the best action at this time.** Thank you. 😊

## Extra FREE Reading Material: “Wheelers”, “Audible” and “Oxford Owl”

If your child has run out of reading books, do not panic! Our school library is linked to a website called 'Wheelers' where all our pupils can borrow digital books and audiobooks (all for free). It is a fantastic resource and well worth a visit. To start using the service:

- Firstly you need to go to <https://help.eplatform.co/hc/en-us/articles/115003984988-Downloading-Mobile-Apps>
- Select which version (Windows, Apple...etc.) you want and let it load.
- It will then tell you to launch it.
- It will tell you to find your library. Type in 'Herne Junior' in the long blue bar and 'Herne Junior School' will appear. Click on it.
- The username and password is the same as Education City. (Enjoy! 😊)

[www.stories.audible.com](http://www.stories.audible.com) has a range of free audiobooks for children, including all the Harry Potter books. All books can be instantly streamed, with no login required and no downloading. Amazon have opened up this service free of charge during the Lockdown.

**Oxford Owl** have now launched FREE e-books too! Go to this link: <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/books/free-ebooks/>

## BBC Daily Lessons Started This Week!

Starting this week, **BBC Bitesize** are now publishing daily online lessons for all ages. They have a new dedicated TV channel full of learning content, podcasts on BBC Sounds and lots of educational videos on iPlayer. Here's the link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>



## Watercress Line Refund

We are in the process of organising refunds for any money paid in advance for this trip, so watch this space for an update.

## School Reports Children's Self-Assessments – Final Call!

As part of our summer term Reports to parents, we always get the children to think about their year at school:

1. *What lesson have you enjoyed most this year – explain what you liked about it?*
2. *What learning are you most proud of and why? (school subjects e.g. my art portrait, collage, maths, writing...)*
3. *What aspect of your learning would you like to improve? e.g. I would really like to improve my knowledge of times tables so I can recall my multiplication quickly. Or I would like to include more powerful vocabulary in my writing.*
4. *What target would you set yourself moving into the next year group?*
5. *What are you most looking forward to next year?*
6. *Which club did you enjoy attending the most, explain why?*
7. *What productions / teams / groups have you enjoyed taking part in?*

If they could record their answers and then send them to the relevant teacher(s) **before the end of April**, that would be fantastic!

To keep up with all of our breaking news during the weeks ahead, follow us on Twitter, download the Twitter app then look for:

[@HerneJunior](https://twitter.com/HerneJunior) and see our website for lots of updates on helping your child at home: [www.hernejunior.com](http://www.hernejunior.com)