



HEADCORN HEADLINES: Friday, 3 May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers



May is here and with that our own **Headcorn May Fair!** We hope to see a big turn out in support of this our biggest fundraising event of the year. Last year we **raised £10,000** and are using that to develop an area of site into our very own **outdoor classroom** to further our plans for providing **Forest School sessions** from next September. We have a fantastic site to deliver our outdoor education programmes such as our **OPAL (Outdoor Play & Learning)** at lunchtimes, our **cross-curricular orienteering course** which not only extends our Sports curriculum but can be used across the spectrum of the curriculum to build memory, recall, application and retention of knowledge.



We are very excited about everything being planned for **Monday's May Fair**. There are one or two slots for the **last few volunteers** whose support will ensure that this day is as **successful** as it can be. If you can spare an hour, please sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/d76PNjGkKj> so that we can achieve another

groundbreaking amount of money raised towards our **new library!** This will be a special space where the children can run their own library, have a quiet space for lunchtimes and also provide us with much needed small group space.



We have our third and last round of **Parent Teacher Consultations (PTCs)** coming up at the end of this term on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd May. The platform goes **live for bookings** at **6pm** next **Tuesday 7th May**. Please find attached the **term dates** and planned **INSET Days** for the **next academic year: 2024 - 2025**. We know that some people are planning holidays for the end of August or October Half Term and we thought that this information would be helpful.



Have a lovely weekend and see you at the May Fair on Monday. Our wonderful Maypole dancers from KS2 will be opening proceedings!

Miss Symonds

Dates for your Diary:

- Monday 6th May: May Bank Holiday & Headcorn PTFA May Fair on Days Green!**
- Thursday 9th May: Year 2 Trip to Samphire Hoe**
- Monday 13th – Thursday 16th May: Year 6 KS2 SATs Week**
- Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd May: Parent Teacher Consultations (PTCs)**
- Friday 24th May: End of Term 5**



- Monday 3rd June: INSET Day 5 (No children in school)**
- Tuesday 4th June: Start of Term 6**
- Tuesday 4th June: Year 6 Trip to Bewl Water**
- Week beg 4th & 10th June: Year 4 MTCs (Multiplication Tables Check)**
- Friday 7th June: Year 5 Trip to the Science Museum**
- 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 25th June: Year 3 Trip to Kent Life**
- Thursday 11th July: Year 1 Trip to Kent Life**

Friday 12th July: Year R Trip to Rare Breeds
Mon 15th - Wed 17th July: Y6 Kench Hill Residential
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 we celebrate Florence Nightingale's birthday and delve into the creation of the NHS. This topic is particularly meaningful as one of our buildings is named after the great Nye Bevan, whose vision and efforts played a crucial role in establishing this iconic institution. Join us as we honour these pioneers and reflect on the invaluable contributions they made to modern healthcare.



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 Ms Baker's choice... Ulrich Schnauss And Jonas Munk - Amaris

Want to hear it at home?

<https://youtu.be/vOwFacugoFU>

Inclusion Coffee Afternoon

Tuesday 21st May at 2.15pm

This term's theme is 'Calm me'. We will be focusing on understanding what happens to our bodies when in heightened emotions and looking at activities you can use at home with your child, to help regulate and manage these big feelings. Please come along for a hot drink and slice of cake! All welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

E-Safety Update – Ofcom Report 2024

In this week's issue of Headcorn headlines we would like to draw your attention to the summary of *Ofcom's 2024 findings on children and young adults' media habits and attitudes 2024*. (We have also included a guide for parents and carers for you to view from National Online Safety.)

The findings...

Gaming Online

- More children are gaming online compared to last year - 60% of 3–17-year-olds, up from 57% in 2022.
- Increases seen across age groups, including younger children aged 3-4 (23% vs 18% in 2022) and 5-7 (41% vs 34%).
- Boys are more likely than girls to game online (71% vs 58%).
- 89% of 11–18-year-olds game at least weekly.

Popular Game Types

- Creative/building games like Minecraft are the most popular overall (45% of 3–17-year-old gamers).
- Older teens prefer multi-player games like Fortnite (48% of 16–17-year-olds) and shooter games like Call of Duty (41%).
- There is a worrying increase in 5–7-year-olds playing shooter games (15% vs 10% in 2022).
- Gender differences - boys prefer sports games, girls prefer puzzles/quizzes.

Who They Game With

- More children only play alone against the computer (67% vs 64% in 2022).
- Fewer playing with people they know in person (70% vs 73%) or strangers (29% vs 32%).
- From age 8+, more likely to play against known people (74%) and strangers (32%).
- 30% of 8–11-year-old online gamers play with strangers, similar to 16–17-year-olds (36%).
- 76% of 8–17-year-old online gamers chat through games, increasing with age.

As parents, we all want to ensure our children have positive experiences online. The findings show just how immersed children are in the gaming world these days.

While gaming can be an amazing outlet for creativity, socialization, and skill-building, it's also important we provide some guidance along the way. Why not take this opportunity to start an open conversation with your child about their gaming interests and favourites? Getting a window into their virtual adventures allows you to ensure the games and interactions are age-appropriate and enriching. Together, you can explore parental controls, etiquette for online play, and balanced tech habits.

The digital world opens so many possibilities for children. By staying curiously engaged as parents, we can help them navigate it safely and make the most of everything gaming has to offer! It's all about striking that perfect balance between independence and involvement.

Cricket Club – Every Tuesday, after school

We were thrilled to see so many young cricketers at the club this week! However, we'd love to welcome even more girls to join the fun.

Last year, our talented team made it all the way to the Kent School Games Cricket finals, competing against the best in the county. What an incredible achievement for our players! With your more children's participation, we can continue building a strong, diverse squad and perhaps even repeat that fantastic success.

