



HEADCORN HEADLINES: Friday, 17 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to everyone who supported the Remembrance Service held on the High Street on Sunday. It was a special atmosphere and it was wonderful to see so many of our school's children representing us in all the different clubs, troops and community groups as well as our School Council parading through the village and laying a wreath on behalf of our school. They all displayed commendable reverence and respect. Their solemnity and maturity during this important event was truly gratifying, making us incredibly proud of their conduct and representation.



It was lovely to see everyone in their **Odd Socks Day** on **Monday** for **Anti-bullying week**.

Thanks to everyone who donated to our **Children in Need** collection! Thank you for your donations - we've raised over **£250!** We had a blast with the **'Dance Dash' group from Homewood School**. These talented youngsters toured local schools all day, showcasing their dance skills and raising funds for this fantastic charity.

Today we also had individual and sibling photographs with 2 photographers clinking away in both our halls. Don't worry if your child was absent today as they have agreed to pop back on a future date to catch those who couldn't be here today.



Have a lovely weekend!
Miss Symonds

Dates for your Diary:

Wednesday 6th December: Inclusion Coffee Morning from 9.30am

Friday 8th December: Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 12th December: Year R Nativity @ 2pm

Wednesday 13th December: Year 2 Nativity @ 2pm & Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14th December: Year 3&4 Church Service @ 10am

Thursday 14th December: Year 5&6 Church Service @ 11am

Thursday 14th December: Year 1 Nativity @ 2pm

Friday 15th December: End of Term 2 / Christmas Party Day!

Tuesday 2nd January 2024: Start of Term 3

NB Please see the calendar on our website for a full set of dates: www.headcorn.kent.sch.uk



Year R September 2024 Primary Admissions

Please remember to complete your sibling application by **Monday 15 January 2024**. Applications can be made at www.kent.gov.uk/ola. If you are unable to access the online site, an alternative format can be requested by emailing kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk. Please see attached poster for further details.

Inclusion Coffee Morning

The Inclusion Team's next Coffee Morning will take place on Wednesday 6th December at 9.30am. We will be joined by Louise Mayhew, an Independent Speech and Language Therapist from Maidstone and The Weald Functional Communication. Louise will be sharing information on Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) and answering questions you may have around speech, language and communication. As it will be practically Christmas by then, we will have some hot drinks and festive treats for everyone! This Coffee Morning is open to all of our school community and anyone is welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!



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's assemblies are all about kindness and the power of our words. Following on from our Anti-Bullying Week, we'll explore how simple acts of kindness and the words we use can make a big difference. Join us as we discover together how our words have the ability to shape a kinder, better world.

OPAL Update



We are very lucky to have a fabulous field at Headcorn School for the children to play on all through the winter months. They really enjoy being able to use the Opal equipment out there, get some fresh air and play. However, with more than four hundred and twenty pairs of smallish feet (plus quite a few adult ones) churning it up, the field does get very, very muddy.

Because our tarmacked outdoor space is limited, one of our school uniform requirements is a pair of named wellies for each child, so they can join in at lunch time with their friends and not bring mud and puddles into their learning spaces. As the weather gets wetter and colder, if they do not already have a pair of wellington boots in school, please can your child bring in a named pair as soon as possible. We do go outside in most weathers, so a named warm and/or waterproof coat and named hats/scarves/gloves, as appropriate, are also very much appreciated.



E-Safety Update – Online Influencers

Greetings! As we continue to witness the dynamic landscape of our children's digital experiences, it's crucial for us as parents and educators to stay informed about the various influences shaping their lives. One such impact that has gained significant prominence is the role of online influencers.



In collaboration with the National College for Parents, we are pleased to share valuable insights on understanding and managing the impact of online influencers. The National College has provided an insightful guide that delves into this topic, offering practical tips and strategies (please see attached).

Understanding the Influence:

Online influencers, with their vast reach on platforms like YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok, play a substantial role in shaping trends, opinions, and even lifestyle choices among our children. It's essential for us to be aware of the content our children consume and the potential impact these influencers may have on their behaviour and attitudes.

Key Takeaways from the Guide:

The guide from the National College for Parents explores the following key areas:

Digital Literacy:

Equip your child with the skills to critically assess online content. The guide provides practical advice on fostering digital literacy to help children navigate the online world responsibly.

Open Communication:

Establishing open lines of communication with your child is crucial. Learn how to initiate conversations about the content they encounter online and encourage them to share their thoughts and concerns.

Setting Boundaries:

Discover effective strategies for setting appropriate boundaries on screen time and the types of content your child engages with. The guide offers practical tips for creating a balanced digital environment at home.

