

# HEADCORN HEADLINES

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Week Beginning: 23.09.19

URGENCY	GENERAL WHOLE SCHOOL ITEMS				
<p><b>Head's Lines</b></p> 	<p>Welcome to our new EYFS cohort. We have had a great day with all the new Reception pupils of Cheetah and Leopard class in for their first full day!</p> <p>Thank you to everyone for supporting our first PTFA event of the new academic year. The <b>Outdoor Cinema Experience</b> last Saturday was a lovely event. There was a great atmosphere, children in costume, impromptu performances of some of the songs and all enjoyed the showing of The Greatest Showman on the giant screen under the starlit sky. An enormous THANK YOU to our PTFA team for organising this brilliant event.</p> <p>Congratulations to the 23 pupils in Year 6 who passed their Level 1 and Level 2 <b>Bikeability Training</b>. The instructors commented that they were one of the most competent groups they have had for a while, demonstrating good control of their bikes and a mature approach to the importance of riding safely on our roads. Well done!</p> <p>Another huge congratulations to our <b>football team</b> who came in third place in our first tournament of the new academic year. Please take a look at the school website for a full list of our extra-curricular clubs that are running this term <a href="http://www.headcorn.kent.sch.uk">www.headcorn.kent.sch.uk</a></p> <p><b>Attendance and Absence:</b> Our whole school attendance figures are some of the lowest in our area and in comparison to national expectations. We have been approached by the Local Authority regarding this matter and have been asked to put measures in place to address this. We do not wish to go as far as introducing fining but hope to be able to partner with our school families to improve our figures.</p> <p>We will be rolling out a few initiatives over the next few weeks and months to support, inform and address low attendance. One of our aims is to introduce clearer procedures for requesting Extraordinary Absences.</p> <p>Hopefully everyone received either an email or a paper copy of our new Extraordinary Absence form and letter yesterday. This form needs to be completed and returned to the school office at least two weeks prior to any absence such as holidays, family event days, etc. Please remember that Head Teachers are not allowed to authorise holidays, days away for events such as birthdays, weddings, etc unless there are exceptional circumstances. If you think that your absence request may qualify for this consideration please make an appointment via the school office to see me.</p> <p>This absence form is not required for medical appointments such as the orthodontist, hospital, paediatrician, etc. Please inform the school office as usual, showing an appointment card or letter from the medical authority to ensure that this is authorised. For medical check ups such as the opticians, dentist, etc. please try to arrange these out of school hours or during weekends and holidays.</p> <p>Additionally, we request that any <b>non-school related clubs and activities</b> do not require you to collect your child early.</p>				
<p><b>The week ahead</b></p>	<p>Mon 23 Sept</p>	<p>Tues 24 Sept</p>	<p>Weds 25 Sept PTFA Meeting 8pm in the school hall</p>	<p>Thurs 26 Sept</p>	<p>Fri 27 Sept EYFS/KS1 <i>Celebration Assembly (Awardees only)</i></p>
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	<p>With immediate effect we will no longer be distributing sweets, biscuits or any other <b>birthday treats</b> provided by parents. We have made this decision following a child having a severe reaction to a birthday treat. I am sure you will understand that pupil safety and wellbeing is our top priority.</p>				
