

HCJS (XMAS) Newsletter

Aiming High, Celebrating Success



Newsletter 7

Wednesday 19th December 2018

Mrs Dales

Some sad news to start this week, Mrs Gloria Dales is leaving HCJS after 13 years. Throughout much of that time Mrs Dales has been based in our SEN Department – supporting the work of various SENCOs (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators) and working with groups and individuals in need of additional help. I would like to place on record my thanks for all that she has done to support our pupils throughout her years here. Thank you Gloria, you have had a tremendous impact on the lives of many young people. All of us at HCJS wish you well in your future endeavours.

Mrs Flynn

I am pleased to say that after a prolonged period of ill health, Mrs Flynn will be returning to take up her class teaching role in January. I'm sure that you will join me in welcoming her back when you see her on the playground.

Talking of sickness, it has been a very tough time in school this last month – we have at times been several members of staff down as a pretty virulent form of flu has hit us at HCJS. Thank you for your understanding if your child's class teacher has been absent. If I do not write to you directly, informing you otherwise, it is safe to assume that any teacher absence is only short term.

Mrs Flynn's return means that Miss D (Miss Doroftei to use her actual name), will be moving on to pastures new. Miss D has only been with us for a term but has made a big impression on children and staff alike and has shown fantastic commitment to our school in what was always likely to be a short term role; as I have said to her personally - she has 'gone above and beyond'.

Dropping children off in the morning... A not so polite reminder!

Unfortunately, despite repeated requests, there has been no reduction in the number of parents and carers dropping children off at the Woodways bus stop each and every morning. This is now making me very grumpy indeed! I face repeated calls from local residents to ask you not to do so and I have done my best but it doesn't seem to be enough. Please could I remind you one final time that you must not let your child out of the car either on the road or in the bus stop outside of this school! This is for the safety of your child and other road users. I have decided to write directly to those of you 'caught in the act' Mr Smart, Mrs Palmer and myself will be more visible at the front gate over the next few weeks and months to act as a deterrent – I know I have the backing of the local police on this issue.

Knitting Club

This term, seven children from Years 5 & 6 have been making weekly visits to Haddenham Library, where they have been taught to knit. They chose whether to make a headband or a Christmas bauble and they all mastered knitting under the expert tuition of Haddenham Residents Mary, Pat & Linda. Another group of children will be able to take part in knitting club in February.



The Amazon Book List

Thank you to the kind families who have purchased a book (or five) from our Amazon book list. We are so grateful for your donations and will be putting a sticker in each book saying which families have provided them. Please remember that this book list will be on-going and there is no deadline on it. We know that money can be tight over the Christmas period so if you would prefer to purchase a book in January, the list will still be open for you.

"A Book is for life, not just for Christmas!"

PTA Festive Fayre

Thank you for your support at the recent Festive Fayre, it was such a lovely evening. Due to your generosity, the PTA raised just under £3,000. Thank you so much to everyone who helped to prepare for this event and manned stalls on the night. A special thank you goes to Julie Coombs, our PTA chair, for all her hard work. Julie will be standing down from the role now so we would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her help over the years.

Christmas Tree Festival

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church this year. Both the library and school travel plan trees looked really lovely and were enjoyed by the whole community.



Happy Christmas

On behalf of all the staff, I'd like to thank those of you who have passed on your Christmas wishes and provided our staff room with a fine array of treats. We are very grateful for your kind words and gifts (which will keep us going well into the New Year!).

I'd like to finish, by wishing each and every one of you a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year. Thank you for your support this term. Enjoy the festive season and see you in 2019.

Key Dates for your Diary

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| Monday 7 th January 2019 | School opens for Spring term |
| Wednesday 23 rd January | Open Books (after school) |
| Friday 25 th January | Year 3 Geography Trip |
| Friday 1 st February | Year 4 Viking Day |
| Mon 18 th - Fri 22nd February | Half term week |
| Thursday 7 th March | World Book Day |
| Saturday 16 th March Sunday 24 th March | Bugsy Malone Rehearsals |
| Wednesday 27 th March | Year 6 Oxford Castle Trip |
| Week commencing 1 st April | Production week - Bugsy Malone |