At Headcorn Primary School, we are committed to supporting you in navigating the challenges of parenting in the digital age. If you have any questions or would like further guidance, feel free to reach out to our dedicated staff.

Thank you for being part of our ongoing partnership in fostering a safe and enriching environment for all pupils at Headcorn School.

Sports Update



Headcorn School's football team showcased their skill and determination at the PASS Maidstone Football Tournament hosted by Greenfields Community School on Friday, November 10. The tournament featured 19 schools from the Maidstone area, and Headcorn School's team, competing in Group 4, left a lasting impression with their outstanding performance.

In the group stage, Headcorn faced tough competition, but their resilience prevailed. They kicked off their campaign with a narrow 1-0 victory over Brunswick House, displaying precision and teamwork on the field. The second match against Roseacre ended in a hard-fought draw, highlighting the team's ability to stand strong in challenging situations. The final group stage match saw Headcorn in top form as they defeated Tiger School convincingly with a 4-0 scoreline.

Advancing to the quarterfinals, Headcorn faced another tight contest against Sandling Primary School. The match ended in a 1-1 draw, leading to a thrilling penalty shootout. Headcorn's players showcased nerves of steel, securing victory in the shootout, and securing their spot in the semi-finals.

In the semi-final clash, Headcorn School's football team put up a valiant effort, but they were narrowly beaten 0-1. Despite the loss, their journey in the tournament showcased their talent and determination, ultimately earning them a commendable 4th place out of the 19 participating schools in the Maidstone area.

Heartfelt congratulations to all the players who participated, demonstrating exceptional football skills and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. The Headcorn School community extends its gratitude to the parents who braved the mud and pouring rain to support the team, showing unwavering encouragement from the sidelines.

This tournament has not only been a test of athletic ability but a celebration of teamwork, perseverance, and the spirit of sportsmanship. Headcorn School is proud of its football team for their achievements in the PASS Maidstone Football Tournament and looks forward to more exciting sports endeavours in the future.

PTFA News

- Last chance to buy Quiz & Fizz tickets for tomorrow-get in before midnight & come along for a great night of quizzing, dancing, fun & laughter! Teams of 4 or 8, follow the link,



<https://www.headcornschoolptfa.org.uk/product/quiz-and-fizz-tickets/> Bring your own nibbles, bar on site-cash & card available. Those of you who are coming, we can't wait to see you!

- Have you ordered your child's Christmas artwork yet? Get in before midnight Monday 20 November & save yourself 10%, as well as earning 20% for the school! Follow the link, search for your child's art & choose your products. Be sure to put 'HEADCORN' in the box at checkout to get your 10% off.
<https://mychildsart.co.uk/find-artwork?username=Headcorn&access-code=z7NopJPO>
- If you are having any trouble with finding your child's artwork, give the company a call on 01530 887650- they are really helpful & can hopefully solve any issues you are having.

Kings Road Parking and Polite Road Use

Please be mindful of where you park and navigating the narrower parts of Kings Road. The road users have found it challenging when, due to the places that people are parking, it unfortunately makes the road become single lane passage. This then causes motorists to have to mount the path to squeeze by.



Please remember that single yellow lines allow for parking but it is restricted to certain times. We have a 'No Parking' restriction between 8am and 4pm. Please remember that road markings are there for everyone's safety.

Next Week's Curriculum Overview

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



Maths: Investigating part-part-whole relations (that numbers can be made by combining parts in different ways (eg 4 is made of 3 and 1, 2 and 2 etc).

Topic: Traditional Tales – bridge building for the Three Billy Goats Gruff and exploring shapes to create palaces for Cinderella.

Literacy: Learning to read and write the following sounds. Please follow the links to online videos below to watch with your child at home to reinforce the new sounds and increase fluency and speed.

Mrs Day's and Miss Gelder's groups:

'y' <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xOlw4XTb/7VUTd43F>

'w' <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/68vnLBEH/wnLZpXtD>

'z' <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LrkTFAKh/Qe3sFpEK>

Mrs Griffith's and Miss Young's groups:

'sh' <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/g17iwIUt/AjkhVkvK>

'th' <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BdQn4lyx/LG1FYJfD>

'ch' <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/eHVwyxe0/o8TRo8F3>

'qu' <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kGQ7ezLZ/3RIQcHai>

'ng' <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/p2aMGxhE/3EclV4vb>

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



Maths: We will be exploring 3D shape- using mathematical vocabulary to describe their properties.

English: We will be exploring a variety of different poems performed by different poets. We will then be writing our own poems about the African Savannah.

