

Friday 2nd December 2022



Website: www.hernejunior.com

Email: admin@hernejunior.com

Twitter: [@HerneJunior](https://twitter.com/HerneJunior)

Telephone: 01730 263746

Promoting Great Behaviour

Message from the Headteacher

As many parents and carers will have spotted this week, we started December yesterday, which triggered playing Christmas songs as the children entered the school yesterday and today. In some people's books, we may have gone a little early on this, but I thought we all could do with a little smile and a bit of joy on these dark mornings.



When it comes to the time to stop the music, the children who have congregated to join in the fun have been absolutely superb in just making their way on to their classes without a moan or a groan. Working with children for all these years has always given me a deep sense of joy and a reminder of what it is to just do things spontaneously. Their behaviour has been fantastic. 😊

Over this term, we have been talking to the children to get their views on how they keep themselves safe and what we do to help them feel safe in school. This includes trying to tackle any worry they may have from other children who can be unkind towards them. The results from several weeks of talking to the children are summarised below. I hope that we all enjoy the last two weeks of term, which will certainly have a lift from HAFS Festive Fundraiser theme for next week.

Best wishes. Tony Markham

The Children Said – We Did! Our Behaviour Survey

It's always fascinating talking to the children and, on the whole, they reported that they feel really safe in school. Many of them like the security of our new green fencing and this certainly helps us to manage the comings and goings of visitors more effectively.

The Children Said	We Did
<i>We want to be able to easily tell adults if we have a problem.</i>	Made sure that we have nurture and emotional literacy support assistants available every day. Put in place an Anti-Bullying Box. Anti-bullying leaflet with the theme 'We Are A Telling School'.
<i>Sometimes the CCTV cameras don't work and things sometimes go missing in the cloakrooms.</i>	We have commissioned several quotes to improve the CCTV we currently have in place, which is 'cloud-based'. With a new HD physical hard drive, it will improve our ability to scroll through footage to see what things have happened.
<i>We think some lessons and assemblies are good to help us to keep safe. Could there be more to help us?</i>	We've added 'Stranger Danger' and 'Clever Never Goes' (which we have used all along) into our curriculum and assemblies for next term to give some stronger messages about keeping safe.
<i>Sometimes, it can be lonely on the playground and we might find it hard to find a friend to play with.</i>	We are re-instating a 'Friendship Bench' (which is multi-coloured) and have ordered a new sign to make this clearer to find. The children said that Petersfield Infants do this really well, so we'll be talking to them to tap into their expertise. 😊

School Lunches – The School's Position

As promised last week, here are the reasons for keeping to our current lunch arrangements for now so that parents and carers have a bit more of an understanding of the way forward for 2023.

We have put each point as a separate item, but in no particular order of priority:

- Pre-pandemic dining in the hall involved a great deal of queuing and was not the greatest lunchtime experience for the children, as they missed a great deal of their playtime just standing in a queue.
- When queuing, the children would get bored and this was a challenge for managing behaviour on some occasions.
- The lunchtimes have now been split into an upper and lower school timeframe, which has halved the number of children out at breaktimes on the playgrounds (or field, in better weather). This has had the positive impact of reducing accidents and behaviour incidents. It is not a simple return to what we did before because of this lunchtime split.
- Any change to some dining in the hall (**which we certainly want to move towards**) will upset the current routines and, in turn, the behaviour of some pupils, who may struggle with the change. We are pending an inspection and would rather not be caught at a mid-point where we haven't had a chance to bed new routines in. This has the potential to be detrimental to an external view of the school's standards of behaviour in general and is not a risk worth taking at this time.



GOVERNORS' UPDATE

Governors are delighted to be able to welcome two new Governors to their Team. Naomi Ward is the parent of a pupil in Year3 and she brings to the Governing Body a wealth of experience. She has a background in education and is currently working as a coach in leadership development. Katherine Maynard also has a son in Year 3 and she too brings to the Governing Body a variety of skills and expertise in the field of psychology. Herne Junior School is so very fortunate in having such a dedicated and experienced team of Governors who are ultimately responsible for everything that happens in the life of the school.



Governors were not so delighted to realise that Mr. Markham has now attended his last Full Governing Body meeting, as of last week. Over the last 17 years, he has gradually built the Governing Body into a competent and professional group of volunteers who work hard for the good of every pupil and member of staff. We are now moving into a time of change for everyone, but we shall together continue to build on the strong foundation that Mr. Markham leaves as a legacy. I am sure parents and carers will also continue their support of the school when, from January 1st 2023 we shall be welcoming Herne's new Headteacher, Susan Sayers.

MARY FAIR (Chair of Governing Body)

Christmas Church Service

We are going to be taking the children to St Peter's Church in the final week of term, with Years 4 and 6 going on Monday 12th December and Year 3 and 5 going on Tuesday 13th December. We could only secure the church for these two afternoons this year and with two year groups (including staff) totalling over 260 people, we very sadly have no capacity for parents to join us this year. Before the recent Covid years, we have always enjoyed parents joining us for these special moments at the church, so we will endeavour to come up with an alternative plan next year so parents can be a part of this celebration with the children. We hope you understand.



