

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello

I hope that you are well and that your child has had a good second week. It has been delightful to see the new **Reception children** settling in to school life. We are very proud of them but we are also aware that this is a 'honeymoon' period and next week from Tuesday they are all in full time and there will be 60 children within the setting. Do let us know if your little one is finding full days a challenge.

We will be closed in **all 3 schools** [preschool, infant and junior] on **Monday 19th September** for **HRH Queen Elizabeth II's funeral**. If you need any support in this sad time please speak to a member of staff. I will check my emails throughout the day should you need to contact school [rlee@hartfordinfantschool.org]. The Mayor will then be collecting the **condolence book** [located in Junior School foyer] from all of the locations in the town on the afternoon of **Tuesday 20th September 2022**.

Best wishes, Rae Lee [Headteacher]

Park Life Walk

Year 1 and Year 2 in the **Infant School** will be kick starting their new **enquiry** work with a walk to **Coneygear Park** to support their learning about the community in which they live. We will leave school after registration [9.00am] and walk up towards Coneygear Park, this year we will be participating in activities that include team games exploring the park with our Forest School tools, painting and of course visiting the play park. We will be back in time to eat our lunch in school at 12.00pm. **We would love as many parents as possible to come along too. Please let the class teacher know if you intend to come.**

Forest School

On **Forest School** days in the **Infant School**, the children need to come into school wearing uniform but have their wellies in school to change into. We would suggest that girls wear some leggings on that day so they feel comfortable in their red, waterproof suit [provided by school]. **Forest School days are from next week are:**

Class 1: Tuesday **Class 2:** Wednesday [am] **Class 3:** Thursday **Class 4:** Wednesday [pm] **Class 5:** Friday **Class 6:** Monday

Meet the Teacher

Junior children in **Years 3, 4, 5 and 6** are warmly invited to bring their parents/carers into class to meet their teacher on **Thursday 22nd September** from **3.15pm until 5.30pm**. This is an opportunity for you to talk to the class teacher[s] and share any strength and barriers to learning that will help your child to make the best progress they can. The Senior Leadership Team [Mrs Wright, Mrs Gerrard and I] will be in the hall from 5.30pm with refreshments and will talk to you about our vision for the junior school under our leadership.

Photographs

On **Monday 10th October**, the children will have an **individual photograph** in school [preschool, infant and junior]. There is no obligation to buy the photograph although school benefits from every purchase. There will be the opportunity for siblings across the preschool, infant and junior school to have a photograph together but not with any other schools that older siblings may attend. If your child does not attend preschool on a Monday we can allocate a time in the morning for you to attend.

Homework & Reading in the Infant School

Homework will be posted on **Tapestry** on a **Friday** each week and needs to be completed by the following **Wednesday** on **Tapestry** [no books this year] please. Each week a child is chosen in each class for their efforts at home to be the **homework superstar**. The children love this time and it inspires them to be like Aim High Hippo! Children can continue with the **reading cards** they have from last term, I have made more and we now go up to card 20 [810 books read]! I'm looking forward to seeing children with their cards next week. If you need a new card just let me know on the playground. Happy reading!

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Tuesday 20th September	Reception children start school full time [parents to say goodbye at the gate and children enter school independently]
Tuesday 20th September	Hartford Infant children [Year 1 and Year 2] Park Life Walk [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 October	Harvest Festival Celebrations in the Infant and Preschool [we will have a basket outside from next week for any donations]
Friday 14th October	Harvest Festival Celebrations in the Junior School [we will have a basket outside from next week for any donations]
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

This week we have begun practising our fine motor and mark making skills by scooping with spoons and using our fingers or tools to make marks in the foam tray! Next week, we will continue to explore 'Dear Zoo' with Makaton signs.

Year 1

This week, the children 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 Coneygear Park on Tuesday morning.

Year 3

This week, Year 3's have continued reading and analysing our book 'The Iron Man'. In maths, we looked at the number 100 and the ways we can divide it into equal parts. We started our humanity lessons which include history, religion and geography. The children have been settling so well and are really adapting to the Junior School. We are extremely proud of them and look forward to seeing them flourish in Year 3.

Year 5

This week, in science, we looked at the reproduction of plants and made our own life cycle diagrams. In English, we wrote a setting description of the 'Nowhere Emporium', using expanded noun phrases. Maths assessments have been completed and we have continued to enjoy our history lessons on the Roman Empire. We've read 'The Twits', in honour of Roald Dahl Day, which has caused much hilarity! The children have worked very hard all week!

Reception

This week, in Reception, the children 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 favourite songs and rhymes together. Next week, we will be practising accurate counting and sharing the story 'Peace At Last' as well as exploring the school ground on a class walk!

Year 2

This week, in science we have been surveying the trees and plants which are in our school environment. We linked this to maths by recording our results on a tally chart. We used an App called 'sketches' during our digital art lesson, to draw a self-portrait. Next week, we will write words with the suffix -ed and -ing in English and compare 2-digit numbers using greater, less and equal to symbols.

Year 4

This week, we have begun learning all about perimeter in maths using string to help investigate the perimeter of different shapes. In science we made light bulbs switch on by creating a simple circuit using different electrical components. Next week, we will be writing a recount based on our English book, 'Boy Overboard.'

Year 6

This week, we have been investigating additive and multiplicative relationships in maths and how we represent them. In English, we are following Mary's story as she searches for the 'Secret Garden'. Next week, the children will begin to build their playgrounds in Design Technology.