

Herne Flyer 14 – Autumn Term 2024



Knowing Every Child – Inspiring Every Mind – Achieving Every Day

Friday 13th December 2024

Website: www.hernejunior.com

Email: admin@hernejunior.com

Twitter: [@HerneJunior](https://twitter.com/HerneJunior)

Telephone: 01730 263746

A Note from our Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,

Just seven more sleeps to the end of term and SO much to cram in!

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP US by not allowing children to bring toys into school unless it is part of our curriculum planning, e.g., mummification, Bring a Bear Day etc. We have been inundated by children bringing the (dreaded) elf in but it happens right across the year, especially after birthdays! We have special resources for pupils on the SEND register which are accessed when necessary and these are specific to their needs. We also have many “comfort” aids for use with children in emotional times as part of our Thrive and Nurture provision. Please leave all cuddly toys/cars/gonks/toys etc at home. It often looks unfair if some children bring them in and others can't and this causes conflict as well as putting teachers in a difficult position if parents have allowed their child to bring the item in. **Let's work together folks!**

On a happier note, we invited a group of elderly folk from a local care home to watch the dress rehearsal of **Year 3's Christmas play rehearsal** on Wednesday. This was so lovely. Thank you to staff who helped with tea and biscuits. Year 3 did an amazing job even in the dress rehearsal. This was followed up by two more runs of the production with parents and carers watching. The highlights for me were the shepherds with their walkie talkies – midday supervisors in the making – and some spectacular cows – thank goodness that animal print is in fashion! As ever, it made me exceptionally proud of our wonderful children and staff.



We also took the choir and band out to entertain at the hospital on Thursday. Their singing of “In the Bleak Midwinter” reduced people to tears – the children were really touched. Thanks to Dave Thomas, our wonderful Band Teacher, for his hard work with our instrumentalists. Thanks also to Clare Morphew and Isabel Burrows who set such high expectations for the quality of singing.

I'm so looking forward to **Year 5's Carol Concert** at St Peter's church next week! Thank you to Reverend Will and his team for making us so welcome every year.

Next week is also our **HAFS Christmas event week**. We'll be outside dancing to Christmas tunes on several mornings and there are lots of lovely Christmas activities for the children across the week. Come and join us on the playground for a Christmas Bop! Wear your antlers or something equally festive.

We have had a very small number of parents who wrote in complaining about us not having Christmas Crackers this year at the **Christmas dinner**. It's only when you see the debris and plastic waste from nearly 500 crackers that you truly appreciate the issue! Miss Morphew has organised the 'bring your own hat/ crown from recycled materials' approach this year...see below. Very admirable! I'm sure most children will pull a cracker on Christmas Day so they will get to experience the tradition at home. They'll have a lovely time in school - we make the Christmas dinner event really very special.

And Finally....whatever you are up to this weekend, enjoy. We have our staff Christmas Party on Saturday evening...so yoga and all those downward dogs on Sunday may be an interesting event!

Best wishes

Sue Sayers

Headteacher



Christmas Lunch Craft Request

On Thursday 19th December, the children will be having their Christmas Lunch in school. Every year we try to make it a special meal where the class comes together to celebrate the coming holiday season. Traditionally, the children have crackers to pull. However, in order to help the environment, we have decided not to have them this year. Instead, we would like the children to create their very own Christmas hat, or headband made from upcycled paper. **We would like to ask if you could donate any old, left-over wrapping paper, or other Christmassy paper, including magazines, or old decorations that the children could use to create their hats, or headbands.** Please don't buy new for this activity! We thank you in advance for helping make our Christmas Meal extra special and Eco friendly!

Free School Meals – Last Day Lunch – If your child is entitled to Free School Meals and you would like a lunch provided for the 12.30 finish on Friday 20th of December, please email the school office by Wednesday 9am 18th December. The option will be cheese for the roll.

Clubs

Please note that there will be no Choir, History, Art or Running Club next week. CM Sports Football & Netball and Creation Station (Weds) will continue as normal.



Wraparound Care

Please ensure your ParentPay accounts for Twilight and Breakfast clubs are not in arrears by the end of term. Twilighters should be making payments in advance and booking all required sessions as per our changes to the Terms and Conditions from January. You will have greater flexibility with bookings, but please do not book any extra sessions until the week before, to prevent regulars losing out on their session. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Late collection from Twilight Club and Happy Christmas

We have noticed that parents are increasingly collecting late from Twilight club. This may be due to weather and or traffic conditions as the evenings are now dark, but please allow, where possible, a little extra time to ensure you are not late to collect. While we are sympathetic for the odd late collection with around 50 children every night this can still have an impact. Unfortunately, and in line with other childcare providers, we will add a late charge to ParentPay to any frequent late collectors. Apologies, this isn't a very festive message, so we will finish by wishing you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas. Working in Wraparound Care is a joy and the children are a pleasure.



COMMUNITY MESSAGE



Sheet Church Nativity Service - Sunday 15th December

We are delighted to invite you to join us for our Nativity service on Sunday 15th December at 10.00am at St Mary Magdalen Church, Sheet. Everyone is welcome as we explore the story of the first Christmas. Come dressed as angels, shepherds or kings and join in on the day with our fun and interactive service. You are then welcome to stay for coffee and festive treats in the village hall afterwards.

December		January	
Monday 16 th of December	HAFS Christmas Activity Week Begins Year 5 Christmas Carol Service (St Peters) 2pm	Monday 6 th of January	Start of the new term
Tuesday 17 th of December	Break the Rules Day – see HAFS Festive Week Timetable	Don't forget we finish at 12.30pm on Friday 20th December.	
Thursday 19 th of December	Carols around the Christmas Tree (5pm)		
Friday 20 th of December	Final Day of Term (12.30pm finish)		