

GOVERNOR UPDATE

ISSUE NO 5 | WINTER TERM 2024

HOBLETTS MANOR JUNIOR
SCHOOL



THE GOVERNING BOARD

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Winter Term Newsletter! As we embrace the chilly season, we're excited to share highlights from the past term. Your support and engagement are invaluable to our school's success, and we appreciate your continued partnership.

In this newsletter, you'll find updates on academic progress, extracurricular activities, and initiatives shaping our school community. From achievements to ongoing developments, each story reflects our collective efforts towards student growth and excellence.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, let's continue fostering a collaborative environment where every child can thrive.

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SCHOOL UPDATES

As a school, Hobletts Manor Juniors continues to work with partner agencies in enhancing, and sharing, best practice.

This includes a recent visit from our School Effectiveness Advisor (SEA), with a focus on evaluating the Quality of Education in History. In her visit she met with Mrs Holman, our Subject Lead, before jointly undertaking Learning Walks and talking with children about their learning.

She noted, 'It is evident that the teachers at Hobletts are a dedicated team of practitioners. They have embraced change with enthusiasm, and this has had a huge impact on the quality of education for history..... Teachers facilitated learning through carefully planned lessons and activities, inclusive for all learners..... The pupils were quite rightly proud of their books and were eager to talk about their learning..... Pupils were very clear about what it is to be a historian, using subject specific vocabulary with confidence. They discussed the importance of asking questions, making hypotheses and how making links between the past and present day may prevent unwanted events continuing.'

Teachers have also had the opportunity to 'Focus on Formative' (looking at assessment within lessons)' working alongside a consultant as we look to further enhance our practice in each and every lesson, supporting and challenging all our learners in a timely way.

In addition, leaders also continue to showcase our work to others. This term, Ms Reid has been a guest speaker for Herts for Learning (HfL) sharing how she has taken Mathematics from 'Satisfactory to a Strength' with mathematics leaders across the County. This has led to a request from a delegate to visit our school. Ms Palmer, our English Lead, has also worked with Hertfordshire colleagues discussing the implementation of our Whole Class Guided Reading sessions with Team Amber showing what this looks like 'in action.' Mrs S Short too continues her work as a HfL Consultant SEA.

The school has also invested in infrastructure and security in 2024. Following the installation of perimeter fencing and security gates at the end of the summer term, the entry control system for vehicle access is now fully operational. This has had a significant impact on restricting vehicle movement on the school grounds at peak times and both the Juniors and Infants school teams thank parents and carers for their cooperation and patience whilst implementing the new procedures.

CURRENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES

We are currently seeking new governors to expand the team. **We have vacancies for:**

- **2 x Parent/Carer Governors**
- **1 x Local Authority Governor**
- **1 x Co-opted Governor**

Please contact the school office for further information about becoming a Governor.

CURRENT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Name	Governor Type	Role	Term Ends
Michael Downes	Co-opted Governor	Website (shadowing GDPR and Sports Premium)	11/04/28
Lee Allwork	Staff Governor	Staff Governor	11/12/26
Alex Bwomono	Co-opted Governor	Vice Chair, H&S, Safeguarding	30/08/27
Liz Polson	Co-opted Governor	Pupil premium, Curriculum leads	06/11/26
Helena Marks-Dwyer	Co-opted Governor	SEN, Wellbeing	06/11/26
Daniel Taylor	Parent Governor	Chair, Sports premium, GDPR	21/11/25
Sally Short	Headteacher	Headteacher	For duration of post

GOVERNOR CONTRIBUTIONS / VISITS

In October, Helena visited the school in her roles as both Wellbeing and SEND Governor, and the following is a summarised overview of her experience:

'It was a privilege, as always, to see the dedication and care that define Hobletts.

During my visit, I reviewed the results of the recent staff wellbeing questionnaire. These were overwhelmingly positive, with **100% of staff feeling confident that managers would support any wellbeing needs** and agreeing that the **Senior Leadership Team actively supports staff mental wellbeing**. This reflects the school's ethos of care not just for the children but also for the adults who work so hard to support them. It was heartening to observe the supportive relationships among staff firsthand.

As SEND Governor, I also looked at the provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Hobletts supports a higher-than-average number of children with SEND, including several with EHCPs (Education, Health and Care Plans). While some children are waiting for specialist provision, staff provide **individualised support** and demonstrate impressive flexibility to meet their needs. Despite challenges in the wider SEND system, the school maintains **high expectations for all pupils**, and staff adapt daily to ensure every child is supported.

Hobletts remains an **inclusive and caring school**, and I am proud to contribute to its ongoing success.'

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOBLETTs

Week commencing Monday 16th December 2024 Elfridges

Friday 20th December Pantomime in school for children Final day of the autumn term.

Monday 6th January 2025 Staff INSET - school closed to children

Tuesday 7th January 2024 Children return to school

SEE YOU IN 2025...

Thank you for taking the time to read through this. We hope you have found this issue informative and useful. Any feedback is welcome so please send it through to the school office who will ensure we receive it.

As a governing board we wish you all the best for the coming holidays and look forward to sending you the next update in the Spring, and welcoming new members!

Daniel Taylor - Chair (On behalf of the Governing Board)