Doodle Winter Calendar is here!



If pupils complete at least one exercise a day between the 1st and 24th of December in DoodleMaths and/or DoodleEnglish, they will be able to open the calendar doors. They'll find exclusive seasonal treats behind each one – and if they open all of the doors on one or both calendars, they'll receive a virtual Winter Calendar badge! For more information, look here:

https://doodlelearning.com/post/winter-calendar?utm_source=sendgrid_campaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=t_winter_calendar_11/22

Christmas Jumper Day – Next Friday

All children are invited to wear Christmas Jumpers or other Christmas things next Friday, 9th December. The idea is that this is in exchange for a donation towards the three charities that Mr Markham is running a marathon for. Please don't worry if the donation is really small. In fact, if making a donation is a problem, Mr Markham is not going to chase round checking that children have donated! This is just a way to finish off the festive fun week and we absolutely appreciate that many families are finding things hard to make ends meet.

All donations that come into the school next Friday will be split between Barnardo's, Magic Breakfast & Dementia UK (charities supported by the Zurich Community Trust). Donations can be made in cash and brought into school next Friday, or you can donate online to Mr Markham's JustGiving page as follows: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/anthony-markham1> or use the QR code.



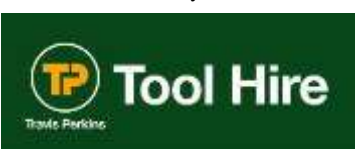
Rowan's Rising Star ☺

Make sure you watch a BBC comedy about school mums (and a dad) on Christmas Day because you will spot **Jasmine Bryan** in Rowan class! Jasmine has been acting for two years and she's filmed for Call the Midwife, Midsomer Murders, After Life, Top Boy and many more. She even made a couple of lockdown workout videos with Joe Wicks and Hey Duggee! Amazing work Jasmine. We'll look out for you in the future! ☺



Travis Perkins Tool Hire

A massive thank you to Travis Perkins Tool Hire in Petersfield, who have given the school a fantastic special rate to hire a sit on digger and dumper truck next week, to further improve our school grounds. A big thank you to the wonderful Mr Blackmore (who is a parent) for organising this with the school. We always appreciate when the local community comes to the school's aid. On this note, we would also like to thank Waitrose (see page 3)



Waitrose

Our wonderful friends at Waitrose have just given us a cheque for £500 to support our developing Forest School project. This money will go towards equipment to increase the different forest-based activities we can do with the children. By the end of this academic year, we will have three qualified Forest School teachers.



School Lunch Options

Due to staff shortages, HC3S have removed the jacket potato option from Monday 5th December until further notice. The other options remain unchanged. They are one person down between now and February, but will bring in some extra people to make sure our Christmas Lunch goes ahead as planned next Wednesday. The school will be testing the water by having two year groups dining in the hall next Wednesday and we'll see how that goes in order to inform dining in the hall arrangements in 2023.

Hampshire Cup Football – Reports from Mr Edwards (Year 6 Team)

It was just like watching Brazil play! The Boy's 'A' Team took on Copnor Junior School in the first round of the Hampshire Plate competition last Friday and ran out convincing 9-0 winners. It may have been more, but the referee was so mesmerised by the intricate passing and screaming shots that he forgot to keep count. The match was quite one-sided from the beginning and Herne were leading 2-0 at half time, largely due to an outstanding display by the Copnor goalkeeper. However, the flood-gates opened in the second half and Herne consistently penetrated the opposition defence and tallied up a rugby score. Congratulations boys and we look forward to the quarter-finals, which will be played in February 2023.

Havant Partnership 'B' Team Football Tournament



Herne, took two teams to a very competitive tournament at South Downs College. Our Green Team were placed in a group with some excellent teams, who were worthy of and should have been playing in the 'A' tournament two weeks ago. I was really impressed with how enthusiastically they played throughout the tournament and even though they have not played together as a team before, they were passing the ball around very effectively. In short 7-minute games, it is important that you score and unfortunately we were denied by good goalkeeping and the woodwork.

The Cowley brothers were unfortunately busy on Wednesday afternoon, so we drafted-in Mr Susans (Ben's father) and Mr Bristow to run the Blue Team. I didn't see all the league games, but they played some fabulous football and progressed to the semi-finals as group winners. In the semi-finals we played Queens Enclosure and despite extra time, the teams could not be separated. Oh No penalties... Not only did we slot home all our penalties, but Harley McGuirk saved a number of theirs and we were into the final versus St James Primary, Emsworth. Another tense match ensued, with both teams playing excellent football and having chances to win throughout the game. Again, stalemate after extra-time, so back to the penalty spot. It was in the bag before we had even taken a kick. We hadn't missed a spot kick all day and had Harley 'Pickford' McGuirk between the posts. Sure enough, we withstood the pressure and **were crowned 'B' Team winners.**

Congratulations to all the boys involved today. Great football, played with a great attitude.

