

Herne Bay Infant and Nursery School

Weekly Update

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Issue 7 - Term 2

Ms Nicky Brown, Head teacher
office@herne-bay.kent.sch.uk



Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 2! We hope all our families had a wonderful half term making memories. We've got some fantastic activities planned this term, so be sure to check the newsletter each week to stay informed. Keep an eye out for the **Curriculum Newsletters** coming next week—they'll highlight what your child will be learning and include key dates for your diary.

Visiting School Office - To help us maintain a respectful and confidential environment for all families, we kindly ask that parents press the intercom button and speak to the office team before entering the building. If someone is already being assisted in the reception lobby, please wait outside until the area is clear and a member of staff invites you in. This helps ensure privacy and allows us to give each visitor our full attention. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Dogs on site, a new update! - We've recently had a few parents ask whether they can bring their dogs onto the school site during drop-off and pick-up. After careful consideration, we're happy to say yes – but with a few important conditions. Only small dogs that can be securely carried (in arms or in a pet carrier) are allowed. That means no leads, no paws on the playground, and no zoomies through the gates! Dogs must remain carried at all times and are not permitted inside school buildings.

Our school dogs are a special part of our community. They are fully insured and have either completed or are currently undergoing training to ensure they're safe and well-behaved around children. While we love dogs, we also need to make sure that all pupils, including those who may be nervous or allergic, feel safe and supported. Thanks so much for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch. A risk assessment is available on request.

With **Halloween** just around the corner we hope the children have fun but would like to share with you information on how to keep your child safe this Halloween season. Click on the link for information: <https://capt.org.uk/halloween/>



Parent's Evening - Thank you to all parents who attended this week's Parent's Evening—it was a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress. If your meeting with Mrs Adby or Mrs Vincent was postponed, you will be informed of a new date shortly. Teachers are happy to answer questions/concerns briefly at drop-off or pick-up. For longer discussions, please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.



Remembrance Day Poppy Appeal - In support of Remembrance Day on Monday 11th November, children will have the opportunity to purchase items in school to help commemorate this important occasion. Available items

include: Traditional poppies, Slap bands, Poppy reflectors, Festival wristbands. We kindly suggest a minimum donation of £1 per item, with all proceeds going towards the Poppy Appeal to honour and remember those who have served and continue to serve in conflicts around the world.

Let's Rocket – Special School Lunch! - On **Thursday, 6th November**, we have an exciting 'Let's Rocket' themed lunch menu! If your child usually brings a packed lunch but would like to join in the fun and enjoy a school dinner with their friends, please email the school office to book their place.

Firework Safety Reminder - As Bonfire Night approaches, we want to remind all our families about the importance of staying safe around fireworks. Fireworks can be exciting and beautiful, but they must be handled with care to avoid accidents.



Please take a moment to read the Firework Safety Top Tips Poster attached to this letter. It's full of simple, practical advice to help keep everyone safe while enjoying the celebrations. Let's make this Bonfire Night a fun and safe one for all!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Stars of the Week

Year R	Year 1	Year 2
Donaldson Class Charlie For working really hard on his handwriting this week.	Jeffers Class Archer For super enthusiasm in English.	Percival Class Flynn For his amazing Fact Families in maths.
Hendra Class Ben For working hard on understanding 1 more, 1 less to 3.	Ahlberg Class Hattie For fantastic content and handwriting in English!	Shireen Class Theo For excellent effort in reading.
Seuss Class Rosie For working hard in phonics.	Nursery Inkpen Class Alina For being a joy to have in class, full of enthusiasm.	Grey Class William For a fantastic first week – welcome and well done!



Golden Sticker Winners

Year R	Year 1	Year 2
Donaldson Class Grace and Chhavi	Ahlberg Class Henry and Brielle	Percival Class Honor and John
Hendra Class Max C, Alvie and Muhammed	Jeffers Class Chloe, Jacie-Anne and Alacade	Shireen Class Vienna, Emily and Nellie
Seuss Class Arlo and Lillianna		Grey Class Hunter, Isla and Finley

As Punctuality Parrot says, 'Punctuality is a superpower - use it every day!' This week our **punctuality winners** of the week are Seuss and Hendra Class. Punctuality Parrot is very pleased. Well done and keep up the good work!



The **Writer of the Week** has been awarded to Otis in Inkpen class.

Congratulations to Alacade in Jeffers class, who travelled to Bath for the 2025 International Martial Arts Championships, competing against over 600 people worldwide. He proudly brought home two medals and became international champion in kickboxing and hand drills. Well done, Alacade!

