

HEADCORN HEADLINES

Edition: 108

Week Beginning: 14.1.19

URGENCY	GENERAL WHOLE SCHOOL ITEMS				
<p>Head's Lines</p> 	<p>Welcome back and Happy New Year! The children have settled back into school life positively with a real focus on their learning. We all really appreciate the new sound-proofing in the hall and this has made for calmer and quieter lunchtimes enabling everyone to talk and be sociable without having to raise their voices! The new playground markings have been a big success with groups and individuals tackling the activity circuits, targets, hopscotches and 'Dance with me' areas. A big Thank You to everyone who supports our PTFA events that enable us to raise funds to pay for upgrades and opportunities such as this. We have our PTFA AGM coming up at the end of January, so if you are able to, please come along. We will be sharing the successes of 2018 along with plans for this coming year. We would also love to hear any new and exciting ideas to continue to improve our school for the benefit of all of our children.</p>				
<p>The week ahead</p>	<p>Mon 14 Jan</p>	<p>Tues 15 Jan</p>	<p>Wed 16 Jan</p>	<p>Thurs 17 Jan</p>	<p>Fri 18 Jan</p>
	<p>KS2 Celebration Assembly: Y56 sharing / Young Voices Rehearsal</p>				
URGENCY	GENERAL WHOLE SCHOOL ITEMS				
	<p>Drop Off and Collection: Please be reminded that both of the entrance gates will be closing at 8:50am to ensure a prompt start to our day of learning. If you need to speak to a member of staff please come in plenty of time to be able to do this before the gates need to be closed. If you arrive after the gates have been closed please take your child to the school office.</p> <p>At the end of the school day if you arrive to collect your child once the gates have closed they will have been taken around to the school office for collection. Please phone the school office to let us know of any change to who is collecting your child if they are not on your 'Collections Permission Form' or if you are going to be late. We will not release any pupils to an adult who is not listed on this form - including family members. All of this information helps to address any confusion and potential anxiety for your child.</p>				
	<p>Please remember to add credit to your wraparound care account and make bookings in advance. The sessions are becoming increasingly busier and we need to ensure that we have adequate resources.</p>				
	<p>Please be reminded that children are not allowed to wear earrings of any sort during PE. We are not permitted to tape them up and they must be removed (staff are not allowed to do this). If your child is unable to remove their own earrings please make sure they are not wearing them on PE days. We will not be providing an alternative curriculum if your child is unable to do PE because of earrings. Can we suggest ear piercing is done at the beginning of the Summer holiday to allow 6 weeks healing away from school.</p>				
	<p>Please note that the weather is very cold outside and we are continuing to take pupils outside for Games sessions when possible. Please provide warmer jumpers and tracksuit bottoms at this time of year.</p>				
<p>PTFA</p>	<p>Calendar 2019: Thank you to our team of families who delivered calendars to homes across the village over the festive holidays. There are lots of handy contacts, important dates and numbers highlighted on the 2019 calendar so if you didn't get a copy a few spares have been left at the School Office for collection. This has been a highly successful fundraiser supported by Print Junction (Ashford), estimating to have raised £1300!</p> <p>PTFA AGM: Tuesday 29th January 2019, 8pm. Details were distributed by email earlier this week. If you have any queries or wish to become a Trustee & Committee member, please chat to Lizell Williams or Maz Stack. Alternatively email info@headcornschoolptfa.org.uk</p>				

