



## HEADCORN HEADLINES: Friday, 10 May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

An enormous **THANK YOU** to everyone who organised, volunteered and supported our May Fair this year – you raised **£6721!** WOW! This will go a really long way to providing our children with a Library Hut!



A special acknowledgement to our **amazing May Fair Team** who have been working tirelessly for many, many months now to pull this huge event off – they really are a team to be admired and celebrated. If you see any of these lovely people be sure to thank them heartily!

Next week is Year 6 SATs week. Everyone has worked so hard towards this big assessment week but as much as we all want every child to do their very best we need to remember something else very important:

**The SATs do not represent all of what makes each of our children special and unique!**

The people who create these tests and score them do not know each of them the way we do...and certainly not in the way their families do!

They do not know that some of them love to sing or draw and paint. They have not seen their natural talent for dancing or playing a musical instrument. They do not know that their friends can count on them to be there for them; that their laughter can brighten the darkest day or that their face turns red when they feel shy or embarrassed. They do not know that they participate in sports, represent the school at tournaments and league matches; that they wonder about the future or sometimes help their parents or their little brother or sister before and after school. They do not know that they are kind, trustworthy and thoughtful and that every day they try to be their very best.



The scores you will get from these tests will tell us something, but they will not tell us everything. There are many ways of being smart. So while they are preparing for the next test and during SATs week, we need to remember that there is no way to 'test' all of the amazing and awesome things that make them who they are!

**A wise guy called Aristotle said "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all!"**

Our message to our children needs to be to...rest, relax, try your best but most of all believe in yourself and all that makes you **wonderfully unique in everything that makes you You!**

Have a lovely sunny weekend!

Miss Symonds



### **Dates for your Diary:**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 KS2 SATs Week**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> & Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Parent Teacher Consultations (PTCs)**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May: End of Term 5**



**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June: INSET Day 5 (No children in school)**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June: Start of Term 6**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June: Year 6 Trip to Bewl Water**

**Week beg 4<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> June: Year 4 MTCs (Multiplication Tables Check)**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June: Year 5 Trip to the Science Museum**

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

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June: Sports Day**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June: RESERVE Sports Day (if unsuitable weather)**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June: Year 6 Leavers' Performance @ 6pm**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June: Year 3 Trip to Kent Life**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July: Year 1 Trip to Kent Life**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July: Year R Trip to Rare Breeds**

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> - Wed 17<sup>th</sup> July: Y6 Kench Hill Residential**

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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 are all about celebrating kindness and how it ties into our core value of inclusion. When we treat everyone with kindness, we make sure that everyone feels welcomed and valued, whether we're in school or out and about.



### **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 Mr Peter's choice, Don't Dream It's Over – Crowded House

Want to hear it at home?

<https://youtu.be/J9gKyRmic20>

### **Hooray, the Dojo Shop is Open for Business!**

Children can earn Dojos by demonstrating hard work, displaying expected behaviours, showing kindness, and being outstanding members of Headcorn School. These Dojos can then be redeemed at our school shop. The prizes available range from stickers, stationery, and books to exciting activities like bonus breaks and walking Teddy the dog. We regularly update our prize selection, and we extend a big thank you to the PTFA for their support in funding this project. Special appreciation also goes to Mr. Peters for generously donating some fantastic prizes.



### **Inclusion Coffee Afternoon**



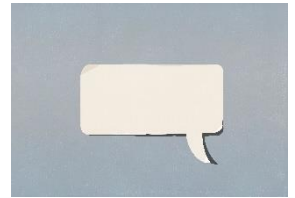
**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 2.15pm**

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.

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> May at Greenfields Family Hub and every other Thursday from 13<sup>th</sup> 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.



## Is Your Child Ready for a Smartphone?

The question of when to give your child a smartphone is a common concern for many parents. With the vast array of apps, games, and online content available, it's essential to approach this decision thoughtfully and responsibly. So, when is the right time?

While there's no one-size-fits-all answer, there are some key factors to consider. Firstly, maturity and responsibility play a significant role. Is your child capable of understanding the importance of digital safety, managing screen time, and respecting online boundaries? Additionally, assessing your child's need for a smartphone is crucial. Will it enhance their communication, learning, and independence, or is it merely a desire influenced by friends and classmates?

To help make an informed decision, resources like Internet Matters provide valuable guidance on smartphone safety. Their comprehensive guide offers practical tips on setting up safe digital environments, managing privacy settings, and navigating online risks. By educating yourself and your child about potential online dangers and how to mitigate them, you can empower them to use their smartphone responsibly.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/setupsafe/#smartphone-safety>

Remember, giving your child a smartphone is not just about the device itself but also about teaching them essential digital literacy skills and fostering open communication about online experiences. Ultimately, the decision rests on your judgment as a parent, considering your child's individual needs, maturity level, and readiness.



As you weigh the pros and cons, remember that it's okay to delay the decision until you feel confident that your child is ready. And when the time comes, use resources like Internet Matters to ensure a safe and positive digital experience for your child.

## PTFA News

The May Fair 🏡

WOW WOW WOW Headcorn you really blew us away with your support for the May Fair in the worst weather we've had for some years. We had the best day and have, despite the rain, raised a brilliant **£6721** for the school which will be put towards the new library.

