

Knowing Every Child – Inspiring Every Mind – Achieving Every Day

Friday 27th November 2020



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Meeting With Damian Hinds MP Message from the Headteacher

Yesterday, I had the privilege to join with two other local East Hampshire headteachers (one primary and the other secondary) to talk directly by video call with our local MP, Damian Hinds. We made the point that, just like many sectors at the moment, we are working hard to keep our children and communities supported by remaining fully open and putting in a huge number of COVID-19 secure measures to keep everyone as safe as possible.



We reiterated the additional costs to our schools and, despite the rhetoric in the spending review this week of extra money for schools, this was in fact a re-announcement of money already committed to schools over the next three years, not new money. We also had the chance to talk at some length about our children's well-being and the impact on their mental health. We touched on the pressures for our children who are due to sit GCSEs and SATS.

In fairness, Mr Hinds really wanted to listen and engaged very professionally with us, asking lots of questions to explore how things really are on 'the chalk front', so to speak. He asked about staff well-being too and this was reassuring that the hard working adults in our schools are not forgotten by ministers (shame about the pay freeze!) As parents at Herne know, I do have the chance on occasion to talk to those in the corridors of power, and if ever you have something that you'd like me to say from a parent viewpoint, then please talk to me or you could email Damian Hinds MP on:

damian.hinds.mp@parliament.uk

As always, if parents wish to contact me in confidence, then please email: headteacher@hernejunior.com

Best wishes and continue to keep safe. Tony Markham – Headteacher.

Remote Home Learning – Supporting Our Children & Parents

We hope that everyone received our Remote Home Learning questionnaire yesterday? We noticed that a few classes may have only had this in hard copy today, but, as you'll see, we are keen to support ALL of our families with the challenge of when a class bubble has to close. Mr Markham received this lovely message from a parent today (which we have anonymised) which really captures what we're trying to achieve in these challenging times:



Good morning Mr Markham. As my son from Lime class completes the first week of self-isolation I just wanted to say a big thank you to you and the rest of your staff, particularly Miss Morphew and Mr Jones for the seamless transition from face-to-face to remote learning. There has clearly been much preparation done behind the scenes to enable this to happen so smoothly. My son had a great Zoom lesson with Miss Morphew and some of his friends from Lime this morning which really lifted his spirits. Please pass on my thanks to all involved in this Herculean task!

Lap Blankets – Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank to all of the parents, grandparents and aunts and uncles who have made a donation towards the cost of the lap blankets. We'd also like to thank The Petersfield Lions for their generous contribution too. We are delighted to say that we have enough money to ensure that **every classroom has at least 8 lap blankets for the children**. As many of you budding sewers out there will know, it is often cheaper to buy an item than make it and this has proved to be the case with the blankets. We have placed an order today for 128 lap blankets for the school, which will be made to order and should be with us before Christmas. In the meantime, can we please stress the need for the children to be wearing base layers under their school uniforms. Thank you very much to the 'army' of sewing volunteers who came forward and an extra special thank you to a lovely lady called Karen McQuillan who used her contacts in all things sewing to help us source the fabric and find an excellent manufacturer. ☺



Library Summer Reading Challenge – Well Done!

This week we received 24 'Silly Squad' Reading Challenge medals from the Hampshire Library Service. The children will receive their medals next week, but in the meantime, here are the winners: Edith Hodgson, Anna O'Reilly, Ruth O'Reilly, Alexia Paddon, Jack Smith, Juliet Chesney, Maisie Linfield, Ruby Harris, Esme Deutsch, Eve Landrum, George Harris, Isla Kennard, James Patton, Jenson Soar, Leela Sheridan-Maan, Nicole Wilson, Oliver Pike, Otto Stone, Reuben Moore, Tazmin Lovell, Joe Tulley and Tia-Lien Tran.

