



# Learning and Achieving Together

## Hobletts Manor Junior School Newsletter

### 23rd October 2025



As we reach the half way point of the Autumn Term and head towards the holidays, I would like to share with you some important information as we all work together to help each other stay informed and safe online. My focus this half term is Whats App, Whilst the age for this app is 13, I am aware that a number of the children use it as a means of communication with family and friends.

Please see below some useful links providing information that we hope you will find useful as we work together to do all that we can to support everyone remain safe in the virtual world.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/whatsapp/>

<https://www.hoblettsjm.herts.sch.uk/online-safety-1/>

Additional information on Online Safety can also be found on our website:

<https://www.hoblettsjm.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Online+Safety&pid=79>

Many thanks for your continued support; have a wonderful holiday everyone.

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



Team Amber	Aizah, Mithula, Mollie, Imogen and Noah
Team Azure	Eva-Maria, Freyja, Isabella, Freddie and Margot
Team Citron	Connie, Isabella, Nelson, Erin and Harry
Team Cobalt	Margot, Isaac, Mia-Grace, Mattie and Bobby
Team Saffron	Abdullah, Connie, Elissa, Jax and Fatimah
Team Sapphire	Olivia, Isla T, Maya, Osman and Hussnain
Team Topaz	Henry, Dylan, Grace, Bella and Nancy
Team Turquoise	Ashnee, Eleanor, Eveleen, Sam and Lucas



### 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	Harriet, Isabella, Madison, Noah and Connor in Team Amber
Year 4	Jessica, Erin, Harry, Isabella and William in Team Citron and Isaac, Henry, Bobby, Ruben, Georgia and Cooper in Team Cobalt.
Year 5	Andreea, Connie, Elissa, Ilinca, Joseph and Lola in Team Saffron and Isabella, Oscar, Zachary, Niamh, Maya, Charlotte and Fred in Team Sapphire.
Year 6	Harrison and Emma in Team Topaz and Adam, Lucas, Zoe, Kayden, Vinny and Harry in Team Turquoise

**Congratulations also to** Isaac, Freddy and Bobby in Team Cobalt, Jasper in Team Saffron, Gracie-Jane in Team Topaz and Zoe and Harry in Team Turquoise **who have achieved the half termly Rocking Challenge by rocking at least seven times each and every week, amazing!**

**Congratulations to....** Amelia, James and Charlotte in Team Amber, Avneet, Alisa, Patrick and George in Team Citron, Mason W, Adam, Noori, Amalia, Olivia and Ariaana in Team Nancy in Team Topaz and Aksh in Team Turquoise **who have all read five times each week this half term by, well done!**

**Congratulations also to....** William and Jessica in Team Citron, Connie, Elissa and Ziggy in Team Saffron, Amalia and Noori in Team Sapphire, Sophie and Emma in Team Topaz and Lucas and Tilly in Team Turquoise **who have all rocked five times each week this half term**

## Year 3

We have had a really busy but rewarding start to the Juniors in Year 3. All the children have worked incredibly hard, engaging in a variety of interesting and fun activities. Here are just a few of our highlights from the Autumn Term so far.

In English, we have been learning about a range of texts. We created our own free verse poems based on Kit Wright's 'The Magic Box' at the beginning of the term, then used the story of 'Mini Rabbit Not Lost' to develop our descriptive techniques. To end the half term, we read the story 'How to babysit a Granny.' We went on to create our own instructions on how to babysit someone special to us. We really enjoyed this topic.

At the start of each Mathematics lesson, we practise our times tables and we are definitely quicker and more confident! In the main part of our mathematics lessons we have been working on adding and subtracting both within and across 10, consolidating our prior learning using a range of concrete and pictorial supports. We have also worked with numbers up to 100, through addition, subtraction, counting and partitioning before-bridging 100.

Our Science topic this term has been 'Plants'. We are now much more knowledgeable about what plants need in order to grow. We were very excited to conduct experiments and deepen our understanding of the life cycle of plants and the parts that are key for this.

Our History topic this term has been 'Through the Ages' which has included investigating the Stone, and Bronze Ages. We have enjoyed taking part in many P4C (Philosophy for Children) sessions using artefacts to stimulate our discussions, building on each other's points of view.

In Art, we have been learning about Cave Art and got the opportunity to plan and create our own as well as enjoying taking part in a gallery walk, sharing our work and celebrating each other.



Well done Year 3 for all your fantastic hard work this half term and many thanks to all our families for the support you have given. We hope you have a lovely holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back in November.

Happy holidays from Team Year 3!

## What a busy half term it has been for Team Citron and Team Cobalt!

As artists, we have been learning all about the painter Henri Rousseau. We enjoyed learning lots of interesting facts about him, before moving on to explore sketching using different pencils, soft and oil pastels, and paint. We then went on to create our own drawings and paintings inspired by the style of Henri Rousseau. We are so proud of the finished results – they look amazing!

