

HEADCORN HEADLINES

Edition: 139

Week Beginning: 04.11.19

URGENCY	GENERAL WHOLE SCHOOL ITEMS				
<p>Head's Lines</p> 	<p>Term 2 has started with a flurry of activity. Well done to Year 3 Jaguar Class for their lovely Sharing Assembly on Thursday. They performed their Egyptian song and shared a wealth of facts and interesting information with their families. Keep an eye on the Diary Dates for the remaining Sharing Assemblies coming up this term Years R, 5 and 6. Year 1 will be holding theirs on Thursday, 7 November at 9.00am in the main hall.</p> <p>The PTFA held a Build a Guy competition and we had 5 super entries from pupils across the year groups. These were voted on by our student body and the winner of a family pass for the Fireworks Display being held this coming Sunday is Lukas Bleckmann from Year 2 Puma Class. Well done. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Fireworks Display on Sunday. The gates open at 4:45pm. Advance purchase tickets are still available from Oldfields Newsagents or at a slightly higher price on the gate. A limited number are printed to ensure that we comply with fire regulations. If you have bought tickets in advance please remember to bring them with you otherwise you will not be able to enter the site.</p> <p>We are all very aware of the difficulties along Kings Road at the moment with the 4-way traffic lights on the junction. Please be considerate with your decisions over whether to drive to school and with parking. Pedestrians also need to increase their vigilance when walking to school and crossing roads. Please keep your children close to you and not running or scooting ahead.</p>				
<p>The week ahead</p>	<p>Mon 4 Nov</p>	<p>Tues 5 Nov</p>	<p>Weds 6 Nov</p>	<p>Thurs 7 Nov</p>	<p>Fri 8 Nov</p>
	<p>School Photographer</p>	<p>Year 3 Trip</p>		<p>Y1 Sharing Assembly 9am YR Phonics Evening 6pm</p>	<p>KS2 Celebration Assembly (Awardees only) <i>(Sunday: Headcorn Remembrance Service)</i></p>
URGENCY	GENERAL WHOLE SCHOOL ITEMS				
<div style="background-color: red; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>	<p>We are getting an increasing number of children arriving late to school. This is disruptive not only to the classes and teachers and the school office but also potentially upsetting and embarrassing for the individual child. Please make a new term's resolution to be dropping your child off by 8.50 at the very latest. If the gates are closed when you arrive you will need to check in at the Office with a Senior Member of Staff who will be monitoring this.</p> <p>Please also remember if you wish to talk to a teacher at drop off you need to arrive by 8.45am at the latest as teachers will return to their classes promptly at 8.50am.</p>				
<div style="background-color: red; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>	<p>The School Photographer will be visiting on Monday 4th November to take individual photographs of the children during the school day. If you have <u>pre-school age</u> children you would like photographed with their older siblings please go to the Keeler building from 8.30 am. Early Years and Year 1 parents can access Keeler building via the green gate in the front car park, Year 2 - 6 parents should come via the KS2 playground.</p>				
<div style="background-color: red; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>	<p>Every Friday over the next four weeks we will be running Enrichment Afternoons for KS1 and KS2. Teachers and TA's will be running a range of activities during the school day that children are able to select from. These activities include knitting, dance, singing, creative writing, acting, percussion, engineering, cross stitch, plus many more. The aim of these afternoons is to give pupils access to a wide variety of activities that they may not have experienced before. If the afternoons are successful we hope to run them again during the year.</p>				
<div style="background-color: yellow; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>	<p>On Monday, 11 November there will be short information meeting about the Year 5 overnight visit to Kench Hill. This trip will be happening on the 2nd-3rd July. The meeting will start after the school day, once the children have been collected and will last for approximately half an hour. Details of the trip plus a chance to ask questions will be offered. If you are unable to attend all information will be forwarded to you.</p>				
<div style="background-color: yellow; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>	<p>On Wednesday, 13 November between 2.30pm and 3.00pm Ms Woodgate will be available to discuss the Relationships and Sex Education curriculum. This is an informal meeting and is an opportunity to look at what each year group will be covering this year. This information is also available on the school website. If you would like to attend, please inform the school office.</p>				

