



Headteacher's Newsletter - 2023/24 Autumn term 1 (No 2)

Dear Parents and Carers,

September has vanished in a flash and half term has almost arrived already. How time flies when you're having fun! There is a huge amount of news to share with you in this newsletter; and some of that news is very important - There are several big changes to tell you about...

Staffing News

(Firstly some happy news)

Miss Hill (4HD and Assistant Headteacher) has left us! But don't worry Rachael hasn't, she has just got married and will now be known as Mrs Sayers. The class will of course, now be known as 4SD!

(and some sad news)

After 18 years of dedicated service to HCJS, Mrs Michelle Borchart, will be retiring at the end of this half term. Mrs Borchart has been an integral part of our school community, always ready with a warm smile, kind word, and helping hand for both pupils and parents alike. Her commitment to our school and her genuine care for everyone she interacted with will be deeply missed by staff, pupils, and families.

Personally, I am incredibly grateful for everything Mrs Borchart has done for our school, as a Teaching Assistant and more recently in the School Office, and although we will all miss her, myself and the whole HCJS team wish her the very best as she embarks on her exciting new chapter.

Mr Smart

In news that may surprise and disappoint many of you, I need to let you know that Mr Smart has stepped down as HCJS's Deputy Headteacher. He came to this decision primarily in response to personal circumstances - **Mrs** Smart has recently become a Headteacher and with a busy schedule of after school commitments for his children - he's chosen to put them all first; a real testament to the brilliant family man he is!

The great news is, we aren't losing Mr Smart though - he is remaining at HCJS and has already taken up a new and exciting role in the Nest. For the last week or two, he's been looking after (and further developing) this fantastic new(ish) space and the pupil's that are accessing it. He'll

still be at the morning gate regularly - and I know he'll be delighted if you stop by for a chat when you see him.

As I'm sure you can appreciate, Mr Smart's change in role has had a significant knock on effect for our senior leadership team:

School Leadership going forwards...

For the next year or so, and as our new (federation) working relationship with HCIS emerges and settles down, myself and the governors have decided not to appoint a new Deputy Headteacher. Mr Smart's role will be covered in the interim by the existing Senior Leadership Team of Miss McMahon, Mr Gore and Mrs Sayers. All three of whom have the role of **Assistant Headteacher** and on any given day are more than capable of deputising for me when I am not available or away from school.

3GT

To facilitate these changes, I have had to make some difficult decisions - one of which has been to reduce Mr Gore's teaching commitment. To that end, Mr Gore will step away from teaching 3GT from the start of next half term. Whilst I'm sure this will be a disappointment to many of you, I'm delighted to let you know that we have already appointed a lovely and experienced replacement teacher to join Mrs Tibbs from November - and she is already known to the children! Mrs Emma Fawcett will join us at the start of next half term, although she has already taught 3GT a couple of times in recent weeks in order to (secretly) help her get off to a flying start when she officially starts.

4SD

Yet another piece of staffing news that I need to inform you of is that Mrs Duncan will be taking an extended period of leave after half term to undergo a (long planned) operation. Whilst we will all obviously miss Mrs Duncan during her period of recuperation, her (temporary) replacement is already with us, so I'm really pleased to be able to let you know that Mrs Jan Millington will move over from her cover teaching role to partner Mrs Sayers in looking after 4SD until Mrs Duncan returns. Mrs Millington will teach the class on Thursdays and Fridays. I expect Mrs Duncan to be back at the start of the Spring term.

Welcome Mr Borgnis.

I'm really pleased to be able to tell you about another new appointment to the team at HCJS. Mr Oliver Borgnis has recently joined us to take up a Teaching Assistant role. Please make Mr Borgnis very welcome when you see him - He will often be in and around the vicinity of the entrance gate and the Nest at the start of the school day.

