#### HCJS NEWSLETTER NO.905











## IMES

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 7th - 6th Week of Term

Staff Academic Focus Meeting 4.15pm

**Tuesday 8th** 

Safer Internet Day

Nursery & Pre-Prep Vista Group Photo, St David's Hall 10am-12noon

U8/9 A,B&C Football v King's St Alban's (a) 2.30pm U8/9 A,B&C Netball v King's St Alban's (a) 2.30pm

Wednesday 9th

Y6 Maths Taster at Senior School, Gilbert Library 9.15-10.25am

Colts A,B,C&D Netball v King's St Alban's (h) 2.30pm Colts A,B,C,<del>D&E</del> Football v King's St Alban's (h) 2.30pm

Friday 11th

Governors General Purposes Committee Meeting,

Briscoe Room 4pm

**LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD** 

Monday 14th - 7th Week of Term

Police Officer Visit to Reception pm Staff Academic Focus Meeting 4.15pm

**Tuesday 15th** 

PTA Reps Meeting, Library 9am U8/9 A,B&C Netball v Malvern St James (a) 2.45pm

Wednesday 16th

3M Form Assembly, St David's Hall 1pm Colts A,B,C,D&E Football v King's Gloucester (h) 2.30pm Colts A,B&C Netball v King's Gloucester (h) 2.30pm

Thursday 17th (No clubs today)

City Schools Football Tournament, Wyeside 11am-4pm Half Term begins 3.35pm

Friday 18th

Staff INSET all day

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK...

Stanley Hewitt and Ava Brady



#### FROM THE HEAD

This week the Junior School has been heavily influenced by William Shakespeare. Our Year 6 pupils went to The Courtyard Theatre to watch the Senior School's production of Macbeth and the week culminated with Years 4,5&6 enjoying a visit from The Young Shakespeare



Company presenting their 'Midsummer Night's Dream' workshop. Our grateful thanks to the PTA for funding this workshop.

In conversation with some of the children at lunch this week, I was asked why we still need to read and study Shakespeare's plays (no one ever said that being Acting Head was going to be easy!). While my response about challenge, inspiration, powerful characters and extraordinary plots was reasonably well received, the children were far more interested in the examples of phrases in the English language that originated from the bard's works, such as 'vanish into thin air', 'greeneved monster' and 'break the ice'. Some of the children have subsequently brought me some of their own examples that they have uncovered. This seems to me a wonderful snapshot of an exciting educational journey; taking lessons and examples from the past, making connections with the modern day and your own experiences, developing interest and demonstrating an enquiring mind.

The literary theme has continued with some of the children participating in an online festival of literature this week. Many of you will remember that this was something that the English department used in the height of last year's lockdown. The response from the children (and parents) was very positive and I am delighted the pupils have benefitted from this initiative again this year. Literacy is such an important key to all areas of the curriculum and will continue to be at the heart of all that we do at the Junior School. May I conclude by wishing everyone a happy weekend and wish our cross-country runners the best of luck on Sunday at Abberley Hall.

#### ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK

In Monday's assembly 2D shared their work on the Great Fire of London with the rest of Pre-Prep. The assembly was full of facts, included an interactive game and concluded with 2D's rendition of London's Burning. Mr Debenham then talked about how this event had led to the establishment of a national fire service and asked the children if they knew what to do in an emergency. Thank you 2D for sharing your work with us.

In Wednesday's assembly, 5B presented the story of the Pied Piper, with narration taken from the original poem by Robert Browning. A town is plagued with rats which are removed

by the magical Piper. When the townspeople do not make the promised payment, the Piper then charms away all of the children. The moral of the story is to be sure to keep the promises you make:

So, friends, let me and you be wipers



Of scores out with all men especially pipers! And, whether they pipe us free from rats or from mice, If we've promised them aught

LET US KEEP OUR PROMISE!



#### FORMER PUPILS' SUCCESS

It is always exciting to hear about, and celebrate, former Junior School pupils' successes. So it was wonderful to find out that Seyi A and Beren G have both recently been offered places at Cambridge University. Coincidentally, Seyi and Beren were Head Girl and Head Boy in the Junior School in 2014-15. We wish them every success for the future.

Atri John

### CHINESE NEW YEAR IN EYFS

**Nursery and Reception** children have shown lots of interest in this week's topic of Chinese New Year. Nursery have been exploring their very own Chinese Restaurant in the role play area, dancing to Chinese music and even having a go at some Chinese writing! Reception made lanterns, decorated red

envelopes and even had fortune cookies to



take home!





