Hartford Infant and Preschool & Hartford Junior Newsletter 1 9.9.2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello

Welcome back to school. I hope that you have had a wonderful summer break with your children and that your child's first week in school has been positive. There have been lots of changes over the summer term including new staff joining both schools. The **Junior School** now have a new Deputy Headteacher, **Mrs Claire Gerrard** who joins the junior senior leadership team alongside **Mrs Sue Wright** the Executive Headteacher of the Hartford Schools. We welcome **Miss Diana Waterer** as Year 4 teacher in Pine Class and **Mrs Sonia Gentile** and **Miss Freya Sandford** as Teaching Assistants in Year 6 and Year 3. In the Infant and Preschool we are delighted that **Mrs Claire Booth** has joined the team in Year 1 as Class 4's teacher. We have recently appointed **Mrs Amy Webb** in a Teaching Assistant role alongside **Mrs Sophie Ashcroft** both supporting in Key stage 1.

Congratulations to Mrs Kia Howells on the birth of her fourth child, mother and baby Dimitris are doing well.

Our Reception gardens have been remodelled over the summer break and the finishing touches are being added this weekend.

We are saddened by the death of **HRH Queen Elizabeth II**, many of our children enjoyed the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in the summer, a book of condolences will be placed in Infant and Junior Schools' foyers should the children wish to create something to celebrate her life and how they feel about her passing, parents and carers are also welcome to contribute to these books. We will of course keep you posted when we know more about how the DfE and The Cam Trust will proceed in this time of mourning.

Best wishes,

Rae Lee [Headteacher]

Please ensure that you notify the school office regarding who is permitted to collect your child[ren] at the end of the day if it is different to those on our systems. We have a strict protocol that only **named people we are aware of** can take children home.

Summer Challenges

The **Infant School** children were encouraged in last year's Reception and Year 1 to complete a **Hartford Hero Challenge booklet** over the summer holidays, if these have been completed please bring them into school where we will be able to celebrate and choose a winner in our prize draw.

Many of the children may have taken part in the Library's **Summer Reading Challenge**, 'Gadgeteers'. Please can the children bring in their medals and certificates after the library's presentation for a celebration assembly at school.

Children in the **Junior School** have been asked to create a **short reflection** to be said at the end of assemblies that celebrates the school's ethos of 'effort, encouragement and excellence'. This task has been introduced in an assembly and there is a post box in the school fover for any entries, please ask your child for more information.

Mrs Wright would love the junior children to bring in any photographs of nature for a display in school. These could include natural art work or trees and animals seen.

Healthy Selfie Boards are in both schools and are in need of pictures of the children keeping their minds and bodies healthy. Please email rlee@hartforinfantschool.org with any pictures.

If you would like to help out in school there are many roles where your help would be most gratefully received. This could be reading with the children, supporting **Forest School** sessions in the **Infant School**, supporting the schools paths **PTA** or becoming a **school governor**. Please contact me for more information on any of these roles, we look forward to working with you.

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| Tuesday 13th or Thursday 15th September | Learner Profile Calls in Hartford Infant School Mrs Beecher [Class 6]: https://forms.office.com/r/pmG2W0viWv Mrs Smith [Class 5]: https://forms.office.com/r/xwMwdKQFGY | Mrs Booth [Class 4]: https://forms.office.com/r/zQcz1Yfwrv Mrs Shaw/ [Class 3]: https://forms.office.com/r/8Tqb4uqKNs Mrs du Toit |
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| Monday 19th September | Reception children start school full time | |
| Tuesday 20th September | Hartford Infant children [Year 1 and Year 2] Park Life Walk [more details to follow but we would love parents to come along too] | |
| Thursday 22nd September | Meet the Teacher Event in Hartford Junior School [more details to follow] | |
| Monday 10th October | Individual photographs [more details to follow] in both schools and preschool | |
| Thursday 13th | Harvest Festival Celebrations in the Infant and Preschool | |
| Friday 14th October | Harvest Festival Celebrations in the Junior School | |
| Week beginning Monday 17th October | Year 6 Residential to Kingswood [more information to follow] | |
| Thursday 20th October | PATHS [school PTA] Disco for all children [more details to follow] | |
| Monday 24th - Friday 28th | Half Term | |

PreSchool

The children have created lots of mark making this week. Lots of fun by all, a few tears to start with but they are all settling in quickly.

Year 1

The children have been learning classroom routines and becoming familiar with lessons which will continue with a more structured timetable next week. We are also excited about PE and Forest School next week.

Year 3

This week, the children familiarised themselves with the school, their classroom, the new routines and their i-pads (which they are very excited about). We started our book 'Iron Man' in English. Next week, we will be focusing on place value in maths. Please remember to label the children's belongings including clothing.

Year 5

This week, we created class charters, listened to music and discussed dynamics, we sketched self-portraits and started to enjoy our new class novel, 'The Nowhere Emporium'. We also spent time thinking about Maths Mindsets and how making mistakes in Maths is actually a great way to learn.

Reception

This week, we have enjoyed exploring the classroom and gardens and getting to know everyone. We have shared stories, sang songs and rhymes and had fun getting used to new routines.

Year 2

This week, the children have engaged with our mini topic 'Who am I?' They have written about themselves, including fun facts, drawn a self-portrait and participated in oracy lessons in talking trios. Next week, they will represent numbers to 100 in maths and in English we will make predictions about our key text "Journey" by Aaron Becker.

Year 4

This week, in English, we have started our new text 'Boy Overboard' about an Afghan refugee. We have also been enjoying some maths investigations, which have been designed to challenge their preconceptions. Next week, we will be focussing on the perimeter of polygons.

Year 6

This week, we have started to read The Secret Garden and discussed what Cholera is, we have also started the topic of light in science and investigated how it travels in straight lines. We are starting a DT project of designing a playground which we will be producing as a model. We have shared stories, sang songs and rhymes and had fun getting used to new routines together!

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