



HEADCORN HEADLINES: Friday, 24 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

The weather has certainly turned to be much colder and certainly unpredictably wet at unexpected times throughout the day.

Please send your child in with their coat even if it seems like it might be dry! We also need everyone to have a pair of wellies as our site is becoming increasingly more muddy.



Our **Christmas Trees** have arrived and will soon be displaying all the names of our children on beautiful purple baubles. A big **THANK YOU** to our **PTFA** for providing us with these lovely decorations each year. We have one in the main lobby which has EYFS names on it, one in Bevan Hall with Year 1, 2 and 6 names on it (as they have their lunch in there) and another in Keeler with Year 3, 4 and 5 names on it. The children love to hunt for their names on the trees.

As we hurtle towards our **Christmas week** (the last week of term), Nativity rehearsals are starting to happen. Watch this space for more information about tickets. KS2 are busy perfecting their songs and readings for their Carol Services being held in St Peter and St Paul Church in the last week. More information coming out soon about supporting us walking children over to the church if you'd like to attend these services. See the Dates for your Diary section below for days and times for these events.

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 focused on St. Andrew's Day, celebrating Scotland's patron saint. We'll delve into Scottish culture, traditions, and the significance of this day. It's a chance for our students to learn about a different heritage and understand its importance.



E-Safety Update Festive Tech...

As the festive season approaches, many families are considering electronic devices as potential Christmas gifts. In a world increasingly reliant on technology, it's crucial to make informed choices to ensure the safety and well-being of our children. To assist you in making the right decisions, we've gathered valuable insights from the Internet Matters website (<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/tech-guide/#choose-guide>), a trusted resource for online safety.

Understanding the Importance of Informed Choices:

Electronic devices, such as smartphones, tablets, and gaming consoles, can bring immense joy and educational benefits. However, it's essential to balance the excitement with a mindful approach to ensure the devices are age-appropriate and equipped with safety features.

Navigating the Options:

Internet Matters provides an insightful Tech Guide to help parents and guardians navigate the myriad of electronic devices available in the market. This comprehensive guide offers valuable information on choosing the right device based on your child's age, interests, and developmental stage.

Key Considerations:

Age-Appropriate Content: Ensure that the device and its associated content are suitable for your child's age group. Many devices come with parental controls and settings that allow you to restrict access to inappropriate content.

Online Safety Features: Look for devices that prioritize online safety. Internet Matters emphasizes the importance of choosing gadgets with built-in safety features and tools to protect children from potential online risks.

Privacy Settings: Protect your child's privacy by understanding and configuring the device's privacy settings. Internet Matters provides guidance on how to manage privacy settings effectively.

Balancing Screen Time: It's crucial to strike a balance between screen time and other activities. The website offers insights into managing screen time responsibly and promoting a healthy digital lifestyle.

Educating Your Child:

In addition to choosing the right device, it's essential to educate your child about online safety. Internet Matters provides valuable resources on how to talk to your child about online risks and foster a responsible approach to technology use.

Staying Connected:

As a school community, let's stay connected and share our experiences. If you come across any useful tips or insights, feel free to share them within our school community. Together, we can create a safe and supportive environment for our children to thrive in both the physical and digital worlds.

PTFA News



- A huge thank you to those of you that came and enjoyed the Quiz & Fizz last weekend. We haven't finished adding up the money yet, but will let you know as soon as we can how much we raised! Most importantly though, everyone had a great time. We have received some really positive feedback and look forward to arranging the next social event-keep your eyes peeled!
- The PTFA funded Christmas trees arrived yesterday so thank you in advance to our team of volunteers who will decorate them next week and to Zanna, who has written the names of new members of the school on their personalised baubles!
- Are you wanting to see Santa in the village this year? Santa will be here Sunday 3rd Dec so book your slot at Bake My Day's Grotto-£5/child. Pop into the shop for more details & to buy your ticket!
- Don't forget our AGM that will be held WEDNESDAY 24 JAN, in the SCHOOL HALL at 8PM! Come along to meet us and hear what we have planned for the next year-get involved as much as you are able/want to, there is no pressure for commitment! There will be drinks and nibbles!
- We will be looking for new committee members in January, so if you do think this is something you would be interested in, come and find us for a chat anytime, or email us at info@headcornschoolptfa.org.uk for more information. We look forward to hearing from you! We are a friendly team who have lots of fun while raising vital funds for the school, so come and get involved! There are plenty of ways to get involved without a huge commitment-promise!

