



Heacham Junior School Newsletter

December 2025

email: office@heachamjunior.co.uk Tel: 01485 571013

website: <https://www.heachamjunior.co.uk>

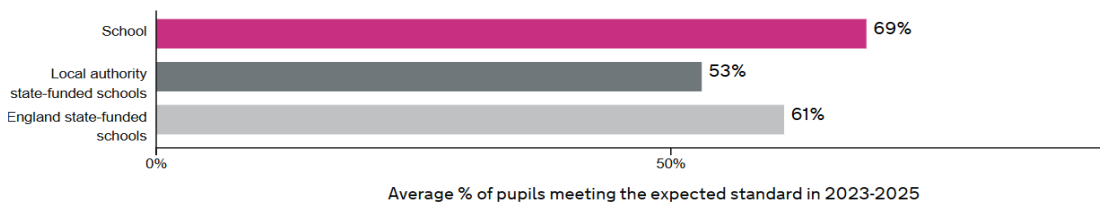


Dear Parents and Carers,

Good Achievement at Heacham Junior School

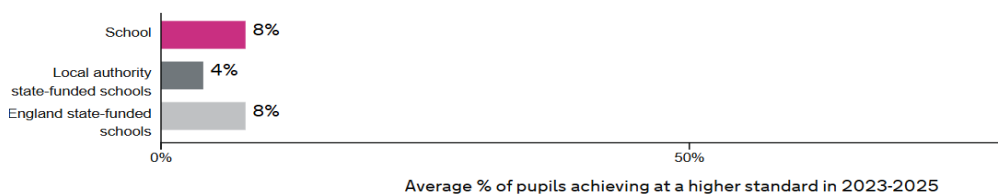
The children in every class have worked hard throughout the Autumn Term and made good progress. Our recent assessments show us that our children are doing well. In addition, the DfE produce an annual report called "Compare School Performance" which details KS2 outcomes compared to local and national averages. The report for 2025 was published on 11/12/25. The link can be found here - <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/142842/heacham-junior-school/primary/results-over-time>. We are proud to share that for the last three years pupils from Heacham Junior have performed above the average for all Norfolk Schools and for all school in England! See table below for pupils attaining the Expected Standard in Y6 for the last 3 years.

Three year average ?



In addition, our children at Heacham Junior also attain in line with all schools in England at the Higher Standard

Three year average ?



Our partner school Snettisham Primary also has the same three-year trend at 69%, also above local and national averages. We are proud of our children, families and staff as achieving these outcomes puts children in a positive place as they move to high school and start to face their future lives. We are grateful for your support – your help at home with reading, tables and spellings make an enormous difference.

Our annual questionnaire has been positive too – we received 18 responses to date. Mr Kirwan gets a special mention as our new Assistant Headteacher! 100% say their child does well in our school, 95% are happy with the clubs we offer, 90% say we offer a strong range of subjects in school, 90% say children are well behaved, happy and safe at this school. 90% say we share what children will learn with families. The questionnaires show that any incidents of bullying are dealt with quickly. The majority of the families whose children have additional needs are happy with the support we give. The question with the lowest response relates to raising concerns. It would be useful to discuss this with anyone who would like to speak to me so we can reflect and improve this outcome. We are also increasing the information out to families by introducing a curriculum newsletter for the Spring Term in addition to sharing Knowledge Organisers and Newsletters.

If you would like to come to discuss your answers with us, then please come and see either myself or Mr Kirwan. Our door is always open for a chat. If I am at another school then I can arrange a meeting.

Happy Christmas!

Best Wishes

Louise Jackson

Love of learning, bright futures, happy memories!

Our Learning

Year 3/4 Oystercatcher

Oystercatchers have absolutely loved learning about the human body this half term! We have conducted an experiment to see the effect of sugar on our teeth and even practised brushing our teeth! We have been looking at different mediums of Art and studying Crime and punishment across the ages in History. This was linked to our trip to Lynn Museum before half term. We have really enjoyed playing golf with Ms Bower and have developed our skills in putting and chipping. As we now approach Christmas, Miss Pateman, Miss Fray and I would like to wish you lots of joy and happiness and we can't wait to see you all in 2026!



