

HEADCORN HEADLINES

Edition: 143

Week Beginning: 02.12.19

URGENCY	GENERAL WHOLE SCHOOL ITEMS				
<p>Head's Lines</p> 	<p>We've had a busy week with two more days of Termly Learning Conferences (TLCs) which were well attended. Thank you for partnering with the school regarding your child's progress. Their target sheets will be sent home with your child so that you are able to support the things that you have agreed to work on with them over the next couple of terms.</p> <p>Thank you to everyone who visited the Book Bus on Wednesday. From your purchases we raised £200 for the school to spend on books for our classrooms. This is in addition to the generosity of the PTFA whose recent fund-raising has enabled us to purchase a beautiful selection of fiction and non-fictions books from The Book People for immediate use in our lessons, classrooms and our library. If you were unable to take part in this opportunity or wish to buy some presents or stocking-fillers, The Book People have a website for you to use. Please log on to their BIG BOOK BOOST https://www.thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost promotional page and select our school as this means that for every £10 spent the school receives £1 to spend!</p> <p>I can't believe that it is 1st December this Sunday. Next week begins the flurry of Christmas performances with the Lower School's (Year R & Year 1) Nativity Productions on Thursday afternoon (1.45pm) and Friday early evening (5.30pm).</p> <p>On Thursday you will have received an Advent Calendar from MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) who we are partnering with again this year. They are the world's largest airline who fly doctors, medicines and people in and out of remote areas across the globe to ensure medical aid is available for all. This MAF Advent Calendar tells you interesting facts about this charity and provides learning opportunities about different countries, cultures, people, etc. There is also an online platform where there are video clips, stories, competitions, activities all introduced by the children's TV presenter, Gemma Hunt. Enjoy!</p>				
<p>The week ahead</p>	<p>Mon 02 Dec</p>	<p>Tues 03 Dec</p>	<p>Weds 04 Dec</p>	<p>Thurs 05 Dec</p>	<p>Fri 06 Dec</p>
	<p>Basketball Tournament</p>			<p>YR/Y1 Afternoon Performance (1.45pm)</p>	<p>KS2 Celebration Assembly YR/Y1 Evening Performance (5.30pm)</p>
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	<p>As we approach the festive season, we would like to encourage pupils to think about those in our wider community who are less fortunate than us. With that in mind, the school office will be collecting this year for the local Food Bank. The Family Food Bank provides support to families who are experiencing financial hardship, meaning they are unable to buy food or are left with a difficult choice between paying for food or other basic necessities. In the main entrance we have placed a box and would welcome any donations of food, toiletries or even small gifts. Contributions will be collected on Friday, 13 December. Further details will follow by separate email.</p> <p>Thank you for your support.</p>				
	<p>Several cases of threadworms have been reported in Key Stage 1. For further information, please see the link below. Children can still be sent into school. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/</p> <p>We also have several cases of Conjunctivitis in school. Bacterial conjunctivitis can be treated with drops from the pharmacy. As with worms, once treated, children can be sent into school.</p>				
	<p>If you are not yet doing so, why not follow the school's Twitter account. This is updated regularly with news and events. You could be missing out on all the fantastic things that go on at Headcorn School!</p>				
	<p>In this week's Headlines please find attached our 'Merry Techy Christmas' guide for your information.</p>				

