Hartford Infant and Preschool & Hartford Junior Newsletter 2 15.9.2023

| Dear | Parents | and | Carers |
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| Dear | Parenis | ancı | Carers |

Hello/



Congratulations to our Year R children in Classes 1 and 2 who have now completed the 2 week induction into school life. They have now all completed 1 full day and all had ample opportunities to explore their new environment and make new friends. They are a lovely cohort and we wish them well next week on full time everyday!

Children in Year 4 in Willow and Holly classes have had their first Swimming Session and were very grown up walking to the pool and engaging in the sessions.

Thank you to all the families that engaged in our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions on School Cloud. The staff have been positive about the information shared and will be able to support your child better. If you would like to feedback on the process please click here for a short survey, we value your feedback.

We are always encouraging the children to pick up a book and read, one of our incentives is a 'Reading at Home Card'. Your child can continue with their coloured card in the Infant School, we have 35 cards they can work through to record their progress. Each time they reach the end of the card they receive a star. In the Junior School children would have been issued with a new green card this week.

This weekend there is a Roman Day Exhibition at Godmanchester Museum that the children might be interested in especially Year 4. See the flier overleaf for more information.

Our new Gardening Club in the Junior School was popular and I know there are children on the waiting list. If you could offer the time to run a club or know of someone who would like to do something similar, or you have time to volunteer [reading with children, Forest School etc] please contact me, we are trying to speed up the process to ensure that you can work in school as soon as possible. You will need 2 references and a DBS for safeguarding reasons. Currently there are a few Premier Sports Clubs that children can access. We also have a vacancy list for Support Staff, click here for further information.

This week we talked to the children about Roald Dahl Day, Rosh Hashanah and our Golden Rules. Click here to see the Infant School video assembly on our YouTube Channel

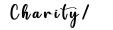
Mrs Gerrard is organising another PowerMaths Book Sale, please see overleaf for further information.

We are always seeking pants and socks for the younger children, if you have any spares please can your pop them into the school office. We also would like any unwanted washed school uniform so that we can create a clothes store that families can use. Please check Lost Property in the foyer of both schools, there are a lot of unnamed clothing already.

Next week, we have the annual Infant School Park Life Walk on Tuesday 19th September [Year 1 in the morning and Year 2 in the afternoon], if you can accompany us we would be grateful for the support. Do speak to your child's class teacher.

Have a lovely weekend. I do hope the weather is warm still. Best wishes Rae Lee [Headteacher]







Annual General Meeting **PATHS**



Thursday 5th October 2.00pm **Infant Staff Room**

All welcome. refreshments provided. Do come and support both schools.

Sale 1



On Thursday 21st September, we will be holding another sale of KS2 Power Maths textbooks. We no longer use these books in school, but we know that some of you might like them for supporting your child at home.

The books will be on sale for 50p each at the end of the day on the playground. There are three books for each year group, one for each term. We also have a small number of practice books, including a few for Years 1 and 2, and we will sell these on a first come, first served basis.

Power Maths Book Sale



Healthy Selfie photographs/



We love seeing the children looking after their bodies and minds outside of school. If you child would like to 'show off' participating in an activity, please send photographs to rlee@hartfordinfantschool.org. they will appear on the **Healthy Selfie Boards** in both schools to inspire others. How exciting!



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| Pates | for | the | Diary/ | |
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| Year R Full Time | Infant school | Monday 18th September | We welcome all Year R children [Class 1 and 2] to attend school full time. |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 'Park Life' Walk | Key Stage 1 [Years 1 and 2] | Tuesday 19th September | All KS1 children will walk to the local park as part of their Sparky Start about the community in which they live. We always welcome adults from home to accompany us on this morning adventure [9.15am - 11.30am]. Please see your child's class teacher to register an interest in walking with us. |
| Bikeability | Year 5 | Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th September | All Year 5 children who have registered for this exciting opportunity will be practising their skills. |
| Kingswood Parent Meeting | Year 6 | Thursday 21st September | All Parents and Carers of Children in Year 6 [Pine and Sycamore Classes] are invited to find out more about this exciting residential trip. |
| PATHS AGM | All Schools | Thursday 5th October | Everyone is invited to attend our AGM to support both schools with those 'little extras' raised by events such as discos and fetes. Do come along as we need to be quorate. It doesn't mean you will be 'roped' into any roles, although we are happy to have a self nomination for roles on the committee. We would love your ideas for future events. There will be refreshments at this event held in the Infant School Staffroom from 2.00pm. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! |
| Harvest Festival | All Schools | Wk beg Monday 9th October | We invite all families to contribute to our Harvest Festival. |
| Individual Photographs | All Schools | Monday 9th October | All children will have a photograph and the opportunity for family photographs with siblings. |
| Disco | All Schools | Thursday 19th October | Our PATHS [Parents and teachers of the Hartford Schools] will organise a disco in the school hall. PLEASE NOTE THIS WILL BE A TICKETED EVENT. |
| Half Term | All Schools | Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October | All children have earned a break from school, we only ask that you keep up the reading with them. |
| Kingswood | Year 6 | Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November | Our Year 6 [Pine and Sycamore Classes] will be off to Kingswood in Norfolk for the week. Please look out for more information about Parent Meetings and forms to complete. |
| End of Term | All schools | Thursday 21st December | End of the Autumn Term from 3.15pm. |
| Spring Term | All schools | Friday 5th January | All children in Year R through to Year 6 start at 8.45am |