	<p>We began the new school year very smart in our uniform however we are noticing black hoodies, jewellery, hair accessories, trainers creeping in already. Many of the uniform rules are for health and safety reasons. Please help us to avoid awkward and potentially upsetting conversations when these things are asked to be removed by staff and remember the following uniform rules:</p>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purple jumpers, cardigans, fleeces are to be worn. No hoodies or alternatives unless permission has been given in the event of lost property and/or waiting for a new order to come through.</li> <li>• Hair accessories are to be small, discreet and in purple or plain white or black. Novelty hairbands, large bows, etc are not permitted.</li> <li>• Small discreet stud earrings can be worn (but not on PE days). No bracelets, necklaces or wrist bands. Watches may be worn if your child is able to read the time. Please avoid allowing them to wear expensive brands such as Smart watches or Fitbits.</li> <li>• Shoes are to be black, smart and closed toe worn with plain black or white socks. If your child is needing to wear alternative footwear for a specific reason please speak to the class teacher or send in a note of explanation.</li> </ul> <p><b>School uniform</b> should be ordered from Gooddies.co.uk Orders placed before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month will be delivered by month end and orders placed towards the end of the month will be delivered by the middle of the following month.</p>
	<p>We are collecting the <b>Aldi Get Set Eat Fresh</b> stickers! Please pop the stickers in your child's book bag or your class teacher. Thank you.</p>
	<p>If your child has an EHCP and you would like to find out more about how the Kent SEN office works, and meet Sharon McLaughlin the <b>SEND Family Engagement</b> officer, there will be a session at Bower Grove. Sharon will be discussing her role and how the SEN office are intending to improve their service. No Need to book. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November, 10.15 – 11.40am, Bower Grove School, Fant Lane, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8NL</p>
<p><b>WRAPAROUND CARE</b></p>	<p>We've had a great week with Wraparound care, and the kids have really enjoyed the free time to mix with friends in different years, as well as their own. We've spent a lot of time running around outside, with football games, some form of racquet sport, as well as searching for chestnuts!</p> <p>Inside we've had fun experimenting with colour, and copying designs onto paper plates, and playing badminton; lego, games and books are always out too.</p> <p>Next week, we'll be doing a lot of building - if you have any plastic milk bottle tops we'd really appreciate them!</p> <p>If you would like your child to attend any of these sessions, please collect a registration form and a copy of the policy from the school office.</p> <p><b>Breakfast Club:</b> drop off from: 7.30am until 8.10am - £3.00</p> <p><b>After School Club</b> from end of school until: A. 4.30pm - £5.00 B. 5.15pm - £8.00 C. 6.00pm - £11.00</p>
<p><b>INDEPENDENT CATERING</b></p>	<p>We operate a <b>NO DEBT POLICY</b> in school and ALL dinners must be booked and paid for in advance.</p> <p>There is now a facility online for parents across all key stages to make meal selections. If you are having any difficulties doing this, please let the office know.</p>
<p><b>DIARY DATES</b></p>	<p><b>FRIDAY CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES (awardees only):</b> Fri, 27 Sept: YR/KS1 Fri, 4 Oct: KS2 Fri, 11 Oct: YR/KS1 Fri, 18 Oct: KS2</p> <p>Wed, 9 Oct: Lenham PE Workshop – Year 6 Fri, 18 Oct: End of Term (Mon 21<sup>st</sup> to Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Oct) Mon, 28 Oct: Term 2 Starts</p>
<p><b>E-SAFETY</b></p>	<p>Attached to this weeks Headcorn Headlines is a useful parent's guide for Managing Screen-Time. Please take five minutes to read this very informative piece.</p>