<p>DIARY DATES</p>	<p>Fri 25th Jan – KS2 Celebration Assembly: Y5&6 sharing Wed 30th Jan – Young Voices Choir performing at the O2 Fri 1st Feb – YR&KS1 Celebration Assembly: Y1 sharing Fri 8th Feb – KS2 Celebration Assembly: Y4 sharing Fri 15th Feb – YR&KS1 Celebration Assembly: YR sharing Fri 15th Feb – KS2 Celebration Assembly: Y3 sharing Fri 15th Feb – End of Term PTFA Discos (more information to follow) Fri 15th Feb – End of Term 3 Mon 25th Feb – Start of Term 4 Fri 5th April – End of Term 4 Tues 23rd April – Start of Term 5</p>
<p>EARLY YEARS CLASS: CHEETAHS</p>  <p>EARLY YEARS CLASS: LEOPARDS</p> 	<p>Welcome back to Term 3! The time is whizzing by before we know it! We hope you all had a very restful and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. The Early Years Team would like to thank parents for our lovely Christmas gifts. We were touched by your generosity. This term we will be learning all about Winter and different animal habitats. We will be looking at animals that live in woodland areas and how they survive the cold months of Winter if they do not hibernate. We will then be learning all about Antarctica and how penguins survive such cold conditions. Our learning will be based around the book called Blue Penguin, which is a story all about being different and the struggles of being accepted by others.</p> <p>In Phonics, we have now split into smaller Read Write Inc groups. This is to ensure that each and every child learns at their own level and pace. We will all be learning the letter sounds sh, r and j and will be encouraging children to write lots of sentences using their new letter sounds. A good way to help support your child with their writing is to build words together and then, if they are ready to write sentences, encourage them to put that word into a sentence of their own. For example, if the letter sound was ‘sh’ and the child can sound out and write words such as shop, shut, fish, dish and shot, encourage them to put each ‘sh’ word into a sentence. (The shop is shut). We will also be encouraging lots of writing through play based activities such as our new role-play areas (Costa Coffee Shop and a Vets Practice). If children feel confident with their letter sounds and are able to apply them when writing by sounding out each word, then they will be more likely to want to write in all sorts of situations and enjoy doing so too.</p> <p>In Maths we will be starting to learn all about Addition. We will be combining two sets of objects by counting everything altogether. The children will learn how to record their number sentences accurately and also how to prove that their answers are correct by using manipulatives (things to move and count). We have also started to count in 2s, which the children love, as counting everyone in the morning no longer takes as much time!</p> <p>Please ensure that dinner menus are returned each Monday to school, so that we know what lunch choices your child has made.</p>
<p>YEAR 1A CLASS: TIGERS</p>  <p>YEAR 1B CLASS: LYNX</p> 	<p>It has been so lovely to welcome you all back after the Christmas break. We hope you had a wonderful holiday and thank you once again for your generous gifts and cards. The children are now back in full swing... they are really enjoying their new book which is Traction Man is Here by Mini Grey. Traction Man is an action figure who comes to life in the boy in the book’s imagination. He helps save the day in many situations, along with his trusty sidekick, Scrubbing Brush. We are creating new adventures with small world play and action figures to spark the imagination for writing narratives. We will also be describing Traction Man and other superheroes, so the children will be learning more about adjectives used to describe and applying those to the heroes that they create. As we are talking about toys from the present, we would like the children to bring in their favourite toy on Wednesday. This should be non-electronic and not breakable, and clearly labelled with their name. We will be describing different toys and what they are made from.</p> <p>In Maths we will be working on subtraction within 20 and using a range of strategies to do this, including crossing out and counting back on a number line. Your child’s spelling book will be in their book bag. On the inside page are further details. The spelling test will be very informal and should be a positive experience for the children. Thank you for your support in practising their words with them.</p>
<p>YEAR 2 CLASS: PUMAS</p> 	<p>Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all! We hope that you all had a wonderful time with your families over Christmas. The children have enjoyed recounting their Christmas experiences in our English sessions this week. We have also been talking about resolutions and goals for this year which we enjoyed sharing with you in our assembly on Friday.</p> <p>We’ve also started our Geometry topic in Maths and have been naming 2D and 3D shapes as well as describing their properties, such as number of sides/edges and vertices. We will continue looking at shapes next week too as well as starting to work on our 2 times table.</p>

