



Friday 5th January 2024

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A Note from our Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! It was so lovely to welcome the children back on Wednesday and hear all their Christmas stories! I hope you were all fit and well! We had a lot of staff very poorly over the holidays with Covid and seriously bad chest infections – thankfully they are all back in and on the road to recovery! It's a good idea to start reminding your child how to blow their nose (and bin the tissue) and what good hygiene when coughing looks like. We are reinforcing this in school. Please feel free to send your child in with a box of tissues if they are full of cold – this will certainly help!



Thank you to those who enquired about the recent end of term tree cutting. Thank goodness we did get this done before the holiday storms hit! As our grounds are owned by Hampshire CC, they regularly conduct surveys and remove trees which are deemed potentially dangerous to those on site. The good news is that most of the logs remain here providing new eco-systems for minibeasts and wildlife (and to be utilised by Forest School). We are just about to take delivery of many new trees which will be planted around the site. **If you are Eco-minded and would like to help with this, please do let the office know – our Site Manager, Mr Aeschliman, would very much appreciate any help offered.**



This half term's Harmony Value is **HONESTY** – all of our assemblies will rotate around this theme, looking at different aspects and how we can all work hard to be open and trustworthy, even in difficult circumstances.

And Finally...whatever you are up to this weekend, enjoy. I think we are going to do a long walk, weather permitting, to burn off all those mince pies!!

Sue Sayers

Headteacher



Please respect the Double Yellow Lines

The junction of Merryfield Road and Love Lane is dangerous when trying to turn out of Merryfield Road due to the difficulties of seeing oncoming traffic in Love Lane when cars are parked close to the corner. The issue was raised by residents some years ago with the County Traffic Authorities who agreed there was a danger and provided double yellow lines at both the junctions of Merryfield Road/ Love Lane and Churchfield Road /Merryfield Road. Regrettably several parents are choosing to ignore the double yellow lines and park on them in the afternoons whilst waiting to pick up.

Please don't leave car engines on

On the subject of cars, please do not leave your car engines running when waiting for the children at collection. We are still having lots of reports of this happening and it would be brilliant to see an improvement to this in the new year. Thank you.



Lunch Menu Changes

We have 2 changes to the lunch menu which are permanent changes until menu expires at Easter. The changes are:-
 Week 2 Mon Veggie Option is Cheese & Onion Puff and Week 3 Thurs Veggie Option is Vegetable Pastry Crown.



Parent Coffee Morning... Save the date!

On Wednesday 17th January, between 9.30am-11am, I will be hosting our second (half termly) Parent Coffee Morning. This will be run jointly with our School Nursing team again, to offer advice and support with things such as behaviour, routines and healthy eating.

Our first coffee morning was a great success and it's a lovely way to meet other Herne parents and have a chat and a slice of cake. 😊 *Sonja Balmer* (Home School Link Worker)

New Cleaner Needed (20 hours a week)

We have a vacancy for a cleaner to join our friendly team for 4 hours a day, to start in January. The working hours would be 3.30pm – 7:30pm, Monday to Friday. Closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 19th January. Application packs are available on the website or via the office. Completed applications should be submitted to Rebecca Loader, School Business Manager at admin@hernejunior.com.



Twilight and Breakfast Club – ParentPay reminders.

Please note the last day Breakfast Club will accept payment by cash or cheque is Friday 12th January. Any outstanding balances after this date will be transferred to the online ParentPay system Breakfast Club account for your child. You do not need to book in advance.

Please remember that payments by Child Care Vouchers require a week's processing time for your ParentPay account to be updated. This is particularly important for Twilight club payments as you are unable to book your future sessions if your Twilight Club is not in credit. This in turn

impacts the registers and complicates our administrative procedures.

Year 3 applications for September 2024

The deadline for applications for pupils starting year 3 in September 2024 is midnight on Monday 15th January. Although we cannot guarantee a place, we always welcome applications from students outside of catchment. If you know anyone who is thinking of applying and would like to discuss this further, please ask them to call the school office.

New CM Sport Club (Spring Term)

After feedback from School Council and from our parents, we have asked CM Sports to start a new after school club on a Friday (3.40 – 4.40pm). The Multi-Sports Club will focus on a variety of different sports, including: Tag Rugby, Basketball, Hockey, Dodge-ball and more.

Our Friday football club will burst back into action at the end of February, but we are more than happy to hold a child's place at football club if they would like to do this club for the Spring term – then swap back to football for the Summer term (it is likely only to be 4 weeks when both are running).

<https://cmsports.schoolipal.co.uk/clubs/school-clubs> Go to the CM Sports website to book your child's place at this new club.



January		March	
Mon 15 th	Deadline for Year 3 applications	Fri 1st	Year 4 Rainbow Theatre
Wed 17 th	Parent Coffee Morning (9.30 – 11.00)	Tues 5th	Parents' Evening
Mon 22 nd	Year 5 Bikeability begins	Thur 14th	Parents' Evening
		Thurs 28 th	Easter Holiday begins - 12.30pm Finish today
		Fri 29 th	BANK HOLIDAY – Good Friday
February		April	
Fri 9 th	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TRAINING	1 st - 12 th	Easter Holidays
12 th – 16 th	HALF TERM		
Fri 23 rd	Mid-Year Postcards coming home		