

Friday 22nd May 2020



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Will Schools Return for All Pupils? Message from the Headteacher

Year 6 parents and carers received our very latest 'Follow-Up' letter yesterday detailing how we will do our utmost to keep the children and adults safe when Year 6 return to school after half-term. If you'd like to see a copy of their letter, please see our website where you can see the letter by clicking on the scroll bar at the top on the Home Page.

Herne has taken the view that the idea of 'slow and steady' is the best way to proceed with the much larger numbers of children and staff who will be entering the school building during the first week back. There are just under 60 Year 6 pupils who will be attending during June. Our Critical Key Worker requests have now massively increased and this has put further pressure on our resources to manage those extra children too. All children in the school during June will be taught in 'bubbles' or small groups of approximately 12 to 15 pupils.



One thing that all of us need to keep in mind is that the government will only confirm that schools will definitely be re-opening by the end of next week, so despite all of our careful planning there may yet be a delay to the roll out of the plans. They have said that the government will need to be satisfied that their FIVE TESTS have been met to have as much certainty as possible that a return for Year 6 will indeed be safe. We will be posting our regular weekly Friday Herne Flyer again next week, but this will only be on Twitter and our website due to the usual communication facility that we use from Hampshire being shut down next week (starting today at 4pm). We will post any further updates on Twitter, which you can also see on our website under 'News & Events'.

As far as children in Years 3, 4 and 5 are concerned, we are awaiting news on whether we will be required to bring them back into school before the summer holidays. In all likelihood, if the social distancing rules remain in place, then it is incredibly unlikely they will return because we won't have enough classroom spaces available. In the meantime, all of our teaching staff and many support staff are working incredibly hard behind the scenes to ensure the children at home get the very best Home Learning we can offer at this time. Enjoy half-term and I'm sure we'll be in touch very soon with more news on the wider re-opening of schools.

If you would like to contact me personally, my email is: headteacher@hernejunior.com Although my email inbox is bursting, I am happy to get communications from parents at any time and I will get round to answering your emails in due course! 😊

Keep Safe. *Tony Markham, Headteacher.*

Critical Key Worker Childcare – IMPORTANT!

If you have not made contact with us for Critical Key Worker childcare, **then you only have until midnight on Sunday May 24th** to put in your request for the month of June. In order to do this, please send an email to admin@hernejunior.com We will then process any further requests over half-term. There may be a delay as we work our way through the requests, so if you've already contacted us, please bear with us as we record, then respond to your requests.

We will need to know what your Critical Key Worker role is, the name of your employer and the name of your child. Please include the days that you would like to request and the times for drop-off and collection. This provision is open from 08.00 to 16.30 (4.30pm). After this deadline, we will not be able to take any further requests for June whilst we try to manage the larger influx of pupils into the school. We hope you understand? Thank you 😊

Key Worker Group

A big 'congratulations' to all our children who have been regularly attending our Thursday Key Workers Group. Over the past 5 weeks, they have been creating wooden pirate ships and this week the armada was complete. The ships look amazing and the children have done a stunning job. A big thank you to Mrs Turner who organised all the resources to make this amazing project possible.



Year 3 and 4 Home Learning

Our Year 3 and Year 4 teams have created a new maths booklet that will be referenced on our Home Learning timetables after half-term (it is additional pages of our Target Maths books that we use in school). We know parents appreciate having resources that are printed out, to save the endless printing at home. The booklet will be available digitally on the website from after half-term, but we have also photocopied lots of copies that are available to collect from under the canopy by our front office. The front gate of the school will be open between 8.30am – 4pm all next week, including Bank Holiday Monday, if you wish to pick up a copy. Don't forget that there will also be spare exercise books available under the canopy too, if any parents wish to collect a new one.



Times Tables Rock Stars

Every child in Herne should now have received details of their login and password. We were sad to see that we have slipped down the league tables in recent weeks, compared to other local schools, so half-term is the perfect time to login and get practising those tables.

Half-Term Break

The website timetables will stop over next week, but will be back the following week (1st June) for the start of the final half-term of the academic year. We do ask parents not to email class teachers and for children not to upload work onto J2E over half-term, to try and give the staff a mental break. We really appreciate your support with this. Please keep listening to your child read as much as possible though, because it's vital they keep their brains active and tuned into this crucially important skill.

Running Track

What happened about the Community Running Track, which was due to be built at Herne, we hear you ask? Well, over the last few weeks Mr Markham has been liaising with South Downs National Park and Hampshire County Council and has finally had approval for the funding to make this happen. The original planning permission will be implemented in full, which includes a deeper sub-strata for the track, which is important to improve drainage on the school field. We're pleased to say that PlayForce, the company we will be using, have agreed to a reduced price to achieve this extra work! Mr Markham will be having a site meeting next week, after which we will be hoping to give a further update on progress. You never know, we may yet see this appear before too long!



