



# Learning and Achieving Together

## Hobletts Manor Junior School Newsletter

### 21st July 2025



This has been another extraordinarily busy year, with amazing opportunities throughout the year enriching our core curriculum. Your children have continued to work hard and constantly remind us of why we love our job. I am extraordinarily lucky to be part of an amazing team here at Hobletts and would like to take this opportunity again to say a huge thank you to the staff and Governors. A special mention also to our FoHMS Committee and all the volunteers who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to further enhance the opportunities on offer to the children and to yourselves for your continued support.

'Au Revoir' to Team Topaz and Team Turquoise. Thank you all for a fabulous four years, we are incredibly proud of you all. Time to shine in different schools, but shine you shall!

Good luck also to Ms Florido and Miss Thornton and Miss Richards who move on to pastures new. We look forward to welcoming Ms Andrew and Mrs Booth who join our Teaching Assistant team next year and Miss Summers who will be class teacher of Team Saffron. We also welcome back Miss Smith following her maternity leave.

Have a wonderful holiday everyone!

### Congratulations to this half term's Values Award Winners



Team Amber	Connie, Alisa, George, Harry and Erin
Team Azure	Iyana, Bobby, Eylul, Edon and Freddy
Team Citron	Ariaana, Jasper, Tyler, Mason and Dolly-Rose
Team Cobalt	Ella-Grace, Elissa, Jaxx, Toby and Freya
Team Saffron	Sonny, Henry, Olivia, Millie, Daniel and Zayan
Team Sapphire	Tilly, Eleanor, Ben, Vinny and Harry
Team Topaz	Antonia, Eunice, Mason, Matus and Isla-Mae
Team Turquoise	Charlie E, Charlie B, Max, Lexie and Emmie



### Congratulations to the following children who have all achieved the 2024/2025 Reading Challenge by reading at least seven times each and every week, amazing!

Year 3	Erin in Team Amber and Bobby and Ruben in Team Azure.
Year 4	Jasper, Charlotte, Niamh, Zachary and Oscar in Team Citron and Connie in Team Cobalt.
Year 5	Georgia, Hithesh, Tilly, Zoe, Vinny, Mia, Adam and Harry in Team Saffron and Emma in Team Sapphire.
Year 6	Mason, Mia, Chloe, Amelia, Grace, Jack, Hollie, Harry and Kacey in Team Topaz and Lily in Team Turquoise.

**Congratulations also to Harry and Georgia in Team Saffron, who have both achieved the 2024/25 Rocking Challenge by rocking at least seven times each and every week, amazing!**

Looking for a new book over the holidays? Click on the following link for some ideas

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/>

**Congratulations to....**

Erin in Team Amber, Isaac, Logan, Henry, Georgia, Bobby, Ruben, Cooper and Dominykas in Team Azure, Jasper, Charlotte, Zachary, Oscar and Niamh in Team Citron, Andreea and Connie in Team Cobalt, Georgia, Tilly, Eleanor, Harry, Adam, Hithesh, Zoe, Lily-May, Mia, Skyla and Vinny in Team Sapphire, Emma, Harrison and Sonny in Team Sapphire, Lily, Harper, Lexie and Noah in Team Turquoise and Mason, Mia, Chloe, Amelia, Grace, Jack, Hollie, Harry and Kacey in Team Topaz

**who have all achieved the Reading Challenge this half term by reading at least seven**

**Congratulations to.... Harry and Georgia who completed the Rocking Challenge this half term by rocking at least seven times each and every week, amazing!**