<p>DIARY DATES</p>	<p>PTFA Tues, 21 January 2020: PTFA AGM</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 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 Fri, 13 Dec Christmas Jumper Day Fri, 13 Dec Christmas Lunch Tue, 17 Dec (Y4, Y5 & Y6) Church Service @ 10am Wed, 18 Dec Christmas Party Day (Non-uniform)</p>
<p>SPORT</p> 	<p>The rearranged Basketball Tournament will take place on Monday 2nd December at The Lenham School. We have been asked to arrive no earlier than 3:45pm to avoid pupils at the Secondary school leaving site at this time.</p> <p>Good luck to all those pupils representing the school! A report will follow in next week's issue of Headlines.</p>
<p>PTFA</p>	<p>Elfridge's Secret Present Stall - tomorrow (Sat 30th) 2pm to 4pm at the Scout Hut. We have lots of lovely gifts from as little at £1.50. Hope to see you there for an afternoon of festive fun and yummy treats hosted by the Headcorn Football Club's Christmas Fair. Other stallholders include Alfie's Wish.</p> <p>Krishna Ladies Night on Saturday 7th December £20 includes a meal and DJ. Tickets are still available from Marie (call 07970 535790) or Ebony in the playgrounds.</p> <p>PTFA AGM - Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 7.30pm. Reviewing the past 12 months and electing a New Committee: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary & Treasurer. This is a fantastic opportunity for a new team with a fresh approach, skills and contacts to work closely with the school and take the lead on fundraising. Please see the attached flyer: 6 Reasons To Get Involved</p> <p>All Christmas cards, wrapping paper and tags orders have now been sent home in school bags. If you have NOT received yours please contact Art Projects for Schools direct on 0800 027 1939 as there may have been a problem with your order.</p> <p>Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help with distributing calendars, Lizell will be in touch over the next week or so.</p>
<p>EARLY YEARS</p> <p>YEAR RA: CHEETAHS</p>  <p>YEAR RB: LEOPARDS</p> 	<p>What a super experience the Book Bus was! The children thoroughly enjoyed their time on the bus, searching for, and immersing themselves in, wonderful stories. We have been very busy perfecting our Nativity dances. Please ensure that you have returned your ticket requests and have your tickets to hand when you come along to our performances on Thursday afternoon and Friday evening. We must have all costumes sent in to school by Monday so that we can have at least one practise wearing our special costumes. After the Thursday afternoon performance, all costumes will be sent home with your child ready for the Friday evening performance. On Friday evening please return your child to school at 5pm, already dressed in their Nativity costume, ready for the performance at 5.30pm.</p> <p>Next week we will be making Autumn trees and talking about seasonal changes and the animals that are preparing for their long winter sleep.</p> <p>As you may be aware, we have already learnt 'c' and 'k' and have now shown children the "special friends" 'ck' ending to words. The words that we have been sounding out and writing include 'tick', 'pick', 'sack', 'sock' and 'kick'. Some children have even been writing simple sentences using these words. Please continue writing and reading at home – it really does make a huge difference.</p>