Year 4 – Avocet

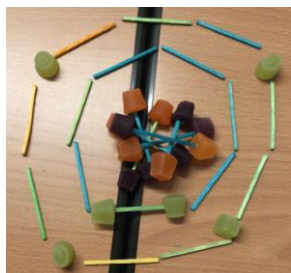
Avocets have shown tremendous effort across all subjects this term as we head toward Christmas. In History, we explored the theme of *Crime and Punishment*, linking our learning back to last term's fascinating Tudor trip in King's Lynn. Our Geography lessons took us to Mediterranean Europe, where we discovered why this region enjoys warmer, sunnier weather than we do here in the UK. In Art, pupils expressed their creativity by exploring different media and producing individual pieces based on their own design choices. Learning also extended beyond the classroom as we visited the Corn Exchange in King's Lynn to celebrate the Film Festival with a special screening of *The Smurfs*. Of course, we still found time to enjoy a few golf lessons in PE and to deepen our understanding of desktop publishing in Computing. It has been a vibrant and engaging term for Avocets—well done to all pupils for their enthusiasm and hard work!



Our Learning (continued)

Year 5 – Albatross

During this half term, the children have been busy exploring a wide range of exciting topics across the curriculum. In PSHE, they have been celebrating what makes each of us unique and learning to appreciate our differences. In RE, they developed their understanding of the Christmas story and its importance to Christians. As part of their art learning on the Benin plaques, they created impressive cardboard reliefs inspired by insects. In geography, the children researched different mountains around the world, while in PE they continued to build confidence and stamina through swimming. Their history lessons introduced them to the birth of the British Empire, and in science they deepened their understanding of atoms and the building blocks of matter. The children took part in some excellent wider school opportunities such as the intra-school sports morning where they played boccia and darts!



Year 6 – Royal Tern

This half-term in Year 6, we have enjoyed valuable experiences that add to our learning, namely: Chemistry Kitchen at Springwood High School and a trip to the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts. The pupils witnessed some fantastic chemistry experiments as well as creating their own 3D vessels with Modroc at the Sainsbury Centre. Back in school, I've been exceptionally proud of the progress pupils are all making towards their SATs, those that are completing SATs companion tasks at home and coming to our SATs booster particularly are making massive gains in their learning. In Science, we have really delved into classification of the natural world and the class have been particularly keen on their learning around the Suffragettes this half-term. In other subjects, it has been great to see everyone trying their hand (or arms and legs) at gymnastics! In Geography, we have studied North America and, in the lead-up to Christmas, what better time to explore Christian Christmas traditions and ask the question – do these really still reflect the true meaning of Christmas? Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas break and a Happy New Year!





AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

The following clubs are live to book on MCAS:

Please note different pick up times

Tues 13/1/26 to 10/2/26 **Chinese Football** with Mr Agate - 16 spaces
Pick up time 4.15pm

Wed 14/1/26 to 11/2/26 **Drama Club** with Ms Wells - 20 spaces
Pick up time 4.30pm

Wed 14/1/26 to 11/2/26 **Multi-Skills** with Norwich City - 12 spaces
Pick up time 4.30pm



BREAKFAST CLUB - NEW PROVIDER DETAILS

Premier Education will be taking over the before-school provision at Heacham Junior School from Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Session Details:

Days: Monday to Friday

Time: 7:45am – 8:45am

Years: Year 3-6

Price: £4.00 per session (including breakfast) 15% sibling discount

All bookings can be made online via their website:

<https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/search/?school=Heacham+junior>

Bookings can be made daily, weekly, or monthly but must be pre-booked as they will cancel sessions if there are no bookings.