Well done to all of our amazing readers...keep it up! ☺

Raffle Tickets - Reminder

Raising money for the school is more important than it has ever been before, so please support the school by purchasing some raffle tickets. The big part of the ticket is for you to keep at home and then pop the stubs (which need to be filled in with name, address, postcode and telephone number) in an envelope with the money and your child can pass them over to their class teacher. Unsold tickets can also be returned to school. A massive thank you to Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Tully for organising this year's raffle. They have managed to secure a wonderful range of over 60 prizes including: A half-day session at The Tattoo Lounge, a Family Portrait Voucher, a Review Hair Voucher and many more prizes. ☺



Christmas Cards

Sadly, due to our class bubbles and the importance of reducing transmission of the virus, this year we are asking that if children want to bring in cards it can only be for children (or staff) in their class bubble. Any cards brought in will be quarantined for 3 days, then given out. We are not allowed to give out lists of names, but the children can write a list at home to take home if they want to. **The deadline to bring in cards is Friday 11th December.**

Christmas Non-School Uniform Day

On **Friday December 11th** we will be holding a special Christmas-themed non-school uniform day to raise funds for Friends of Herne (to help compensate for us not being able to have a traditional Christmas Fayre) and for Joe Tully's Christmas charity appeal (Homestart and the Petersfield Food Bank). Children can wear their own clothes on this day, but with a Christmas twist. This Christmas Twist could be a festive jumper, a full reindeer onesie, a simple Santa hat...anything really to add a festive feeling to the day. We will be asking for a donation on the day of a suggested £1 or whatever you can afford.



Supporting Local Businesses



Herne Junior School will be hosting a Virtual Christmas Fayre throughout November and December to raise money for the school and to help support local businesses. Advertising space will be charged at £10 per business with 100% of the profit going to the sellers. If you wish to promote more than one business, additional space will be £5 each thereafter. It is a very easy way for local businesses to promote their festive products. Click on the link below for more information:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/281913283072800>

Christmas Tree Donation

Thank you to our lovely friends at Wylds Farm in Liss near Petersfield who have once again donated a huge Christmas Tree to our school. ☺

This year, we have placed this outside at the front of the school so that all of our children and visitors to the school can see this huge tree and the new Christmas lights, all in preparation for the season's greetings next week.

Thank you to Nick and Sophia at the farm for your generosity once again!

Horse Manure and Horse Hair Needed

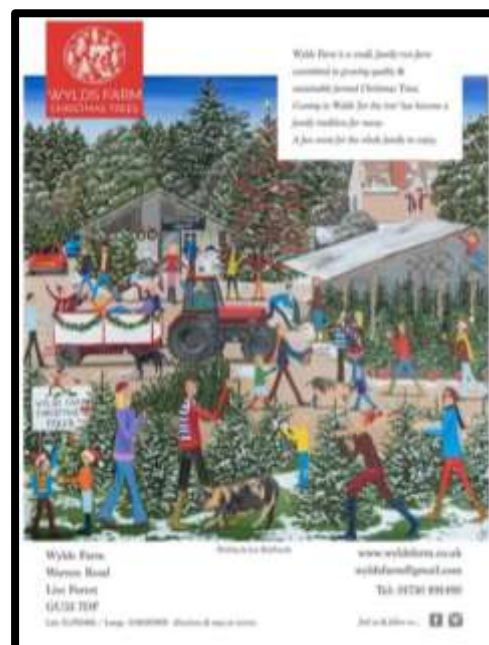
We are in need of a large amount of horse manure and horse hair to finish the walls of our new round house, which is tucked up in the woods on our school grounds. The fantastic staff at Butser Ancient Farm have been helping Mr Sherwood and Mr Bristow with this project. Please email us on admin@hernejunior.com if you think you can help with this Ancient Briton project.

Site Manager Job for January or February 2021

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a dedicated, proactive and professional person to work in our vibrant and friendly school right here in Petersfield. You will be responsible for the security, safety, cleanliness and general maintenance of the school site and grounds. Our highest priority is the safety and security of our children, so the ability to work alongside both adults and children is crucial. This role will suit a hard-working, proactive individual, who enjoys the variety and responsibility of site managing one of the largest junior schools in Hampshire.