<p><b>PTFA</b></p>	<p>We've a spectacular start to the new academic year! Massive Shout Out of Thanks to a starring cast of Y1 Parents: Maz, Emma, Laura, Sara, Kate, Aimee, Daniel, Gordon &amp; Jason who worked their socks off at the Open Air Cinema event along side Lizell. Jason was also instrumental in planting the seed for the event and arranging sponsorship from CAP Enterprise to cover the cinema's booking fee. Thanks to Katy for organising discounts on bar stock and loo hire! Thanks also Vicky and Richard (Bake My Day) who added the flavours of a fun fair and Ellen who manned the burger van! The running costs for this type of event are high, so whilst we covered the basic expenses there wasn't much left to put in the fundraising pot. It's not just about the money, but instead creating memorable experiences; a feel good family friendly event drawing friends and our local community together 'under the stars'.</p> <p>We hope the Reception classes and new pupils to the school this term enjoyed their Welcome Treat provided by the PTFA this week.</p> <p>Dates for your diary: Cheese and Wine / PTFA meeting - Tuesday 24th September 7.30pm in the school hall. All parents/carers are automatic members of the PTFA and are welcome to come along. Kids Bake Off with Bake My Day - Saturday 12th October. Pop in store for more info. Lunch at London Beach Hotel - Friday 18th October. Any excuse for a casual together, meet fellow parents/carers.</p>
<p><b>SPORT</b></p> 	<p>Headcorn was involved in the Weald of Kent School Sports Association (WOKSSA) 7-a-side Football Festival on Tuesday this week. 10 Year 5&amp;6 pupils made up the team and played matches against Marden, Goudhurst and other schools from the area. Our pupils represented the school magnificently, not only with their sporting prowess, but also with their team spirit and great attitude throughout. A full list of results and a tournament report can be viewed on the School Website with additional photographs on our Twitter feed. Headcorn eventually finished in 3rd place with five wins and 2 defeats. A huge thank you to all the parents for their help with transport and continued support!</p> <p>Don't forget that our <b>After School Clubs</b> start next week. A sign up sheet can be downloaded from the School Website and must be completed before attending. The more children who attend clubs the more teams we can potentially enter into future competitions.</p> <p>We have <b>football fixtures</b> against Kingswood Primary and Staplehurst Primary School pencilled in the diary for Monday 7th October and Tuesday 15th October respectively. These are both home games, and we would welcome supporters at these events to cheer on the team.</p> <p>Are you following us on <b>Twitter yet?</b> If not, you could be missing out on all the latest news and exciting events that go on at Headcorn School. We currently have 314 followers but welcome any new followers from our current Reception intake for 2019 up to Year 6. The school can be followed @HeadcornPrimary</p> <p>Football for Year 1 will take place this Saturday at 09:15 on the green by the village hall (Parsonage Meadow). Boots are ideal but not essential for this week's session. We recommend children wear layers and bring a named drink bottle. Reception children will start next week (Saturday 28th). Email: <a href="mailto:developmentsquad@headcornfc.org.uk">developmentsquad@headcornfc.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>EARLY YEARS</b></p> <p><b>YEAR RA:</b> <b>CHEETAHS</b></p>  <p><b>YEAR RB:</b> <b>LEOPARDS</b></p> 	<p>We are very proud of the children and the way they have settled into school life. Today is their first full day, including staying for lunch which was very successful and enjoyed by all. Thank you for completing your child's lunch preferences and returning them to school, or by completing them online if you chose this method. As the online menu system is now up and running, could we ask that you complete your child's choices online if possible as we will no longer be sending home paper copies in the book bag. Please speak to us if there are any problems.</p> <p>Thank you to everyone who has already sent in welly boots. When the children choose to play outside, they need to change into their boots so please ensure that any outstanding boots are sent into school. May we please ask that all clothing items and water bottles are named.</p> <p>Next week, on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September, The Kent Messenger newspaper will be visiting school to take photos of new 2019 Reception classes (no child names will be printed). If you have opted out of having your child's photograph published in the media, they will not be in this photograph. If you wish to make any changes in this regard, please speak to the School Office.</p> <p>We wish you all a restful weekend in preparation for our first full week!</p>

