



Heacham Junior School Newsletter

October 2024

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Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been really pleased with how the children have settled in and are working in their new classes. We had an amazing response to the Friends' Y3 Welcome Event in September and this week's Spooky Bake-Off and cake sale, well done to all of the bakers! We have enjoyed so much already this term; Y3 visited Lay of the Land Art Exhibitions in King's Lynn, Y5 watched a Band Performance at Springwood, we have taken part in Cross Country, Croydon Cup Football, Dodgeball, Quicksticks Hockey and supported YoungMinds with Hello Yellow. We also had an inspirational visit from athlete Rich Potter and have purchased new sports equipment with the money raised.

We welcomed Mrs Robins in September as our Pastoral Support and Attendance Officer and Mr Bridge as Teaching Assistant in Oystercatcher.

Finally, we would like to invite any interested people to consider joining our governing body. We have a dedicated team of governors that challenge and support us but we need some new members. There are 4 meetings each year between 5-6.30pm and scheduled termly deep dives during the school day to check the quality of teaching and learning. It is a voluntary but vital role. If you would like to find out more please contact our Chair of Governors, Barbara Herring on b.herring@westnorfolkacademistrust.co.uk

Have a great half-term, see you in November!

Louise Jackson

Executive Headteacher

Our Learning

Year 3 – Oystercatcher

What an exciting start to the year, Oystercatchers! We have had a teddy bear tea party, we got to see the coronation bell at Heacham Church, we've learnt all about the Ancient Egyptians, we have spoken some Latin and we created some beautiful paintings in Art. There was a spooky bake sale, sporting events and to top it all off we got to end our half-term together with a lay of the land art exhibition. Thank you for working so hard Year 3. Let's continue this positive attitude in Autumn 2. Have a great break! Miss Pateman.



Love of learning, bright futures, happy memories!

Our Learning (cont'd)

Year 4 – Avocet

Avocets have made a great start to the year! They have settled wonderfully. In Geography, we have been exploring our local area and developing our map skills such as finding the scale and working out the distance between two places. We also compared modern maps and historic maps of King's Lynn; discussing changes we can see. In Art we have been learning about light and dark exploring tones and contrast. We have been drawing still life objects using the 'chiaroscuro' eyes technique to see shadows. In PE we have explored OAA activities, building teamwork and communication skills. In History we have been studying the Anglo-Saxons, Picts and Vikings looking into the reign of King Alfred and how the Vikings fell to his wisdom. Well done for a great start to the year Avocets, keep it up! Looking forward to next term learning about Henry VIII and the Tudors in History and Mediterranean Europe in Geography- we even get to try some of their cuisine!



Year 5 – Albatross

What a super start to the year Albatross Class! The children should all be proud of their resilience and motivation. Everyone has showcased their amazing knowledge across the curriculum and have already made fantastic progress. They have written fantastic explanation texts about the Mesolithic Era, created Islamic art as well as learning all about how to use maps. In science, the children have loved learning about the human body. We tried blood smoothies, acted out the double circulatory system and made plasticine models of the lungs. We have enjoyed learning the history of ancient Baghdad and drew fantastic layouts using compasses of the interesting circular city. They have shown their superb teamwork skills in PE. Altogether, Albatross Class have made a brilliant start to the year. Well done everyone!



Year 6 – Royal Tern

Royal Terns have had a great start to the year - falling head first into all their learning. We have been recreating our own William Morris nature inspired patterns and using reduction printing to make them into wallpaper. In Science, we have been looking at the Periodic Table and investigating how atoms and molecules move around and change. This involved an experiment using air freshener to measure how atoms disperse in the air. History has been all about World War 1 and they have looked at the causes, the consequences and how it was fought. In Geography, we have been learning about time zones and map projection: this involved drawing the world on orange peel before trying to peel it off in one piece. We have enjoyed beginning to learn Latin as our Modern Foreign Language and have been able to notice lots of similarities with English words.



Friends of HJS

What a great start to the school year!

We have had great fun this term. We held our first ever **Y3 Welcome Event 'Bring a Teddy for Tea'**, so many parents attended and each Y3 pupil received a gift bag containing two fun snack pots with funky name stickers. The covered tables became works of art and the Y6 pupils gave guided tours of the Oystercatcher classrooms. The feedback was so good that we are adding it to our calendar of annual events!