***Congratulations to the following children and their families for reading at least five times last week....***

Year 3	Mikayal, Harry, Isabella, Avneet, Eoghan and Erin in Team Amber. Michaela, Archie, Dominykas, Henry, Georgia, Isaac, Bobby, Drew, Logan, Sienna, Edon and Iyana in Team Azure.
Year 4	Charlotte, Zachary, Niamh, Maya and Amalia in Team Citron. Mason, Adam, Connie, Andreea, Ella, Isabella, Ziggy and Elissa in Team Cobalt.
Year 5	Teddy H, Nancy, Aimee, Chase, Olive, Harrison, Sonny, Sophie, Emma and Dylan in Team Saffron. James, Ashnee, Samuel, Eveleen, Yusuf, Lily-May, Zoe, Harry, Georgia, Lucas, Vinny, Tilly, Mia, Adam, Hithesh and Skyla in Team Sapphire.
Year 6	Oscar, Antonia, Kamari, Amelia, Grace, Ella, Chloe, Hollie, Jack, Mason, Kacey, Harry and Mia in Team Topaz. Iga, Kai, Lexie, Emmie, Lily, Niall, Max, Harper, Stanley, Noah and Zac in Team Turquoise.

***.....and those who read at least seven times last week attaining the Reading Challenge!***

Year 3	Isabella, Avneet, Eoghan and Erin in Team Amber. Dominykas, Henry, Georgia, Isaac, Bobby, Drew, Logan, Sienna, Edon and Iyana in Team Azure.
Year 4	Charlotte, Zachary, Niamh, Maya and Amalia in Team Citron. Connie, Andreea, Ella, Isabella, Ziggy and Elissa in Team Cobalt.
Year 5	Olive, Harrison, Sonny, Sophie, Emma and Dylan in Team Saffron. Yusuf, Lily-May, Zoe, Harry, Georgia, Lucas, Vinny, Tilly, Mia, Adam, Hithesh and Skyla in Team Sapphire.
Year 6	Amelia, Grace, Ella, Chloe, Hollie, Jack, Mason, Kacey, Harry and Mia in Team Topaz. Lexie, Emmie, Lily, Niall, Max, Harper, Stanley, Noah and Zac in Team Turquoise.

***Congratulations to the following children for rocking at least 5 times last week.... Drew and Isaac in Team Azure, Maya and Amalia in Team Citron, Ziggy, Connie, Olivia, Isabella and Elissa in Team Cobalt, Sophie, Gracie, Maddy and Dylan in Team Saffron, Harry, Tilly, Lucas and Zoe in Team Sapphire, Grace, Eunice, Andre and Amelia in Team Topaz and Penny and Niall in Team Turquoise.***

***.....and to Jessica and Harry in Team Amber, Bobby in Team Azure, Jasper and Dolly-Rose in Team Citron, Georgia in Team Sapphire and Lexie in Team Turquoise who all achieved the Rocking Challenge last week.***

### Year 3

What a busy half term we have had! In Science, we have been looking at and studying light and shadow. We started our unit by learning how shadows are formed and going outside to draw around our very own shadows. We then investigated what happens to shadows when the properties of light are changed. We carried out experiments, changing the distance between the object and the light source, the brightness of the light and the direction. We have also used data loggers, to measure the light around the school to see how it varied. We found it really interesting to learn how light from the sun can be dangerous and discussed what we can do to stay safe from the sun by protecting our skin and also our eyes.

In our RE lessons, we have enjoyed learning about both Christianity and Islam, looking at why each of the artefacts and symbols is important to each religion. We learnt about religious stories from both the Qur'an and the Bible, and the moral behind them discussing how these sacred texts and stories influence the lives of Christians and Muslims by showing them how to lead their lives.

In Computing this term, we have been learning how to create a PowerPoint presentation, adding pictures, slides, transitions and animations to our presentations. In order to interest the reader, our challenge was to ensure the presentation was interesting, informative and eye catching.

As Geographers we have used atlases and maps to locate European countries. We have also looked at ordinance survey symbols and found locations using 4 and 6 figure grid references. In Art this half term, we designed our own Lotus Flowers in our art books and learnt about the key elements of using clay. Once we had completed our designs, we created beautiful Lotus Flowers out of clay. It was very messy, but great fun!

In French this term, we really enjoyed learning new nouns and some key phonemes. We found out that nouns have different genders, some nouns are masculine and some are feminine, changing how we pronounce the determiner before the noun.

We had great fun during sports week, trying out many different activities, some for the first time

As you can see, we have had a wonderful year! Well done Year 3; have a fantastic summer.