<p>YEAR 1A: TIGERS</p>  <p>YEAR 1B: LYNX</p> 	<p>The Nativity rehearsals are going well and thank you so much for all the hard work you have put in with the children helping them to learn their lines, making and getting costumes, it really is appreciated! All costumes should now be in, if not can we please request that they are in by Monday 2nd Dec, at the latest. The children have really enjoyed the rhyming poetry we have been exploring and have come up with some fantastic versions of their own. They will now be moving on to some lovely Christmas themed pieces.</p> <p>We will be moving on to exploring shape 2D and 3D until Christmas, any assistance at home with this would be really beneficial to their learning.</p> <p>Finally, we look forward to seeing you all at our Nativity show, the children have worked very hard on this and are excited for you to see them performing on stage! Have a lovely weekend!</p>
<p>YEAR 2A: PUMAS</p>  <p>YEAR 2B: PANTHERS</p> 	<p>Thank you to all that were able to make it to the TLCs over the last couple of weeks. We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing with you the children's work and discussing targets for the following term. Although the end of term may seem some time off, we are certainly ensuring that the last few weeks, on the run down to Christmas, are fun packed. Our Nativity is starting to come together and we have enjoyed a couple of rehearsals with Year 3. Please can all children have their costumes in by Monday (2nd) in a named bag, but please make sure you let us know if you are still having problems sourcing a suitable costume – we may be able to help!</p> <p>We have also been busy this week in PE, continuing to use the apparatus to work in pairs/threes to share balances and pikes. We really are getting the hang of using the apparatus sensibly.</p> <p>In English we have been detectives; studying the body language of the other guests at The Queen's party and their reaction to Halibut Jackson arriving at the party in a strange outfit. We loved using drama and freeze frames to stimulate some excellent first person writing. We also loved the opportunity to venture onto the Reading Bus and we hope that this has inspired the children even further to continue to read and complete their reading bookmarks. In Maths we have been consolidating our understanding of money - using a range of strategies to add and subtract different amounts.</p> <p>In History this week we loved learning about 17th Century jobs – even the gruesome ones. We then had great fun creating our own job adverts for our chosen job, thinking carefully about the skills needed to succeed in this job – even rat catching!</p> <p>Next week we will conclude our RSE sessions by looking at naming body parts and using scientific names. We are always so impressed with how caring both Year 2 classes are but please can we remind children to not swap possessions. We would hate for the children to become upset if they changed their minds over swapping these items.</p> <p>Let's hope we all get to enjoy a slightly less wet weekend. Have fun Year 2 families!</p>
<p>YEAR 3: JAGUARS</p> 	<p>It has been lovely to see so many of you at TLCs over the past two weeks, I have enjoyed sharing your children's progress and discussing their targets with you all. Nativity rehearsals are now beginning to come together and we have been practising with Year 2 this week, could any remaining costumes please come in for Monday 2nd December, please let us know if you need any help at all. In maths we have moved onto looking at multiplication and division by creating equal groups and looking at the idea of repeated addition. We have started exploring our topic of Extreme Earth by looking at the layers of the earth and volcanoes, thank you for all of the fantastic home learning which has been brought into class, there have been some amazing creations! Next week we will be starting our RSE topic and exploring the differences between males and females, naming some body parts and understanding personal space.</p>
<p>YEAR 4: JUNGLE CATS</p> 	<p>I would just like to take the opportunity to commend Year 4 for their resilience, determination and understanding this week during the assessments, which we have all found challenging. It was admirable to witness the compassion, support and encouragement that was shared amongst the children, they picked each other up when they were down and never allowed anyone to feel they didn't do well. It is wonderful to see such maturity. Assessments aside, we have enjoyed learning about different religious festivals and how Christmas is celebrated all over the world, we created stunning chalk pictures of the Northern Lights and designed a prototype for an interactive children's toy. It's back to normal next week, with the exciting addition of the Key Stage 1 Nativity! Please ensure for the upcoming weeks, we are reading regularly and updating our 'Starbooks' loyalty cards and having a go at the 'Soundcheck' on Times-Table Rockstars. Thank you for all the tubes and boxes that have been coming in, please keep them coming as I hope to start our project on Monday. Finally, thank you to all those who attended the TLCs on Wednesday, it was a pleasure to meet everyone. As always, if there is anything further you would like to discuss, please feel free to speak to any member of the Year 4 team.</p>
<p>YEAR 5: CARACALS</p> 	<p>Just a quick reminder about homework diaries. I have asked the children to record in their homework diaries whenever they have read, either at home or school. Ideally they should be reading everyday and recording the title of the book and page numbers. There are lots of opportunities within school, but please encourage them to also to note down when they read at home. Reading to anyone, adults, siblings or even the cat can be really beneficial to their confidence and mastery of reading. Thank you.</p>

**YEAR 6:
LIONS**



It's been another busy week for us over in Keeler. I enjoyed the final round of TLCs on Wednesday and shall look forward to seeing a few more familiar faces now on the playground. As ever, I am always available for a quick chat too if there are any other more questions, updates or concerns. Year 6 have battled valiantly through a gruelling round of tests over the remainder of the week but have lived to tell the tale and will undoubtedly have built a great deal of character in the process.

As we are learning about living things in science, I would like everyone to research the scientist Carl Linnaeus for homework by presenting a number of written bullet points organised under various subheadings: Early Life, Studies, Achievements, Family Life and Later Years, and Contribution to Science. Have a wonderful weekend!