HCJS NEWSLETTER NO. 872











TIMES

CALENDAR

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 30th Christmas post this week only

ABRSM Music Examinations All day

Tuesday 1st Dec ABRSM Music Examinations All day

Change for Change initiative begins (until 10th Dec)

HCJS Advent Calendar begins

Thursday 3rd 2D Parents' Consultations (via Zoom) 2.30-5.30pm

Friday 4th Last day for Christmas post

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD

Monday 7th Clubs as normal all week

Virtual HCS Information Evening for Y6 Parents 6-7pm

Tuesday 8th Final Evensong of Term, Cathedral 5.30pm

Wednesday 9th Christmas Jumper Day

No Year 5&6 Games today

Pre-Prep & Junior Christmas Bubble Parties PM (normal pick-up)

Thursday 10th Clubs & Phoenix as normal today

No bags, hats or caps to be brought into school today

Christmas Lunch for Nursery & Pre-Prep 11.45am
Christmas Lunch for Juniors 12.15pm
Virtual Carol Service in Form Rooms 3pm

Y5 Full Reports, Y3 Short Reports &

Y4&6 Progress Grades published electronically

FROM THE HEAD

Parents' Evenings have continued this week. Again, I do hope that parents have found these useful. Of course, there are pros and cons of holding these online. Please do get in touch with any thoughts or suggestions: the pros as well as the cons!

As we look ahead towards Christmas, please do read the articles below about two of our Christmas projects: 'Change for Change' and our HCJS Advent Calendars. As parents of children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will know, the children have been working hard on

their Nativities. We will be releasing films of these to parents during the last week of term. Mr and Mrs Christmas (aka Mr Debenham and Mrs Denny!) have been looking carefully at what we can and cannot do as we seek to inject Christmas cheer into our final week of term. Whilst Christmas at HCJS will certainly not be cancelled, it will be necessarily different. We will be writing to parents in due course with further detail. Finally, parents were sent today a letter regarding drop off and pick up, a copy of which can be found here.

YEAR 6 PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING

Parents are invited to attend an Information Evening for parents of Year 6 children who will be transferring, or are considering transferring, to the Senior School in September 2021. The event this year will be held online on Monday 7 December from 6-7pm. Parents can learn more about the transition to the Senior School, including presentations from the Headmaster and current pupils, details of our entrance process and thoughts on how parents can begin to prepare their child for transition to Year 7. Further details, including how to sign up will be sent to parents shortly.





We are very excited to announce the publication of our first HCJS Advent Calendars!

For children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2: each day, parents will receive a link to a film of a member of staff reading a Christmas bedtime story. We hope that your children (and perhaps you too), will enjoy each day's story.

For children in Years 3-6: during the advent season, the staff have collaborated to read 'A Boy Called Christmas' by Matt Haig. Each day's instalment will be released on Firefly to parents and children. We hope you will enjoy the Christmas story!

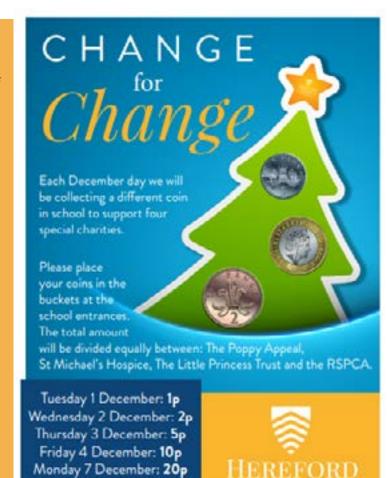
We are very grateful to the Dean who is both introducing the projects on the 1st December and rounding them off on Christmas Eve.

CHANGE FOR CHANGE

Parents will remember our annual 9 Days of Giving Christmas initiative, which has been a great success in the past. It has provided the children with an opportunity to learn about different charities, spend some time reflecting on the true meaning of Christmas and to think about those less fortunate than themselves. You can read details of last year's initiative here.

This year, we have had to approach this project differently and we will be holding 8 Days entitled 'Change for Change'. On each of our 8 days, children are invited to bring in a specific coin, from one penny on Tuesday 1st December (day 1) up to £2 on Thursday 10th December, the last day of term (day 8).

As you will see on the poster, we will be supporting four charities with these donations - the Poppy Appeal, St Michael's Hospice, The Little Princess Trust and the RSPCA. We will be learning about our Change for Change initiative and these specific charities during the remainder of term.



NURSERY

We have been talking about different celebrations around the world. We have learnt about Diwali, Hanukah, birthdays, weddings and Christmas. We have proudly displayed our creations of the work we have done around the topic in Nursery. We also went on a walk this week to spot the first signs of Christmas!



Tuesday 8 December: 50p

Wednesday 9 December: £1

Thursday 10 December: £2



Cathedral

YEARS 5&6 PRIMARY MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

Over the past week, all pupils in Years 5&6 have participated in the Primary Mathematics Challenge. The annual event, organised by the Mathematical Association, gives the children an opportunity to complete a selection of challenging Maths puzzles and problems which test their number, geometry, problem solving and reasoning skills. Children compete to earn gold, silver or bronze awards.



This year, bronze winners were Jemima Hayes, Aidan Jelf, Natalie Legge, Aidan Priday and Guy Turner. Silver certificates were awarded to Harry Reid, Annie Macklin and Milly Morgan-Jones. A huge congratulations to Toby Hartley who achieved a high score of 19 out of 25 to earn himself a gold award.

YEAR 3

Year 3 have been learning about the Ancient Greeks. This week they have been looking at and learning about 'Hoplites' (soldiers). George (3M) has made his very own armour out of cardboard!



CHORISTERS

We wish three of our Junior School probationers the very best of luck as they take their Chorister test over the next few days.

BIRTHDAY CAKES

Whilst children are welcome to bring birthday cakes into school, we ask please that they are shop-bought and come in individual pieces. Due to COVID regulations, we are unfortunately unable to slice or give out homemade or bought whole cakes to children. Thank you.

ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK

Wednesday (Year 1 - Year 6): Mr Wilkinson explained to us all how our 8 Days of 'Change for Change' will work. We welcomed Mr Benjamin Pardoe, the Volunteer Coordinator at St Michaels Hospice to assembly. He told us all about the hospice which has a maximum capacity of 20 patients, who might vary in age from 17 to over 100! He told us about what they get up to and the costs of looking after the patients. The children asked him all sorts of questions – how do they cope when they need more than 20 beds? Are there more St Michael's Hospices'? What food do the patients eat?





Friday (Reception - Year 6): We welcomed Mrs Tarplee-Morris (Founder of The Little Princess Trust) and Mr Brace (CEO of The Little Princess Trust) to assembly, both of whom are ex-HCJS parents. We talked about our Change for Change initiative and the work of The Little Princess Trust. We discovered that The Little Princess Trust helps to change the lives of children who have lost their hair due to illness. The children asked lots of insightful questions. You can watch the assembly here.

SCHOOL MENUS

From Monday 30th November, an additional main meal option will be added to the school menu so there will be a choice of two main meals each day. This will be in addition to our normal vegetatian option plus soup, sandwiches and jacket potatoes. You can find the updated menu for the last two weeks of term on <u>Firefly</u>.



MERITS

Merits this week to...A Nicolson, A Macklin, Y Andrade, S Breeze, G Garlick, T Hartley, A O'Connor and R Wang.

Happy birthday this week to... Jack Pinnell, Eliza Nolan and Francesca Ngouoto.