Preschool

This week, **preschool** children have been showing us what marvellous mark makers they are, using vehicles in paint to make tracks, fingers in sand to make marks and creating some early representations of writing! Fabulous!

We have introduced our core story, 'Dear Zoo' and the children are already anticipating what will happen and re-telling the story themselves, wonderful to see. We have been learning our core songs also – has your child been singing at home? Simple stories, songs and rhymes are so important for early language and communication skills as well as the foundation for literacy skills, do practice the songs at home! **Next week**, we will build on our core story 'Dear Zoo' by introducing games and objects alongside the book and begin our Hartford School Preschool phonics programme.

Reception

This week in **Class 1 and 2**, we have been building up to full days with us! We are so proud of how they have settled and how involved they have been in their independent learning as they explore a new setting. We have been thinking about number one and practising our counting and have enjoyed singing our favourite songs and rhymes together. **Next week**, we will be practising accurate counting and sharing the story, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' as well as exploring the school ground on a class walk!

Year 1

This week in Class 3 and Class 4, we have been recapping the letters of the alphabet and counting objects accurately. They have enjoyed their first Forest School session and had fun in PE. Next week, we will be starting our work on 'The Smartest Giant in Town' by Julia Donaldson and counting one more and one less. We are also looking forward to visiting the Riverside park on Tuesday morning. Please can we remind everyone that wellington boots need to be brought in for Forest School. If you are interested in helping at Forest School, please get in touch.

year 2

This week, in Class 5 and 6, we learnt how to use a keyboard in our computing lesson. The children had fun finding the keys that represented their name. In English we recapped capital letters and full stops and in maths we learnt about the place value of tens and ones. Next week, we are looking forward to walking to the Riverside Park in Huntingdon on Tuesday afternoon as part of our enquiry topic, 'There's no place like Home'. In English we will focus on using the correct graphemes when segmenting words and in maths we will compare 2-digit numbers using the inequality symbols: less than < greater than > equal to =

This week in **Beech** and **Chestnut Classes**, we have been learning about expanded noun phrases and how to predict in English. In maths, we have been looking at bridging to ten to help add and subtract numbers. We also learned three new Maths games: splat, flash five and five counters. The children completed their Star Reader Test, which gave us their book level and they are now able to take out library books. **Next week**, we will continue reading our class book 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', focusing on word classes.

This week in **Holly** and **Willow Classes** we have planned and started writing a recount about the first chapters of 'Boy Overboard'. We have imagined that we are Jamal and are writing a diary entry with a focus on past tense, chronology and first person. Our maths focus has continued to be perimeter and we can calculate the perimeter of regular polygons when the length of only 1 side is given. **Next week**, we will edit our recounts to include descriptive language and develop our understanding of place value. In history, we will be developing an understanding of the Siege of Carthage.

Year 5

This week **Oak** and **Ash Classes** have been using the text to support our discussions about the type of character Daniel Holmes is. We have then used our knowledge of expanded noun phrases to write a description of Daniel. There was some very good use of our oracy skills in these discussions. In maths we have continued to look at negative numbers and using them for co-ordinates in four quadrants. **Next week**, we are going to continue to look at how plants reproduce in science and in maths we will be looking at place value of numbers up to one million.

Year 6

This week in **Pine** and **Sycamore Classes**, we have been writing setting descriptions on a ruined city. The children have used expanded noun phrases and similes to take the reader on a journey through the city, relying on their senses to help them. In maths, we have aimed high when looking at place value, working with numbers up to 10,000,000! We have enjoyed our first two PE lessons, looking at choreographing dances using only physical movements to form rhythms instead of music. In netball, we practised three main passes and worked on our understanding of the game rules. **Next week**, we will be looking at describing characters and retrieving our knowledge of rounding numbers.

