



Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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## A Note from our Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,



I'd like to start this week with a huge **Thank You** to everyone who came to the square to cheer on the choir and the band at the turning on of the **Petersfield Lights**...they were superb! Clearly there are also lots of siblings at PIS with great voices too as their singing was lovely! The evening was a super way to start my first Christmas in Petersfield!



This week, the festive practices have begun and the

**Christmas trees** are being dusted off ready to make the school merry and bright! We were very happy to give a home to a no-longer needed reindeer.

On a not so happy note, we are continuing to trial a range of new sanctions which look at **playground behaviour and language**, particularly related to language used during football. If you watched breakfast news this week, there were articles about a national rise in the use of discriminatory language in young people. Schools are also reporting the same issue. We are very clearly stating our no tolerance policy for racist or homophobic language in assemblies and class circle times. If you would like to use any of the **"Red Card Against Racism"** materials with your child, please go to <https://theredcardhub.org/> We are making it very clear to our footballers that there is no place in school teams for anyone who is abusive of others in this way and how a good sporting attitude is the only way to play!

### WE NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE!

If your child is ill, please leave an absence message **EVERY DAY**, unless you have already told us they will be off for a period of days, e.g.. after being sick and needing a clear 48 hours before returning.

Please do not presume, if your child has been sent home ill, that the office will automatically know they are off the next day.

This is really important! As part of our Safeguarding Duty, the office have to ring home after registers close if we don't have a message for every absent child. Our worry is that with the high number of illnesses floating around, it is taking longer and longer each day to establish if all children are safe at home. This could delay us in identifying if a child really is missing and should be at school.

Please help us by letting us know by email to [admin@](mailto:admin@) or by leaving a voice message on the answering machine if your child is off ill. This should be done, ideally, before registration daily.

**And Finally**...Whatever you are up to this weekend, enjoy! We finished our Christmas shopping last week so have decided to tackle the garage in order to have space for the garden furniture over winter...ugh!!! Might need a few mince pies to keep us going!

Take care,

*Sue Sayers*

Headteacher

P.S. Just finishing another Celeste Ng, "Everything I never told you", which is a novel about how a mixed race family cope after a terrible event and how underlying racism affects their attitudes over time. Doesn't sound like a jolly...but it is a really good read with a 'keep you guessing' ending!!



## Home Link Corner - Christmas Finances



With Christmas fast approaching, it can be a real struggle to make ends meet, particularly with the cost of living crisis looming over us all. Part of my role, is to support families who are experiencing financial hardship. If this is something you would like to confidentially speak to me about, please get in touch, either via the school office or email me directly at [s.balmer@hernejunior.com](mailto:s.balmer@hernejunior.com). *Sonja Balmer* (Home School Link Worker)

## Thank You For Your Generosity

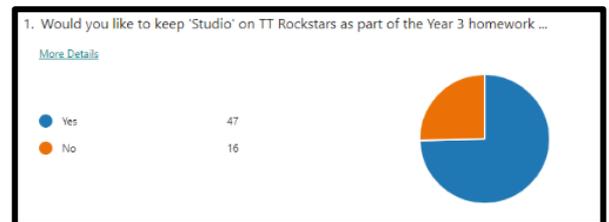
We are proud to announce that we raised £463.92 through our 'Bring a Bear' to school today for Children in Need. A massive THANK YOU for all your generous donations. We also collected an impressive £296.21 for the Poppy Appeal.



### Year 3 Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) Review

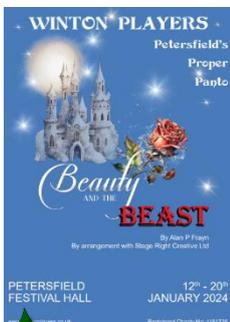
Thank you so much to the year 3 parents who responded to our survey, to decide if we were going to keep the Studio sessions as a part of the homework. 74.6% of parents in the survey voted for **yes**, so we will carry on with the current arrangement into the Spring term. However, please remember that:

- They use the times table grid in the back of the Home-Link book to support.
- They can always complete the Garage sessions at home and leave the Studio session to complete in school during morning work.



If you are still worried about this, please see Miss Whitehead or your class teacher 😊.

## COMMUNITY MESSAGE



Come and join in the fun at the Winton Player's Proper Panto: Beauty and the Beast. It's hilarious with dramatic and tender moments along the way. Not to be missed! PERFORMANCES AT PETERSFIELD FESTIVAL HALL, 12<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024.

TICKETS £14 for adults and £9 for under 18s. Book online: [www.wintonplayers.co.uk](http://www.wintonplayers.co.uk)

In Person: One Tree Books, Lavant Street, Petersfield Tel: 01730 261199 or Town Visitor Centre, The Town Hall, Petersfield Tel: 01730 264182

**Don't forget that on the last day of the term (Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December) we finish at 12.30pm**

December		January	
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup>	Christmas Post Box Begins	Tues 2nd	<b>INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TRAINING</b>
Mon 4th	HAFS Christmas Activity Week begins (see HAFS schedule) <a href="https://www.hernejunior.com/news/?pid=3&amp;nid=2&amp;storyid=1106">https://www.hernejunior.com/news/?pid=3&amp;nid=2&amp;storyid=1106</a> HAFS Break the Rules Day	Wed 3rd	<b>Spring Term Begins at Herne</b>
Wed 6th	Year 3 (5.00 – 6.15) and 5 Disco (6.45 – 8.00)	<b>February</b>	
Thurs 7th	Year 4 (5.00 – 6.15) and 6 Disco (6.45 – 8.00)	12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	HAFS Christmas Jumper Day Rocksteady Concert / Work Showcase 2:00pm		
Mon 11th	Year 6 Church Service 2.00pm St Peter's Church		
Tues 12th	Year 4 Church Service 10.00pm St Peter's Church Year 5 Church Service 2.00pm St Peter's Church		
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Christmas Production (email sent)		
Thurs 14th	Christmas Lunch Carols around the Tree (5.30pm)		
Fri 15th	Herne breaks up for Christmas Holidays (12.30pm)		