Dates for your diary

Swimming:	Percival Class on Wednesdays Shireen Class on Fridays
Thu 6 th Nov	- Special Let's Rocket Lunch (book with school office)
Fri 14 th Nov	- Children in Need (details to follow)
Wed 26 th Nov	- Bag2School collection day (information to follow)
Thu 27 th Nov	- Year 1 Trip (see letter for details)
Fri 28 th Nov	- INSET day (school closed to pupils)
Wed 10 th Dec	- (10.30am) Inkpen Parents Christmas singalong (details to follow) - (2.15pm) Inkpen Parents Craft afternoon (details to follow)
Mon 15 th Dec	- Year 2 Christmas performance at the church (details to follow)
Tue 16 th Dec	- (9.30am/2pm) Year R Christmas performances (details to follow)
Wed 17 th Dec	- (2pm) Year 1 Christmas performance (details to follow) - Christmas lunch
Thu 18 th Dec	- (9.30am) Year 1 Christmas performance (details to follow)
Fri 19 th Dec	- End of Term 2
Mon 5 th Jan	- Start of Term 3

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

TEACHING CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is especially important around Bonfire Night, as fireworks, bonfires and sparklers add extra risks for families and young children. Every year in the UK, thousands of accidents occur due to improper handling of fireworks and neglecting fire safety measures. This guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe when handling everything from fireworks to space heaters.

1 BONFIRE NIGHT AWARENESS

Bonfire Night is exciting, but it comes with several inherent risks. Educate children about the dangers of fireworks and open flames. Teach them that only adults should handle fireworks and that bonfires should never be approached. Keep children at a safe distance (at least five metres away) from bonfires and explain why supervision is crucial during these events.



2 SUPERVISE FIREWORK USE

Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults who are following UK laws and guidelines. Make sure to buy fireworks that meet British Standards and adhere to all instructions that come with them. Keep children a suitable distance from any firework activity and designate an adult to supervise the event. Ensure no one goes near fireworks after they've been lit.



3 SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are often captivating for little ones, but they can burn at extremely high temperatures – over 1,000 °C! Only allow children over the age of five to use sparklers, and make sure they wear gloves. Teach them to hold sparklers at arm's length and never wave them near others. Once a sparkler has burned out, extinguish it fully in a bucket of water – which you should prepare beforehand and always keep nearby.

4 ORGANISED DISPLAYS ARE SAFER

If possible, families should attend an organised fireworks display rather than holding one at home. These tend to be far safer as they're run by professionals adhering to strict safety regulations. Organised displays also provide a controlled environment where children can enjoy the event from a safe distance, reducing the risk of accidents.



5 KEEP FIREWORKS AWAY FROM THE HOME

If you are hosting your own fireworks display, set them off well away from homes, sheds or fences to avoid starting accidental fires. Choose a wide-open space with no flammable materials nearby and keep a means of putting out fires to hand in case of emergency – such as a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher. Afterwards, ensure that all fireworks are fully extinguished and never attempt to relight one if it doesn't go off.



6 BONFIRE SAFETY

If you're building a bonfire, place it well away from trees, buildings, fences or anything else flammable. Make sure it's structurally sound and not at risk of collapsing. Only burn natural materials like wood and leaves, avoiding petrol or other accelerants. Children should be kept far away from the bonfire, and it should always be supervised by adults. Be sure to fully extinguish the bonfire before you leave it.



7 "STOP, DROP AND ROLL"



Ensure that children know what to do if their clothing catches fire. Teach them the simple "stop, drop and roll" technique, which can quickly extinguish flames. Practice this with them before events like Bonfire Night, so they feel confident if the need to use it arises. It can also be helpful to keep another means of putting out these kinds of fires on standby, just in case. An extinguisher or flame-retardant blanket are both sound choices.

8 SECURE CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES



Beyond Bonfire Night, everyday fire safety is also crucial. Candles can be a common fire hazard, especially in homes with young children. Teach children not to touch any open flames, and ensure candles are placed in sturdy holders away from combustible materials. Never leave candles, incense burners or other such items unattended, and always extinguish them fully before leaving a room or going to bed.

9 EDUCATE ABOUT FIREWORKS HAZARDS

Make sure children understand the dangers of playing with fire or fireworks, and how to handle such things responsibly. Emphasise that fireworks are **not** toys and can cause serious injuries when improperly used. Demonstrate the importance of treating fire with respect and the consequences of misuse, which can help temper any curiosity and any resultant dangerous behaviour.



10 FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Even if you have the best possible precautions in place, accidents can still happen. Keep a first aid kit on hand. Ensure you know how to apply basic first aid to burns, so you can teach children those techniques too. If someone suffers a burn, run it under cool water for 20–30 minutes. Never use creams or ointments, as these retain heat and can cause further damage. Instead, seek medical help if the burn is serious.



Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings and many other industries, helping them to maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College

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