

Herne Bay Infant and Nursery School

Weekly Update

10th October 2025

Issue 5 - Term 1

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Dear Families,

In an assembly this week, we proudly celebrated all the children who completed the Summer Library Reading Challenge — what a fantastic achievement! A special congratulations goes to our two winning classes with the most participants: Shireen and Ahlberg. Well done to everyone who took part — your enthusiasm for reading is inspiring!

Eight of our wonderful pupils had the chance to take part in a **basketball event** at Herne Bay High School — and they did us proud! The event was filled with fun, energy, and lots of learning through sport. The children took part in exciting basketball activities that helped them build teamwork, boost their confidence, and improve their coordination. It was wonderful to see them working together, cheering each other on, and trying their best. A big thank you to Herne Bay High School for hosting such a great event.

Just a quick reminder, with the colder weather coming in, for children to bring in to school, suitable outdoor clothing and shoes. Also, if you have any raincoats or wellies that your child has grown out of and you would like to donate to the school, please bring them in to the school office.



School photographer – You will have received an email with details of how-to pre-register for your child's photos that will be taken on the 15th October. You will not be able to gain access to the proof of

your child's photo unless you have registered.

Register in 3 easy steps in less than a minute:

1. Head to www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk
2. Enter your unique code JRYRY4Z5E5
3. Include your child's full school register name.

We love seeing our playground full of happy, curious children — and we want to keep it safe and fun for everyone! With surprising frequency, we find objects such as vapes and lighters that have fallen out of pockets and bags and are lying on the ground. Children are naturally curious, and we want to avoid any accidents, so please keep such items secure on our school site. Thank you for helping us keep the school environment safe and child-friendly!



On the last day of term Friday, 17th October, we are having a **non-uniform day!** Your children can wear their own clothes in return for a donation of £1. This is to raise funds for the local "All Wrapped Up" Christmas project run by Riverside Church, which supports families who would not otherwise be able to provide a festive meal and/or gifts for their children.

Clubs will be available to book this weekend, so check your emails for what great clubs we will be offering next term and details on how to book.



Parent Evening - On the first week back from half term you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher. Please look out for the email with details on how to book your slot on Arbor app.

Our **website** has lots of information for our parents. We would like to highlight the web page showing our Policies. All our current school policies are available to view by clicking [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support.

Stars of the Week

Year R	Year 1	Year 2
Donaldson Class Mia For being a fantastic member of the class and working hard.	Jeffers Class Truly For a fantastic recall of the 'Lost and Found' story. Some fantastic role-play	Percival Class Oona For being so confident and brave in class and sharing her amazing ukulele.
Hendra Class Laura For excellent attention and listening skills	Ahlberg Class Afra For amazing balance in PE.	Shireen Class Lily For just being such a fabulous role model to others.
Seuss Class Vinnie For fantastic effort in handwriting.	Nursery Inkpen Class James For growing in confidence and making new friends.	Grey Class Ayrton For excellent maths work and always enjoying tasks.

Golden Sticker Winners

Year R	Year 1	Year 2
Donaldson Class Arabella-Ivy and George	Ahlberg Class Adam, Bera and Emelia	Percival Class Nico and Jaden
Hendra Class Nova, Liam and Hope	Jeffers Class Lewis, Medo and Kaylen	Shireen Class Liam and Evie-Lynn
Seuss Class Emily and Georgie		Grey Class Zehra, Jaxon and Selena

As Punctuality Parrot says, 'don't waste your time and arrive on time! This week our **punctuality winners** of the week are Percival and Seuss Class. Punctuality Parrot is very pleased. Well done and keep up the good work!



The **OPAL Golden Welly Trophy** has been awarded Ayrton in Grey class.

Writer of the Week has been awarded to Kiera in Jeffers Class.



Well done and keep up the good work.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday - Grey Class Swimming (see letter for details)

Tue 14th Oct - Year R Height and Weight screening

Wed 15th Oct - School Photographer

Fri 17th Oct - NELFT Coffee morning for parents/carers

Fri 17th Oct - End of Term 1

Mon 27th Oct - Start of Term 2

Wed 29th Oct - Parent Evening (details to follow)

Thu 30th Oct - Parent Evening (details to follow)

Fri 14th Nov - Children in Need (details to follow)

Thu 27th Nov - Year 1 Trip (see letter for details)

Fri 28th Nov - INSET day (school closed to pupils)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGible.



#WakeUpWednesday

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