



Headteacher's Newsletter - September 2023

Welcome to the new school Year Everyone!

I hope you all had a fantastic summer break, it's ironic that the most summery weather for weeks greets our return for the Autumn term. For Parents and carers new to HCJS - you are particularly welcome, I hope you and your children enjoy being part of the HCJS family. Here is my first newsletter of 2023/24. I aim to write to you once a half term with the latest news from our school.

School Photographs

On Monday 11th September, our school photographer Veronica Stewart will be coming to take the children's individual portrait photographs. Please ensure that they are wearing their smartest uniform (no PE kits that day). Children with siblings at HCJS will have their family picture taken during the school day however if your child has a sibling at one of our local infant schools, you are welcome to bring them in from 8.15am (via the pedestrian gate) to have their picture taken together.

Weduc

Reach more parents by Weduc (or Weduc as we refer to it) is our main method of communication with parents. To those of you new to the school, please ensure that you have downloaded the app and logged in with the enrolment code sent home earlier this week. If you have any problems accessing Weduc you are welcome to call Mrs Borchart or Mrs Scott in the School Office.

Meet the Teacher Evening

On Thursday 14th September we will be holding our Meet the Teacher Evening. We would like to invite you to come into school to meet your child's new teacher, see their classroom and to hear from them about all the exciting plans for the year ahead along with the organisation and routines in place. Timings are shown in the calendar below.

You will also see that we run regular 'Open Books' sessions where you are invited to come into class after school to see your child's work and speak to the teacher.

Save the Dates

As an appendix to this newsletter, you will find our provisional diary dates for the year. These are of course subject to change as the year progresses but on the whole we try to adhere to them to allow parents to plan well in advance.

Values of the month for September and October

These are **Compassion** and **Humility** respectively. Ask your child about their understanding of what they mean at the end of each month, hopefully they will be able to share examples of these values in action.

Parking

Please could we remind you to be courteous to our neighbours when parking during morning drop off and afternoon collection times. I don't want to start the term on a negative note or labour the point but blocking driveways, parking in the bus stop or on the pavement do not count as courteous.

And finally...

Whilst we hope that things always go smoothly, in a busy school sometimes they don't however hard we try. I've just been made aware that we received a number of complaints about the delay to opening the gates on Thursday morning (my apologies once again), whilst we welcome feedback and always reflect on things that go wrong we would ask you to give that feedback in a respectful and polite manner please.

On a more general note, if you ever want to bring something to our attention that has caused you concern, please remember that you can get in touch to discuss it. Myself and the Senior Leadership Team are always available for appointments if you contact the School Office. Please don't wait until the end of the year to contact us; if you come and discuss it with us in a timely manner, we may even be able to help rectify the issue or remedy your concern.

With very warm wishes

Andy Leach

Headteacher

You can follow me on twitter ([@HcjsHeadteacher](#))

Autumn 1- 5th September- 19th October 2023	
Tuesday 12th September	Secondary Transfer Test Practice
Monday 11th September	School photos
Thursday 14th September	Meet the teacher- Years 3+4 - 4:00-4:30pm Years 5+6 - 4:30-5:00pm
Thursday 14th September	Secondary Transfer Test
Friday 29th September	Macmillan cake sale
Monday 2nd October	Open Books 3:30pm - 4:00pm
Friday 13th October	Secondary Transfer Test results published
Monday 6th November	Open morning and evening

Autumn 2 - 30th October- 19th December 2023	
Tuesday 14th - Wednesday 15th November	Parents' consultation evenings
Monday 13th -Friday 17th November	Anti-bullying week
Friday 17th November	Children in Need
Wednesday 27th November	Parent Information Evening 6pm (PSHE)
Friday 1st December	PTA Festive Fayre (To be confirmed)
Monday 4th December	Open books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Tuesday 14th December	Year 3 Music and mince pies 1:30pm

Spring 1- 4th January- 8th February 2024	
Thursday 4th January	Back to school
Monday 8th January	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Monday 5th February	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Monday 5th- Friday 11th February	Children's mental health week

Spring 2- 19th February- 28th March 2024	
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
Monday 4th March	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Monday 11th- Friday 15th March	Science Week
Wednesday 20nd- Thursday 21st March	Parent Consultation Evenings

Summer 1- 15th April- 23rd May 2024	
Monday 8th April	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Monday 13th-Thursday 16th May	SATs week and Spring assessments

Summer 2- 3rd June- 23rd July 2024	
Monday 3rd June	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Monday 17th- Friday 21st June	Year 6 residential trip (Willersley Castle)
Monday 13th May	Secondary Transfer Information Evening (Year 5 parents only)
Monday 1st July- Friday 5th July	School Games Days (Parents to attend on Friday)
Monday 1st July	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Tuesday 2nd July	Bucks transition day
Monday 8th - Wednesday 10th July	Year 4 Woodrow trip
Tuesday 16th July	Reports out to parents
Wednesday 17th July (9.15am)	Leavers' assembly
Tuesday 23rd July - 1.30pm	School closes for the summer