



Friday 12th January 2024

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A Note from our Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,

The highlight of this week has been the reintroduction of assemblies with parents in attendance. We will be looking for more opportunities for this but we have started with a series of **Harmony Values Awards** which will happen each half term. Today we gave 1 per class for Motivation and Collaboration – our Values last term. In February, we will celebrate in a similar way with our current Value - **Honesty**. See below the photos of today's recipients – all well deserved. I know teachers were hard pressed to choose due to many children showing excellent attitudes in class, on the playground and when engaging with before or after school tuition.



Also this week, our **Governing Body** had some excellent training on how to use our School Improvement Plan for effective monitoring. Led by Sarah Speller from Hants. Governor Services, it really was highly effective in reminding us that everything we do should focus on the outcomes for children and our community. We are working hard on raising the profile of our Governors this year by letting you know more about them each month, as individuals and what their roles are on our Flyer...watch this space! You may also spot them wearing their new Governor lanyards at events.

And Finally... whatever you are up to this weekend, enjoy. We are back to yoga and running after the excesses of Christmas but are treating ourselves to lunch out on Saturday as a very kind soul gave us vouchers for one of my favourite restaurants – definitely no dessert though!

Take care,

Sue Sayers

Headteacher



PS I'm reading, "The Herd" by Emily Edwards. It's been around for a while but definitely worth recommending – if anyone else out there has already read it, do let me know what you thought! It is the story of two families who are very close until one of their children becomes seriously ill. It raises the whole vaccination debate in a thought-provoking way and looks at how social media picks up on such issues.

Jigsaws for Breakfast and Twilight Clubs

If anyone is having a post Christmas blitz of kids stuff, the clubs would be very happy to receive any complete jigsaws you no longer use. We have several large piece puzzles, but need 50 piece puzzles (approximately) as these are ideal to complete within a session. Please either donate direct to the club if your child attends, or to the office. Thank you.

Violin/Brass Lessons

We currently have a violin and brass (trumpet/cornet/Pbone) music lesson place available for the Spring and Summer term. If your child would be interested in taking that place for the Spring and Summer term please email admin@hernejunior.com. This will be offered on a first come first served basis. The fees for each term would be £80.



Piano Lessons

Mr Jones – Piano Teacher on Mondays has informed us that there will be no lesson next Monday 15th January 2024 as he is taking this week as his PPA day for this term.

Lunch Menu Changes

We have 2 changes to the lunch menu which are permanent changes until menu expires at Easter. The changes are:- Week 2 Mon Veggie Option is Cheese & Onion Puff and Week 3 Thurs Veggie Option is Vegetable Pastry Crown.



Parent Coffee Morning

On Wednesday 17th January, between 9.30am-11am, I will be hosting our second (half termly) Parent Coffee Morning. This will be run jointly with our School Nursing team again, to offer advice and support with things such as behaviour, routines and healthy eating. Our first coffee morning was a great success and it's a lovely way to meet other Herne parents and have a chat and a slice of cake.

New Cleaner Needed (20 hours a week)

We have a vacancy for a cleaner to join our friendly team for 4 hours a day, to start in January. The working hours would be 3.30pm – 7.30pm, Monday to Friday. Closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 19th January. Application packs are available on the website or via the office. Completed applications should be submitted to Rebecca Loader, School Business Manager at admin@hernejunior.com.



Twilight and Breakfast Club – ParentPay reminders.

Please note the last day Breakfast Club will accept payment by cash or cheque is Friday 12th January. Any outstanding balances after this date will be transferred to the online ParentPay system Breakfast Club account for your child. You do not need to book in advance. Please remember that payments by Child Care Vouchers require a week's processing time for your ParentPay account to be updated. This is particularly important for Twilight club payments as you are unable to book your future sessions if your Twilight Club is not in credit. This in turn impacts the registers and complicates our administrative procedures.



Forest School Club

We are pleased to announce we are launching our first official Forest School Club, that is open to all children at Herne. The club will be held every Wednesday after school 3.30 – 5.00pm starting after half-term (21st February) and finishing on Wednesday 10th of July (18 weeks). The club will cost £7 per child per session, so parents will be asked to pay £42 per half-term (paying for 6 sessions at a time). If you would like to sign-up your child, please email admin@hernejunior.com and children will be allocated places on a first come first serve basis. If we have more children apply than places, we will start a waiting list. If your child signs up for the club and wants to drop out, we will require 2 weeks notice and will refund any remaining money that is owed, if we can fill the child's place from the waiting list. We are very lucky as a school to have four Forest School qualified teachers on the staff.

COMMUNITY MESSAGES



January		March	
Mon 15 th	Deadline for Year 3 applications	Fri 1 st	Year 4 Rainbow Theatre
Wed 17 th	Parent Coffee Morning (9.30 – 11.00)	Tues 5 th	Parents' Evening
Mon 22 nd	Year 5 Bikeability begins	Thur 14 th	Parents' Evening
		Thurs 28 th	Easter Holiday begins - 12.30pm Finish today
		Fri 29 th	BANK HOLIDAY – Good Friday
February		April	
Fri 9 th	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TRAINING	1 st - 12 th	Easter Holidays
12 th – 16 th	HALF TERM		
Fri 23 rd	Mid-Year Postcards coming home		