<p><b>YEAR 1A: TIGERS</b></p>  <p><b>YEAR 1B: LYNX</b></p> 	<p>Year 1 have had another fantastic week of learning! This week we have been exploring the idea of 'One more' in maths by using resources around the classroom, such as the cars, lego and cubes. The children fully understand how to count on one more within 10, so please continue to practice this at home with them!</p> <p>Our writing sessions this week have been based around our topic of worms, with the children generating their own words to describe worms, such as yucky, squelchy and smelly! The children have found this topic really interesting and are able to speak about the jobs that worms do to help the environment. You can always research this further with your child at home!</p> <p>Just a reminder that all PE kits need to be kept in school, as we have PE lessons twice a week. Please remember that earrings cannot be worn for PE. Also if you haven't done so already, can you please bring in a pair of named wellies for your child in case of bad weather.</p> <p>Thank you and have a lovely weekend.</p>
<p><b>YEAR 2A: PUMAS</b></p>  <p><b>YEAR 2B: PANTHERS</b></p> 	<p>It's been a busy week as we explore further use of manipulatives in Maths. The children are becoming more confident in using place value and partitioning numbers accurately. We have also been counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10 and would like to encourage the children to keep practising these at home. We will however, be focusing on the 10 times table this term and being able to recall these with growing speed and accuracy.</p> <p>In English this week we have been using story mapping to help us retell the story of, 'Lila and the Secret of the Rain,' as well as using actions to prompt the sequence. We then used the story map to adapt the story to write our own version. In Geography we have been creating a fact file book about Kenya after taking notes from a short video clip as well as continuing to sing our Kenyan chant.</p> <p>PE has seen us consolidate our ball skills, particularly retrieving and passing accurately.</p> <p>We have loved seeing all the amazing home learning already coming in – keep it up! Don't forget we will set a couple of Mathletics tasks to complete and keep reading Year 2's!</p> <p>Please can we remind everyone to have a pair of named wellies in school as soon as possible especially as the weather is due to change. Have a wonderful weekend all!</p>
<p><b>YEAR 3: JAGUARS</b></p> 	<p>In English, we have started our new book, Oliver and the Seawigs by Philip Reeve, the children have enjoyed thinking about being an explorer and what that would mean to them. They experimented using water colours to recreate the scene where the story started with some fantastic results, please have a look at some of them on Twitter. The Jaguars responded well to their first times tables test, these will take place each Monday, everybody is starting off with the 2 x tables, once they have achieved full marks for 2 consecutive weeks they will move on to the next one. This will be communicated in their blue contact books. There has been some fantastic reading taking place at home, lots of children have been earning their stickers for their bookmarks – keep it up!</p> <p>Our PE days are Monday (indoors) and Thursday (outdoors), the children will need to be able to wrap up warm for outdoor PE and trainers would be preferable if possible. Many thanks for the wellies which have arrived in class so far, we would like to get a full set in so that we can take full advantage of the field during break time. Can I just remind parents that there is no fruit snack provided in KS2 so children need to bring in a healthy snack for break times – they have certainly worked up a hunger by then!</p>
<p><b>YEAR 4: JUNGLE CATS</b></p> 	<p>The class have had a busy week working on rounding in Maths, story writing in English and The Romans in Topic lessons. Next Tuesday Year 4 will be working on a school project with an organisation called Salus. Salus are affiliated with Kent County Council and aim to develop the skills of young people. They have run projects with previous year groups at Headcorn Primary, which has included raising money for the elderly, building a nature garden and developing a recycling scheme. You will have been sent a permission form that needs to be completed by the 24th September. Classes who have participated in previous years have thoroughly enjoyed the experience. As always, if you have any questions or queries please come and speak to a member of the Year 4 Team.</p>
<p><b>YEAR 5: CARACALS</b></p> 	<p>This week year 5 have been working very hard on rounding number and writing about characters. We now have a lovely display of work about Ancient Greece and I am looking forward to seeing all the ways you have found to remember the order of the planets for Monday. On Wednesday we had a lot of fun going to The Lenham School to do trampolining and jumping skills, and came back suitably exhausted.</p> <p>As the weather becomes more autumnal could you please make sure that PE kits contain trainers and jogging bottoms. PE kits should be in all week as lesson may be changed at short notice.</p> <p>We are also still missing some wellington boots, which enable the children to play on the field in more inclement weather.</p>
<p><b>YEAR 6: LIONS</b></p> 	<p>After the rigours of the 11+ and "Bikeability", it seems like normality has returned once again to the Year 6 shores this week. Unhindered by extracurricular appointments, we have made excellent progress with our new class book, "Stay Where You Are and Then Leave" and have delved in to our history learning to discover the many numerous causes of WW1. In the book, however, the main character Alfie discusses games played during this period in time so we naturally went outside to try one of these – Penny Pitch – and afterwards wrote an instruction text on how to play this.</p>

Handily, this also ties in to our homework for next Friday, which is to design a maths game for the class (with bonus points given if it is based on our current learning of place value) and then to write a little accompanying booklet or sheet with instructions. It could be a game for two players or many more, based around a board or cards, it is completely up to you. Whatever you come up with, I look forward to seeing them all in action for Friday's maths lesson.

Have a wonderful weekend!

A gentle reminder that we are needing to put in our final numbers for the Bewl Water Residential visit by the end of next week. If you have not already expressed your interest and paid the £25 deposit please let the office know and make the payment via Scopay as soon as possible.

**Secondary school applications** can be made either online at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola) or by paper which can be downloaded from the website [www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions](http://www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions). The closing date for applications is Thursday, 31 October 2019.