	As you know our order deadline for Christmas Cards closed on Tuesday this week. We hope to get all your orders sent home in book bags by Friday 15th November. Watch this space for any updates! This year the PTFA have raised an amazing £412 from these orders, thank you!! (Late orders can still be made online, these will be posted to your home address so additional postage costs will be incurred).
	The last Messy Church of the year will be on Saturday 23rd November at 2:30pm - 4:30pm , in the Andred Hall (Headcorn Village Hall). There will be a varied selection of art and craft to occupy the children, followed by the usual 'tea', including sandwiches and desert. The theme this time is Advent, which is the season when we are preparing for the coming of Christ. We will also be using the afternoon, to help prepare for the Nativity play on 8 th December (practising the songs etc). Everyone's welcome, so we look forward to seeing you all again soon. From Jane Hatley and the Messy Church Team.
WRAPAROUND CARE	<p>We have had a great first week back in wraparound care and have been lucky with the weather this week so have been able to go outside. The children have really enjoyed playing on the climbing equipment and having a game of football. It's lovely to see them playing and making new friends with children from other years.</p> <p>Breakfast Club: drop off from: 7.30am until 8.10am - £3.00</p> <p>After School Club from end of school until: A. 4.30pm - £5.00 B. 5.15pm - £8.00 C. 6.00pm - £11.00</p>
INDEPENDENT CATERING	Please remember that we operate a NO DEBT POLICY in school and ALL dinners must be booked and paid for in advance . By booking dinners in advance you are also helping teachers to complete class registration quickly and commence teaching.
DIARY DATES	<p>Wed, 20 November: PTFA Meeting 7.30pm @ White Horse Pub Tues, 21 January 2020: PTFA AGM Thurs, 14 November: Y1 Phonics Refresher</p> <p>EARLY YEARS PHONICS EVENINGS Thurs, 7 Nov at 6.00pm</p> <p>CLASS SHARING Thur, 7 November: Y1 sharing to parents/carers from 9.00am via Main Entrance</p> <p>FRIDAY CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES (awardees only):</p> <p>TERMLY BOOK LOOKS Tues, 12 Nov (YR-Y6) from 3.30pm</p> <p>TERMLY LEARNING CONFERENCES Tues, 19 Nov (YR & Y1) afternoon & all year groups eve Tues, 26 Nov (Y2 & Y3) afternoon only Wed, 27 Nov (Y4, Y5 & Y6) afternoon & all groups eve</p> <p>CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS Wed, 4 Dec (YR & Y1) Dress Rehearsal @ 1.45pm (School only) Thu, 5 Dec (YR & Y1) Afternoon Performance @ 1.45pm Fri, 6 Dec (YR & Y1) Evening Performance @ 5.30pm</p> <p>Wed, 11 Dec (Y2 & Y3) Dress Rehearsal @ 1.45pm (School only) Thu, 12 Dec (Y2 & Y3) Afternoon Performance @ 1.45pm Fri, 13 Dec (Y2 & Y3) Evening Performance @ 6pm</p> <p>Fri, 13 Dec Christmas Jumper Day Fri, 13 Dec Christmas Lunch</p> <p>Tue, 17 Dec (Y4, Y5 & Y6) Church Service @ 10am Wed, 18 Dec Christmas Party Day (Non-uniform)</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">PTFA</p>	<p>Christmas Cards</p> <p>As you know our order deadline closed on Tuesday this week. We hope to get all your orders sent home in book bags by Friday 15th November. Watch this space for any updates! This year the PTFA have raised an amazing £412 from these orders, thank you!! (Late orders can still be made online, these will be posted to your home address so additional postage costs will be incurred).</p> <p>Just a quick update from the EGM on Wednesday evening (full minutes to follow):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Constitution was formally adopted. • AGM is planned for Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 7.30pm • The 2019 committee (Lizell, Marie and Karen) will be stepping down and not standing for re-election. This committee has served the PTFA for 2-5 years and proud to have been part of modernising the PTFA, creating a brand/identity within the school, local businesses & resident community, trialled new initiatives and raised lots of money to invest in our children's learning environment. This is a great opportunity for a new team with a fresh approach, skills and contacts to work closely with the school and take the lead on fundraising. Over the coming weeks we will be promoting these roles to the parent community and happy to chat to anyone who is keen to get involved. • Agreed to host an small Elfridge's Secret Present stall at the Headcorn Football Christmas Fair. Helpers are needed to set up and run the stall - Sat 30th November 2pm to 4pm at the Scout Hut. • Volunteers needed to distribute wall calendars over the holidays. • PTFA will provide crackers for Christmas dinner and Christmas Trees as in previous years. Order forms for Reception/Newcomers baubles will go out shortly. • Last meeting of the year is proposed to take place on 20th November 7.30pm at The White Horse Pub <p>Thank you for all your Christmas card, tag and wrapping paper orders!</p> <p>We are looking forward to seeing you at the Fireworks Show on Sunday, gates open at 4.45pm. Advance Purchase Tickets are still available from Oldfields Newsagent or at a slightly higher price on the gate. Hot dogs, Hot Drinks, Crepes and Glow Sticks will be on sale.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SPORT</p> 	<p>Upcoming Sports Events</p> <p>We have two football matches against Sutton Valance and Loose Primary Schools next week. These are both away fixtures, one of which involves our girls' team. We wish both squads the best of luck in representing Headcorn.</p> <p>During November we will also be taking part in Kent School Games Basketball. We did exceptionally well at this event last year, managing to finish runners up and going through to regional playoffs in an effort to represent the Maidstone area at the finals. Hopefully we will see success again this year.</p> <p>PE Kit</p> <p>Please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school. As you are no doubt already aware PE is a very important part of the curriculum and pupils should not be missing lessons due to a lack of kit.</p> <p>Aldi - Get Set, Eat Fresh Campaign</p> <p>A massive thank you to all those parents and carers who donated their sports stickers to help fill up our poster. This entry has now been sent off to AldiUK and we look forward to receiving our free sports kit in the near future which we will put to good use. In addition to this the school has entered the £20,000 prize give away. We were asked to submit a proposal as to how we would spend this prize if we were fortunate enough to win. We decided that we would like to put this money towards the regeneration of our school swimming pool, which reached its 10 year anniversary this summer. Fingers crossed!</p>

