

Welcome

Hello folks,
I hope that you are well and not too cold!
This week, I have been visiting other schools in Essex. It is always a pleasure to see other education establishments to see their practice.
I love to magpie ideas from their curriculums. It is also reassuring to know that our schools have good practices too that mirror much of what I have seen this week.
Best wishes
Rae Lee [Headteacher]
Email: rlee@hartfordinfantschool.org

Elfridges

We are still **accepting good quality gifts** for *Elfridges* this is a popular activity across both schools.
If you have signed your child up for our **Christmas Fete** they will have the opportunity to attend our **pop up shops** to purchase a gift for a loved one at home.
Look out for the gifts coming home soon for under the tree, maybe it will be for **you!**

Loose Parts

As per our letter regarding 'Loose Parts' for our forthcoming **OPAL** initiative please know we are now accepting any of the following:

- Suitcases of any size & type**
- Anything on wheels/castors**
- milk crates/supermarket delivery crates/ bread trays**
- Briefcases, especially hard cased ones**
- Road signs and cones**
- Kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, work tables, wooden spoons, chopping boards**
- Tools like small spades/shovels, trowels & brooms**
- Tubes of various sizes & materials**
- Buckets**
- Nets & thick ropes**
- Broken keyboards/torches/laptops/ calculators/mobile phones/desk phones/webcams/cameras**
- Fabric (large sheets/coloured fabric)**
- Foam sheets/bodyboards/camping roll mats/yoga mats**
- Wooden pallets**
- Metal frames**
- Cable drums**
- Guttering**
- Noodles (swimming pool ones)**
- Hats/ scarves/ jazzy shirts/ elasticated skirts/ waistcoats/ wedding dresses/ character costumes**
- Pegs (to help to set up dens)**

Attendance

Please **Bee** on time for school. It is extremely important to aim for **96+%**, this will ensure your child makes the best progress.

Junior School: 8.40am - 3.15pm
Infant School: 8.45am - 3.15pm
Preschool: 9.00am - 3.00pm



This week the **best attendance** was seen in:
Class 4 in the **Infant School**
and **Ash Class** in the **Junior School**.

Our **Bee** on time winner is **Max**.

Congratulations!

OPAL

This week, **Mrs Moira Witham** and I went to a school in Peterborough who use OPAL [Outdoor Play and Learning] at lunchtimes.
It was simply marvellous! All the children were engaged in meaningful play across the school.
For more information on [OPAL](#) **click here**.



Contacts

Our **office staff** are updating the children's contact records on our ScholarPack system.
Please will you email any changes to **contact details** and **who has permission to take your child home**:
office@hartfordinfantschool.org
or
office@hartfordjuniorschool.org

Thank you for your support.

Community Champions

Mrs Vicky McGregor and **Miss Charlotte Deaves** alongside **Mrs Beth Ouzman** from **Inclusive Development** worked with our **Community Champion** children on Thursday.
They hosted a visit from the local **police** who showed our Champions the workings of a police car, talked through the different kit they use and answered questions from our Champions.
How exciting!

Parent Evening

We hope that you have managed to book a slot on [SchoolCloud](#) for our forthcoming **Parent Consultations** on **Tuesday 10th** and **Thursday 12th December** [Mrs Turner has appointments on Monday instead of the Thursday for Class 4].
We will send out the **Autumn Term Targets** on **Friday 6th December** which the class teacher will use to talk to you about how to help your child at home.
Please see our **Learning pages** on our school websites for further support.