We launched our **Healthy Tuck Shop** in October and it has been well received. Even when we had left-over cakes yesterday the children were still choosing fruit over cakes which was really great! The Tuck Trolley will continue after half-term every Wed and Fri 40p per item.

We held our **Spooky Bake-Off competition and cake sale** yesterday and the response was fantastic! There was one winner in each class and they received a Spooky prize hamper (most of which was donated by Tesco Hunstanton), all the children who baked received a certificate and a small prize for entering.



What's coming up next half-term?

November 13th will be World Kindness day, we have decided to collect book donations and sell them at the end of the day to raise money for the school to buy new books!

Christmas Cards & Gifts, new this year! The children will draw a Christmas design on a template then a company will turn it into Christmas cards and other gifts that you can purchase online. More details to follow

Christmas Hamper Raffle, we will be collecting donations end of November for our Christmas Hamper Raffle. Look out for more information on Class Dojo.

Unwanted Gift Amnesty, In January (or anytime), we will be very glad to receive any unwanted gifts that can be repurposed as raffle prizes at upcoming events.

Pantomime, We have invited a local company to return this year to perform their latest Panto!

We held our AGM on 17th September and the following positions were allocated:

Chairperson – Kelly Hall

Treasurer – Lisa Mendes

Secretary – Cristiana Germano

Voting Member – Emma Smith

School Representative – Denise Bridge



Parents' Evenings

Our autumn term parents' evenings will take place on Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th November between 3:30PM and 5.30PM. These will be face to face by appointment in the hall.

Please message the staff listed below on Class Dojo to request an appointment stating your preferred day plus any other requirements. We will do our very best to accommodate your preferences.

Please message:

Year 3 Oystercatcher Miss Pateman

Year 4 Avocet Mr Agate

Year 5 Albatross Miss Greenhalgh

Year 6 Royal Tern Mrs Clemente

Teachers will allocate you a time and send you this information in a Class Dojo message during w/e 8th November.

Meetings will take place in the hall, please come to the main entrance and make your way through to a seating area in the hall. Teachers will be able to share English and Maths books.

Vouchers for Free School Meal Eligible Pupils – EXTENDED

Norfolk County Council is extending the scheme from the previously agreed October 2024 through to March 2025. This is reflective of the recent government announcement. This is for pupils eligible for means-tested Free School Meals (FSM). Families who are eligible for Free School Meals will receive Edenred vouchers for this period soon. The Vouchers can be spent at many major retailers including supermarkets.

Families in hardship and needing wider support in addition to the offer of FSM vouchers for eligible families, there is support available for families who are facing hardship and need support. Anyone experiencing hardship may be able to receive support through the Norfolk Assistance Scheme (NAS), which may be able to provide support for food, fuel, clothes and other essential household items to families experiencing hardship. Families may get in touch with NAS via their website which includes an online application form, or they can call **0344 800 8020**.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/support-for-living-independently/money-and-benefits/norfolk-assistance-scheme>

Have your circumstances changed recently? You may be eligible for Free School Meals.

The school receives funding for each child who comes under Pupil Premium (including free school meals), so it is worth applying even if you don't have school meals!! You can apply online

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

DIARY DATES

Every Monday – Sting Tuition with Miss Johnson PM
Every Wednesday – Swimming AM, Y4 Recorders PM
Please check PE days with your class teachers

25/10/24 – Half-Term

04/11/24 – Children return to school

06/11/24 – Y4 Mini Medics

06/11/24 – Y5 Start Swimming

11/11/24 – Cross Country @ Lynnsport (own transport)

11/11/24 – Trust Remembrance Performance @ Springwood

12/11/24 – Parents' Evening

13/11/24 – Friends Kindness Day – Bring & Buy Book Sale

14/11/24 – Parents' Evening

15/11/24 – Odd Socks Day (no charge) Anti-Bullying Week

21/11/24 – Y6 Chemistry Kitchen @ Springwood

21/11/24 – Music Performance @ Smithdon

25/11/24 – Tag Rugby @ WNRC

25/11/24 – Bags2Schools drop off at 3.30pm

26/11/24 – Bags2Schools Collection 8.45am

26/11/24 – Trust Archery @ HJS

27/11/24 – TBC Y4 Trip to West Stow

29/11/24 – Trust Carol Concert rehearsal AM

11/12/24 – Trust Carol Concert @ St Nicholas'

