

Dear Parents and Carers

Hello / Cześć

Well the past 6 weeks have flown by. It has been busy and fun across all three schools and if you read our Learning Leaflets in the **Infant School** [**Junior School** editions coming soon after half term] and read these newsletters you will be very aware of the fantastic learning that takes place. We are lucky to have such dedicated staff who really want to 'bring out the best in your children'.

For instance this Tuesday, the **Y5 and Y6 Girls Football** team played in a festival at St. Ives. **Mrs Jo Smith** and **Miss Emily Gatford** had a really tough time selecting the team as all the girls have shown tremendous commitment during training sessions. However, 10 players were selected, and played four games in the football festival. The girls did us proud, losing 1 game, drawing 2 and winning one, in that order! Congratulations to the girls and their coaches! **Mr Christopher Squires** and **Mrs Sonia Gentile** escorted the team and commented, "All players demonstrated excellent sportsmanship on and off the field, it was an absolute pleasure to chaperone and manage the team during the festival." A huge thank you to **Miss Gill Vierstraete** for organising this super experience. Congratulations to **Daisy** for winning 'Star Player of the Match'.

Also on Tuesday **Father Sam** and **Father Geoff** from **All Saints Church, Hartford** popped by to lead Harvest assemblies in **both** schools. We thoroughly enjoyed participating in a story with actions about creation. The **Infant and Preschool** children sang beautifully in their event and everyone donated an array of food, thank you for the pumpkin **Copper Rose** and the donated marrow - What a whopper! We have donated the majority of food to the **Godmanchester Food Bank** this year weighing in at 157.20 kgs and kept some for our own community. If you look in the **wooden cupboards on the front playground** there are **grocery items** that may help at home and also **preloved school uniform**. Please take what you need and donate when you can.

Last night, we had a successful **disco** for all the children across **all 3 schools**. A **HUGE** thank you to the new **PATHS** teams for organising this event and to **DJ Sian** and **MC Gabby** [parents of Sophie and Sydney and Primrose] for their superb entertainment. The **Junior Disco** was a delight as all the children joined in with some old school classics, who knew they all could all do the Macarena!

You may have noticed that one of our **Junior Pupils** has recently cut his long hair, **Nikolas** in **Year 4** has been growing his hair for a long time, and this week cut his locks off and donated to 'Little Princess Trust' and is welcoming any **monetary donations** to support this charity which helps to give hair and hope to children with cancer.

Today we say goodbye to **Mr Matt Luck** who has been a member of Support Staff across both schools for a long time. We will miss his calm presence in school and wish him all the best in his new venture. You may have seen that we have a few vacancies in school and would welcome your support if you know of anyone who would like to join our team. Please contact the **school office** for further information or **click here** for vacancies.

On **Monday 30th October** we look forward to seeing the **Infant School** [children in **Year R, 1 and 2**] dressed to impress for our **Catwalk Show** to begin our history work. We also look forward to seeing any grandparents from **2.00pm** in the **Infant School** hall with photos of clothes they wore when they were children. Please note if grandparents can't attend but a child wishes to bring in photographs, please ensure they are named and we can share them in class.

Also on **Monday 30th October** we will be waving of our adventurous **Year 6** children to **Kingswood**. The doors to the hall will be open from **8.00am** for the **Y6 children** and their suitcases, medicine and pocket money to be received. Please note that **Sensory Circuits** will take place in **Sycamore Class**, children to enter school as normal via the hall doors.

Have a lovely half term everyone, we have enjoyed your children immensely this half term. Hopefully the weather will be good to us all.

Best wishes/ Najlepsze życzenia

Rae Lee [Headteacher]

Preschool

This week, **preschool** have continued to explore the theme of 'Harvest' and 'Autumn', using conkers to create artwork and realising there are lots of different ways to do this. We also explored 'gloop' (cornflour and water) using our fingers or tools to make marks. We re-capped our phonics activities from over the last half term, using our 'stop' and 'go' signs to respond to instructions, using our singing sack to sing the core songs we have already learnt, and recognising instrument sounds. **After half term**, we would love to explore pumpkins. Any **donations of pumpkins or squashes** would be gratefully received! Thank you.

Reception

This week **Class 1 and 2**, have all taken and edited a photograph using an iPad. We have also been learning how to film a short video! In our R.E sessions we have been learning about different types of celebrations and have planned for a birthday party for Stripes, our class mascot. We have learned about the Hindi festival of Diwali and made and decorated our very own diva lamps. **After half term**, we will be sharing and retelling our new literacy focus book 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and beginning our new enquiry learning with an exciting 'sparky start' day!