### **YEAR 1 & 2**

Last week Year 1 wrote their own versions of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. At the end of the week we took our wonderful stories to Reception. We were all able to sit down and read our stories to the younger class and show them our pictures. It was great to be able to show



off our fantastic work and Reception enjoyed listening to our stories.

This week Year 2 have been investigating the properties of 3D shapes. They have identified the different shapes, recorded the number of faces, sides and vertices. Pupils also constructed fantastic 3D shapes from paper templates.





#### YEAR 4 SCIENCE

Year 4 are investigating states of matter and changes of state. As part of this topic, they have been melting soap base in order to make their own mini bars of soap, which they have added different colours to. This has enabled them to observe the changes of state from a solid to a liquid and back to a solid again.



#### ART

Year 2 have been doing painting and prints based on the Great Fire of London.





Year 5 have been producing a class collage of pastel animals and leaves based on the work of Henri Rousseau.



#### YEAR 6 ENGLISH

On Tuesday, our Year 6 pupils headed to the Senior School library for a treasure hunt. The children were thrilled by the opportunity to enjoy learning in such a lofty environment. They loved the inventive challenge and were keen to get reading some of the many exciting books on the shelves. The pupils were excited to hear that they will be regular visitors to the Senior School library from now on. Next time, they will learn more about how the library

operates and have some quiet reading time. They have been promised a 'speed dating' book challenge after that, which has intrigued us all!



#### SHAKESPEARE AT HCJS

On Thursday, our intrepid Year 6 pupils set off to The Courtyard to watch the Senior School performance of 'Macbeth'. They were thrilled by the sinister witches and the endless supply of dastardly deeds. As they are currently exploring this play in their English lessons, the timing was perfect and they have decided to invite Macbeth and his Lady to the Junior School for some quality 'hot-seat' questioning in the future.

On Friday, The Young Shakespeare Company arrived in Castle Street, Hereford. Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils were involved in workshops centred around the play 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. What a fabulous event; the children were fascinated and enthralled.

#### CHORISTERS

This week, Jose Francisco and Jacob joined the choir for their first Evensong.

The Choristers performed at the **Bach Christmas** Oratorio last Saturday and it was a very successful evening. For most of the choristers it was their first performance with other musicians. The boys responses and enthusiasm noticed and appreciated.





#### YEAR 5 HUMANITIES

In Humanities, Year 5 are looking at many aspects of water: where we get it, how it is purified, how we use it and what happens to our waste water. Using



cotton, sand and gravel, they made filters that

turned out to be pretty effective in taking the dirt out of some very muddy water.





# CASTLE HILL HOLIDAY

Castle Hill Holiday Club (our holiday club provision for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils) will be running during the Spring half term holidays on the following days:

#### **Spring Half Term**

Friday 18th February Monday 21st February Tuesday 22nd February Wednesday 23rd February Thursday 24th February Friday 25th February

Booking forms are now available for parents via the following Firefly link <u>HERE</u>.

Booking is essential and bookings close for Spring half term on Friday 11th February 2022.

Bookings are now also available for Castle Hill Holiday Club during some of the Easter Holiday <u>HERE</u> and for our Y3-6 pupils Easter's Cool booking is now open <u>HERE</u>. Book early to avoid disappointment.



#### GAMES DEPARTMENT

Another busy week of sport has seen both the boys and girls involved in matches against The Downs, Moor Park and Burghill Primary School. On Sunday, a team of runners will take part in the Abberley Hall relays which is always a challenging event.

Next week, there are fixtures against King's St Alban's on Tuesday and Wednesday.

#### **6 Nations Predictor**

With the 6 Nations Rugby beginning soon, now is the time to enter the HCJS league and pit your wits against staff, classmates and fellow parents. You can take part by following this link or by downloading the Superbru app and searching for the pool with code: torigels

# RECEPTION VISIT ASCARI'S FOR MILKSHAKES & TOAST

Reception children enjoyed a fun trip to Ascari's this morning. They each brought in their own money, and ordered a drink and a slice of toast for themselves. This was a great lesson in independence and commerce.





#### This week's Words of the Week are:

Year 3 - Enough

Year 4 - Island

Year 5 - Embarrass

Year 6 - Immediately



#### FORTHCOMING OPEN EVENTS:

Play & Discover (for age 0-3) Wednesday 9th February, HCJS Nursery from 2-3pm.

ONLINE RESOURCES: CLICK TO FOLLOW LINKS

Letters to Parents

Games & Match Information

School Calendar

Boys Team Lists

Girls Team Lists