Messy Church

Saturday, 25 November. Free entry, all welcome, although children must be accompanied by an adult. We will be making Pizza for tea and getting ready for Christmas with Crafts and stories. Please see attached poster.

Next Week's Curriculum Overview



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

Maths: This week, the children will continue to engage with activities that draw attention to the purpose of counting – to find out 'how many' objects there are.

Literacy: Using our letter sounds to write sorry cards from Goldilocks.

Topic: Making clay bowls for 'The Three Bears'.

Read Write Inc. links:

Mrs Griffith's and Miss Young's groups:

[The sound qu](#)

[Fred Talk for the sound qu](#)

[The sound ng](#)

[Fred Talk for the sound ng](#)

[The sound nk](#)

[Fred Talk for the sound nk](#)

Mrs Day's and Miss Gelder's groups:

[The sound x](#)

[The sound sh](#)

[Fred Talk for the sound sh](#)

[Recapping the sound j](#)



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

English: Now we are at the halfway point of our story 'How To Be a Lion' we will be writing our predictions for the end of the story!

Maths: We will be continuing with our shape topic, naming and sorting 2D shapes. We will then move on to making patterns using 2D and 3D shapes.

Science: We will be identifying, classifying and sorting everyday objects based on their properties and materials.

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 Miss Buxton's group:

[the sound 'd'](#), [the sound 'g'](#) and [the sound 'p'](#)

Mr Allen's group:

[the sound 'ee'](#), [the sound 'igh'](#) and [the sound 'oo'](#)

Mrs Robin's group:

the [the sound 'ire'](#), [the sound 'ear'](#) and [the sound 'ure'](#)

Miss Arthur's group:

[the sound 'ure'](#), [the sound 'are'](#) and [the sound 'ear'](#)



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

Maths: NFER assessments. Please complete set work on Sumdog to help consolidate learning on shape.

English: NFER reading assessments

DT: we will be making Eton Mess! Please see previous email and let us know if your child has any allergies. If your child has lines for the nativity, we would be grateful if you could encourage them to practise these at home.









Other: We will be recapping our learning in history and reminding ourselves about the significant people that we have learnt about such as Rosa Parks, Louis Pasteur, Neil Armstrong, Martin Luther King, Emmeline Pankhurst and Isatou Ceesay.

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

Miss Buxton's group: [The sound 'th'](#) and [the sound 'ch'](#)

Miss Hynes' group: [The sound 'ear'](#) and [the sound 'ure'](#)

Miss Harman's and Mrs Baldock's group: [The sound 'ir'](#), [the sound 'ou'](#) and [the sound 'oy'](#)

	<p>Mrs Foweraker's group: The sound 'ea' and the sound 'oi' Other: In DT we will be making Eton Mess! Please see previous email and let us know if your child has any allergies. If your child has lines for the nativity, we would be grateful if you could encourage them to practise these at home.</p>
 	<p><u>Year 3 Jaguar & Pallas Cat Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus</u> English: We will become Iron Man Newspaper Reporters this week . Researching the features of a Newspaper report in preparation for writing their own, developing their use of inquiry using: what, where, when, who and why questioning. Maths: We will be moving on to the 3 and 4 times tables: dividing and multiplying. Topic: After investigating the demise of the Bronze Age we will now begin to learn about The Iron Age. Design Technology: The children have designed a sweet Taco recipe and will make and eat one this week. Please ensure that school is aware of any food allergies in preparation for this. Miss Brook's group: ar (car) and or (door) Mrs Scanlan/Mrs Young's group: o-e (phone) and u-e (huge) Miss Reygate's group: oo (zoo) and oo (book)</p>
 	<p><u>Year 4 Jungle Cat & Cougar Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus</u> Maths: 12 times table and division facts and multiplying by 1 and 0 English: Writing a letter based on The Great Depression Other: In DT designing a package for a healthy snack, in History learning about King Athlestan and in RE learning about Christingle. Please remember to bring in an orange for our RE lesson. Many Thanks for your continued support. Miss Brook's group: ar (car) and or (door) Mrs Scanlan/Mrs Young's group: o-e (phone) and u-e (huge) Miss Reygate's group: oo (zoo) and oo (book)</p>
 	<p><u>Year 5 Caracal & Snow Leopard Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus</u> English: we will be developing our SPaG and applying it within our writing. Maths: we will be recapping fractions History: learning about Fu Hao and how important she was.</p>
 	<p><u>Year 6 Lion & Ocelot Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus</u> Maths: NFER assessments English: We will be writing haiku poetry linked to Pig Heart Boy. Other: We will be carrying out our heart rate investigations in Science and recording our results!</p>