



HEADCORN HEADLINES: Friday, 26 April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

This week we held a special assembly inviting the outgoing Mayor of Maidstone in to speak to the children about his role, to celebrate with us our school's 150th birthday and to say thank you to two special Governors who have served our school and its community significantly over the years.

Rev'd Fiona Haskett has been a big part of our school for the entirety of her time serving at St Peter's & St Paul's C of E Church. She has delivered numerous assemblies, welcomed us into the church for many Easter and Christmas services and supported visits which are linked to our RE topics. As well as this she has served as a Governor for much of this time. As you may be aware, Fiona is retiring later this year and we wanted a chance to celebrate her and thank her for her support, encouragement, wisdom and many an interesting talk!

Mrs Lyn Selby has served as a Governor for 40+ years...beating even Mr Keeler...as she was Chair of Governors for many years as well. Lyn has seen the school through so many significant periods of change as well as welcoming school visits to her farm! We found out that it was down to Lyn's petitioning that there isn't now a cul-de-sac built on our school field!

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Symonds

Dates for your Diary:

Mon 6th May: May Bank Holiday & Headcorn PTFA May Fair on Days Green!

Mon 13th – Thu 16th May: Year 6 KS2 SATs Week

Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd May: Parent Teacher Consultations (PTCs): 3.45 – 6pm

Friday 24th May: End of Term 5

Monday 3rd June: INSET Day 5 (No children in school)

Tuesday 4th June: Start of Term 6

Week beg 4th & 10th June: Year 4 MTCs (Multiplication Tables Check)

Week beginning 10th June: Year 1 Phonics Screening & Year 2 Phonics retakes

Monday 17th June: Sports Day

Wednesday 19th June: RESERVE Sports Day (if unsuitable weather)

Friday 21st June: Year 6 Leavers' Performance @ 6pm

Tuesday 23rd July: End of Term 6 / End of Year



NB These dates are also available on the calendar on our website: www.headcorn.kent.sch.uk

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 at our school will centre around the festival of Passover, celebrated by the Jewish community. We will delve into the traditions, customs, and stories that make this festival meaningful. Join us as we learn about the significance of Passover together!



Music of the Week



Each week, we're inviting members of our school staff to share their favourite songs and music with the children during assembly time. Next week we have Mrs Randall's choice of Fatboy Slim's Right here, right now.

Want to hear it at home? [https://youtu.be/ B943OFIHVs](https://youtu.be/B943OFIHVs)

Dealing with Fake News

In today's digital age, where information is just a click away, it's more important than ever to be vigilant about the content we consume online. With the rise of social media and instant messaging platforms, the spread of misinformation, commonly known as "Fake News," has become a prevalent issue that can impact our understanding of the world.

This week, we want to draw your attention to the dangers of Fake News and the importance of critical thinking when browsing the internet. A recent guide from the National Online Safety provides valuable insights into recognizing and combatting Fake News, which you can access through this link:

[National Online Safety Guide on Fake News](#)

Fake News can take many forms, from misleading headlines to fabricated stories designed to manipulate opinions or promote false narratives. As parents and carers, it's crucial to teach our children how to navigate the online landscape responsibly and discern fact from fiction.

Here are a few key points to consider:

Verify the Source: Encourage your children to question the source of the information they encounter online. Reliable news outlets and reputable sources are more likely to provide accurate information.

Check the Facts: Encourage critical thinking by fact-checking information before accepting it as true. Encourage your children to look for corroborating evidence from multiple sources.

Be Wary of Clickbait: Sensational headlines and clickbait articles are often designed to attract attention rather than provide accurate information. Teach your children to be cautious of sensationalized content.

Promote Digital Literacy: Help your children develop their digital literacy skills by discussing the importance of scepticism and critical thinking when engaging with online content.

By staying informed and fostering critical thinking skills, we can help our children navigate the digital world safely and responsibly.

PTFA News

You should have all received a letter home about the May Fair on Monday 6th May. Please return your ticket stubs and money in a sealed envelope. Any unsold tickets, please return to the office. Should you require more, you can buy them from Headcorn Hardware (cash only), we will also be outside the post office on Saturday and Sunday mornings 9-12, or speak to your class rep.

Thank you so much to those of you who have signed up to help on the day. We have 61 volunteers but only 31 of those are during the fair itself. We **urgently** need more **event marshals** and **BBQ servers**. Without enough volunteers we may run the risk of relocating people from popular stalls such as the bottle tombola to cover gaps.

