

Herne Flyer 18 – Spring Term 2025



Knowing Every Child – Inspiring Every Mind – Achieving Every Day

Friday 24th January 2025

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A Note from our Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,

A very busy week for Headteachers and Senior Leaders. The Local Authority, like all across the country, are reaffirming their **Safeguarding and Child Protection** offer to schools after the outcome of the Sarah Sharif enquiry. It's meant a lot of additional training but has, as ever, provided an opportunity for schools to reflect on their own practice. For that reason, my newsletter today touches on several Safeguarding points and refreshes some established practise.

IMPORTANT: A parent has reported a young child being locked in a car, parked at the Hoadlands gate. Please do not leave children in locked cars even for small periods of time while you are walking another child in to school. Although we haven't seen this ourselves, I would advise anyone witnessing this to take a photo of the registration (but not the child) and let the Police know. Safeguarding is everyone's business.



Dangerous Emissions: Similarly, I think we need a spot of parent power, reminding others to use Hoadlands as a **Drop & Go** slot rather than a parking or waiting place. Please be mindful of idling engines too. It was very quiet on Hoadlands on Thursday morning but there were 3 cars left running on the main car park while parents walked children in to Breakfast Club. By KS2, all children should be able to hop out of the car and walk themselves in. It helps if they have their bag ready and their coat on so cars don't have to stop and have to open reach into the boot, leaving engines running.

Getting information to the right person! Admin@ is the way!

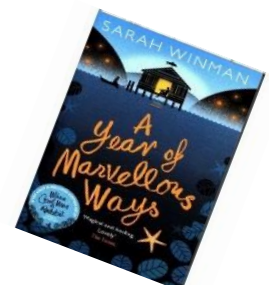
You may remember last year that we asked you all to use the **admin@hernejunior.com** email for contacts with teachers and other staff. Please continue to do this rather than use named emails as these are for internal use. It also enables the office to copy in Senior Leaders and get the information to the right person to respond. Please don't abuse this – one teacher had 7 emails overnight from the same person and a very frosty reception the next morning when they didn't reply immediately; another had 11 overnight. This isn't fair – our staff need downtime too and we actively encourage them to not be on their work emails beyond 5pm. It's absolutely fine to email back to an address if members of staff reply directly to you but please reset back to admin@ for the next situation.

Safeguarding Note: Families will continue to be given permission to email me or another Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSLs) directly during emergency periods or ongoing Child Protection matters. You will know who your DSL is.

Absence during term time: A reminder.

Poor attendance is a safeguarding issue! I've been asked by a parent to remind all parents that the last day of each half term constitutes 2 Attendance Sessions and would add up to 10 sessions/5 days for a full week. We have had a few people querying this. If you are planning a holiday in term time, please be mindful of the fact that you would be fined for absences of 10 sessions or more, even if it includes the last day. It's always a good idea to talk to me if you are planning to take your child out of school for an extended period, particularly if there are mitigating circumstances.

And Finally... whatever you are up to this weekend, enjoy!! I'm determined to find reading time to finish an amazing book, recommended by our Business Manager. "A Year of Marvellous Ways," by Sarah Winman. Absolutely loving it – quirky characters, unusual story and beautiful, descriptive language. Best thing I've read for a long time!



Best wishes

Sue Sayers

Headteacher

LOST COAT: Can you please check at home?

We have a Year 6 child who has mislaid her new Christmas coat – it is a black bomber type - Zavetti Canada Puffer Jacket. The logo is bright yellow and distinctive on the left arm with the makers name and a maple leaf. It is unnamed and is labelled as a small adult size. We are confident that it is not in school as we have searched high and low - we've even offered a reward for the finder! Could you please check if your child has the right coat? It was unnamed and potentially has a bank card in the pocket!

Walk to School



Herne have teamed up with Living Streets and have relaunched the *Walk to School Initiative* where pupils are recording how they travel to school every day. We are asking that children **Walk Once a Week** (WOW)- or any other form of active travel, such as scooter, bike, park and stride- in order to earn their monthly travel badge. Year 4 pupils have taken on the responsibility of promoting active, safe travel around the school site and within the community and 8 children have been trained as Travel Ambassadors who will be linking with classes in each year group to encourage children to Walk Once a Week and remind them to record it on the app! They also have the glamorous job of handing out the travel badges to those who have earned them. For more information about this initiative, please visit [About Us | Living Streets](#)

The Living Streets *Badge Design Competition* is now active, so if you think you have the creativity and imagination, and would like the chance to see your creation shared across the UK, visit the link below to find out how. The winning designers will win your school up to £500* worth of FREE WOW resources.

[WOW Badge Design Competition 2025](#)

We hope you join us in our push to be a happier, healthier and more mindful community whilst reducing the congestion and pollution around the school grounds. Thank you for your support.

February		March	
Thursday 13 th February	School breaks up at 12.30pm for Half-Term	Wednesday 5 th of March	Parents' Evening
Friday 14 th February	INSET DAY – School closed for training	Thursday 13 th of March	Parents' Evening
		Friday 28 th of March	INSET DAY – School closed for training
		April	
		Friday 4 th of April	School breaks up at 12.30pm for Easter