<p>EARLY YEARS</p> <p>YEAR RA: CHEETAHS</p>  <p>YEAR RB: LEOPARDS</p> 	<p>Thank you to those of you who have already attended the Phonics talk. We hope you found it beneficial and that it will help you to continue to support your child's/children's learning at home. We look forward to welcoming everyone else on Thursday 7th November at 6pm.</p> <p>This week we have been learning all about the festivals and celebrations that different people celebrate. We have been talking about Diwali and Halloween and have enjoyed a range of craft activities. We have been making Rangoli patterns and carving school grown pumpkins. We have been learning the letter sounds 'i' and 'p' and have been working really hard to pronounce these sounds correctly. If you are unsure how to say the pure sounds correctly, please visit https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/#lg=1&slide=2</p> <p>We are now practising writing our letters every day and trying really hard to blend the letter sounds together to read and write real words. A very helpful activity that some of you may wish to try to help your child to blend, is simply writing down each letter sound that we have learnt (a, m, s, t, i, d and p) and cutting the letters out to make movable tiles. Then simply choose a word to make, such as mat, and encourage your child to slide the correct sounds together. Remember to always sound out the letters in each word to strengthen reading skills.</p> <p>We are continuing to learn and recognise numbers to 10 and have been trying really hard to form all numerals correctly. We are beginning to write our numbers in the correct order, making sure that we do not miss out any numerals.</p>
<p>YEAR 1A: TIGERS</p>  <p>YEAR 1B: LYNX</p> 	<p>What a great start to the new term!</p> <p>We hope you all had a lovely half term, and we were amazed by the incredible robots that you created! (don't forget your children still have another week to make their robots, if they wish) Miss Brook and Mrs Saye would like to say a big thank you to all of those that donated recycling for our junk model robots, we know have plenty and are now ready to go! We have started to read our new book, 'Robot and the Bluebird', and the children are really enjoying learning about the friendship between the characters. The children have also started to use a thesaurus to expand their vocabulary and to use different words in their writing. In Geography, the children have been learning about the seven different continents and found it really interesting, so if you would like to discover this further with your child at home, then please do so. We are still continuing with our reading focus, and we change books twice a week, so please continue to read at home with your child. Please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school and that earrings are removed on these days. Tonight, your child will be bringing home with them a green spelling book; inside will have a list of spellings that they will need to revise and practice for a text the next week. We will hold the spelling test on Thursdays, so your child's spelling book needs to be in by that date. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.</p> <p>We look forward to seeing you at our Sharing Assembly on Thursday, 7 November at 9.00am.</p> <p>Have a lovely weekend!</p>
<p>YEAR 2A: PUMAS</p>  <p>YEAR 2B: PANTHERS</p> 	<p>Welcome back to all our Year 2 families we hope you all had a restful break. We have been busy this week completing our RE topic on caring for others and thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Jewish festival of Sukkot and about Mother Theresa and her amazing contribution to our world. We have also started to look at our new text, 'Halibut Jackson,' and loved our drama lesson where we worked in groups making freeze frames and then creating thought bubble action sheets.</p> <p>In Maths we are continuing to learn different methods to add and subtract. This week we have focused on partitioning using first, Base 10 equipment, then drawing tens and ones before tackling calculations in abstract form.</p> <p>This term our PE sessions have moved to Monday and Tuesday. Monday we have been immersing ourselves in learning dances for our up and coming Nativity. Keep those eyes peeled for costume information coming out in the next few weeks. And on Tuesday we have been impressing Mrs Cavanagh from Lenham School with our amazing gymnastics. We started the unit this week by exploring, stretching, strength moves and balances using different body parts on the benches. We are lucky enough to have both PE sessions indoors this term so no need to wrap up, just yet!</p> <p>Our RWI sessions are going well and as a result of these groups the children will now be coming home with spellings on a Thursday and then tested the following Thursday in their RWI groups. If the children could make sure that their green spelling books are in every Thursday we can ensure that we stick in new spellings and you also get a chance to see how well they did in the test (at the back of their books). Most groups will be sending home a mixture of the sound that they are looking at that week plus a couple of common exception words to learn.</p> <p>Our new topic this term is, 'Superheroes' as our History unit is The Great Fire of London. The children will now have come home with the homework grid and they should endeavor to complete at least one activity this term. Please also keep up the amazing reading and completing activities on Mathletics and Times Table Rockstars.</p> <p>Have a safe weekend and enjoy any firework and bonfire celebrations that you might be celebrating.</p>