### Year 4.

It has been another busy and fun filled half term in Year 4! We have squeezed a lot in to our last 7 weeks and have really enjoyed our learning across the curriculum.

In Art, we have enhanced our learning from last half term on the Ancient Greek's by learning about Clarice Cliff and exploring a range of Greek vases. We experimented with different types of Greek pattern and vase shape in order to create an initial design, before making our own vases out of clay. We then carefully carved our Greek patterns and pictures into our vases. Finally, we painted our vases in earthy colours to reflect the Greek vases from ancient times. We are very proud of our final products!

In Science, we have been learning about states of matter. We learnt about the three different states of matter, and had fun classifying a range of objects into the three states: solid, liquid and gas. We learnt about heating and cooling, and how this changes the states of matter. We then had the opportunity to change the states of matter ourselves using ice cubes and chocolate! We have learnt about the water cycle and what happens at each stage, and set up our own experiment in class where we have been able to observe the water cycle in action!

This half term, we have also very much enjoyed having the opportunity to spend time in our new teams. **Everyone has mixed well** with their new classes and enjoyed becoming familiar with friendly faces. We are very proud of the positivity and enthusiasm that the children have shown, ready for year 5.

We are also incredibly proud of EVERYONE in year 4 for their AMAZING MTC results! They have all worked so hard, demonstrating resilience and dedication to improving their speed and accuracy for their times tables facts. You are all superstars year 4!

Well done Year 4 and we wish you all a safe and happy summer holiday!



## Year 5!

In Science this half term we have been busy learning about the lifecycles of different animal groups from mammals, insects, amphibians to birds. We have looked at the lifecycles of plants and learnt what the difference is between sexual and asexual reproduction. We dug up (and replanted!) some daffodil bulbs and discovered that the bulbs had asexually reproduced more bulbs - this will give us a bumper display of flowers next year!

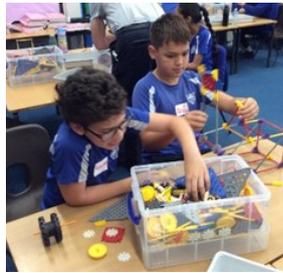
In Geography this term we have been learning about the key aspects of physical Geography. Our lessons have focused on climate zones, biomes, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. We have enjoyed learning how to use atlases to find the height of mountains. It was also interesting to discuss the effect tourism in the mountains has on local people and then read about, in the news, the same problems faced by many people in other European countries.

In RE we have discussed Ultimate Questions, sharing our own opinions about things like how the world was created or what happens after we die or if we have a soul. We also looked at how different religions try to answer some of these questions. We learnt about creation stories from different religions and found similarities and differences between them.

The focus in PSHE this term has been 'relationships' and 'changing me.' We have learnt about the pressures social media place on some people and how to improve our self-esteem. We have also learnt what puberty is and how it affects both boys and girls; how amazing the human body is and how it is able to reproduce.

In DT, we thoroughly enjoyed our Catapult workshop when we built a small catapult using lollipops and elastic bands and a larger, more creative catapult using K'NEX building pieces. It was great fun! We also had great fun during Sport's Week this half term and participated in lots of fun activities like dancing, skateboarding and orienteering.

It has been a really busy Year 5, well done everyone and enjoy a well deserved holiday!



## Year 6

We are enormously proud of our Year 6 teams, not only for this half term, but for the year as a whole. Their resilience, kindness, dedication to learning, sense of humour and growing maturity during this year has been AMAZING and we will miss each and every one of you next year! This year has flown by but memories have been made and there has been lots to enjoy!

This half term in particular, we have so enjoyed getting into the swing of rehearsing for our school play 'Pirates of the Curry Bean'. It was a pleasure to see the dedication all the children showed towards learning their lines and to watch them speaking their words with confidence and expression on the big stage! It is clear we definitely have some stars in the making! Thank you to everyone who came to watch the shows. As historians, we have continued to investigate The Maya, including having a go at writing using Maya glyphs and designing our very own Maya gods! As scientists, we found out about the human body systems (circulatory and digestive) and also found out about the body systems of animals.