If you have money in credit on MCAS for HJS Breakfast Club, this will be refunded in January.

Email: friendsofheachamjunior@gmail.com



The Friends of HJS

So much has happened this half-term!

November saw us encourage *kindness for world kindness day* with a **pre-loved book giveaway** and **collected coats** for the Purfleet Trust. We also helped the environment with our **Bag2School** collection (we have arranged another for 16/6/26). We have subsidised the **Y6 Leavers' Hoodies** which the children have been proudly wearing, and purchased a new stand for the Christmas Tree.

There has been a lot of festive activities for the PTA this December. We have arranged **Christmas Cards and Gifts** through an online shop, we hope you have been pleased with the results? We held our first **Christmas Festive Fayre**, sold raffle tickets for our annual **Christmas Hamper Raffle**, the **Panto** was brilliant with lots of cheering and booing, and all children have received a **Christmas gift!**

What's coming up next half-term?

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

Non-uniform Day 9/1/26, In exchange for soft toy/teddy or £1 cash

Matchbox Challenge 21/1/26, there will be a prize for the most items and one for the most interesting

Cookie Day 5/2/26, vote for your favourite and purchase on the day

Spring Disco 12th Feb 4.30pm to 6pm.

Our **Healthy Tuck Shop** will continue in the New Year, every Wed 40p per item.



We would like to thank the following people and businesses for donating items for our Christmas Events:

- Mr & Mrs Wacey
- The Farmhouse at Fincham
- Morrisons Fakenham
- Tesco Hunstanton, Tesco Heacham & Tesco Fakenham
- Thaxters Dersingham
- Beachwave Creations, Hunstanton

Thank you to the parents and staff who helped at our Festive Fayre – without volunteers we would not be able to put on these events that the children enjoy so much x

Our next meeting – please join us 7th January 10.30am to 12pm

DIARY DATES 2025-2026

Every Monday –Y56 String Tuition with Miss Johnson 1-3PM

Every Tuesday/Friday – SATS Booster 8.15AM

Every Wednesday – Friends’ Healthy Snack Trolley 40p/item, Swimming 11AM, Y4 Recorders 2PM

Please check PE days with your class teachers

22/12/25 – Christmas Holiday

06/01/26 – Children return to school

06/01/26 – Breakfast Club 7.45am-8.45am Premier Education <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/search/?school=Heacham+junior>

07/01/26 – Y5 Swimming

07/01/26 – Snack Trolley resumes 40p per item

07/01/26 – Friends Meeting 10.30am-12pm

09/01/26 – Friends Non-Uniform Soft Toy/Teddy or £1 cash

12/01/26 – String Tuition Commences

12/01/26 – Drama Club pick up 4.30pm

13/01/26 – Chinese Football Club pick up 4.15pm

14/01/26 – Multi-Skills Club pick up 4.30pm

15/01/26 – Oystercatcher Inspire Wisbech Trip

15/01/26 – Special Lunch – Bacon/Veg Sausage Bap

21/01/26 – Friends’ Matchbox Challenge

21/01/26 – Friends meeting 10.30am-12pm

04/02/26 – Y4 Swimming commences

05/02/26 – Cookie Day

09/02/26 – Intra-School Sports Event (PE Kit)

12/02/26 – Spring Disco

12/02/26 – Special Dessert

13/02/26 – Classical Music Rocks performance

16/02/26 – Half-term

24/02/26 – MITI Instrumental Play Day @@ St Nicholas’ chapel

25/02/26 – Y4 Swimming

26/02/26 – Girls’ Football @ Lynnsport

27/02/26 – Y5 Experience Day @ Smithdon

04/03/26 – Primary Literary Event (3xY5)