The more children we have training together, the deeper our talent pool becomes. So, mums and dads, why not encourage your son or daughter to pick up a bat and ball? Cricket offers a fantastic opportunity for teamwork, fitness, and maybe even county-level glory!

Our sessions are free and take place on Tuesday's afterschool from 3:30pm until 4:30pm, we'd love to see you there!

Unihoc Club – Every Monday, after school

Attention thrill-seekers! There are still spots up for grabs in our action-packed Unihoc Club. This adrenaline-pumping game, like an amped-up version of street hockey, promises an hour of non-stop excitement every Monday after school from 3:30 to 4:30 PM.

With sticks flashing and goals aplenty, Unihoc is the ultimate test of skill, speed, and strategy. Your child will be dribbling, passing, and scoring in no time as part of this fast-paced team game.

Please note that due to the physicality of the activity, we can only accommodate pupils in Year 4 and above. Safety first!

But for those who make the cut, get ready to be part of the most thrilling club on campus. Spaces are limited, so don't let your child miss their chance to join the Unihoc revolution! Lots of fun and priceless memories await. Sign up today and let the face-off begin!

PTFA News

The Mayfair is finally here! We look forward to seeing lots of you on Monday.

A huge thank you for your bottle tombola donations and your offers of help. We have filled the stalls rota so everything will go ahead as planned but we could do with a few more marshall's for the event. Any last minute offers of help gratefully received. Please email Beccy at ptfa@headcornschoolptfa.org.uk or contact your class rep.

Reminder that raffle tickets can be purchased from Headcorn Hardware (cash only), and we will also be outside the post office on Saturday and Sunday morning 9-12.



Church Café

Saturday, 4 May - 9.30-10.30am - St Peter and St Paul's Church

A church service aimed at families. No need to sit in a pew - get up craft, eat and chat.

Breakfast is provided. All welcome!

Speech and Language

Please see attached the new flyer/poster for the Speech and Language Talking Walk-ins. The sessions are every other Friday starting 10th May at Greenfields Family Hub and every other Thursday from 13th June at Sunshine Family Hub.

BOTH sessions now start at 9.30am and the therapists only allow **15** families per session. We anticipate that these sessions continue after June with this structure as there is such high demand for the service.

Next Week's Curriculum Overview



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

Maths: Continuing to learn to tell the time.

Literacy: Sequencing 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' story and writing our own version.

Topic: Learning all about the life cycle of butterflies.

RWI Links:

Miss Cresswell's Group- [The letter sound c](#), [Fred Games for blending](#) Miss Gelder's Group- [The letter sound ch](#), [The letter sound ng](#)

Mrs Day's Group- [Spelling using the sound ow](#), [Spelling using the sound oo \(zoo\)](#)

Miss Young's Group- [Spelling using the sound ou](#), [Spelling using the sound oy](#)

Mrs Griffith's Group- [Spelling using the sound oi](#), [Spelling using the sound a-e \(split digraph\)](#)



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

English: We will be looking at the features of a diary entry.

Maths: We will be looking at half and a quarter of an object, shape and quantity.

Computing: We will be creating digital art inspired by Picasso's Dove of Peace.

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

RWI Links:

Miss England and Mrs Tucker's Group: [the sound 'u-e'](#), [the sound 'aw'](#), [the sound 'are'](#)

Mrs Robins' Group: [the sound 'ue'](#), [the sound 'ie'](#), [the sound 'au'](#)

Miss Arthur's Group: [the sound 'oa'](#), [the sound 'ew'](#), [the sound 'ire'](#)

Miss Buxton's Group: [the sound 'ir'](#), [the sound 'ea'](#), [the sound 'oi'](#)



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

English: Continuing to read our class text and writing a recount about our educational visit.

Maths: We will be learning about time. Please practise learning the days of the week and months of the year.

Other: We are excited for our educational visit to **Samphire Hoe on Thursday 9th May**.

This will link to our learning on our recent 'Coastline' geography topic.

RWI Links:

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

Miss Buxton's Group: [the sound 'ir'](#), [the sound 'ea'](#), [the sound 'oi'](#)

Mrs Baldock's group: [u-e sound](#) and [aw sound](#)

Miss Ferguson's group: [air sound](#) and [oy sound](#)



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

English: We will start to look at newspaper report writing and how we can best report the eruption of Mount Vesuvius as experienced by the characters in our book, 'Escape from Pompeii'.

Maths: Time – we are learning Roman Numerals which goes with our History Topic – The Roman Empire.

History: We will explore the Roman Army; it's hierarchy and subsequent success.

RWI Link: ['ow' as in snow](#)



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

Maths: Starting our unit on money; writing money, converting money and comparing amounts of money.

English: We will be continuing to develop our own version of Cinderella of the Nile, this week with a focus on character.

Other: We will be putting the chords C, F and G7 together to play 'The Mocking Bird Song'. In History we will be exploring a range of Sumerian inventions to find out about life in ancient Sumer

RWI Link: ['ow' as in snow](#)



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

In Maths: We will be learning about positioning and coordinates.

In Reading: We will be writing a diary entry from the point of view of our main character, Elliot, from our book "Who lets the Gods out?"

In History: We will be learning about the Democracy in Ancient Greece.

We recently sent out a leaflet about the 11+ (PESE) Grammar Entrance Tests. If you wish to speak to anyone about this then please email slt@headcorn.kent.sch.uk and we will contact you. Miss Symonds



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

Maths: We will continue to recap some key mathematics skills in preparation for the upcoming SATs.

English: We will be writing diary entries from the perspective of WWI soldier in the trenches.

Other: In history, we will be exploring the weaponry and key events of WWI.