Duties will involve painting, small carpentry tasks, minor plumbing tasks and deep cleaning of the buildings during school closure periods, preparing areas for school-related functions and activities, moving and setting up furniture and equipment as required; organising the cleaning (and care) of the two minibuses. We would welcome new candidates to consider being MIDAS trained to help drive the minibuses when required on school trips. You will take responsibility for out of hours activities when they arise (these duties will attract additional pay).



You will need to ensure that Health and Safety Regulations and Safe Working Procedures are adhered to and Risk Assessments and H&S inspections are carried out at appropriate intervals, working in conjunction with our admin team to maintain accurate ongoing records for health and safety, fire safety and associated site tasks.

Ideally, the successful candidate should have basic IT skills and be confident using email in the fulfilment of this role.

As the principal key holder, this role involves having access to and ensuring the security of the school site, including emergency and out-of-hours call outs as required.

The hours will be 7am to 11am then 1.30pm to 5pm (4.30pm finish on Fridays). Times are negotiable for the right candidate, although an early morning start is essential. For further details and application forms please contact the school on 01730 263746 or email admin@hernejunior.com Alternatively, look at the 'NEWS' tab on our website then click 'Vacancies'.

Closing Date NOW EXTENDED TO: Monday 14th Dec 2020 **Interview Date:** Thursday 17th December

Job Start Date: January 2021 **Contract/Hours:** 37 hrs p/week. 52 week contract. 7am start. **Salary Details:** £21,403 - £24,055

COMMUNITY MESSAGES

Joe Tully's Annual Christmas Appeal (The Petersfield Christmas Give 2020)

Can you help Joe (Quince Class) and Amelia (Langrish) to bring a smile to children, families and individuals in our community who are facing a tough time this Christmas. All donations will be distributed between The Petersfield Foodbank and Homestart Butser.

Items they are collecting are: Sweets for Children, Chocolates and treats suitable for adults such as Matchmakers and Jelly Sweets, non perishable and no alcoholic treats for food hampers. In addition to this, new toys for boys and girls 0-10. You can drop them in to Free Shop (Petersfield Train Station) or we will have a collection box under the front canopy at Herne. Donations are accepted till 9th December.

Petersfield Town Council – Christmas Card Competition

This is something that families and businesses can get involved in to help spread some Christmas magic after what has been a tough year! Here is the link for more details:

https://www.petersfield-tc.gov.uk/petersfield-christmas-display-competition-2020/?doing_wp_cron=1606389757.4578840732574462890625

Being included on the Christmas trail map is totally optional, but a nice idea for families with children who can walk to these locations. For those not able to venture out, it is an opportunity for them to still enjoy the displays they might otherwise miss.

All in all, we hope that it might spur some Christmas creativity that we can share around the community! *Kathryn Ellis-Blandford*

Petersfield Climate Action Network – A Fruit Tree in Every Garden

PeCAN is a new environmental charity based in Petersfield and we would love you to become involved in the exciting initiative of decarbonising Petersfield. As part of our launch PeCAN would like to help you plant a fruit tree in your garden. Fruit trees are beautiful in spring, great for wildlife and pollinators and will give you fruit to eat. It could be a great Christmas present! PeCAN can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/PetersfieldClimateActionNetwork>

If you would like to subscribe to our newsletter which describes all of our projects including solar schools, please email us at pecan.email@gmail.com



These fruit trees will be sourced locally, they are 2 years old so are approximately 1.5 metres tall (growing to between 2 and 2.5 metres when mature) and will fruit next season. They normally cost £25 to £30 plus delivery, we are offering them for £20 with some mulch, a stake and instructions on how to plant included. They can be picked up at a central location in Petersfield on 19th December. Please email for more details including choice of fruit tree and to order by 4th December. There will also be an opportunity to learn how to grow a second tree from your first through another local project, *The Petersfield Community Tree Initiative*. PeCAN plans to formally launch in the Spring when your new fruit trees will be coming into blossom! pecan.email@gmail.com

PeCAN has applied to the Charity Commission to register as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

**PLEASE NOTE THAT HERNE JUNIOR SCHOOL WILL CLOSE ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM,
FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER FROM 12.00 UNTIL 12.30.**

This is a half-hour window to collect your child in your usual place. Thank you.

