



Herne Bay Infant School

NEWSLETTER



DATE: 14th October 2016

Dates at a Glance

Tuesday	Harvest Assembly 9.00 am Tiger/Monkey Harvest Assembly 2.15 pm Zebra/Parrot	AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – Week 5 of 5
Thursday	Harvest Assembly 9.00 am Zebra/Parrot Nursery Rhyme Challenge – Year R 2.30 pm Harvest Assembly 2.15 pm Tiger/Monkey	Monday –
Friday	Year 2 Cake Sale End of Term 1	Tuesday – Art
Monday 31st October 2016	School Closed INSET Day	Wednesday – Gymnastics
Tuesday 1st November 2016	First Day of Term	Thursday – Multi-Skills
		Friday – Tennis or ICT

Governor News and Welcome from the New Chair of Governors – Viv Hayward

Hello Everyone,

Just a short note to introduce myself as your recently elected Chair of Governors, a role which I am delighted to have been asked to take on.

I was a Headteacher of two primary schools before joining Kent's Primary Excellence Project, where I worked as a Headteacher Advisor for 22 schools in the Canterbury district. I was also a School Improvement Partner for 15 schools in Canterbury and Folkestone before my retirement.

I have been a governor at your school for just over a year. I look forward to working with the Headteacher, staff and other governors to further develop Herne Bay Infants School towards being an outstanding school for you and your children.

The Governing Body is also delighted to welcome Mrs Annie Sharp and Mrs Sophie Gollop as our new Parent Governors. I'm sure they will find the job very rewarding and will add their specific skills and perspective to our work.

I look forward to meeting you and your children around the school.

Class of the Week

This week our 'Class of the Week' is Monkey Class for their calm walking around school.



Stars of the Week

Each week the class teacher will award the 'Star of the Week' based upon pupils demonstrating examples of our school values. This week's Stars are:-

Class	Name	Value	Reason
Monkey	Amal	Perseverance	For her perseverance when getting ready for PE.
Parrot	Saskia	Responsibility	For showing great responsibility in class.
Tiger	Jo	Learning	For his excellent attitude to learning.
Zebra	Louie	Kindness	For his kindness and co-operation with his classmates.
Bee	Soren	Responsibility	For being so sensible on the school trip.
Butterfly	Adam	Perseverance	For persevering with his maths.
Dragonfly	Jacob	Responsibility	For taking responsibility for his own learning and working hard to improve his sentences.
Ladybird	Lois	Co-operation	For co-operating while problem solving with a partner

Lunchtime Award

These are awarded to children by the lunchtime supervisors for keeping the school values whilst eating.

This week's awards go to: Samuel from Parrot Class for good lining up, nominated by Mrs Beckett; Dylan from Tiger Class for being his good manners, nominated by Mrs Glover and Callum from Ladybird Class for being helpful, nominated by Mrs Swain.



Cake Sale

Year Two are having a Cake Sale on Friday Afternoon (21st October). They would appreciate donations of cakes to sell to the school. Please send in a maximum donation of £1 for your child to go with their class and buy cakes. Any leftover cakes will be available for parents to buy at the end of the day. All proceeds will go to the Great Fire of London Production on the 1st November.

Pennies in a Jar

The winning class will be announced on Monday 17th October 2016. They will be able to come into school on Friday 21st October in their own clothes (sensible shoes please).

School Council Please take a moment to read the minutes from our excellent school council meeting which we have attached to this newsletter. The school council members brought suggestions from their classes for ways to make lunchtimes better. School Council meetings are a great way for the children to participate in some school decisions. The class representatives bring suggestions to each meeting which have previously been discussed with the rest of their class.

Harvest Assemblies



We would like to warmly invite you to our Year One Harvest Assemblies. In order to ensure as many parents as possible can attend we have split the assemblies as follows:-

- Tuesday 18th October 9.00 am Tiger/Monkey
- Tuesday 18th October 2.15 pm Zebra/Parrot
- Thursday 20th October 9.00 am Zebra/Parrot
- Thursday 20th October 2.15 pm Tiger/Monkey

For morning assemblies please come into school with your child who will show you into the hall before they go to class. Afternoon assemblies, please enter as normal through the main school reception.