<p>YEAR 3: JAGUARS</p> 	<p>Many thanks for everybody who came in to see the children perform their Egyptian song on Thursday, the children really enjoyed performing in front of you all. This week the children imagined they were Howard Carter finding the tomb of Tutankhamun, they created freeze frames (check out Twitter for some photos) in drama and used these to help them to write diary entries. In maths we have been looking at formal column addition, the children have been working on adding numbers which cross the tens' they are trying really hard to remember to add the carried numbers! For outdoor PE this term the children will need to wrap up warm in joggers and a jumper, unless it is raining we will going outside on Thursday afternoons, it would be ideal if they could bring in a pair of trainers in a separate carrier bag in case they get a bit muddy. Next Tuesday is the day of our school trip to Maidstone Museum, the children need to come to school normal time wearing full school uniform please. They need to bring a small bag containing their packed lunch and their water bottle, no spending money is needed, we will return to school in time for normal collection at the end of the day. After our trip we will be moving on to our next topic which is Extreme Earth. Lots of children have been reading regularly and have earned lots of stickers for their bookmarks, keep checking their contact books for the results of their spelling and times tables tests. Many thanks for all of your support at home, have a lovely weekend.</p>
<p>YEAR 4: JUNGLE CATS</p> 	<p>Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely, restful half term. This week, we have been writing to persuade people that pugs really are the best dogs, making 'squash books' full of facts on the Romans, and getting active (and rather muddy) with some tag rugby! I hope your home learning overview for the term found its way home, if not, there is an online version (excluding the spellings) on the school's website. If you need anything to support you with your home learning, feel free to ask! Reading records/Homework diaries will be checked every Tuesday so please ensure these are coming into school, a polite reminder to take them home, rather than leave them in your tray so you can start earning stamps on your 'Starbooks' loyalty card! More reading, more treats! Please keep earning those points on Mathletics, it's wonderful to see the number of children choosing to complete tasks voluntarily, keep it up! Don't forget about Times Table Rockstars as well, we will be doing lots of times-table practise this year and it really does help! All wellies and PE Kits should now be in school. Just a gentle reminder for PE, now we are in the winter months, jogging/tracksuit bottoms and long sleeves will be most appreciated I'm sure, by all the children, as we will still be doing outdoor PE whenever we can!</p>
<p>YEAR 5: CARACALS</p> 	<p>We have had a great start to the term, continuing with our topic of Ancient Greeks and have made a start on producing some Greek pottery. We will hopefully be showing these later in the term. This term, spellings will be organised a little differently. Rather than set lists, children will be allocated spellings based on errors made during in-class assessments. This will aid the spelling in class, and revise key high frequency words. Spellings will therefore be given out on a Wednesday for a Monday test. Please check for the given spellings each week. Those children in spelling groups will continue to be aided in school. On Monday, 11 November there will be short information meeting about the Year 5 overnight visit to Kench Hill. This trip will be happening on the 2nd-3rd July. The meeting will start after the school day, once the children have been collected and will last for approximately half an hour. Details of the trip plus a chance to ask questions will be offered. If you are unable to attend all information will be forwarded to you. Enjoy the fireworks at the weekend and remember to stay safe.</p>
<p>YEAR 6: LIONS</p> 	<p>After having our batteries sufficiently recharged during the half-term break, which I hope everyone thoroughly enjoyed, Year 6 have flown out of the traps at the start of the new term hungry for more learning. "So what better to nourish them on," I hear you ask, "than a hardy diet of long division?" "Good question! Nothing. Nothing at all," would be my imaginary riposte. Indeed, the class have been grappling manfully with this challenge for the entire week and are certainly beginning to show solid progress. Aside from this, we have written an argument in English about whether one of our book's peripheral characters was right or wrong to be a conscientious objector and have enjoyed a Halloween quiz and number challenge. For homework this week, in addition to Mathletics and spellings, I would like the class to make a poster (for an external competition) encouraging drivers to turn their engines off whilst in traffic: we had an assembly recently from the Clean Air Commission, who warned us of the pollutants expelled from cars "idling" outside of schools. I look forward to seeing everyone's interpretation of this. Have a wonderful weekend!</p>