	<p>In Geography we are looking at maps, starting from mapping our school to extending to the school location and then beyond. In Science we are starting our topic on Habitats but began our topic on things that are living, dead or never alive. I have already been impressed with some homework that has come in already based on our Amazing Habitat topic.</p> <p>As of this term we are lucky to have Mrs Morris from The Lenham School working on a dance project with our class. This means that PE days this term will be Monday (outdoors – warm clothes) and Tuesday (indoors).</p> <p>Well done Year 2 for all your reading over Christmas. Please keep it up and remember to write in your contact book so we can complete your bookmarks accurately. Have a fantastic weekend!</p>
<p>YEAR 3 CLASS: JAGUARS</p> 	<p>I hope you all had a lovely break, the children have started this term by creating some great freeze frames of different scenes from our book, 'The Pebble In My Pocket', they enjoyed acting as different characters in order to inspire them to write some super descriptive paragraphs. We have started this term's topic: The Rain Forest, by locating different rain forests on a map of the world and following the story of a young boy who lives in Ecuador.</p> <p>Last term's Outdoor PE groups will continue for a few more weeks for this term, if your child was doing hockey or football please make sure that they are wrapped up ready to face the elements! We are fortunate to be working with PE teachers from The Lenham School again on Tuesday mornings this term. So, outdoor PE continues on Monday morning and Indoor PE will take place on Tuesday mornings. This term's home learning grid has been sent home, in class we will be making Rain Forest models. If possible the children need to bring in a small shoe box and they can bring in materials to help to create their models. Spellings will be issued on Thursdays and Times Tables continue on Mondays.</p>
<p>YEAR 4 CLASS: JUNGLE CATS</p> 	<p>A huge welcome back to everyone! I hope everybody had a good time over the holidays with lots of rest and relaxation. Jungle Cats have come back into school full of energy and we are off and running learning about Vikings, our new book 'The Firebird' and looking at measurement in mathematics.</p> <p>Please ensure all children have brought in their PE kits after taking them home last term. Children will also need wellington boots if they were also taken home as we do plan to use the field if suitable! Homework sheets have been given out and have a variety of tasks that can be completed in any order. Any issues or queries with the homework sheet please just ask - I shall be on the playground mornings and afternoons. Spellings will continue as normal as of next week, children have been given spellings for next week. It is great to be back and I am looking forward to a fun-filled term!</p>
<p>YEAR 5 CLASS: CARACALS</p> 	<p>What an interesting week back Year 5 have had, really focussing on our Science, Maths and Geography. Take time to look at Headcorn Twitter, as there are often pictures of what we are up to.</p> <p>This term's home-learning was given out on Monday, the first task is due next week. A copy of this can be also found on the school's website.</p> <p>Don't forget the importance of Mathletics, tasks are set regularly and are linked directly with what we are learning in class. It's good fun too!</p> <p>Happy New Year everyone.</p>
<p>YEAR 6 CLASS: LIONS</p> 	<p>Happy new year! It's been great to see everyone looking bright and bushy-tailed after their holiday rest and I look forward to seeing what adventures are in store for us in 2019. We have slowly introduced the class to the SATs past papers this week, and have endeavoured to show that it's not such a scary beast after all. Hopefully, support groups will soon be set up to help with any concerns that children may have or to assist with any learning areas that are less secure. I believe familiarity with the test should help ease most worries and we will all make a concerted effort to help each other in every way possible as we continue in this direction.</p> <p>In terms of homework, I would like everyone to aim for 1500 points in Mathletics, and focus on those particular areas that caused problems in the arithmetic test, for example questions on decimals or percentages. In addition, I would like everyone to make an information poster (A3 or A4) on Martin Luther King Jr. in advance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday 21 January. Spellings and times tables will also return to the schedule on Thursdays and Fridays respectively.</p> <p>Finally, on behalf of Miss Bushen and myself, can I just say thank you so much for all the kind and thoughtful gifts we received from you before Christmas; we were truly bowled over by your generosity. The sugar alone will undoubtedly help to fuel us for the remainder of this year!</p> <p>Have a fantastic weekend!</p>