12/12/24 – Trust Music Workshop @ Springwood

17/12/24 – Y56 Trip to Sainsbury Centre for Visual Art

??/12/24 - Christmas Hamper Raffle

20/12/24 – Panto Performance @HJS- funded by Friends

23/12/24 – Christmas Holiday

07/01/25 – Children return to school

10/01/25 – STEM Workshop Y45

20/01/25 – Bikeability Day 1

21/01/25 – Bikeability Day 2

23/01/25 – Y5 Cambridge Museum Workshops

13/02/25 – TBC Friends Spring Disco 4.30pm-6pm £3

17/02/25 – Half-Term

24/02/25 – Children return to school

30/04/25 – Y6 Crucial Crew Event

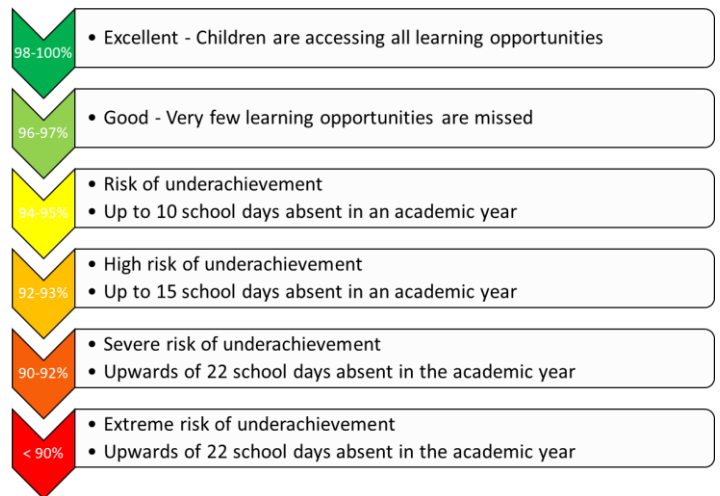
Copies of any menus, trip letters, previous newsletters can be found on our website <https://www.heachamjunior.co.uk>

The importance of good attendance

The Government strives for **every pupil to achieve 97% attendance**. Every day away from school is a day away from learning and this can have an impact on a child's education and future accomplishments.

We want every child to enjoy school and achieve their potential in education and life beyond. We are always here to talk through any issues and help find solutions. Parents are always a phone call away if a child is too ill to continue their day, please encourage them to try to give the day a go, children often feel much better once they are in class.

The Government has issued new attendance guidance and targets to all schools, you may receive regular texts informing you of the number of days that your child has been absent in a term/year. The Government hope that this personal approach will make parents more aware of how the odd day adds up and help keep you informed.



Term Dates 2024-2025 – Primary Schools

September 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October 2024						
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28	29	30	31			

November 2024						
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December 2024						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 2025						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025						
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24	25	26	27	28		

March 2025						
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31						

April 2025						
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28	29	30				

May 2025						
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June 2025						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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July 2025						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2025						
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Key: White dates – school open to pupils
 Orange dates – pupil holidays
 Purple dates – staff training days
 Red dates – bank holidays

Staff training days are – Monday 2 September, Tuesday 3 September, Monday 6 January and Tuesday 22 April as whole training days.
 Friday 25 October 2024 is disaggregated.

Term Dates 2025-2026 – Primary Schools

September 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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October 2025						
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November 2025						
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December 2025						
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January 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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February 2026						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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June 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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29	30					

July 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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August 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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Staff training days are – Monday 1 September, Tuesday 2 September, Monday 5 January, Monday 13 April as whole training days.
 Monday 20 July 2026 is disaggregated.

