



## HEADCORN HEADLINES: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Today is **Red Nose Day**. Thank you to everyone who has generously donated to this cause through our non-uniform day.



Thank you to each family who has booked and attended their child's **Parent Teacher Consultation**. These have been really positive. It is unfortunate that we have had a significant number of bookings made where parents or carers did not attend. The time of our teachers is precious, as is yours. I find this lack of attendance, without notification of being unable to attend, quite disrespectful to both the teachers and other parents/carers. These sessions could have been used by others who were on the waiting lists. If you are going to sign up to a session, please put it in your diary. If you are unable to attend, please make contact so we can offer your session to someone else.

**We continue to be significantly impacted by sickness among our pupils and our staff.** This absence is not just due to Covid but many other nasty bugs whipping through the school. Just a reminder that if your child **vomits or has diarrhoea**, whether it is one solitary bout or more than that, we have to insist that **you do not send your child back to school for 48 hours**. This week we have been very close to having to make the decision to close a couple of year groups and teach online due to staff absence.

Take care, stay healthy and enjoy the sunshine this weekend!

Miss Symonds



### **A Polite Reminder!**

The staff at Headcorn Primary School genuinely care and go the extra mile to ensure your child is happy, safe and able to learn and make progress. We like to work in partnership with parents/carers and not in an adversarial way.

Unfortunately we are having a number of parents and carers speaking quite disrespectfully to our staff face to face, in public, as well as by email or by phone. I understand that incidents, concerns, injuries, friendship issues, academic challenges, etc can be very distressing and emotional, and we are in no way playing down any upset over your concerns, however there are ways of addressing these things in a respectful, non aggressive way that doesn't result in people feeling distressed, threatened or belittled.

There are protocols in place for you to be able to gain clarification for matters that concern you:

Options are:

1. Speak calmly and respectfully to staff on duty at drop off and collection.
2. Write an email or letter so that your concerns are documented and can be directed to the appropriate member of staff.
3. Make an appointment to speak to a member of staff regarding your concerns either by phone or face to face.

Whichever method you choose to use you need to remember the following:

1. You must speak or write politely. I will not accept my staff or myself to be spoken to in an aggressive or disrespectful manner.
2. Even though you speak to one particular person initially your concern may be passed on to someone more appropriate for it to be dealt with.
3. Allow time for us to look into your concerns.
4. Understand that there are always other viewpoints to consider in addition to your own or your child's.
5. We are all wanting to bring resolution to your concerns to ensure that your child is happy, safe and able to learn and make good progress.



### 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 will be talking about the festival of Easter.



### PTFA Update:

**Mother Day Gifts** - Treat that special person in your life with our beautiful candle holders - please visit <https://www.headcornschoolptfa.org.uk/shop/> to order (photos on site). Sales will close midnight Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March and they will come home with children on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

**Donut Sale!** On Friday 1st April we'll be selling boxes of 6 or 12 Krispy Kreme doughnuts after school to raise funds for the Year 6 end of term activities.

6 doughnuts for £5

12 doughnuts £10

**Pre-orders only** before Thursday 24th March

<https://www.headcornschoolptfa.org.uk/product/krispy-kreme-boxes/>

**Coming soon** - in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee we are excited to launch our personalised Headcorn Primary tea towels with the children's self-portraits next week. More details to follow.

### Dates for your diary:

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 8pm - AGM and meeting in the school hall**

Come and vote in the new committee for 2022 and have a drink with us.

**May Fair 2022 – Bank Holiday Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May on Days Green 12 – 4pm**

We will be asking for volunteers to help us in the lead up and on the day. More info to follow shortly.

Stalls still available.

Advert in our programme (distributed to 1500 homes in the local area) are still available. Prices start at £20.

Contact [info@headcornptfa.ork.uk](mailto:info@headcornptfa.ork.uk)

### The Ukraine

We understand that the news of **the war in Ukraine** and the devastating impact of this on this country's people is a challenging one for us as adults to make sense of and even more so for our children. We are using resources shared with us by the Local Authority to speak to the children at appropriate times. These website links may be of some help to those families who are having these conversations at home:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/blogs/2022/how-to-talk-to-children-about-war>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/60662417>

[War in Ukraine: What do all the words mean?](#)

[Advice if you're upset by the news](#)

[How to spot misleading stories online about Ukraine crisis](#)



## Next week's curriculum overview



### Year R Cheetah & Leopard Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus

English: Writing sentences using our new letter sounds

Maths: Composing and decomposing numbers, understanding that a whole is made up from smaller parts

Topic: Making 3D penguins and thinking about classification facts



### Year 1 Tiger & Lynx Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus

English: SPaG week! Exploring spelling, punctuation and grammar in our writing

Maths: Continuing on with Weight and Volume & finding out how this is measured

Science: Creating a pollinators garden for Bees & exploring how flowers grow



**Year 2 Puma & Panther Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus**

Maths: Recapping telling the time to o'clock, half past and quarter past and quarter to  
English: Writing a recount of our planting and practising using adverbs  
Science: The children are so excited to see their seed grow!



**Year 3 Jaguar & Pallas Cat Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus**

Maths: NFER Assessments and introducing perimeter  
English: NFER Reading Assessments, features of a newspaper article and beginning their own report about the arrival of the Space-Bat-Angel-Dragon in The Iron Man  
Other subjects: Mighty Muscles in Science



**Year 4 Jungle Cat & Cougar Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus**

Maths: Fractions and decimals  
English: Effective and impactful vocabulary & emotive poetry  
Other subjects: 'The Mulberry Tree' by Van Gogh, investigating Sutton Hoo and sound fact-files



**Year 5 Caracal Class: Next Week's Curriculum Focus**

Maths: Assessment  
English: Planning for Big Write Foundation  
Other subjects: William Morris and Shang Dynasty



**Year 6 Lion Class: Next Week's Curriculum Focus**

Maths: We are moving on to look at angles in shapes  
English: Our reading focus for this week is three mark answer questions  
Science: We will be looking at what makes a healthy lifestyle