

Herne Flyer 16 – Spring Term 2026

Knowing Every Child – Inspiring Every Mind – Achieving Every Day



Friday 9th January 2026

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a good rest - the children were certainly ready to come back to school. It has been a lovely first week back. We started with our **Values Awards** for last half term's theme...**MOTIVATION!** See the happy and deserving recipients below. This half term we are working on **INDEPENDENCE**.



We are also starting to use our assemblies and class circle times to start talking to our children about the next stage of our Herne Empowerment Approach by helping them to understand brain chemistry and how it affects learning! It's fascinating stuff! Did you know that your front brain (Frontal Cortex) is the largest section of your brain and is responsible for higher level functions such as organisation, decision making, planning, timekeeping etc. It's essentially your brain's control centre. It also isn't fully developed in most people until you are about 30 years of age! This is why it is so important that all children, particularly those with neurodiversity, are actively taught how to develop these skills and understand how their brain influences their actions and responses.

And Finally, whatever you are up to this week, enjoy. Father Christmas brought me a new yoga mat so I'm off to class to try it out!

Best wishes

Sue Sayers

Headteacher

P.S. Huge thanks for the book recommendations before Christmas - you have definitely challenged my reading habits. I read, "Pachinko" by Min Jin Lee - set in Korea & Japan over 3 generations of a family. (Apparently there is an Apple TV series. It would make a good book club read as there are many themes to follow!) and a book by President Trump's cousin, Dr. Mary Trump, called, "Too Much & Never Enough...", which was both fascinating and terrifying in equal measure!! I'm half way through, "The Blue Sisters", by Coco Mellor and am loving it so far. I still have 7 more books to go so huge thanks to all who recommended books for my list - it should keep me going for a little while yet.

2026 – The year of reading

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a UK-wide campaign designed to inspire more people to make reading a regular part of their lives. The campaign is the response to steep decline in reading amongst children, young people and adults. At Herne, we are passionate about helping children to discover a love of reading and will be embracing the National Year of Reading. This week we started by introducing an 'Author of the Week' feature to our Wednesday assembly which will be supported by a display in the library. We will also be sharing the author with you.

Author of the Week – Christopher Edge

Christopher writes books which tackle big questions and provoke the reader to think. Each one, because of this, is full of twists which will have you guessing until the end. The genre Christopher writes is science-fiction -which combines science and - you guessed it - fiction to create an intriguing story. Don't be fooled into thinking they're all set in the future or space, though. Not all sci-fi books are! His books include, Fear Files, Escape Room, Black Hole Cinema Club, Jamie Drake Equation, Space Oddity and The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day.



Tech Decks

We are having ongoing issues with children bringing Tech Decks into school. These are classed as toys and not fidget tools therefore they are **not** allowed in school.



[Update your child's details on Arbor](#)

[Report an Absence](#)

Tree Planting – RESCHEDULED DATE

Join us on **Saturday 23rd January 2026** anytime between 10am and 3pm to take part in tree planting for a special Miyawaki Forest in the school grounds. (This has been moved from this Saturday 10th January due to frozen ground). The planting has been funded by the South Downs National Park. Miyawaki Forests are a great way to quickly create high density, biodiversity rich ecosystems. Please bring; gardening gloves, a spade, wellies and a wheelbarrow if you can.

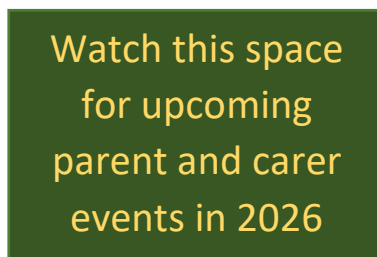
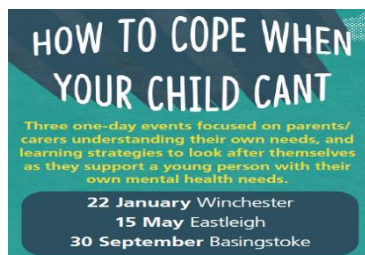


IN-SCHOOL CHILD HEALTH CLINICS

The next date in the school diary for bookable appointments to see the School Nurse is **Thursday February 5th from 9.00am – 12.00pm**. If you have concerns for your child with bedwetting, healthy eating, challenging behaviour or anxiety please contact our Home School Link Worker l.tandy@hernejunior.com to book a half hour appointment.

Please note that these slots should not be used as a place to seek advice regarding specific medical conditions.

Upcoming Events for Parents and Carers



Special Values Winners!

Congratulations to this weeks special values time winners.



JANUARY		FEBRUARY	
Monday 12 th	Cedar class swimming at Churchers	Tuesday 10 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Friday 16 th	Y5 Virtual Reality Workshop	Wednesday 11 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 19 th	Cedar class swimming at Churchers	Thursday 12 th	Last day of term – 12.30pm finish
Saturday 23 rd	Tree Planting	Friday 13 th	INSET DAY
Mon day 26 th	Cedar class swimming at Churchers	Half-Term Break Monday 16th to Friday 20th February	
FEBRUARY			
Monday 2 nd	Cedar class swimming at Churchers	Monday 23 rd	Cedar class swimming at Churchers
Thursday 5 th	Year 5 Bikeability	Tuesday 24 th	Year 3 Heath Trip – Class TBC
Friday 6 th	Year 5 Bikeability	Wednesday 25 th	Year 3 Heath Trip – Class TBC
Monday 9 th	Cedar class swimming at Churchers Year 5 Bikeability	Thursday 26 th	Year 3 Heath Trip – Class TBC

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