In RE, we have been learning about the religion of Hinduism. We have explored the origins of Hinduism and enjoyed using atlases to find out where it is now practised across the world. As well as this, we have investigated Hindu worship and what this involves, and explored a range of key Hindu symbols, learning what they mean and why they are important to Hindus. We have also learnt about three of the main Hindu festivals: Holi, Diwali and Navaratri. We all agreed on how much fun the festival of Holi looked!

As scientists, we have been learning about 'Living Things and their Habitats'. We have enjoyed learning about the different animals groups, and used classification keys to group animals based on their characteristics. We loved visiting the school garden during our 'Invertebrate Hunt', in order to collect insect specimens to observe and create labelled drawings of! We have also explored the ways in which habitats can change because of both man-made and natural events, and thought about the negative impact these changes can often have on organisms.

Next half term, we are looking forward to continuing our learning about 'Living Things and their Habitats' in Science, and starting our local History topic all about 'Where we Live in Hemel Hempstead.' We will also be designing and sewing our own Christmas decorations as part of our new Design and Technology topic and visiting St. Barnabas Church for a Christingle Service!

Well done for a great start to the term, Year 4! Have a lovely break and we will see you soon!



## Year 5!

As Historians, we have learnt about the Roman withdrawal from Britain and the reasons why the Anglo Saxons chose to invade. We have learnt about how the Anglo Saxons changed Britain, creating settlements and seven kingdoms. We have also used secondary sources of evidence to find out what life in an Anglo Saxon village might have been like.

In Science this half term we have had great fun exploring materials and how they can be mixed and separated. We have investigated dissolving materials and have thought about how the properties of some materials make them useful for everyday products.

In RE, we have looked at some of the key beliefs of Judaism and explored rules that Jewish people follow and looked at how this impacts on the decisions they make in everyday life. We compared this to some of the rules that we follow and how these rules affect our behaviour. We have also looked at some similarities and differences between Judaism and the Christian faith.

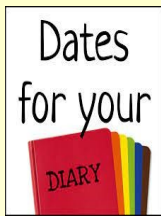
In PSHE this term, we have learnt how to set personal goals and face new challenges positively. We worked together to create our own Class Charters and explored how our actions affect others around us. We have also been thinking about how we can show racism the red card. In Computing, we used Coding to make a game and in PE we have enjoyed learning some rugby skills and competing in the annual Dacorum Cross Country event.



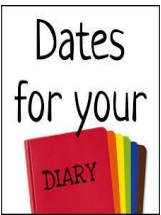
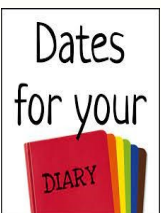
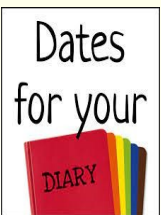
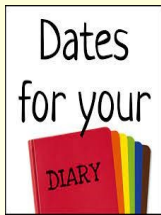
## Year 6 - it has been a busy half term in Year 6.

Lots of us went on our very exciting trip to PGL in Weymouth and those of us who stayed in school had lots of fun too! In Science, we have been learning about light, how it travels, how we see things and what materials block and reflect it. In History we have been learning about the history of London and in particular, the key events of World War 2 and who was involved. We particularly enjoyed looking at real WWII artefacts. We are very much looking forward to visiting Bentley Priory the week after the half term holiday to learn more about the Battle of Britain. In Art, we have looked at the work of Andre Derain, a French impressionist painter who produced lots of paintings of London as well as famous London landmarks. We have used his work as inspiration for our own London paintings and have enjoyed experimenting with different mediums to find the one we like the best. In PSHE we have set goals for ourselves and thought about what life is like for children in other countries. In French, we have been learning about French sports and how to say what sports we like and what sports we play and in Music we have enjoyed singing, playing and improvising to 'Do what you want to do' and 'It's all about love'. In RE we have been finding out about Buddhism and how Buddhists follow The Eightfold Path which guides them to make good choices, undertaking role play to help our new learning 'stick'.





Up and Coming Whole School Events	
<b>Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025 - Half Term</b>	School closed
<b>Monday 3rd November 2025 - INSET</b>	School closed to children
<b>Tuesday 4th November 2025</b>	Children return
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025 - 'Cool to be Kind Week' with Odd Socks Day and Children in Need.</b>	The theme of the week will be 'Power for Good' as we look to empower each other to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. The week will begin with Odd Socks Day on Monday 10th, with everyone being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique and come to a close with 'Children in Need. Day - when we would like to invite the children to come into school in something spotty or anything that makes them feel great! There will also be the opportunity to try and guess the amount of spots on one of Ms Pyke's cakes.
<b>Friday 28th November 2025 - Occasional Day</b>	School Closed
<b>Friday 10th December 2025 - Special Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch</b>	We would like to invite the children to come to school in a special jumper, that could be Christmas themed, as we come together for Christmas lunch.
<b>Monday 15th - Thursday 18th December 2025</b>	Elfridges - details will follow from your FoHMS Committee
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025 pm Year 3 Christmas Performance pm and Thursday 18th December 2025 am</b>	Further details to follow a little nearer the time
<b>Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026 - School Holiday</b>	School closed
<b>Monday 5th January 2026 - NSET</b>	School closed to children
<b>Tuesday 6th January 2026</b>	Children return



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

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