05/03/26 – Special Lunch

06/03/26 – Music For Youth Festival

06/03/26 – Friends Non-Uniform £1 cash or item for Tombola

11/03/26 – Y6 Trip to Imperial War Museum London

12/03/26 – Y34 Trust Sport Event @ Clenchwarton

16/03/26 – Y34 BEE Netball @ Lynnsport

19/03/26 – Y34 Trip to Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts

19/03/26 – Y34 Croydon Cup football @ Glebe

March 26 – Friends Easter Eggstravaganza TBC

26/03/26 – Y56 BEE Netball @ Lynnsport

30/03/26 – Easter Holidays

Copies of any menus, trip letters, Parent Forms, previous newsletters can be found on our website

<https://www.heachamjunior.co.uk> **May be subject to changes/cancellations**

Swimming Rota 2025-2026 - May be subject to further changes

SWIMMING 2025-2026						
Wk No.	Date	Class/Year		Wk No.	Date	Class/Year
1	10/09/2025	Year 6		x	18/02/2026	Half-Term
2	17/09/2025	Year 6		18	25/02/2026	Year 4
3	24/09/2025	Year 6		19	04/03/2026	Year 4
4	01/10/2025	Year 6		20	11/03/2026	Year 4
5	08/10/2025	Year 6		21	18/03/2026	Year 4
6	15/10/2025	Year 6		22	25/03/2026	Year 4
7	22/10/2025	Year 6		X	01/04/2026	Easter
X	29/10/2025	Half-Term		X	08/04/2026	Easter
8	05/11/2025	Year 5		23	15/04/2026	Year 4
9	12/11/2025	CANCELLED		24	22/04/2026	Year 3
10	19/11/2025	Year 5		25	29/04/2026	Year 3
11	26/11/2025	Year 5		26	06/05/2026	Year 3
x	03/12/2025	Pool Closed		x	13/05/2026	SATS - NO SWIM
x	10/12/2025	Pool Closed		27	20/05/2026	Year 3
x	17/12/2025	Pool Closed		x	27/05/2026	Half-Term
x	24/12/2025	Xmas		28	03/06/2026	Year 3
x	31/12/2025	Xmas		29	10/06/2026	Year 3
12	07/01/2026	Year 5		30	17/06/2026	Year 3
13	14/01/2026	Year 5		31	24/06/2026	Year 3
14	21/01/2026	Year 5		32	01/07/2026	Year 6
15	28/01/2026	Year 5		33	08/07/2026	Year 6
16	04/02/2026	Year 4		34	15/07/2026	Year 6
17	11/02/2026	Year 4				

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), spare underwear/socks. 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.**

Term Dates 2025-2026 – Primary Schools

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

Term Dates 2026-2027 – Primary and Secondary Schools

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Staff training days are – Tuesday 1 September, Wednesday 2 September, Monday 4 January and Monday 12 April as whole training days.
 Monday 23 October 2026 is disaggregated.



Please remember to pre-book

You are now able to book and pay in advance for the following through the MCAS website or App:

- School Lunches
- After-School Clubs
- Trips and Events
- Music Tuition (Min 6 week notice period)

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 financial support, including essential household items, to families experiencing hardship. Wider support from a range of partners can then also be made available with NAS working alongside the Children's Services Community and Partnerships service.

Families may get in touch with NAS via their dedicated website, which includes an online application form at <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/41957/What-the-Client-Hardship-Service-is>, or they can call **0344 800 8020**.

Vouchers for Free School Meal Eligible Pupils – EXTENDED

Norfolk County Council is extending the scheme to **March 2026**. 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 FSM will receive Edenred vouchers for this period. The Vouchers can be spent at many major retailers including supermarkets. They cannot be re-issued if they expire.

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>

WE WISH YOU A MERRY

Christmas!





 **#NoToDomesticAbuse**

I finally realised
I was being
controlled.

**Help a friend or family
member access support
to walk away safely
from domestic abuse.**

NCCSP
Norfolk county community
safety partnership

Anyone can call the confidential 24-hour
national helpline on 0808 2000 247 or visit
www.norfolk.gov.uk/domesticabuse

In an emergency call 999

