

Herne Bay Infant and Nursery School

Weekly Update

19th September 2025

Issue 2 - Term 1

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Dear Families,

Here is your weekly update of everything that you may find useful and will help you to support your child.

Please can we ask all parents to ensure that their contact details for their child are up to date on the Arbor App. We need at least **two contacts for each child** in case of an emergency. Also please check you have updated language, ethnicity and religion on the app so that your records are up to date. If you have problems accessing the Arbor App, please speak with the office. Thank you.



Library Open evenings – We are delighted to invite our parents/carers to visit our wonderful library after school with their child. You will have the opportunity to sit and read with your child whilst enjoying a drink and snack. The Library will be open to our children and their parents from 3:05pm pick-up until 3:30pm. Each class will have a different day allocated to visit the library as indicated below:

Tuesday 7th October, Grey Class

Tuesday 14th October, Shireen Class

Tuesday 28th October, Percival Class

Tuesday 4th November, Ahlberg Class

Tuesday 11th November, Jeffers Class

Tuesday 18th November, Seuss Class

Tuesday 25th November, Hendra Class

Tuesday 2nd December, Donaldson Class

Tuesday 9th December, Inkpen Class

Special Lunch offer! We are offering a special 'Out of this World' lunch on Thursday, 2nd October. If your child normally has a packed lunch but would like to have the special hot menu, please email the school office with your child's name, class and if they have any dietary needs. We are excited to be able to offer this menu (see poster attached to this letter) and we hope the children like it too. Please note if your child normally has a hot lunch, you do not need to do anything.



You will have received a letter this week with regards to our **Harvest celebrations** and the children attending the local church on Tuesday, 30th September. We would welcome any non-perishable donations, which the children will take to the church, to be distributed to the local community. Ideal food donations include:

- Tinned or packet items products with a long shelf life such as tinned meat/fish, tinned beans, tinned soup, tinned sauces, tinned fruit, pasta, rice, or powdered/UHT milk.
- Donations of deodorant, toothpaste, shower gel, soaps or baby foods.

Thank you to the **Year R** parents/Carers that have bought photos this week of your child's first week at school. We will have more photos available soon.

Thank you for your continued support.



Punctuality is the first step to success and our **punctuality winners** of the week are Hendra Class. Punctuality Parrot is very pleased with you all. Well done and keep up the good work!

Dates for your diary



Wednesday - Grey Class Swimming (see letter for details)

Tues 30th Sep - Harvest Festival – children visiting church

Thu 2nd Oct - Special Lunch menu

Fri 10th Oct - Flu vaccinations for pupils

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



Stars of the Week

Year R	Year 1	Year 2
Donaldson Class Ella-Rose For being so smiley and helpful in class.	Jeffers Class Harley For persevering with his writing.	Percival Class Anastasia For her brilliant work in maths using place value.
Hendra Class Noah For being happy, friendly and confident.	Ahlberg Class Princess For fabulous learning in art and persevering in maths.	Shireen Class Zachary For just being such a wonderful member of class!
Seuss Class Tommy For settling well and being amazing.	Nursery Inkpen Class Abel For using his words.	Grey Class Hunter For fabulous work all week – Fantastic!

Golden Sticker Winners

Year R	Year 1	Year 2
Donaldson Class Dulcibella and Isla	Ahlberg Class Sofia and Skylar	Percival Class Nico and Amelie
Hendra Class Max, Kenley and Mia	Jeffers Class Lewis and Emely	Shireen Class Sevin, Freddie and Jaxxon
Seuss Class Percy and Ella		Grey Class Abbie, Grace and Nicco



Golden Welly Award

The **OPAL Golden Welly Trophy** has been awarded Lois in Shireen class.

Writer of the Week has been awarded to Aleena in Ahlberg Class.



Well done and keep up the good work.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SNAPCHAT

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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