

HCJS Newsletter



Aiming High, Celebrating Success

No 13: Wednesday 16th May 2018

Arts Festival success!

Every so often, something happens in school that reminds me why I chose to do what I do for a living! As a Headteacher it is easy to become removed from life at the 'chalk face' (although there is precious little chalk about these days). I try hard not to fall into the trap of getting stuck in my office; I teach one afternoon a week and try to spend time with the pupils whenever I can, but some days that seems impossible. Much of last week, for example was spent appointing a new teacher for September and a new Teaching Assistant to join us straight away—more news about those appointments soon!

It was the Arts Festival that reminded me once again why I love working in Primary education. It was a fantastic evening, and one that showcased perfectly what talented young people we have at HCJS. I know I was not alone in being blown away by some of what I saw and heard. I am proud to lead a school that values the contribution that the arts can make in developing a well-rounded individual. This week, our Year 6 pupils will be sitting their SATs and while the outcomes of these tests, in grammar, punctuation and spelling, reading and maths, determine where we are placed in the DFE 'league tables', how successful we are as a school is a much broader and more complex issue. Developing confidence, resilience and a love for learning is far more important in my book than 'expected outcomes', for that is truly what sets a child up for the next stage of their education and life.

I can't say enough about the hard work and dedication put in by Mrs Duncan in the lead-up to the event and on the night itself—she and Miss Adamson (who has been instrumental—pun intended—in developing our music curriculum) are real champions of the arts at HCJS. Our school is a much better place for it.

If you were unable to make it along on the night, check out the coverage in the [Bucks Herald](#) and on [Haddenham.net](#) for a flavour of what you missed!

ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATIONS

Don't forget that on Friday we will be having our own celebrations ahead of the wedding of Prince Harry & Meghan Markle. We would love the children to come into school wearing red, white and blue please. There will be bunting and a 'street party' lunch out on the field. The children who usually have a hot meal will be supplied with party food for the event so please send your 'lunchbox' child in with appropriate party food and food to share with their friends if they wish.

Weather permitting, we will be playing games on the field after lunch, so please don't forget sunhats and sun cream.

Readers' Corner

Mrs Duncan—Art Coordinator recommends:
Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson:

A wonderful adventure! When I was younger, I was inspired to travel after reading an autobiographical adventure by a humorous anthropologist. This book brought back all those old desires to see more of the magical world in which we live. It tells the story of the orphan Maia, who travels to vibrant Amazonian Brazil to stay with mean relatives. The relatives are awful people who don't even try to integrate with the locals or the rich colourful life Brazil has to offer.

Maia wants to lap it all up: the beauty, the nature, the culture. She meets two boys, one a travelling actor and the other an orphaned Indian child with a secret. It is a great read and has all the stuff of fairy tales too!



News, notices & reminders

Tennis Court Parking

Further to our email last week, we would like to reiterate the importance of considerate driving and parking at the tennis courts. Please DO NOT block parked cars in by parking in the centre of the driveway. If the car park is full, please find an alternative place to park. In addition, there is great concern over the behaviour of car drivers as they are entering and leaving the car park. Cars are blocking the pavement so that pedestrians have to walk on the road to get past. Please give way to children and adults using the pavement.

Rule 206 of the Highway Code states: 'Drive carefully and slowly when needing to cross a pavement or cycle track; for example to reach or leave a driveway. Give way to pedestrians and cyclists on the pavement'.

Pedestrian Crossing

Please could we ask you to insist that your children use the pedestrian crossing when crossing Woodways. There are still children crossing between the playground gate and tennis courts resulting in a near miss last week! For the sake of saving a few seconds it is not worth the risk!

PE Kit

With summer well on its way, please ensure that your child has their 'summer' PE kit in school. This consists of shorts, their house t-shirt, socks and trainers. Many pupils do not have the correct kit in school so are wearing tracksuits, leggings and even tights under their shorts! We will aim to inform you over the next few weeks if your child is missing anything. We would also ask that you check your child's PE kit to ensure that they have their own clothing. We have had reports of many missing items so please ensure that your child's kit is clearly named and that they don't have someone else's clothing. Thank you for your support with this.

The Big Pedal update

Congratulations to 4I for winning the Silver Pedal class award for The Big Pedal, and well done to everyone else who took part. The three Year 3 classes were next best, which is very encouraging for next year. **Angela Matthews**

Celebrating 50 years of CHUF Pre-school: Saturday 19th May

Many of our children, past and present, attended CHUF pre-school. Come and celebrate the past five decades of CHUF this Saturday at Chearsley's brand-new village hall!

3pm–6.30pm Games – Talent Workshops – Music & Dance Performances. **Tickets £5 per child (Free for adults)**

6.30pm–10.30pm A Golden Evening. Guest appearance from Tony Hadley who will be performing an acoustic set plus local band and disco. **Tickets £15 per adult.**

Children's Book Recommendation

Some of our children wanted to have a go at reviewing a book too, and inspiring their school friends to read. This week we have a recommendation from Theo in 5K.

The Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson

Matthew likes sparkling clean surfaces, staying secure in his home and making notes about people around him, and what they are doing. He hates germs and going outside. When next-door's toddler goes missing, Matthew is the main witness of the mystery. He is the key to working out what happened, meanwhile his own secrets begin to unravel. A story about finding friendship when you're lonely and hope when all you sense is fear, this prodigious novel is told from the perspective of Matthew, who has Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD). Can he overcome his fears and solve the case before the toddler is gone for ever? I love this book as it is eye-catching and full of cliff-hangers. Once you've started to read it, you will never be able to put it down. The story kept me thinking about what would happen next. It was tense to read as it just kept building up as the mystery unravelled. I would recommend this book to anyone. It's fabulous!

Learners of the week



4th May 2018



11th May 18

Forthcoming events

W/C 14th May

Year 6 SATs week

Friday 18th May

Year 4 assembly 2.30pm

11th / 12th June

Year 5 to Science Fair

(Details to follow)

Thursday 14th June

Year 4 trip to

Hazard Alley

Year 6 Residential—Wales

Week 1. 11th—15th June

Week 2. 18th—22nd June

Tuesday 10th July

Year 3 trip to Whipsnade Zoo

Haddenham Fete Competition

Don't forget to get your entries in for the competition to design the programme for this year's Haddenham Fete.

If you would like to enter, please use A4 paper and lots of colour. Don't use any text, just focus on a great image.

The Theme is “**Life in Haddenham**”, which means you could draw anything from the duck pond to the church, the school, Brownies, etc. Make sure your full name and age is on the back of your entry and return to school to MRS DUNCAN by 4th May.

And finally...

On Thursday 10th May, 18 children took part in four rounders matches against Long Crendon. The sun was shining and all of the children displayed excellent teamwork, batting skills and fielding techniques. The A team won both their matches, 8-4 and 4.5 - 2.5. The B team won their first match 9 - 6.5, but narrowly lost their second game 13 - 8.5. Overall, Haddenham won 3- 1! Thank you to the parents for their fantastic support and help with transporting the children to and from Long Crendon.