Swimming Rota 2024-2025 - May be subject to further changes

Wk No.	Date	Class/Year	Wk No.	Date	Class/Year
1	11/09/24	Royal Terns Y6	x	19/02/25	Half-Term
2	18/09/24	Royal Terns Y6	18	26/02/25	Avocet Y4
3	25/09/24	Royal Terns Y6	19	05/03/25	Avocet Y4
4	02/10/24	Royal Terns Y6	20	12/03/25	Avocet Y4
5	09/10/24	Royal Terns Y6	21	19/03/25	Avocet Y4
6	16/10/24	Royal Terns Y6	22	26/03/25	Avocet Y4
7	23/10/24	Royal Terns Y6	23	02/04/25	Avocet Y4
X	30/10/24	Half-Term	X	09/04/25	Easter
8	06/11/24	Albatross Y5	X	16/04/25	Easter
9	13/11/24	Albatross Y5	24	23/04/25	Oystercatcher Y3
10	20/11/24	Albatross Y5	25	30/04/25	Oystercatcher Y3
11	27/11/24	Albatross Y5	26	07/05/25	Oystercatcher Y3
x	04/12/24	Pool Closed	x	14/05/25	SATS - NO SWIM
x	11/12/24	Pool Closed	27	21/05/25	Oystercatcher Y3
x	18/12/24	Xmas	x	28/05/25	Half-Term
x	25/12/24	Xmas	28	04/06/25	Oystercatcher Y3
x	01/01/25	Xmas	29	11/06/25	Oystercatcher Y3
12	08/01/25	Albatross Y5	30	18/06/25	Oystercatcher Y3
13	15/01/25	Albatross Y5	31	25/06/25	Oystercatcher Y3
14	22/01/25	Albatross Y5	32	02/07/25	Royal Terns Y6
15	29/01/25	Albatross Y5	33	09/07/25	Royal Terns Y6
16	05/02/25	Avocet Y4	34	16/07/25	Royal Terns Y6
17	12/02/25	Avocet Y4			

Swimmers leave at 11am and return for lunch at 1pm. They need a one-piece swimsuit/trunks, towel, waterproof bag (hat and goggles are optional). Earrings must be removed.

**The children would benefit from a good breakfast and a morning snack on the days that they swim.
PLEASE WEAR A COAT.**



We send Mrs Tilbrook our best wishes as she goes on Maternity Leave today.



We have welcomed Mrs Robins this term as our new Pastoral Support and Attendance Officer, Mrs Bazeley-Smith as our SENDCo and Mr Bridge has returned as a Teaching Assistant in Oystercatchers.



HAVING A SORT OUT OVER HALF-TERM?

The Friends of HJS are organising a Bags2Schools collection in November. Details will be sent home after half-term but, in the meantime if you have anything suitable to put aside, these are the items that Bags2School will accept:



Clothes



Paired shoes



Handbags



Hats



Bags



Scarves and ties



Bras



Jewellery



Socks



Belts

FRIENDS OF HEACHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL



World Kindness Day

Wed, 13 Nov 2024

World Kindness Day will be celebrated around the world. It offers an opportunity to highlight good deeds in the community and the common thread of kindness.

The Friends are arranging a 'Bring and Buy' Book Sale

Please *kindly* donate a suitable book, in good condition. These will be sold after-school.

All money raised through your *kindness* will be given to the school to spend on books!

Ways that you can show kindness to people you know





Beginner Music Ensembles



A wonderful opportunity to make music together

Starting Wednesday 18th September

Where: Springwood High School - Sixth Form Hub

When: Wednesdays, 3.40-4.45pm (term time only)

Who: Beginner to Grade 3; any ages up to 12 who are starting on their musical journey

Cost: FREE

As part of our ongoing commitment to make music available to all, Springwood High School is excited to announce the formation of two new Beginner Music Ensembles. Each group will be led by two experienced professional musicians/teachers.

Springing Strings (String Orchestra): Suitable for all Stringed Instruments (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass)

'Masterblasters' (Concert Band): Suitable for all Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon), Brass (Trumpet, Cornet, Horn, Trombone, Tuba) and Percussion.

The groups will be aimed at those who are starting on their musical journey and have been playing for around a term, to approximately Grade 2 standard, and in years 4 to 6 at Primary School and Years 7 and 8 at High School.

To register an interest please complete the form at:

<https://forms.gle/rWqQnSMQKRj1yYo6>

Alternatively if you have any queries please contact:

music@springwoodhighschool.co.uk