

Friday 20th June 2025

HCJS NEWS



HEADTEACHER

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Important: Communicating with Us

As mentioned in our recent Weduc message, our **subscription to Weduc will end on Tuesday 24th June**. Going forward, all communication will be through **Arbor** and **email**.

From this date, any messages from school will come via Arbor to the email address you've provided. Please ensure we have your most up-to-date email address.

If you need to contact a member of staff, please email:

 **office@haddenhamjun.co.uk**

Make sure to include who the message is for so it can be redirected appropriately.

The school office is open from **8:15am to 4:00pm**, and messages for teaching staff will be passed on during those hours.

Download the Arbor Parent App

Please download the **Arbor Parent App** to access important information such as your child's attendance and personal details we hold. From **September**, we will also use the app for **trip and activity payments**.

The app allows you to update us directly with any changes to:

- Medical conditions or allergies
- Contact details and home address

You should have received a welcome email from Arbor. To register:

1. Click the link in the email to set your password (use the "first time logging in" or "forgotten password" option).
2. Download the **Arbor Parent App**.
3. Log in using your email and new password.
4. Accept the terms and enter your child's date of birth.

If you need help setting up the app or have any questions, please contact the school office — we're happy to help.

Please note: After **Tuesday 24th June**, **Weduc will no longer be used** to send or receive any messages.

The importance of trips and visits.

There are many times when I feel proud of our pupils, but last week gave me a particular highlight. We took 71 of our Year 6 pupils to Willersley Castle in Derbyshire for our annual residential trip.

The whole experience was a resounding success. Our pupils were simply outstanding—not only in their behaviour but also in their enthusiasm and resilience as they tackled a wide range of adventurous activities, from climbing and canoeing to archery and team-building challenges. The week was packed with learning beyond the classroom: building confidence, strengthening friendships, and developing independence.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the parents for their financial commitment. I know times remain tough, and your support made this invaluable experience possible. My huge appreciation also goes to the dedicated school staff who gave up their time to accompany and support the children throughout the week.

The trip, run in partnership with Manor Adventure, gave our pupils memories to last a lifetime—and skills that will help them grow far beyond the classroom.

Unfortunately, such opportunities are becoming increasingly rare. A 2023 Sutton Trust survey found that half of UK schools had reduced or cancelled trips and outings—double the figure from the previous year. English Heritage also reported a 28% decline in school visits to UK sites since before the pandemic, with rising costs making trips harder to sustain.

This trend is concerning, as the benefits of residential trips for primary-aged pupils are well-documented. These experiences foster resilience, collaboration, independence, and self-esteem—particularly for children who may not otherwise access such opportunities. That was certainly our experience last week.

As these enriching visits become harder to fund and organise, it is more important than ever that we protect and prioritise them in schools like ours.

Mr Leach



Achievements and 'shout outs'

Celebrating Our Rock Heroes!

This week, we were thrilled to host a special party for an amazing group of pupils who achieved **Rock Hero status** on Times Tables Rock Stars — a total of **26 children**!

Reaching Rock Hero level means answering times tables questions in **under one second** on average — a truly incredible achievement that takes dedication, focus, and regular practice.

Our Rock Heroes enjoyed a well-deserved celebration with food, drinks, and party games, recognising their hard work and determination. It was a fantastic way to reward their commitment and inspire others to aim high. Mastering times tables is a key part of building strong maths skills, supporting everything from division and fractions to more advanced problem-solving. We're so proud of all our Rock Heroes — and we can't wait to see who will join their ranks next!

Keep practising and rock on!

Poetry Success for Amy G!

Inspired by our recent poetry slam and class work on the Ancient Greeks, one of our very talented Year 6 pupils, **Amy G**, has been writing poetry at home — and her efforts have certainly paid off!

Amy recently entered a national competition run by the **Classical Association** with a poem based on Greek mythology, titled *The Wooden Horse (Troy)*. We're thrilled to share that she received an award in the **Highly Commended** category — a fantastic achievement in such a prestigious competition.

Congratulations, Amy! The award is thoroughly deserved — we were truly blown away by your work.

Year 5 / 6 Showcase

Congratulations to the pupils from years 5 and 6 who took part in the 'Musicals' showcase this week. I realise that (somewhat controversially) we were unable to put on a full-scale production this year, but it was a truly memorable evening that showcased some incredible HCJS talent – Thank you once again to Miss Cartwright for making it happen.

From the School office

Absence reporting

If your child is going to be absent from school, please ensure that you have contacted the School Office, either by email to office@haddenhamjun.co.uk or by phone on the dedicated absence line, by 9am on the first day of absence. A significant amount of time is wasted each day chasing families to find out why children are not in school. Thank you.

Class Groupings for September

One important piece of news was a little too big to include here, it has been shared with you as a separate letter sent alongside this newsletter., this communication relates to Class grouping changes for September.

Reminder: Keeping Children Safe in the Hot Weather

We know we've already contacted you this week via Weduc regarding the hot weather, but we feel it's important to reiterate the message here. With temperatures remaining high, it is essential to ensure your child is well protected throughout the school day. Please make sure they come to school with:

- Plenty of water to stay hydrated
- A sunhat to protect them from the sun
- Sun cream applied before they arrive at school

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep the children safe and comfortable during this warm spell.

Dogs

Please could we politely remind you that no dogs are allowed on the school site.

You can reach us at...

Haddenham Community Junior School.

Woodways

Haddenham, Aylesbury

Bucks, HP17 8DS

01844291829

office@haddenhamjun.co.uk

<http://www.haddehamjun.co.uk>

Upcoming dates:

Mon 23rd – Fri 27th June – School Games Week (PE kits to be worn all week please)

Friday 27th June – School Games Day.

Come and join us as follows:

Years 3&4 9.15am – 12 noon

Year 5&6 1.15pm – 3.25pm

Tuesday 1st July – Bucks Transition Day

Mon 7th July – Open Books

Fri 11th July – Reports out to parents

Thurs 17th July – Y6 Leavers Assembly
9.30am

Mon 21st July – Year 6 leavers prom

Weds 23rd July – End of the school year
1.30pm pick up