We just wanted to give massive thanks to our organising team: Beccy Wood, Sarah Richards, Chari Beaton, Laura McCarthy, Hannah Rock, Emma Corkan, Toni Morgan, Jo Maher, Tracy Williams, Vikki Nesbitt, Sarah Hollywood, Philippa Lazenby, Zanna Brown, Fay Westerbeek, Nicky Stradling, John Fowler, Jack Keeler MBE, David Gardner and all of the other volunteers that played their part before or on the day. Without you it just wouldn't be possible. Also a big thanks to Bal from the Costcutter who missed a shout out in the program but kindly donated the delicious rolls!

Good to see the grass recovering already on the green ready for the sunny days!

Did somebody say doughnuts? 🍩

There will be a **second hand uniform and doughnut/cookies/popcorn sale Friday 24th May** to celebrate the end of term. We are desperately low in stock of larger sized purple branded cardigans and sweatshirts. Please please please donate any branded purple items you have by placing into the green wheelie bin by reception before Thursday 23rd. Any volunteers to help out gratefully received. If you want to pre order treats, they're 50p each, please email [ptfa@headcornschoolptfa.org.uk](mailto:ptfa@headcornschoolptfa.org.uk) and pay via PayPal.

Fun in the sun ☀️ (👫)

Lastly a reminder our next event '**PTFA Summer Social**' on **Saturday 29th June 11-3**. More details to follow.



## Next Week's Curriculum Overview

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



Maths: Composition of the numbers 6 to 9 using the '5 and a bit' structure, and exploring how 10 can be composed.

Literacy: Retelling the story of 'Little Beaver and the Echo'.

Topic: Learning about shadows and reflections.

#### **RWI Links:**

Miss Cresswell's Group- [The letter sound k](#), [The letter sound u](#), [Fred Games for blending](#)

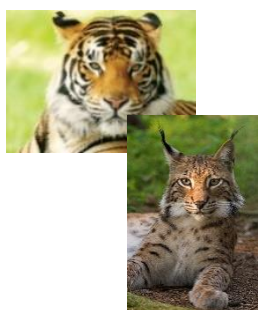
Miss Gelder's Group- [The letter sound nk](#), [The letter sound ay](#)

Mrs Day's Group- [Spelling using the sound ar](#), [Spelling using the sound or](#)

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

Mrs Griffiths' Group- [Spelling using the sound i-e \(split digraph\)](#), [Spelling using the sound o-e \(split digraph\)](#)

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



English: We will be planning and writing our diary entry from the point of view of Rapunzel trapped in her tower.

Maths: Our final unit of the term is 'position and direction', starting with describing turns, left and right.

History: We will be looking key events, people and inventions in the Victorian Era.

#### **RWI Links:**

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 'are'](#), [the sound 'ur'](#), [the sound 'er'](#)

Mrs Robins' Group: [the sound 'a-e'](#), [the sound 'i-e'](#), [the sound 'o-e'](#)

Miss Arthur's Group: [the sound 'ear'](#), [the sound 'ure'](#), [the sound 'au'](#)

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

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



Maths: Continuing to learn to tell the time. Please complete work set on Sumdog.

English: Continuing to read our class text and complete some writing activities around this.

#### **RWI Links:**

Please watch the following video clips for your child's RWI group:

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

Mrs Baldock's group: [are sound](#) and [ur sound](#)

Miss Ferguson's group: [ay sound](#) and [ee sound](#)

Other: Designing a bug hotel in science and creating some of our own royal portraits in art!

We would like to say a **huge thank you** to our wonderful parent volunteers who came with us on our trip to Samphire Hoe! We had a fantastic day with lovely weather

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



English: We will continue to explore what we will need to include in our newspaper reports next week. These will recount the eruption of Mount Vesuvius as told in 'Escape from Pompeii'.

**RWI Link:** [oo as in book](#)

Maths: We are continuing to learn about time.

History: We will investigate the causes and consequences of the first Roman invasions on Britain.



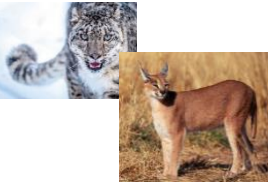
**Year 4 Jungle Cat & Cougar Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus**

Maths: We will be completing our 'Money' topic by estimating amounts & problem solving and then starting our topic on 'Time', by firstly looking at years, months and days and then the relationship between hours, minutes and seconds. If there are any opportunities at home to encourage the children to tell the time (on both analogue and digital) we would be very grateful.

English: We will be using drama to help plan our own alternatives to a Cinderella story.

Other: In Art we will be making Sumer-style figurines using clay and in PSHE we will looking at different relationships within our families and beyond.

**RWI Link:** [oo as in book](#)



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

Maths: We will be moving onto looking at decimals.

English: We will be doing lots of SPaG in preparation for writing our diary entries including parenthesis, inverted commas and exciting sentence starters.

Science: We will be using all of our knowledge of properties and changes of materials to design and carry out our own experiments based on what we have learnt over the past two terms.



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

Next week, we will be conducting Key Stage 2 SATs

In History, we will be learning about the weaponry used during World War 1

In Art, we will be continuing our learning about abstract art, learning how to use bright, vivid colours to create abstraction and distortion