



## HEADCORN HEADLINES: Friday, 13 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

**Thank you** to everyone who has been able to attend our **Welcome to Year X Meetings** this week – just two more to go on next week! I am glad they have been helpful to everyone. Please be reassured that the information will be coming out to everyone soon, so you will have the information in a handy document.

As these were so well received last year, we are sharing the **event dates for this academic year** (see below). We are happy to hear suggestions such as this to improve communication to help parents and carers plan well ahead of time so they can attend events.

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Symonds

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

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September: Welcome to Year 4 Parent Meeting @ 2.30pm – 3pm**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September: Welcome to Year 3 Parent Meeting @ 2.30pm – 3pm**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October: Parent Teacher Consultations 3.45 – 6.30pm**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October: Parent Teacher Consultations 3.45 – 6.30pm**

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: End of Term 1**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October: INSET Day 2 – No children in school**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October: INSET Day 3 – No children in school**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: PTFA Fireworks**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November: Start of Term 2: Children in school**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November: Parents' Book Look @3.15 – 4pm**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November: Children in Need**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November: PTFA Quiz & Fizz**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December: Year 1 Nativity Performance (@2.15pm)**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December: Year R Nativity Performance (@2.15pm)**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December: Year 2 Nativity Performance (@2.15pm)**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December: End of Term 2**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December: INSET Day 4: NO children in school**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January: Start of Term 3: Children in (No INSET Day)**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January: Parents' Book Look @3.15 – 4pm**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February: Parent Teacher Consultations 3.45 – 6.30pm**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February: Parent Teacher Consultations 3.45 – 6.30pm**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February: End of Term 4**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February: Start of Term 4: Children in (No INSET Day)**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March: Parents' Book Look 3.15 – 4pm**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March: World Book Day**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March: Red Nose Day**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April: End of Term 4**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April: Start of Term 5: Children in (No INSET Day)**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May: Parents' RSE Talk @ 2.30pm**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May: Parents' Book Look 3.15 – 4pm**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May: BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY: PTFA May Fair**

**Week of 12<sup>th</sup> May: KS2 (Y6) SATs Week**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May: Parent Teacher Consultations 3.45 – 6.30pm**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Parent Teacher Consultations 3.45 – 6.30pm**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May: End of Term 5**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June: INSET Day 5: NO children in school**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June: Start of Term 6: Children in school**

**Weeks of 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> June: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check to be completed**

**Week of 9<sup>th</sup> June: Year 1 (& Year 2 Retakes) Phonics Screening**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June: Sports Day**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June: Sports Day Reserve**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June: Year 6 Leavers Performance @ 6pm**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July: Whole School Transition Day TBC**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July: Meet the NEW Teacher 3.15 – 4pm TBC**

**Wed 9<sup>th</sup> – Fri 11<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 Residential**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July: Year 6 Leavers' Assembly @ 2pm**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July: End of Term 6 / End of Academic Year**

***NB: More key dates for the remainder of this academic year to follow next week!***

### **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, we will be having assemblies to learn about the Prophet Muhammad's birthday and explore the Islamic faith. During these assemblies, we will delve into the significance of this important religious event and learn about Islam.



### **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. This week Miss Arthur has chosen Clean Bandit - Rather Be - feat. Jess Glynne. Want to hear it at home? <https://youtu.be/jUjDcqdvCrk>

### **Break Time Snacks**

Year R, 1 and 2 are provided with mid morning snacks so parents do not need to provide them.

KS2 (Years 3 – 6) can bring in a snack which is limited to a piece of fruit, vegetables (see the list below).

Snack time is a brief time during the morning and the children will only have time to eat one item.

Children will not be permitted to eat items from their packed lunch or things such as crisps, chocolate bars etc.

We can allow:

- Any fresh fruit
- Dried fruit eg raisins, apricots, etc
- Vegetables eg carrots, peppers, mini tomatoes
- Fruit alternatives such as fruit winders
- Breadsticks
- Small cheese portion eg Babybel

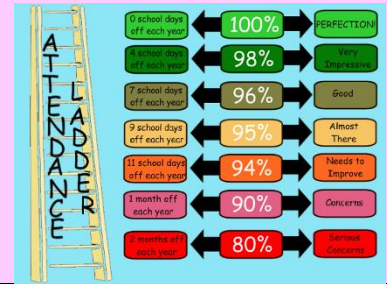


**PLEASE SEND YOUR CHILD IN WITH A NAMED PAIR OF WELLIES READY FOR RAINY DAYS - THESE WILL REMAIN IN SCHOOL!**

## Is my child too ill for school?

As the winter season of sniffs, coughs, viruses and illness approaches, the NHS provide information about when you should and shouldn't send your child to school. Take a look as we want to encourage parents and carers to help us continue to improve attendance so that your child doesn't miss out on key parts of their education, socialising with their friends and generally enjoying fun and engaging learning experiences together at school.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



## E-Safety Update – Gaming for Everyone

In this week's issue of Headcorn Headlines, we're shining a light on how video games can positively impact neurodivergent children and teens. For many young people, gaming is more than just a fun activity—it can be a lifeline to happiness, relaxation, and connection with others.

Recent studies show:



- 58% of neurodivergent teens say gaming makes them happy.
- 42% say gaming helps them relax.
- 31% feel gaming allows them to be part of a community.

