Humberstone Junior Academy - Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

As the Spring term comes to a close, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past few weeks. It has been a short term, however it has been a busy and great one for all of us here at the school.

Year 3 have been learning about waterways across Leicester through different types of maps. They have also been enjoying the adventurous tale of James and the Giant peach and have written some exciting pieces of work based around the wonderful characters and plot. For their art project this term, children have explored the bold and creative art of David Hockney and created their own landscape in the style and colours of the pop art movement.

Year 4 took a trip to Beacon Hill to learn about how it was formed as part of their Geography project. In History, they have also been learning about the Empire Windrush and in Science they have been learning about states of matter and carried out practical investigations to help learn how solids, liquids and gases can change state.

In Year 5, the children visited Bosworth Battlefield to learn firsthand about the historical battle that took place there and had a tour of Leicester Central Mosque as part of their project on places of worship. They have also been learning about life cycles and have been watching caterpillars form into butterflies in their own class butterfly garden and also had the pleasure of watching our little chick visitors hatch in school.

Year 6 have delved into the captivating novel "Trash" by Andy Mulligan, exploring theme, prediction and character. We are working through our Historical Enquiry, exploring the legacy the Ancient Greeks hold today. Finally, in Art, we have drawn inspiration from the renowned artist Jean-Michel Basquiat to produce stunning final outcomes using oil pastels and acrylic paint.

The Spring term concluded with a delightful Easter breakfast at our school. Our Breakfast Club children and families had the opportunity to enjoy a continental breakfast, participate in fun Easter activities, and were even visited by the Easter Bunny himself, who generously brought along chocolates for all to enjoy.

We are thrilled to announce that our school's football team has once again secured a spot in the prestigious Leicester City Schools finals day, marking the third consecutive year of this remarkable achievement. With their sights set on reclaiming the trophy they proudly won in 2022, our talented team is gearing up for an exciting day of competition.

The road to the finals has been paved with dedication, teamwork, and unwavering determination. Under the guidance of our dedicated coaches, our team has showcased exceptional skills and teamwork throughout the season.

Finals day will take place at the illustrious Leicester City Training ground, where our players will have the opportunity to showcase their talent.

As we eagerly await finals day, let us rally behind our team with unwavering support and encouragement. Together, we will cheer them on as they strive to bring home the trophy once again.

Go Humberstone Boys Football Team!

Staffing changes

This is to inform you that Mrs Commins is leaving us. As you are aware, Mrs Commins joined us on a temporary basis in 2023. After 15 months of hard work and dedication as the Acting Head and SENDCo for the Junior school, we would like to take this opportunity to thank her and wish her well in her future endeavours.

Reminders

Clubs

This was the final week of our afterschool clubs. The Summer clubs will commence in the week beginning Monday 15th April.

Please make sure to fill in the form of interest by Monday 8th April. We will be contacting you during the week to confirm places.

Eid

We are aware that Eid will be celebrated between the 9th and 11th of April, depending on the moon sighting. As a reminder, any absences during this period must be requested in advance. Please ensure that you complete the leave of absence form on ParentMail to notify us of any planned absences. May we take this opportunity to also remind you that we will only authorise **one day,** any additional days taken will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

Walk to School/Park and Stride

As the weather begins to improve, we would like to take this opportunity to encourage our families to consider walking to school. Not only does walking help alleviate traffic and parking issues, but it also offers numerous benefits for our mental and physical health and well-being.

Walking to school provides a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to connect, bond, and get some fresh air before the start of the day. It promotes physical activity, which is essential for overall health and development, as well as helps to reduce stress and anxiety levels, contributing to better mental well-being.

We understand that walking to school may not be feasible for everyone due to distance or time constraints. However, even incorporating walking part of the way or on certain days can make a positive impact on health and well-being. We'd like to remind you that we have a Park and Stride facility at Monks Rest car park, which is located half way down Vicarage Lane on the left hand side.

Coming up next half term

School Reopens	*Monday 8th April*
Eid Al Fitr	*Between Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th April (depending on the moon sighting)*
Clubs	*Clubs begin the week commencing Monday 15th April and will finish on Friday 12th July*
Year 5 Trip	*King Richard III Centre – Thursday 11th April*
Swimming – Year 3	*8 sessions, each Friday, starting 12th April*

Year 4 and 5 Camp Confirmations	*Confirmations will be sent by Friday 12th April*
Special Menu	*World Earth Day – Monday 22nd April*
Year 3 Trip	*Yorkshire Sculpture Park - Monday 22nd & 24th April*
Year 6 Trip	*Warning Zone – Tuesday 30th April*
May Day Bank Holiday	*Monday 6th May*
KS2 SATs	*Week commencing Monday 13th May*
School closes for half term	*Friday 24th May*

We would like to wish you all a lovely Easter break and we look forward to seeing you on **Monday 8th April.**

Yours sincerely,

Miss A Williams
Executive Head