



HEADCORN HEADLINES: Friday 7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year! I hope you had a good Christmas break.



We are all relieved that this new year we have been able to welcome everyone back to school and are not facing another lockdown!

It is at this time of year that we reflect on the year gone by and look forward to the one ahead.

We may be feeling quite negative about last year and yet there is also gold to be found within the days, weeks and months that have passed. If we are not careful we can miss or skim over the treasures as the challenges are all too easily recalled. Not to underplay the struggles that we have all faced one way or another, and there will be ones which are very personal to each of us individually, but let's try to balance that with some of the good memories and successes as well.

I know that there have been times when things for us as a school were quite difficult – particularly the first few months of 2021 – and yet there was a lot to celebrate as well.

I am particularly proud of our children and how they have faced, worked through and overcome yet another year of interruption, challenge, change and anxiety and impact on their wellbeing. After extended time together, they have dealt with separation from family, have worked hard to 'catch up' with missed learning, in some cases had to rebuild friendships after time apart, faced anxiety and worry and yet we have been so impressed with their resilience, their determination and their positivity. Their cheerful smiling faces and a happy outlook on life have kept us all going. We can learn a lot from them!



As we begin 2022, we need to be kind to ourselves. The year ahead is an unknown and, after the last couple of years, that can instil fear, anxiety and worry. I love this quote as it makes me think with a different perspective: **'Worry is a misuse of imagination.'** I aim to use my imagination more this year rather than worry – easier said than done, I know, but I want to give it a try!

Another quote that inspires me to get started on things is this: **'A year from now you will wish you had started today.'** I look back at 2021 and there are things both personally and professionally that I feel this way about. How great would it be if we can look back at the end of this year and be proud of all that we have overcome and achieved in 2022!



Have a lovely weekend.
Miss Symonds



Drop Off reminder

Please can parents and carers see their children safely onto the school site and hand them over to the Main School Office after the morning gates close. We have had an increasing number of children entering site alone after the gates have been closed. This is a matter of safeguarding your child to ensure they are safely in our care before you leave our site. Other than Year 6, with written permission from parents/carers, all children must be dropped off and collected by an adult.

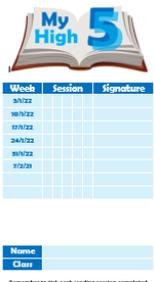
Financial Support for Families

Funding is available if you are a Maidstone resident and you require support with regards to rent or mortgage arrears, utility bills, Council Tax or support to be able to stay in your home. Please see attached poster for ore details. If you require any help accessing this grant please do not hesitate to contact Mr Benfield, our Family Liaison Officer (FLO), who can provide confidential guidance and support.



Assemblies

Every day the children have assemblies that are aimed at developing their understanding of the wider world, sharing our core values, and encouraging self-reflection. Next week we are concentrating on our core value of **Inclusion**, as we celebrate **'World Religions Day'**. Taking time to share stories, traditions, and beliefs about a range of different religions.



My 5 High 5

Congratulations to Pallas Cats who won the most reading points for Term 2 and are our Reading Champions! Everybody should have come home with their new My 5 High 5 bookmarks for this term, remember every time your child reads either independently or shared with you they can record it with a tick. The bookmark needs to be signed at the end of the week and your child's class teacher will collect in the data. In assembly, the children were all sharing with me their new books they received for Christmas so hopefully they have been busy this week filling up those book marks!

Happy Reading!

Morning Snacks Reminder!

We can allow:

- Any fresh fruit
- Dried fruit e.g. raisins, apricots, etc
- Vegetables e.g. carrots, peppers, mini tomatoes
- Fruit alternatives such as fruit winders
- Breadsticks
- Small cheese portion e.g. BabyBel



If your child gets hungry, they are able to bring a couple of the above items. Unfortunately, they will not be allowed to eat crisps, sandwiches or other items not on the above list from their packed lunch boxes.

PLEASE REMEMBER: We are a **NUT-FREE site** as we have some children with serious nut allergies.

Video Recordings of Nativity Assemblies

We are very disappointed to inform parents and carers that due a number of technical and quality problems, we are unable to share the Nativity Assembly video recordings. A lot of time has been spent trying to resolve these problems over the Christmas Holiday, sadly without success.

We hope that this does not cause too much disappointment for families.

PTFA Update:

Happy New Year from Headcorn School PTFA.

We want give a huge thank you to Lizell Williams and David Gardner for organising the Headcorn wall calendar this year.

Thanks to the 23 families who helped hand deliver the 1750 calendars to homes and businesses in Headcorn over the holidays and thanks to the local businesses for their continued support & wish them growing success. A huge **£1300** was made and proceeds directly benefit the pupils.

We have our first meeting of the year on 19/1/2022. We are going to stick to zoom for now and will send out the code nearer the date.

Looking forward to planning some more great events in 2022.