We still need help for the following:

Marshalls - 10 hours to fill, so 5 pairs with flexible times

BBQ servers - 6 hours to fill between 1pm-4pm

Bottle Tombola - 3 people 1pm-2pm and 1 person 2pm-3pm

Info tent - 1pm-3pm

Dog agility - 3 hours to fill 1pm-4pm

If you can give any time please contact your class rep or email Beccy - ptfa@headcornschoolptfa.org.uk

Friday 3rd May - NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY - In return for non-uniform, we ask you to please donate a bottle. It can be anything - alcohol, soft, fizzy or even a bottle of ketchup!! Be as creative as you like. Please ensure the bottles are **in date** and **unopened**.



Next Week's Curriculum Overview



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

Maths: 3D shapes and continuing to develop number fluency.

Literacy: Writing facts about butterflies.

Topic: The lifecycle of a butterfly.

RWI Phonics Links

Miss Gelder's Group [The sound qu](#), [The sound th](#)

Mrs Day's Group [The sound igh](#), [The sound oo \(zoo\)](#)

Miss Cresswell's Group [The sound o](#), [Fred's Zoo Game](#)

Miss Young's Group [The sound air](#), [The sound ir](#)

Mrs Griffiths' Group [The sound oy](#), [The sound ea](#)



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

English: We will be thinking about questions we would like to ask Rapunzel.

RE: We will be going for a walk to visit St Peters and St Pauls church and speak to Rev'd Fiona as we learn about sacred places.

Maths: We will be finishing our multiplication and division topic by making equal groups by grouping and sharing.

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

Miss England and Mrs Tucker's Group: [the sound 'a-e'](#), [the sound 'i-e'](#), [the sound 'o-e'](#)

Mrs Robins' Group: [the sound 'ow'](#), [the sound 'ure'](#), [the sound 'tious/cious'](#)

Miss Arthur's Group: [the sound 'aw'](#), [the sound 'are'](#), [the sound 'ur'](#)

Miss Buxton's Group: [the sound 'ou'](#), [the sound 'air'](#), [the sound 'oy'](#)



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

English: Continuing to read our class text and write in character.

RWI: Please watch the RWI (phonics) video clips for your child's group:

Mrs Baldock's and Miss Ferguson's group: [i-e sound](#) and [o-e sound](#)

Miss Buxton's group: [the sound 'ou'](#), [the sound 'air'](#), [the sound 'oy'](#)

Maths: Consolidating learning on addition and subtraction.

Other: Learning about Alfred the Great in our Magnificent Monarchs history topic. We will be continuing to learn the ocarina in music!



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

Reading: 'Around the World in 80 Reads' update: Y3 can read any books, it does not need to be specific to a country but if they wish to, that's wonderful. Please sign it off, following through the whole of one country before moving onto the next. Well done to those children that have already travelled to Spain, Thailand and the USA! Our next reading adventure will be into space! More details to follow soon.

Maths: We will begin a new unit on Money.

PE: Those with pierced ears must choose to put tape over their earrings, leave their earrings out for the day or take them out during the PE session.

Snacks: Y3 are not provided with free snacks. Please provide your child with a healthy snack for break times.

Thank you for your support.

RWI Phonics: [igh fly high](#)



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

Maths: Comparing, ordering and rounding decimals.

English: We are looking at different fables and how they can reflect the culture of a given country

Other: In PE we will be continuing our athletics sessions focussing on throwing, jumping and running. In RE we will be looking at Jesus as a teacher and how this inspired most Christian people.

If you have any empty Pringle-type tubes at home please can the children start to bring them in. Many Thanks!

RWI Phonics: [igh fly high](#)



Year 5 Caracal & Snow Leopard Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus

Maths: We will continue to explore the properties of 3D shapes.

English: We will be planning to write a balanced argument based on our books 'Who Let the Gods Out?'

History: We will be learning about the geography of Ancient and Modern Greece.



Year 6 Lion & Ocelot Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus

Maths: Next week, we will be recapping some key mathematics skills in preparation for the upcoming SATs

English: We will begin writing our monologues based on our new class text 'Stay you are and leave' by John Boyne

Other: In RE, we will be looking at religious beliefs about life after death, learning about reincarnation and karma