(Since writing my report, Mr Susans informed me of an incredible act of sportsmanship from one of our team-members. Rather than immediately celebrating our victory in the semi-final, one individual went to console one of the opposing players, put his arm round him and spoke to him for a couple of minutes. No names, but you know who you are and we are very proud of you). 😊

Hard Core for New Log Cabin

During last week, the governors approved the purchase of a brand new log cabin for the school. It is going to be an excellent space for supporting children who need help with their well-being and it will be a useful space for many other things that the school is developing (including as a base for the new Forest School groups). The cabin is 6 metres by 5 metres and we want to put in a concrete base, so if parents/carers have any hard core they can donate to the school to provide the foundations, please email or call us to arrange dropping it off. Contact: admin@hernejunior.com or call 01730 263746. Thank you. 😊



WE NEED A CHRISTMAS TREE - ASAP



In the past, a local farm has donated a Christmas Tree to the school, but with many businesses reeling from the pandemic and the general rise in the cost of living, we are now looking for anyone who can point us in the direction of someone who can donate a Christmas Tree for the school to put outside the front.

If you think you know of someone or are able to donate money to enable us to purchase this, we would be very grateful. We'd like to put the tree up on Tuesday next week. Thank you.

COMMUNITY MESSAGES

Everyone Active (Taro Centre) Has Adopted Herne ☺

Parents should have received some information this week where, Herne has been adopted by Everyone Active at the Taro Centre (and other centres further afield). This means that, for the whole of December, you can take your child to swim FREE at the Taro and parents/carers can access complimentary fitness and swimming passes too! ☺ Call them on 03330 050473 for details.



Naughty Elf on the Shelf – Petersfield Trail



After the success of last year's trail, we have decided to go ahead with the Naughty Elf on the Shelf trail around Petersfield again this year. Last year we were able to raise over £400 for the Rosemary foundation in Petersfield. Not only that, we managed to keep lots of children happy while out Christmas shopping with parents and grandparents, we also managed to provide adults with a clear understanding of the wonderful shops available to them right here in town. This is not a competition. It is just a bit of fun. We raise money for the Rosemary foundation by getting a small donation from all of the shops to cover the cost of the elves and any printing. Anything left over goes to the foundation. There is a collection tin inside Hectors Menswear in case anybody would like to donate.



Petersfield Youth Theatre – Herne Children Taking Part! ☺

After a pause for the last couple of years, PYT are once again running several performances in the school holidays and tickets are on sale at One Tree Books or online. Check out the link below for tickets:

<https://www.petersfielddyouththeatre.org.uk/2022/09/05/weekly-winners-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2/>



Performances times
December
Sunday 18, 3pm & 7.30pm
Tuesday 20, 3pm & 7.30pm
Wednesday 21, 3pm & 7.30pm
Thursday 22, 3pm & 7.30pm
Friday 23, 11am & 3pm



Author of the Week – Ade Adepitan

Much loved presenter, basketball player and author. Ade has written the very successful 'Cyborg Cat' series, which is suitable for aged 8+.

When Ade moves to London from Nigeria, he knows things will be different, but nothing can prepare him for the ups and downs of his Parson's Road adventures.

Ade doesn't always feel welcome in his new community; fitting in is hard, especially as he looks different to everyone else. But Ade is brave and takes on the school bullies, surprising himself and the kids on his new street. His heroic acts and super football skills quickly help him make new friends who will always be there for him.



HAFS NEWS!

Don't forget to see the separate attachment of all of the HAFS News for this week, which will come out to parents/carers electronically later today.

December		December	
Mon 5 th	Christmas Post box begins & Winter Fundraising Week	Sun 11 th	10am Choir & Orchestra at Petersfield Christmas Festival
Tue 6 th	8.25am Winter Boogie on the playground – all welcome! 7pm HAFS Christmas Cupcakes	Mon 12 th	Years 4 & 6 – Christmas Church Service
Wed 7 th	Children's Christmas Lunch Day – Christmas apparel can be worn today ☺ 3.30 HAFS Crafts & Cupcakes sale on the playground	Tue 13 th	Years 3 & 5 – Christmas Church Service
Thu 8 th	8.25am Winter Boogie on the playground – all welcome! OPEN SCHOOL – Come and see your child's books	Wed 14 th	1.30 Y3 Christmas Production to parents/carers 5.00 Y3 Christmas Production to parents/carers
Fri 9 th	Christmas Jumper Day – Small donations if possible please.	Thu 15 th	6pm - Singing Round the Christmas Tree at Herne
		Fri 16 th	12.30 END OF TERM

Christmas Postbox Opens this coming Monday ☺