Now I can move on to other, non staff related news:

As promised at the end of last academic year, I have updated the curriculum pages on our website. Our new 'Curriculum map' indicates what your child will be learning this year in each of the National Curriculum subjects (Other than English and Maths, which have their own separate pages)

This downloadable document can be found here:

<https://www.haddenhamjun.co.uk/web/introduction/523324>

In addition to the Curriculum map, I have updated each subject page with a Curriculum overview for parents and carers document. These documents offer a summary of learning in each subject unit or topic.

By the way of example, contained within the Geography document (<https://www.haddenhamjun.co.uk/web/geography/642443>), you will find the following:

What are rivers and how are they used? (Year 4 : Summer term)

Exploring the different ways water is stored and moves, developing an understanding of the water cycle. Naming and mapping major rivers both in the UK and globally. Learning about the features and courses of a river and how they are used by humans, and studying a local river to identify these features.

I hope you find these new pages useful, particularly if you are planning any educational outings over future weekends or holidays - (visits to museums, science centres, or historical sites for example). Linking any such trips to what we are teaching in school can really bring that learning to life for your child.

Morning arrival at school

As you may have noticed, the front gate to school is now remaining locked until 8.40am every morning. This is because our playground is only supervised by school staff from that time. There has been an increasing number of children arriving at school before 8.40am who would then be unsupervised on our school grounds. Unless your child is attending a morning group or intervention that has been previously agreed with teachers, can we respectfully ask that children are not dropped off at school before 8.40am please.

And please...once again, do not drop off in the bus layby, near or on the level crossing or on the pavement in front of the gates. Many thanks.

And finally:

Football success

Our year 6 football teams were very successful at the recent District competition - Particularly the boys team who were crowned as champions! Congratulations to all who represented our school with such distinction; we're all looking forward to the County finals (in which we will represent Aylesbury Vale).



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

Andy Leach, Headteacher.

Autumn 1 - Thursday 5th September - Thursday 24th October	
Friday 25th October	INSET DAY

Autumn 2- Monday 4th November to Friday 20th December	
Monday 4th November	Open Books : 3.30pm - 4pm
Monday 11th November	Open Morning & Evening for Year 2 parents
Friday 15th November	Children in Need
Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th November	Parents' consultation evenings
Monday 25th November	Parent Information Evening 6pm (Details TBC)
Monday 2nd December	Open Books : 3.30pm - 4pm
Thursday 12th December	Year 3 Music and mince pies : 2pm - 3pm
Friday 13th December	Festive Fayre and Jolly Jumper Day
Wednesday 18th December	Year 4 Pantomime trip

Spring 1- Tuesday 7th January to Friday 14th February	
Monday 6th January	INSET DAY
Monday 13th January	Open Books : 3.30pm - 4pm
Friday 17th January	Young Voices concert (Birmingham)
Monday 20th January	Parent Information Evening 6pm (Details TBC)
Monday 3rd February	Open Books : 3.30pm - 4pm
Monday 3rd- Friday 7th February	Children's Mental Health Week

Spring 2- Monday 24th February to Friday 4th April	
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Monday 10th March	Open Books : 3.30pm - 4pm

Monday 9th- Friday 14th March	Science Week
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Summer 1 - Tuesday 22nd April to Thursday 22nd May	
Wednesday 30th April & Thursday 1st May	Parents' consultation evenings
Monday 5th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 12th-Thursday 15th May	Year 6 SATs
Monday 19th May	Year 5 Parents Information Evening (Secondary Transfer) 6pm - 7pm
Friday 23rd May	INSET DAY

Summer 2 - Monday 2nd June to Wednesday 23rd July	
Monday 2nd June	Open Books 3.30 - 4.00pm
Monday 9th to Friday 13th June	Year 6 residential trip (Willersley Castle)
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th June	Sports Week
Friday 27th June	School Games Day Years 3 & 4 Morning session Years 5 & 6 Afternoon session
Tuesday 1st July	Bucks transition day
Monday 7th July	Open Books : 3.30pm - 4pm
Friday 11th July	Reports out to parents
Thursday 17th July	Leavers Assembly
Wednesday 23rd July	School ends at 1.30pm