D&T: We will be designing our own junk-modelling shelters for a pet based on criteria. Please could you send any clean, dry cardboard recycling that the children could use to make their junk modelling shelters. Please note that all recycling will be stored in one place and therefore we cannot guarantee your child will use your recycling. Thank you!

Read Write Inc: Please use the following links to recap sounds that your child has learnt in their phonics group this week:

Mrs Tucker, Miss England and Mr Allen's group:

[The sound 'ow'](#), [the sound 'oi'](#) and [the sound 'a-e'](#)

Miss Buxton's group: [The sound 'w'](#) and [The sound 'sh'](#)

Mrs Robin's group: [the sound 'ire'](#), [the sound 'ew'](#) and [the sound 'ai'](#)

Miss Arthur's group: [the sound 'ew'](#), [the sound 'oa'](#) and [the sound 'ai'](#)

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



English: Continuing to read our class text 'Leaf' and completing writing activities based around this.

Maths: We will be recognising 2D and 3D shapes and some properties including vertices, sides and edges. Remember to complete set tasks on Sumdog.

Other: In science we will be continuing our habitats topic. We will be learning about different animal habitats and what they need to survive. Please use the following links to recap sounds that your child has learnt in phonics this week:

Read, Write, Inc. links- please practise the sounds from your child's RWI group









Miss Buxton's group: [The sound 'w'](#) and [The sound 'sh'](#)

Miss Hynes' group: [The sound 'ie'](#), [The sound 'ue'](#), [The sound 'are'](#) and [The sound 'ear'](#)

Miss Harman's group: [The sound 'ar'](#) and [The sound 'air'](#)

Mrs Foweraker's group: [The sound 'ir'](#), [The sound 'ou'](#) and [The sound 'oy'](#)

Mrs Baldock's group: [The sound 'er'](#), [The sound 'aw'](#) and [The sound 'air'](#)

 	<p><u>Year 3 Jaguar & Pallas Cat Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus</u></p> <p>English: This week they will write an Iron Man Menu using alliteration and descriptive phrases with adjectives, visualise and describe imaginary places described in the text and write a skeleton plan to describe a chapter using what, where, when, who and why questions.</p> <p>Maths: We will be revising our 2 and 5 timetable, as well as exploring equal groups and using these to solve division challenges.</p> <p>History: Having learnt all about The Bronze Age the children will learn how the Bronze Age ended! We will be encouraging them to use their knowledge and inquiry skills to give reasons for the end of this famous era in History.</p> <p>Design Technology: The children really enjoyed peeling and cooking potatoes this week! This week we will focus on vegetable healthy options and make vegetable crisps from a range of root vegetables using their new skills and knowledge of cooking safety.</p> <p>Phonics: click on the sounds to find the phonics video for your child's phonics group.</p> <p>Miss Brook's group: ar (car) and or (door)</p> <p>Mrs Scanlan/Mrs Young's group: o-e (phone) and u-e (huge)</p> <p>Miss Reygate's group: oo (zoo) and oo (book)</p>
 	<p><u>Year 4 Jungle Cat & Cougar Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus</u></p> <p>Maths: We will be applying the 11 and 12 times tables and division facts – so keep practising them at home.</p> <p>English: In English we are learning to write instructions.</p> <p>Other: In Computing we are continuing to programme Micro-Bits. In DT we are taste tasting a range of healthy snacks. Please let the school office know if your child has any new allergies. The children have also asked us to pass on an exciting App that we have been using to explore sound called, 'The Human Body' by Tinybop.</p> <p>Phonics: click on the sounds to find the phonics video for your child's phonics group.</p> <p>Miss Brook's group: ar (car) and or (door)</p> <p>Mrs Scanlan/Mrs Young's group: o-e (phone) and u-e (huge)</p> <p>Miss Reygate's group: oo (zoo) and oo (book)</p>
 	<p><u>Year 5 Caracal & Snow Leopard Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus</u></p> <p>Maths: We will be doing our final week on fractions, working on subtracting.</p> <p>English: We will be doing some performance poetry.</p> <p>Science: We will be making parachutes and looking at air resistance.</p>
 	<p><u>Year 6 Lion & Ocelot Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus</u></p> <p>Maths: we will be dividing fractions and finding fractions of amounts</p> <p>English: we will be writing and editing our newspaper reports.</p> <p>Other: DT- On Wednesday 22nd, Y6 are being visited by the amazing Wild Classroom, and will be cooking with fire, making delicious pasta dishes and homemade bread.</p> <p>Please make sure your child has a coat on Wednesday as, although under shelter, we will be outside!</p>