

Thursday 7th May 2020



Website: www.hernejunior.com

Email: admin@hernejunior.com

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

Telephone: 01730 263746

VICTORY IN EUROPE – MAY 8TH 1945

Message from the Headteacher



The language used by the government about fighting the Covid-19 pandemic has often been reminiscent of the words used by Winston Churchill during the Second World War. The extraordinary rare speech by the Queen last month saying 'we will meet again' as well as ministers saying things like 'being at war with the virus', 'we will win', 'mobilising our communities to fight this enemy' all evoke the thoughts of being at war. As a beacon of hope, the reality for our oldest members of our community is that, after five and a half years of war between 1939 and 1945, things did come to an end and life did return to some sort of normality.

The image above seems extraordinary to contemplate for this weekend and certainly doesn't demonstrate social distancing! However, in the traditional bulldog spirit, our communities, which include people from all over the world, will get together in their own ways over social media, video calls, 'street parties' outside the front of properties and so on.

The poster on the right has been passed to the school as a way of suggesting a way of having a bit of fun! Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend as best as you can and forget about any pressure to do school work over the next few days. You have our blessing!



If you'd like to contact me personally, my email is: headteacher@hernejunior.com

Keep Safe. Tony Markham, Headteacher.

VE Day Story from One of Our Pupils

My Great Grandad's story for VE day: Mr. Leslie Lemon – Great Grandad



He served at an anti-aircraft unit in Huntington and he was posted to the infantry, where in 1944 he crossed to Calais with the 4th Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment. He was training to take part in the D-Day landings but was injured in training. Once he had recovered he was dropped further up the coast in France.

He marched through France, Belgium, Holland and across the Rhine into Germany. He was wounded in action in 1945 but quickly recovered and was able to continue marching. At the end of the war he was part of the liberation of the Belsen Concentration Camp, which was subsequently set up as a headquarters and renamed Home Camp.

He said: "When we first arrived some of the prisoners were still there in their striped PJs, it's something that never leaves you, but I didn't see the worst of it. I left a lot of my comrades behind. I never expected to survive the war, and every day that I wake up I am so thankful". He was awarded France's highest honour, the Legion D'Honneur medal in 2016 in recognition of his bravery in Europe in WW2.

We celebrated his 100th birthday with him on July 1st 2019 and he is still very independent. He lives at home and is an active member of his community, church and indoor bowls club.



Holly Richardson (Quince Class) Homework from this week ©



Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

Whilst most children are not attending schools at the moment, we thought we'd just remind parents that we continue to look out for the welfare of our children in our community, whether they attend Herne Junior School or not. If you have any welfare concerns about any child and feel strongly that you should do something about it, the public number to call is 0300 555 1384. If it is an emergency, please call 999. Thank you for your support at this challenging time.

Free School Meals

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 and we will make sure you are provided for.



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. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>

If you are entitled to one of these packages, please come and collect it every Monday between 10.30am and 12.00 midday from our school kitchen. If this is an issue just email Mr Markham on headteacher@hernejunior.com and he will advise you.

Free School Meal Vouchers

At this time, Herne is not using the voucher system for Free School Meals. The main reasons are that many schools and families are experiencing technical difficulties with these vouchers, leading to children not getting any food that they are entitled to. There is also widespread upset that several supermarkets are not accepting the vouchers and some reports are circulating where the vouchers are not being spent on food for the children.



Additional Exercise Books

We have had a few parent requests for an additional exercise book for their child to work in, because they have run out of room in their first book (impressive). We now have a special box under the canopy in front of the school office, where parents can pick up another book if their child needs one. Please only take one book per child. Thank you. ☺

Handwashing Advice

It is essential that everyone washes their hands more often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand washing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available or the situation makes using soap less feasible (i.e. when outside) but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides. The latest guidance and video on hand washing can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Message from Petersfield Food Bank:

The PACT Food Bank based at the Salvation Army Hall in Swan Street, Petersfield, will be giving out food parcels to those in need, every week day, Monday – Friday between 9.30-11.30 am. Families will need to have a Referral Voucher, but can ask the Food Bank or Salvation Army volunteers for one and once filled in, this will immediately be exchanged for bags of dried and tinned food and any toiletries we have in stock. The families will also be given Food Vouchers which can be exchanged at the Petersfield market for Fruit & Veg and Bread, Cheese & Eggs.

If you have any concerns about getting to the Salvation Army to collect your emergency provisions, or you are in quarantine or self-isolation, please contact the food bank via their website so that they can organise an emergency delivery by a volunteer.

http://www.pact.org.uk/pact_food_store.asp



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

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES