

Knowing Every Child – Inspiring Every Mind – Achieving Every Day

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020



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## Our Children (and Parents/Carers) Are Amazing!

### Message from the Headteacher

I am so proud, along with the rest of our team, of just how brilliantly the children have returned to school this week. We've had lots of smiles, super behaviour and have seen an inner confidence grow throughout the week that they are in a safe place. This is a huge tribute to you, the parents and carers, who have had, in many cases, an incredibly tough time throughout Lockdown. The attendance at school overall is at the same level as we usually see in normal times. Parents and carers have also been fantastic, adapting to our shifts in timings for drop-off and collection, navigating your way through our one-way systems and keeping your distance from each other (in the main!). As one parent commented to me this morning – 'we've made it through the first week!' – and I know that's how it feels for many of us. **We have a uniquely supportive school community here at Herne.** You should all be proud AND...thank you for your help and good wishes! 😊

**Keep Safe. Best wishes. Tony Markham**



### Drop-off and Collection (The times are changing – Just a little)

As we warm up to the core business of the whole purpose of being a school – to enhance and progress your child's learning – we are slightly tweaking our times to allow for as much teaching time as possible. We've also been watching the arrival and departure of parents/carers and children each day this week and feel that we can slightly shorten the windows for dropping off and collection without compromising everyone's safety. Therefore, from Monday, we have adjusted the times as follows:

**Drop-Off 8.15 – 8.40**

**Collection 3.15 – 3.45**

Please keep your children with you and try to avoid stopping on the playground for a chat, as tempting as this is. We'll review how this goes next week and hopefully these new times will be the same throughout September and October. Thank you for your help with this.

### Year 4 Collection

From next week, Year 4 can now meet parents at a designated meeting point, which we know is often somewhere on the playgrounds or near one of our gates. If you would like to choose for your child to do this, please email our office on [admin@hernejunior.com](mailto:admin@hernejunior.com) stating if you'd like your Year 4 child to leave at either 3.20 or 3.30. If they have a Year 3 sibling, we're happy for them to collect them along the way if you give permission for them to do this. This may help to reduce any risk of congestion on our paths near to the classrooms.

### FREE SCHOOL MEAL ENTITLEMENT AND ADDITIONAL FUNDING

If your child is entitled to free school meals we ask that you register them for this, even if they do not want to have a school meal, as it means the school qualifies for additional funding.

This additional money is called 'Pupil Premium' funding and equates to currently approximately £1,400 for each eligible child. With the school having to fund all the extra safety and hygiene measures to protect the children and without any additional money from central government, it is therefore vital that we ensure that we get all the money to which we are entitled. That way, we can give all our children the best support possible. If you think you might be entitled, please visit the web address below to register.



<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

## What If We Have a Suspected Covid-19 Case?

First of all, parents need to keep their child at home if they are unwell with any of the classic symptoms of the virus.



### The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms. Please visit this NHS link to check for further information about Covid-19 and children: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

If the school is notified of a **CONFIRMED POSITIVE TEST** which has been done at a testing station, we have to contact our local Health Protection Team, which for Petersfield, is based in Fareham. Along with the latest Public Health England advice, they will assess how stringent the school's Covid Secure measures are and then make a judgement as to whether a single family need to isolate (as they may not have been in the school prior to the positive test), a Class Bubble needs to isolate or a wider part of the school needs to isolate. Any isolation will be for 14 days. They are clear in their briefings that it won't necessarily shut down the school and, as we all know, keeping the children in school is a huge priority for the government.

### SOME REMINDERS:

**ParentPay:** Please activate your child's ParentPay account if you have not already done so. We are a cashless school and all payments for lunches, trips etc. are paid through this secure online payment system. If you need help, please contact us.



**Small Bags:** We are struggling for space in the classrooms where backpacks are leading to trip hazards, so it's essential that the children only bring a small bag which can be folded after they've carried their things in. A PE bag would be ideal or for example, we have seen children bringing in shopping bags and other small bags. If they can carry all the items they need, the children do not have to bring a bag at all. If the larger back packs continue to be brought in, we'll have no choice but to have to store them outside of the classrooms during the school day. Your help with this would be greatly appreciated.

### Park & Stride – FREE PARKING PERMITS!

You can email in to our office to get your FREE Parking Permit for Festival Hall or Love Lane Car Parks. The parking times are: MORNINGS: 08.00 – 9.15 AFTERNOONS: 3.00 – 4.15.



The image is what the permit looks like, but it will need a special headteacher's sticker in order to be verified so that you don't get a parking fine. The permits have the same window for parking whether you have an infant child as well as a Herne child. Once your ticket has been requested, we will print this off at school, authorise it and give it to your child to take home or you can collect it from the school office if you think they may lose it!

### School Photos on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

As an early heads up, there will be school photos on the date above. There will be no sibling photo's but parents will receive a discount if you have more than one child photographed. We are currently assessing how to keep this safe and we may need to make sure only one year group is photographed on any given day. In this case, Year 3 will take priority.

### Music Lessons

Hampshire Music Service will be starting to put into place lessons from next week, but we have yet to meet with each individual peripatetic teacher to ensure stringent measures are in place for everyone's safety. Once we have met with them and are satisfied that things can proceed, then lessons can begin. Rocksteady have also been in touch and we are looking at them possibly starting in November. In all cases, lessons will take place outside the main school building in our outside classroom called The Lodge (which is heated in the colder weather!)

**The RULE OF SIX starts from Monday, so please abide by this change in the law.**

**STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES**