

Hello / Bonjour

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. At last we begin October, luckily the weather is still bright and the children are able to stay out on the field and play on the trim trail. As we move into the winter months please can you ensure that all **coats** are **clearly named**.

Thank you for all the **Harvest items** that have been donated we are extremely grateful and will be dividing up the foods between Godmanchester Food Bank and Kings Ripton Court which is supported by The Salvation Army. We are happy to continue to collect items until **Friday 14th October**.

Don't forget photographs on **Monday 10th October**.

Meilleurs vœux, , Rae Lee [Headteacher]

Language of the Month / Langue du Mois

This month the **Infant School** children are learning to greet each other in **French**, if you have any resources e.g. photographs or books that we could borrow for a display we would be grateful and look after them. Merci!

Fundraising / Collecte de Fonds

We are holding an **AGM** [Annual General Meeting] for our **PTA** aptly called **PATHS** [Parents and Teachers of the Hartford Schools]. The meeting is scheduled for **9.00am** in the **Infant School Staff Room** on **Tuesday 1st November** for **EVERYONE** to attend. We are looking for a chair, a secretary and a treasurer and anyone who can lend a hand at fundraising events. There will be refreshments at this gathering and a chance to share ideas on how to support all three schools [Preschool, Infant and Junior].

Sparky Start / Debut Petillant

After half term on **Monday 31st October** the **Infant School children** will be engaging in our **Sparky Start Day** for our new enquiry work with a focus on 'toys from the past'. We would love each infant child to bring in a toy from home [not too precious, fragile or expensive in case of accidents though!]. We will be using our skills to observe toys from the loan boxes we have from a local museum and would love to see any grandparents who can pop in at **2.30pm** to share toys they played with from the past. How exciting!

Art Exhibition / Exposition d'art

Infant School children have created a masterpiece in the style of Van Gogh and would love to share their work with you in an exhibition over the last 3 days of the half term [see below for the dates and times]. Each child in **Class 1 and 2** has created a self portrait, in **Class 3 and 4** the children have painted a sunflower on a canvas and in **Class 5 and 6** the children have created a collage of The Starry Night. Please come along on the designated day, if you are able we would be grateful for a donation towards the materials used to create these pictures that can go home with you at the end of the exhibition.

Year R Wednesday 19th October * **Year 2** Thursday 20th October * **Year 1** Friday 21st October
2.30pm in the **Infant School Hall**

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Preschool

This week, we have been working hard using our 'listening ears' and 'looking eyes' in our phonics sessions. We used traffic light signs, red for stop, orange for walk or get ready and green for go. We used the traffics lights to support us when working with instruments and using the trikes outside, there was some great listening and tuning into the instructions - well done children! We enjoyed exploring Autumn looking at leaves, conkers and acorns thanks for the donations! Next week, we are going to make sandwiches and use one handed tools.

Year 1

This week, we have been learning to write an addition number sentence in maths and exploring watercolour painting in enquiry. Next week we will be having a go at tinting and shading and painting a sunflower. The children have some PSHE homework on Tapestry so please remember to have a look.

Year 3

This week year 3 have been exploring Hogarth's guilt about trapping the Iron Man and have captured that in a diary entry. In maths, the children have been looking at different ways to partition a 3-digit number, not just using hundreds tens and ones. In science, we have been exploring muscles and how, along with our bones, they allow us to move our bodies. In history, children have been learning about some of the different gods in ancient Egyptian belief, next week we will explore their ideas of the afterlife. In outdoor learning, the children have been strengthening their teamwork skills and exploring the treasures of nature. Perhaps this weekend the children can spot some 'treasures' in nature ready to discuss on Monday (coloured leaves/conkers etc.).

Year 5

This week year 5 have been thinking about what makes a great character description in English and learning more about the magical powers of Lucien Silver in our class novel. We will continue to explore features of descriptive writing next week. In maths we have been rounding 4 digit numbers, thinking about place value and estimating where numbers go on number lines. We will extend this to numbers up to a million next week. In Geography we enjoyed learning about the Mediterranean Sea and in Science we were looking at the life cycles of insects and amphibians.

Reception

This week, the children have loved growing cress from seeds, carefully monitoring and looking after their seedlings! They will be bringing their cress home today to care for and hopefully harvest early next week! We have been thinking about 'more' and 'fewer' in maths and comparing quantities and we have been busy creating a story map for 'Peace At Last'. A very exciting and busy week. Next week we will be learning about the famous artist Vincent Van Gogh and having a go at painting a self-portrait.

Year 2

This week, in English we have been making story maps to accompany our key text The Journey and we wrote a character description. In maths fluency we used counting frames called rekenreks to compare numbers. We are excited by our new rekenreks as this will discourage counting in ones and encourage learning number facts. We used small balls and bats in our games lesson to aim at a target. Next week in English we will be writing a full version of The Journey using ideas from our story maps. We will be subtracting in maths and in Enquiry lessons we will mix a range of secondary colours and explore different tones.

Year 4

This week, we have been learning more about our place value in maths with how to represent different numbers and where they are on a numberline. In English, we have been looking at the importance of using commas correctly and the difference between standard and non-standard English. We have begun creating our wax resist art by cutting and creating our own collage from pictures of science and technology, which next week we will be recreating using a crayon and black paint technique. In science, we have continued our understanding of circuits by creating and testing switches. All of this knowledge is in preparation for next week when we will be creating a Scribblebot!

Year 6

This week, in English we wrote a letter from the main character Mary to a friend in India, we included a main and subordinate clause in our writing and paid particular attention to the layout. Next week we will be practicing our comprehension, inference and direct speech. In maths we have been looking at multiples and using our place value knowledge to order, compare and round numbers; our next lesson will be on negative numbers. In History we continued to look at the Punic wars and how Hannibal (from Carthage) used elephants in his army, we will continue on the Roman Republic next week looking at how Scipio saves Rome.

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