

Herne Flyer 23 – Spring Term 2025



Knowing Every Child – Inspiring Every Mind – Achieving Every Day

Friday 7th March 2025

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A Note from our Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,

Several huge 'thank yous' are needed.

Firstly to those who attended, delivered and supported our first **Spring Parents' Evening** on Wednesday. As Parents, your feedback is always important and we were delighted to receive so many positive comments about teachers' dedication and "above and beyond" efforts to ensure our children are happy and in a good place to be receptive for learning.

Secondly, the **Year 6 Captains & Ambassadors** delivered a "5 star hotel greeting". It's a long night and they gave up their evenings to serve the school community and were super company for those of us on meet and greet duty. Very proud of them.

Lastly thanks to our **History Club** members (with a little help from the wonderful Miss Morpheus) who did my HT homework for me last weekend by preparing and leading Assemblies on Monday to launch our 50th Anniversary Project. More news to follow but this centres around Harmony Week and culminates on a really community-based Herne Fest on Friday 20th June.



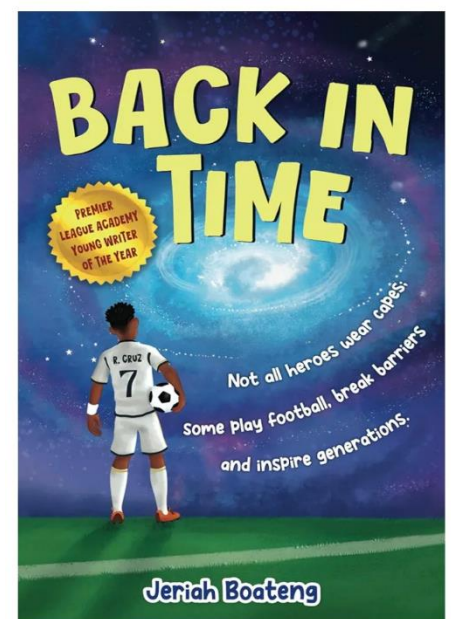
On a much more serious note, there have been a few challenges this week and I'd really appreciate your help, as parents, with this.

You are all aware of the strong stance we take on discriminatory or prejudicial language. Since launching our **Everyday Racism** project last year, the number of reported incidents of racist and homophobic language has radically dropped. However, there have been a couple of incidents of our youngest children using both types of word in anger - during football - and yes, it's boys not girls! My weekend homework will be to weave reminders into Monday's assemblies but we would be very grateful if you could find time to reinforce this at home.

A parent sent me this helpful resource which you could use, particularly with the footballers in our school community.

"AFC Bournemouth Football Academy have been promoting this book, written by 11 year old Brighton Academy player, Jeriah Boateng, and inspired by his experience of racism in school and in football. I haven't read it but have ordered a copy today. The school's approach of educating the child through a football lens seems a smart one. It could be a book that helps children understand why racism is wrong and the impact it has on others. See links below to Jeriah's website." <https://www.jeriahboateng.com/> The book can be bought on Amazon.

This is a good way in to talk with your child about other forms of prejudicial language, particularly "gay" which is a sudden football trend, linked (I am told by the older children) to an item children may be watching on Tik Tok. None of our children should be accessing this site at all as they are far too young and posts can contain a great deal of prejudicial and offensive language.



A reminder of our policy: First offence - a phone call home to parents of the children involved, a re-education session for the child using the abusive language and a session with both children so the impact of harmful words is understood and an opportunity for repair is given. A second instance results in some form of suspension (internal or external depending on intent and the child's needs). This remains on a child's record and transfers to secondary school with them.

We are very grateful to parents who work with us - most are shocked and want to support their child in understanding how dangerous and reputation damaging using such language is. Most importantly, children who are the subject of such abuse can be seriously scarred by these encounters and no-one in our community wants this to happen. We are proud to stand firm on this issue in order to support all families and this is recognised by such lovely feedback as this...

"Thanks ...for dealing with the incident so well, the support for my child and for the swift telephone and face to face communication with us as parents. It makes the whole experience more bearable and assures us that the school and adults around our child care."

And Finally....whatever you are up to this weekend, enjoy! It's a hot yoga weekend for me and a couple of lovely long walks...before settling down to order my copy of Jeriah's book and write that assembly!

Best wishes,
Sue Sayers
Headteacher

P.S. World Book Day was FANTASTIC! Huge thanks to everyone! We lived the Masked Reader led by the English Team...thanks to everyone who joined in!



Comic Relief

Friday 21st March is Comic Relief. This year we would love children to 'Wear Something Red' for a donation OR wear an item of Comic Relief merchandise. (no donation needed). Donations will all be done through 'Parent Pay' again. We wanted to keep the day quite simple for parents, due to the enormous effort everyone went to on our fabulous World Book Day.

Club Cancellations

Due to Parents Evening on Thursday 13th March, there will be no running or history club that night. There will also be no choir after school on the 18th of March due to performances.

The Return of Friday Football Club

Our Friday Football Club will return on **Friday 21st March**. All children who registered for the club in the Autumn will automatically be re-registered, so if your child no longer wants to attend, please contact the office to get them removed from the register. Let's hope for a drier few weeks, to dry out the pitches.



Do you think your child might be experiencing problems with their mental health?

Mrs Tandy would like to invite you to our first ever session on Managing Anxiety in

Children under 12 on Monday 10th March 2025 from 11.45am -1.30pm in Cherry class. PLEASE NOTE THE TIME HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM 12.00 START TO 11.45AM

Diary and Other community Events



March	
Wednesday 12 th	Y4 Rainbow Theatre Workshop
Thursday 13 th	Parents' Evening 3.45 – 7.30
Tuesday 18 th	Avon Tyrrell information evening 5.15
Friday 28 th	INSET DAY – School closed for training
April	
Friday 4 th	Last day of the-term (12.30 finish)