



Headteacher's Newsletter - 2022/3 Spring term 1

Dear Parents and Carers

My apologies for the slight delay to the publication of this newsletter - Half term has arrived in a flash and January vanished before I'd even realised!

Staffing News

Mrs Jane Hunt has, this week joined HCJS as a member of our expanding *inclusion team*. Mrs Hunt takes up a role as a Teaching Assistant with a focus on 'Emotionally Based School Avoidance' (EBSA) . This is a brand new role and has been introduced with the support of Buckinghamshire Council's SEND department in recognition of the increasing mental health challenges faced by Primary School pupils. I am delighted that the council has supported us to develop and introduce this innovative and much needed role. Mrs Hunt's work will involve supporting pupils who find getting across the school threshold difficult and she will also offer general guidance and support to our children in the first couple hours of the school day. You may not know that Mrs Perrott, also a member of our inclusion team, delivers one to one emotional support to pupils who are referred to her by our class teachers. I am very proud of our inclusion team and their relentless desire to offer pastoral and emotional support to our pupils. Please say hello to Mrs Hunt when you see her on the gate in the mornings and join me in offering her a big Haddenham Junior School welcome.

Already in post, but having joined HCJS since I last wrote to you are Mrs Sarah Wilson, Mrs Julie Coombs and Miss Tyler Cartwright. Mrs Coombs and Miss Cartwright have been appointed to learning support roles and Mrs Wilson is carrying out both a learning support and midday supervisor role. All have settled in brilliantly and have swiftly become highly valued members of our staff team.

Parents information evening - Save the date

This term's information evening will be held on Tuesday 21st March at 6pm. The topic this time will focus on our Values and ethos and more specifically our behaviour management policies and procedures, rewards and consequences.

The evening will start with a brief talk from me including a general introduction to our Values based approach and will be followed by input from other members of our School Senior Leadership Team looking at some of the themes outlined above.

We hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you, look out for a Weduc with further details to follow early next half term.

Please also remember to put the **Parent Consultation evening** dates in your diaries. Further details will be sent out nearer the time but the dates are Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd March

A busy sporting and cultural calendar

Two weeks ago I was lucky enough to escort a group of year 6 pupils to the Waddesdon Sports Partnership Badminton festival. Despite limited exposure to the sport and only a week or two of preparation, our team finished in a very creditable fourth place. That fourth place finish wasn't what impressed me the most though, what I was most proud of was their brilliant behaviour, their general sportsmanship, support for each other, and the values they showed. I highlight it here because in truth it is not unusual, it is a story I hear repeated time and time again from our staff who accompany pupils on similar events - Haddenham Junior School may not always win the tournaments and festivals we enter, but our pupils always represent us as a school and you their parents enormously well, and at the end of the day that is what matters.

Earlier in the term a large number of children attended the annual Young Voices concert at the NEC arena in Birmingham. This is a great opportunity to meet with other schools from across the country and the children really enjoyed singing in such a large venue.

ARTSMARK award

Where arts, culture and creativity are placed at the core of learning, they become central to the overall values and ethos of a school. Arts and culture will thrive when embedded in approaches to teaching, celebrated routinely and valued for their impact on children and young people's learning and lives. With these important principles in mind we have started on a two year journey to acquire the **ARTSMARK** award. Artsmark is the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England. Mrs Duncan (Art Coordinator) and I recently attended an Artsmark Development Training day. This was the important first step in getting our Artsmark journey off the ground. We will share regular updates on our progress to achieving it via this newsletter and Weduc messages in the coming weeks and months.

The first such update comes directly from Mrs Duncan herself, she has a couple of requests to make...

ARTS FESTIVAL and Games Cafe

*Firstly, we are hoping to hold our second ever ARTS FESTIVAL on **JUNE 9th** this year. I would like to hold a raffle of ARTS related prizes and I am writing to ask for some donations if you feel able to make them; If you are able to help us out with craft or arts related gift donations from Hobbycraft, The Works or similar that we could put together for the raffle on the night I would be very grateful. Please drop any donations into school where they will be gratefully received.*

Please put the date in your diary and look forward to an evening of a celebration of the arts. The peripatetic music teachers are already encouraging their young musicians in preparation for the evening and hopefully we will hear from The Young Voices choir as well as XYZ themselves. Further information to follow.

*Secondly, we would love to start up a **GAMES CAFÉ** at some point, which would be open to children, parents and grandparents. It would be great to see the generations come together over board/card games and perhaps learn something new over a cup of tea and a biscuit or two. In order to get this going we are going to need games! So, if you have any old board games, card games, cribbage boards, chess sets etc... that you no longer require, please think of us and bring them into school where they will be equally, gratefully received.*

Many thanks in advance

Mrs Duncan

New website

In the not too distant future you will notice that our website has a fresh new look. The design work has been completed but I do not have an exact date for it to go live. Keep your eyes peeled in the meantime; I hope you approve and enjoy a better experience with the site.

The web address remains the same:

<https://www.haddenhamjun.co.uk/website>

School Car Park

I have noticed, with some alarm, an increasing number of parents and carers using our school car park at pick up and drop off times; Please **do not** do this unless you have requested access and received written permission from us - such permission is only given in very specific circumstances. The car park is incredibly busy and there is not enough space for our staff as it is without additional vehicles. Quite soon, unauthorised access will not be possible; I would like to give you early notification that over the Easter period, work will be taking place to install a vehicle barrier at the car park entrance. This will prevent any access without a staff fob or code during school hours. Those of you with children at Haddenham St Mary's will be familiar with such access control.

Have a lovely half term break, once again, and as always thanks for your continued support.

Andy Leach
Headteacher



Spring 2- 20th February- 31st March 2023	
Thursday 2nd March	World Book Day
Monday 6th March	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Monday 13th- Friday 17th March	Science Week
Tuesday 21st March	Parent Information Evening 6pm
Wednesday 22nd- Thursday 23rd March	Parents' consultation evenings

Summer 1- 17th April- 26th May 2023	
Monday 24th April	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Monday 8th-Thursday 11th May	Year 6 SATs week

Summer 2- 5th June- 21st July 2023	
Friday 9th June	Arts Festival
Monday 12th June	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Friday 16th- Monday 19th June	Year 6 residential trip (Willersley Castle)
Wednesday 28th - Friday 30th June	School Games Days
Friday 30th June	PTA Summer Fete
Monday 3rd July	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Tuesday 4th July	Bucks transition day
Monday 10th - Wednesday 12th July	Year 4 Woodrow House residential trip
Thursday 13th July	Year 6 Production
Wednesday 19th July	Leavers' assembly