Your donations to our Harvest collection will support the Canterbury Food bank. They are a registered charity that provides emergency food parcels for families in short term financial crisis in the Canterbury District; Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable, as well as surrounding villages.

Items such as:

Pasta, tinned meat, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, jars of jam, breakfast cereal and sugar are all urgently needed.

Please help us by donating food items on Monday, 17 October. Please send them in via the school office or your child can take them into class. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you.

Family Firework Night – We have four tickets for the Hampton Firework Extravaganza plus £10 to spend on food or rides. Year One will be raffling tickets, £1 a strip. Money raised will be used to fund the magician. Tickets will be on sale Tuesday and Thursday at each of the harvest assemblies or from the school office.

Year One - Magician

As a reward for Year 1, and to bring their connector 'Special Powers' to an end, we have a magician performing to the year group on Fri 21st October. We are asking Year 1 parents to contribute £1.00 to help cover the cost. Please bring your donations into class or via the office ASAP. Thank you in advance, we are so grateful for your support.

School Council Meeting – Thursday 6th October 2016

Monkey Class -	Lily
Tiger Class -	Miley & Brooklyn
Zebra Class -	Lily - Mai & Doug
Parrot Class -	Uxia & Charlie
Butterfly Class-	Jayden & Emily
Bee Class -	Maddie & Freddie
Ladybird Class -	Leah & James
Dragonfly Class -	Ella – May & Harry

We all sat around a big table together and Mrs Lax welcomed everyone to the School Council. Mrs Lax explained the rules needed – good listening, good concentrating, and hands up when you would like to speak. Mrs Lax introduced herself, Mrs Skeats as the School Council secretary for today and then asked the classes to introduce themselves. Mrs Lax explained that it is the job of School Council to share the children's ideas about what is important, and for the children to help decide what happens in school.

Mrs Lax asked the children if they were happy with their school council photos which are displayed outside the school office. She asked for a show of hands with a 'thumbs up' if they were happy. There was a unanimous show of thumbs up.

Mrs Lax explained that a big challenge and the focus for the council is how to make things better at lunchtimes. She commented on how today's lunchtime was better and children seemed to be playing very nicely together. Previously the school council has been asked how to spend money on buying new toys and the school is now very lucky that there are lots of toys to play with. The school council were asked to talk to a partner about what they enjoyed playing with. After this they shared their favourite things which included, dancing to the disco music, bouncy hoppers were very popular, hula hoops, the climbing frame, playing with friends and football.

The school council then talked about their class's suggestions for making lunch times better with the toys available and without spending money. These are their suggestions:-

- **Bee Class** – *Listen to music while eating dinner.* Suggestions for music ranged from music used in assemblies to inviting on special occasions the music club to sing and play (a live band) while we eat. **Everyone liked this idea and it received a unanimous 'thumbs up' in the council vote.**
- **Monkey Class** – *Would like adults to help children play skipping games such as 'North, South, East, West' as well as helping with sports races, football games, tennis and bowling. As well as a swimming pool.* The swimming pool was considered a lovely idea but was discounted on both cost and space. The council were asked for their opinions on skipping games and there was a mixed reaction with girls favouring this and boys not liking them. Half of the classes were unsure what their class would say. **Vote:** 7 children agreed.

Races – this was discussed with Year 2 classes very keen on organised races but Year 1 classes were not keen. **Vote:** 8 children agreed

Football – this was considered a good idea and it was agreed to ask Jack to maybe organise some football games. **Vote:** 10 children agreed

Tennis and Bowling – these were very popular suggestions with most children agreeing. It was again agreed to ask Coach Jack to organise some tennis and bowling.