For neurodivergent children, the benefits of gaming can be even more pronounced. Video games can offer a safe space where they feel understood, accepted, and part of a larger community. But along with the positives, there are also risks, such as screen time concerns or exposure to inappropriate content. These risks can sometimes be more significant for neurodivergent young people, making it important for parents and carers to stay informed.

*That's why we're sharing a helpful guide this week, designed to offer advice on how to support your neurodivergent child as they explore the world of gaming. It covers both the potential benefits and the specific risks, helping you ensure your child's gaming experience is safe, balanced, and enriching.*

We hope this guide will provide some valuable insights and empower you to navigate the gaming world alongside your child. Stay tuned for more resources and tips in future issues!

Come back next week for more top tips and information about the online world!

 **Let's talk smartphones!** Come and join us on **Tuesday, September 24 @ 8pm in Tap 17** to discuss these little objects that are having such a big impact on our children's lives. We're a friendly group of Headcorn parents with a wide range of views and ideas on the subject — and we welcome more! Please see the attached leaflet for more information. 

## Earrings and Long Hair

As part of our ongoing efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of all students during PE lessons, we would like to kindly remind you of a few important guidelines.

Firstly, if your child wears earrings, please ensure they can independently remove them before their PE session. Alternatively, earrings must be covered with suitable medical-grade tape to prevent any potential injuries. We recommend keeping some tape in your child's PE kit for convenience.

Additionally, for students with longer hair, we ask that it is securely tied back for each PE lesson. This helps to prevent any accidents and ensures full participation in activities.

We greatly appreciate your support in reinforcing these safety measures, allowing all students to enjoy their PE lessons safely and confidently.

## PTFA News

- Do you shop at Asda? Have you got the Asda Rewards app? We've just signed up to the Asda Cashpot so you can raise money for Headcorn School without it costing you a penny—what could be better?! See the attached poster for details of how to link your app to school & every time you spend, school gets a percentage. Every penny helps, so get on board & help raise valuable funds.
- Dates for your diary-
  - Halloween Trail, Sun 27th Oct
  - Fireworks, Sun 3rd Nov
  - Quiz & Fizz (adults only), Sat 30th Nov
- FIREWORKS EVENT!!

**Sunday 3rd November 2024. Gates open at 4pm, display at 530pm.**

Food & drink available on the night, as well as merchandise & candy floss (card & cash taken)

Adults, £12  
 Children, £7  
 Pre schoolers, FREE  
 Family ticket (2 adults, 2 children), £35  
 Tickets will be emailed to you before the event  
 Click here for you tickets FROM 4PM TODAY (Fri 6 Sept)!!  
<https://www.headcornschoolptfa.org.uk/shop/>

We really cannot run events these events without the help and support of volunteers and would be extremely grateful if you could give up some time. Please complete the form below and state what times and roles you can help with -

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=bThhSa3XQUybscs5aGTdMb5bUM89UvBBhIbRWTk9GLhUMjIQMOVGvjdZOERNVldOVzYxMVNLNVpHVC4u>

### St Peter and Paul Church

See the attached poster for this weekend's Teddy Fun Day and forthcoming Scarecrow Competition. Last year the first Prize went to a Headcorn pupil who made a Spitfire Pilot complete with Spitfire!

## Next Week's Curriculum Overview



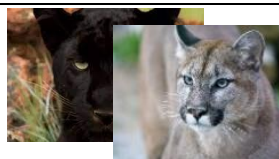
### **Year R Cheetah and Leopard Classes: Next Week's Curriculum Focus**

Maths: Learning to recognise, write and represent 2 and 3.  
 Literacy: Learning to recognise, sound out and write 'a' and 's'.  
 Topic: Marvellous Me! We will be thinking about our family, our likes and what makes us marvellous! If you have not already done so, please send in a family photo for your child's Marvellous Me board.  
**Read Write Inc Phonics Links**  
 Please follow these links to reinforce the phonic sounds learning that has taken place at school.  
[The sound 'm'](#), [Fred Games](#)



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

English: We will be beginning to describe a setting within our book 'Wild'.  
 Maths: We will be counting on from any number within 0-10, finding one more and one less accurately.  
 Art: We will be continuing to look at colour mixing and the colour wheel. We will be looking at the 3 primary colours and what secondary colours they make, placing them correctly on the colour wheel.



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

In Maths: We will continue exploring numbers within 100.  
 In English: We will be learning about expanded noun phrases and how to use them in a sentence.  
 In Art: We will be learning to create hues.



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

Maths: In Maths we will be looking at the place value of 1000 by finding numbers on a number line, ordering and comparing numbers to 1000  
 English: In English we will be using adverbials of time to and place to describe a setting from our new text.  
 Other: In Geography we will be using our knowledge learnt last week on human and physical features to locate these using grid references. In Art & Design we will be identifying, mixing and using contrasting-coloured paints.



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

English: After some phenomenal persuasive letters, this week the children will begin to explore types of speech as they get into character as the villagers from our story.

Maths: We will be using number lines as we estimate, compare and order numbers to 10000.

History: We will be investigating the invasion and settling of the Anglo-Saxons in Britain.



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

English: We will plan and draft a diary entry as Mulan.

Art: We will sketch landscapes.

History: We will investigate the religious beliefs held by the Shang Dynasty.

Maths : We will be comparing and rounding numbers.



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

Maths: We will be moving into addition and subtraction, before using common factors and multiples to explore multiplication and division

English: We will be finishing writing our diary entries before moving into writing setting descriptions

History: We will begin gathering information and discovering what we already know about slavery and our 'Maafa' topic.