As artists, we have learnt about graffiti and worked hard to create some gorgeous graffiti murals of our own. Well done Year 6 - your intricate details and vibrant colours look stunning! We also thoroughly enjoyed cooking our Mayan inspired fajitas!

In Sports Week we loved getting active and participating in a range of activities including Ninja Skipping, Tennis, Basketball and Archery where we discovered we have some sharp shooters in our midst. Hopefully the sun will continue to shine as we wish you all a wonderful summer and lots of luck for next year. Do remember to pop back and say hello if you get a moment - we would love to hear how you are getting on!

Congratulations on a SUPER DUPER year, Year 6 - you are more than ready for your move to secondary school and they will be lucky to have you.



## PE Overview

What a year it has been once again. We have attended over 38 events this year, more than any Primary School in Dacorum and although success is often measured by results it is the enjoyment and experience that is truly important. I close with highlights from this half term....

Netball - our Year 6 Mixed Netball team walked away winners at a tournament hosted by Longdean. All the children showed amazing teamwork well done to Lexie, Iga, Eunice, Emmie, Andre, Kai, Lily and Isla-Mae.

Cricket - we recently attended both the boys and girls cricket festivals hosted by Leverstock Green Cricket Club and Hemel Hempstead Cricket Club. Many of the boys had only played cricket within school but played really well coming third in their group. The girls won every game on the way to the final before being crowned Dacorum

Champions and going on to represent Dacorum at the County finals They showed fantastic determination throughout coming third in their group, an amazing achievement. Well done to Kai, Kian, Andre, Logan, Teddy A, Stanley, Matus, Woodrow and Isla-Mae, Grace, Chloe, Eva-Mai, Lexie, Aisha, Lily and Iga.

Ultimate Frisbee - at the end of June we took 3 teams along to the Year 5 Ultimate Frisbee tournament. The children had been practicing this sport as part of their PE lessons and showed great enthusiasm and resilience. All the teams played really well showing all of our school values. Menaal, Mia, Hugo and Dylan then went on to win the tournament and would represent Dacorum at the School Games County Final, brilliant!

Can Do Festival an opportunity for a group of our children to participate in a range of sports including wheelchair basketball, Judo, Archery and Roundnet. All the children enjoyed the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities and learn new skills.

Football - after the races and events were completed at our Sports Stars Festival, nine girls made their way to St Albans High School for Girls for a Year 4/5 football tournament. Even though they had been involved in a very active morning, the girls played some incredible free flowing football considering this was their first time together as a team. After coming top in their group they missed out on the final after narrowly losing to the last kick of the game. This didn't dent their enthusiasm though as they won the third place match which was a fantastic achievement! Well done to Tilly, Mia, Aisha, Maddy, Ella-Grace, Isla, Lily-May, Freya and Skyla

Herts. School Games Celebration - this event sees children from Primary and Secondary schools come together to take part in a wide variety of activities either for county finals or take part events. The day started with a presentation from TV Gladiator star Nitro and a performance from Rebaz who did a football freestyle display. The Year 5 Frisbee team then competed at county level and managed to win all their games and be crowned County champions. Well done to all those who took part - Charlie E, Grace, Ella, Kai Isla-Niamh, Chloe, Tyler and Teddy T.

Thank you to everyone for their support this year and a particular shout out to Year 6 who leave us with so many memories and stories to cherish. It's been such a privilege to have taught you and you will all be missed.