- **Ladybird Class** – *For books to be put into the quiet area.* Mrs Lax said she thought there were books in the quiet area; however James advised her, these were reading books and he wanted books for writing in. Mrs Lax thought that was an interesting idea but asked them to think for a moment in pairs what the problems may be. Some people thought the books might be thrown around and damaged. Mrs Lax agreed and said that rules similar to the playground rules would be needed. Maddie said the books may fall to the ground causing children to slip over on them and hurt themselves. Mrs Lax thanked her for thinking of the safety issues and explained that crayons and books were already out. **Vote:** this was very mixed with many classes unsure. Mrs Lax again reminded children to think about what children in their classes would like and not just whether they liked the suggestion. Mrs Lax agreed to talk to Miss Bishopp and ask her to get a nice writing box together. Freddie asked if there could be some scrap paper to play with too and the suggestion of junk modelling was also made which was considered to be very popular.

- **Tiger Class** – *For more sports games* (this was already discussed as part of the Monkey Class suggestion. *To have a grassy area.* Mrs Lax explained that she would like to have a grassy area but there was no space. Doug suggested we break up some of the playground but it was felt this wasn't a good use of space or very practical.

To make the playground pretty with some pretty plants and flowers. Mrs Lax explained that the school had tried to do this over the summer and a mummy had offered to help make the playground pretty with plants. Mrs Lax also said she would remind class teachers that Mrs Nation (Herne Bay Junior School) is happy for the Infant School to use the Junior School field sometimes.

Make a den area. This was thought to be a great idea. **Vote:** 14 children agreed

To have calm music in the playground on some days. The school council discussed what days would be better with everyone talking to a partner and then picking a day/days and explaining to the council why.

Monday – 6 votes

Tuesday – 1 vote

Wednesday – 1 vote

Thursday – no votes

Friday – 8 votes

Different days – 3 votes

And a suggestion for 'Rock and Roll' special occasion days such as Christmas and Easter.

- **Dragonfly Class** – *Sports activities; more disco days; games with grown-ups (already discussed) More lunchtime Clubs and bring your own toys in for wet play.* Mrs Lax asked everyone to think about why it wouldn't be a good idea to bring your own toys in. Everyone was unanimous in thinking the toys could get wet, dropped, lost or broken. The school council agreed this was not a good idea. Mrs Lax will look into whether there are other lunchtime clubs that could be considered.
- **Zebra Class** – *Set up a lining up spot/sign for the end of lunchtime and have a set space for every activity.* Mrs Lax explained that there was a set place for lining up already. It was agreed that it is very confusing when things move around regularly. Miley explained to the council that she looks for some toys that she likes to play with but often these are not in the same place and they may even be on opposite sides of the playground. **Vote:** 11 children agreed to have a set space for activities.
- **Parrot Class** – *To have Playground Police.* Parrot class explained that there would be two playground police from each class and they would give out red, yellow or green cards. The cards would be Green for a superstar, Yellow as a warning and Red you need to talk to the teacher. James thought that the teacher wouldn't believe you and that could be difficult, Miley thought it would be good to have a green card but not to have a yellow or red one. Jayden was worried that it wouldn't be fair and everyone thought that people could get upset. **Vote:** 0 children thought this was a good idea.

Mrs Lax did ask whether the school council thought it would be possible to take this idea and have children standing in the corridors encouraging people not to run. They could say things like 'well done, nice walking' or 'please walk, slow down, keep safe'. Everyone thought this was a much better idea. **Vote:** 10 children agreed that it was a good idea to have children encouraging walking.

- **Butterfly Class** – *Signs that say quiet for in the hall; music in the hall and reminder boards showing first/next.* Maddie thought it would be a good idea to have school council members holding the signs on the way to assembly. Zebra's had ideas for the signs and everyone agreed. **Vote:** 12 children thought this was a good idea

Mrs Lax thanked the children for coming to the meeting and giving their ideas and views. The meeting finished with everyone taking it in turns to say something kind to the person on their left.