Year 1

This week in **Class 3 and Class 4**, we have been learning about being thankful in RE, looking at the Harvest celebration in Christianity and Ramadan in Islam. To end our half-term, we loved showing off our sunflowers in our Art Exhibition. **After half term**, our new text in English will be 'Once there were Giants' by Martin Waddell and we would like all the children to **bring in a photograph of their immediate family**.

Year 2

This week, in **Class 5 and 6**, the children learnt how to edit their work and improve it. We were encouraging them not to guess at spellings but to ensure they use the English working wall for key words together with phonic displays. In maths fluency lessons we solved missing number equations and noticed that the equal symbol can be at the beginning $10 = 2 + 8$. It was lovely to see how proud the children were of their Starry Night artwork during the art exhibition. We appreciate you giving your time to see their wonderful work. **After half term**, in maths we will focus on addition and subtraction with two-digit numbers and in English we will begin a new text 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers. Homework will also resume with an additional maths challenge. On **Monday 30th October**, the first day back after half term, there will be **no PE for Class 5 and no Forest School for Class 6**.

Year 3

This week in **Beech and Chestnut Classes**, we have been writing in the 'first person' from the perspective of Lucy from our text, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' using framing such as 'I felt the soft, furry coats' and 'I saw the icy, bare trees'. In maths we explored methods to support addition and subtraction when crossing the hundreds boundary. In PE we used our bodies to represent mechanical movements in our dance unit. In art, we looked at the work of Georgia O'Keefe and we have been creating some 'zoomed in' abstract flower art. **After half term**, we will develop our own choreography with our dance partner. Please see the **separate letter about Seesaw**, we look forward to using it more after half term.

Year 4

This week in **Holly and Willow Classes** we have been learning to hold debates and write letters using persuasive language. We connected the theme for the debates and letters to 'Boy Overboard' and the children have been very passionate and vocal in what they believe needs to change and why. In maths, we revised doubles and nearest 100 and 1,000 that will lead us into rounding after half term. We enjoyed creating information pages to showcase our learning for history, geography and science. Have a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing everyone after the holiday.

Year 5

This week **Oak and Ash Classes** have been learning the formal methods for addition and subtraction. In English, we have been planning and writing our own newspaper reports. We have finished our humanities topics. **After half term**, we will learn about The Anglo Saxons, we are excited about this!

Year 6

This week in **Pine and Sycamore Classes**, we have been writing a narrative, bringing together all the writing techniques learnt so far. The children loved watching and writing about a futuristic ruined world and have made fantastic connections with the character. In PSHE, we had an important discussion on **online privacy** and how to keep our information private, and ourselves safe. We looked at age restrictions for various social media platforms and why its necessary to stick to these. In art, the children have made pieces of street art to raise awareness for a social cause they care about. We saw wonderful examples, ranging from saving the NHS, climate change and raising pay for teachers! In science, we began looking at inherited characteristics and genealogy, even finding time to play a giant game of class guess who! The children have worked hard this term, and we are very proud of them all.

Dates for the Diary/Daty do Dzienniczka

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.
Sparky Start Day	Infant School	Monday 30th October	Infant children to come to school dressed in their favourite clothes for a fashion show. Children 's grandparents can pop in to school at 2.00pm to share photographs of themselves in clothes as a child with refreshments in the school hall.
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.
YR Art Exhibition	Class 1 & 2	Friday 3rd November	Rescheduled Van Gogh Art Exhibition for children in Year R , please come from 2.30pm . We look forward to seeing you in school, donations are warmly received for the art work.
PATHS meeting	All Schools	Thursday 9th November	All Parents are welcome to support the PATHS team organising the Christmas Fete at 2.30pm in the Junior School Staffroom
Anti Bullying Week	All Schools	Wk Beg Monday 13th November	All children are invited to wear Odd Socks as part of our campaign to eradicate bullying in school.
Children in Need	All Schools	Friday 17th November	Staff and children are invited to wear bright clothes and donate to this worthwhile charity.
Parent Consultations	All Schools	Wk beg 4th December	Autumn Term Consultations with class teacher and a chance to look at core books in school. All meetings will be for 10 minutes in the school halls and will be organised via School Cloud .
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

Opening Times/Godziny Otwarcia

Please see the **email** sent **19.10.2023**, regarding **Junior School door opening** and **closing times** [doors open at 8.40am and close at 8.45am] after half term.

Trains/Pociagi

Trainline have put together a guide to **booking family train tickets** to help people save money on train tickets and child fare information. Please [click here](#) for further information.



Please see the **email** sent **20.10.2023** regarding **Parent Governor Elections**. **Could this be you?**

Buggies and Prams/Wozki Spacerowe i Dzieciece

We will **no longer** be able to accommodate buggies/pushchairs in our school or school foyer, for health and safety precautions. **Thank you for your support.**



Hard Work / Ciezka Praca