## Congratulations to our recent stars

	Values	Mathematics	English	Curriculum
<b>Amber</b>	Amir, Samuel, Mikayal, Kai and Joshua	Isabella, Euan, Jessica and Ava	Harper, Henry, William, Ranveer, Ryan, Euan and Ansh	Isabella, Yasmine, Nelson, Jessica, William and Avneet
<b>Azure</b>	Sienna, Isaac, Cooper and Rory	Tate, Rory, Kenny and Margot	Dominykas, Henry, Mia and Charlie	Ruben, Tate, Georgia and Isla
<b>Citron</b>	Ariaana, Zachary, Isla and Lily	Lily, Rishil, Darius and Maya	Amalia, Mason, Zachary and Rishil	Zinziile, Jax, Hussnain and
<b>Cobalt</b>	Andreea, Freya, Toby and Ruby	Adam, Mason W, Joseph and Carter	Kian, Millie, Connie, Isla-Niamh and Isabella	Ilinca Ziggy, Isabella and Osman
<b>Saffron</b>	Henry, Chase, Aimee and Millie	Emma, Olivia, Millie and Dylan	Dylan, Maddy, Poppy, Aimee, Teddy T and	Sophie, Hugo and Zayan
<b>Sapphire</b>	Oscar, Hithesh, Lucas and Olivia	Aisha, Vinny, Eleanor and Aksh	Kealan, Zoe, Ashnee, Adam and Vinny	Lily, Ollie-Jay, Yusuf and Izzy
<b>Topaz</b>	Amelia, Grace and Jessica and Team Topaz	Amelia, Isla-Mae, Grace and Jazmine	Dylan, Poppy, Harry, Jack, Antonia and Eva	Jessica, Ella, Kacey, Kamari, Mason, Antonia, Mia, Bow, Harry, Isla-Mae and Eva
<b>Turquoise</b>	Kian, John, Lexie, Frankie, Stanley and Charlie E	Iga, Eva-Mai, Mark and Penny		Niall, Lily, Charlie E, Eva-Mai, Emmie, Evie and Demi



There has been some amazing rocking this term and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the following children for their commitment.

**Most Top 5 Positions in the League Table** - Noah, Lexie, Iga, Penny and Lily all from Team Turquoise.

**Our Speediest Rocker** was Noah

**Most Top 5 Positions in Team Top Tens** - Teddy T, Noah, Lexie, Lily and Iga from Team Turquoise.

to Mrs Sides **Top Staff Rocker** all year

and finally to Noah in Team Turquoise who enters our **TTRS Hall of Fame** for his dedication to rocking!



My name is Anne Weedon and I am the Educational Mental Health Practitioner at Hobletts Manor Junior School – working as part of the Dacorum Mental Health Support Team.

I am at the school every Wednesday, holding one-to-one sessions with parents/Carers to help their children with fears and worries, or with challenging behaviour. I also work with small groups of children on subjects such as anxiety, friendships or emotional regulation – and deliver mental health workshops to children, staff and parents/carers too.

I have four children and two cats and enjoy writing children's books.

I work particularly closely with Mrs C Short, the school's Inclusion and Mental Health Lead and we would very much like to extend an invitation for you to join us in school for a coffee and a chat/meet on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September between 8.50-9.45am. We look forward to seeing you.

#### Keeping your children safe online

We have become aware of a number of children discussing Italian Brainrot, a meme trend featuring wacky, AI-generated characters (like a three-legged shark in Nike shoes) paired with a sing-song voice that sounds vaguely Italian. Please see below a link that contains further information for you and advice on how you can talk to your child about messages contained within the programme..

<https://cybersafetyproject.com/italian-brainrot/>

### Key Dates and Events ....

Tuesday 22nd July 2025	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 22nd July 2025	Final day of term for children. - Non uniform Day FoHMS Colour Run - after school, on the last day of term.

Please find below term dates for the next academic year to support the planning of your family holidays.

3rd September 2025	INSET Day - school closed to children
4th September 2025	Children return to school to start the academic year
27th -Friday 31st October 2025	Half Term Holiday - school closed
3rd November 2025	INSET Day- school closed to children
28th November 2025	Occasional Day -school closed
22nd December - 2nd January 2025	Christmas Holiday - school closed
5th January 2026	INSET Day - school closed to children
16th February - 20th February 2026	February Half Term Holiday - school closed
30th March - 10th April 2026	Easter Holiday - school closed
4th May 2026	Bank Holiday - school closed
25th May - 29th May 2026	May Half Term -school closed
1st June 2026	INSET Day- school closed to children
22nd July 2026	Final Day of the academic year
23rd July 2026	INSET Day - school closed to children