Free School Meals Over the Bank Holiday



Please note that the packages for Free School Meals will be available for collection on TUESDAY, May 26th at the usual place between 10.30am and 12.00. This will have enough food for the remaining four days of next week (Tuesday to Friday). The collection will move back to Mondays from June 1st onward. Thank you.

Annual School Reports – Pupil Comments

As a reminder, half-term could be a useful time to get your child to write some comments for their school report. They only need to do between 100 and 200 words and they will have a few weeks to think of something before we'll need them in June.



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?

Mental Health Well-Being for Your Children

In these unusual times, we wanted to point you in the direction of some helpful documents and resources. One of these is a document about how to talk to children about Covid-19 produced by Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS). We think it has some very helpful guidance on tackling any discussions on this sensitive subject. Another document directs you to a support line for the local council. There is a resource for discussing why some people in the community might be wearing masks and finally a document with many useful links for parents at home trying to entertain their children. These were previously tweeted by Mr Markham on our Herne Twitter page this week but they can now also be found on our school website. We hope that you find these helpful. See page 3 and 4 of this Flyer for more links. 😊

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 and see our website for lots of updates on helping your child at home: www.hernejunior.com

Useful links To Support Your Child

Books and Reading

Free public domain book sources

<https://ebookfriendly.com/free-public-domain-books-sources/>

Places you can download books for free

<https://nothingintherulebook.com/2017/01/10/55-places-you-can-download-tens-of-thousands-books-plays-and-other-literary-texts-completely-legally-for-free/>

David Walliams

<https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/>

Art and Drawing

Online drawing videos for kids

<http://www.robbiddulph.com/draw-with-rob>

Art at Home

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EVMQiHHKugF4RQ071DzmkSKn1AuiBNOJ-i6xs1mBts/preview?fbclid=IwAR3-AnDFowhYR-JUTwVN7MKMdwSDZ5JXrfo0Uvk-cXiDyLCI1S2R8IL_2Uk

Free university art classes

<https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-10-university-art-classes-free-online>

Stuck at home? Take free drawing classes from famous illustrators

<https://www.fastcompany.com/90478307/stuck-at-home-take-free-drawing-classes-from-famous-illustrators>

Science

NASA Has Made Their Entire Photo Gallery Available Online and Copyright Free

<https://images.nasa.gov/>

Virtual tours – Museums and Gardens

Virtual tours of museums and galleries for children

<https://www.familydaystriedandtested.com/free-virtual-tours-of-world-museums-educational-sites-galleries-for-children/>

Gardens you can virtually tour

<https://www.housebeautiful.com/lifestyle/gardening/g31746949/gardens-you-can-virtually-tour/?>

Virtual Tour of the Carlsbad Caverns

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/travel-news/carlsbad-caverns-new-mexico-virtual-tour>

Plays/Theatre

Broadway plays you can watch online

<https://www.playbill.com/article/15-broadway-plays-and-musicals-you-can-watch-on-stage-from-home>

Globe Theatre plays streaming online

<https://globeplayer.tv/>

General

28 Days of Activities for Kids(+Free Printable): staying sane during Covid-19

https://www.borntoBeadventurous.com/2020/03/15/28-days-of-activities-for-kids-staying-sane-during-covid-19/?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=facebook&utm_source=socialnetwork&fbclid=IwAR3Q3CC1-R-SzjZeeFjl6ahjoFrEfDyB1RfRZvb0KQBA7HltQyzz1OuWfC

A list of free, online, boredom-busting resources!

https://chatterpack.net/blogs/blog/list-of-online-resources-for-anyone-who-is-isolated-at-home?fbclid=IwAR1AxyR8K9rVmtEO_7o_12XavSx5MLEQEKopw6xiYHXQ_HZmBKQ2sa-6KvM

Coronavirus Sanity Guide (FREE)

https://www.tenpercent.com/coronavirussanityguide?fbclid=IwAR1NsjLlcDAnuyiikcDv0GN4RBv7BPtRdcuI9Q5Kg8_fyvKSiNkVLk6CKOM

The best things you can do when you can't leave home

https://www.travelzoo.com/uk/blog/the-best-things-to-do-when-you-cant-leave-home/?utm_source=genericemail_uk&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2871883_html_***-nationwide-***-&utm_content=2871883&ec=0&dlinkId=2871883

March Network (UKRI)

As a mental health network focused on the power of bringing people together with social, cultural and community assets, Covid-19 has thrown us a unique challenge. With more people socially and physically distancing themselves, we want to share some home-based, creative ways to support mental health during these unique and uncertain times.

<https://www.marchnetwork.org/creative-isolation>

STAY ALERT ► CONTROL THE VIRUS ► SAVE LIVES