<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Contacting School</i></p> <p>To contact staff please email or phone the school offices:</p> <p>Infant and Preschool: office@hartfordinfantschool.org 01480 398046 www.hartfordinfantschool.org</p> <p>Junior School: office@hartfordjuniorschool.org 01480 454695 www.hartfordjuniorschool.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Preschool</i></p> <p>This week, we have been counting the wooden stack rings. Some of us are showing good number sense. We also enjoyed sawing the cardboard. Great fine and gross motor skill activities to support early writing skills.</p> <p>Next week, we will be exploring Christmas type activities in our provision, including singing some songs and reading our class book, 'Christmas Pine' by Julia Donaldson.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Reception</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class 1 & 2</p> <p>This week, we have been investigating materials and thinking about which type of material would make the best bunting. We enjoyed testing paper, card, fabric and plastic.</p> <p>Next week, we will be getting festive designing and making our very own Christmassy bunting to decorate the Reception classrooms, along with our homemade paper chains!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 1</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class 3 & 4</p> <p>This week, we have been practising our Christmas production, 'Whoops a Daisy'. We have been singing lots of the songs. We also used the photos you so kindly sent in to support our writing about our family.</p> <p>Next week, we will embellish our Christmas bunting in our DT sessions and of course continue practising our play.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 2</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class 5 & 6</p> <p>This week, we used the common exception word mats to help our spellings. We learnt the skill of giving change, in our maths money lessons.</p> <p>Next week, in maths, we will identify midpoints, so we know where to place numbers on a number line. E.g. 15 is the midpoint between 10-20. On Tuesday afternoon we begin sewing our Christmas bunting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 3</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Beech & Chestnut Classes</p> <p>This week, in Science we have been exploring the water cycle. We carefully drew and labelled a diagram of the water cycle, adding in key information. In English we have been writing our non-chronological reports about 'Mallodiles'. We have been so impressed with how the children have aimed high in their writing to produce their final outcome.</p> <p>Next week, in geography we will be learning about the Aswan Dam in Egypt.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 4</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Willow & Holly Classes</p> <p>This week, the children completed all their assessments for English and maths. We are very proud of them for displaying our Hartford Habits such as aiming high, persevering and involvement during these tests.</p> <p>Next week, the children will continue creating their Egyptian cushions, focusing on sewing the seams, sewing on a fastening and sewing on their hieroglyphics.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 5</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Oak & Ash Classes</p> <p>This week, we have worked hard on assessments. We are really proud of everyone for how they have persevered and aimed high in these tests.</p> <p>Next week, the children will be continuing to learn about King Aethelbert and Queen Bertha's power and influence in Anglo Saxon Britain.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 6</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pine & Sycamore Classes</p> <p>This week, we have been studying fractions as well as adding and subtracting mixed numbers in maths. In science, we learned about Charles Darwin's evolution theory and his significance as a scientist.</p> <p>Next week, we will explore his findings further in science taking on the role of birds! We will also continue to make our playgrounds in DT which we made a start on this week.</p>

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[Click here for Term Dates for 2024-2025](#)

Parent Evening	All Schools	10th & 12th December	These meetings will be held on School Cloud , from 4.00pm - 6.50pm .
Catch up on flu vaccinations	All Schools	2nd December	Any children absent for the flu vaccinations to be administered.
Hartford Village Lights	All Schools	Saturday 7th December	Our choirs in both the Infant and Junior School will be singing at Hartford Village Hall to celebrate the lights being switched on by the Mayor. Do come along and support from 3.30pm.
St Peter's Pantomime	Year 6	9th December	Year 6 children are walking to St Peters to the Drama Unit to see their production of 'Cinderella'
Nativity Scenes Trip	Infant School	9th December	The KS1 children are invited to walk to All Saints Church Hartford to view the nativity scenes. Y1: 9.30 -10.30am and Y2: 10.45am -11.45am
Nativity Scenes Trip	Junior School	10th & 11th December	The LKS2 children are invited to walk to All Saints Church Hartford to view the nativity scenes. Y3: 9.30 -10.30am and Y4: 10.45am-11.45am on Tuesday and Y5: 9.30 -10.30am and Y6: 10.45am -11.45am on Wednesday .
Royal Opera House	Junior School	11th December	The Royal Opera House have invited the Junior children to participate in a virtual workshop across the school day linked to 'The Magic Flute'.
Y1 Dress Rehearsal	Year 1	10th December	Children will need to be in school with their costumes for the dress rehearsal to the rest of the school.
Y1 Nativity	Year 1	11th December	Parents and carers are invited to the performance from 9.15am in the school hall. Please note, no buggies can be brought into the hall.
Christmas Dance Day	Infant School	12th December	Christmas Dance Day for all children with Miss Charlotte - all children need to wear the festive PE kits .
Christmas Fete	All Schools	Friday 13th December	PATHS will organise a wealth of activities in the School Halls for all children to engage with. More details to follow.
Christmas Jumper Day	All Schools	Friday 13th December	We will celebrate Christmas Jumper Day, everyone is invited to wear a festive jumper and bring in a donation to Save the Children Society .
Christingle Service	All schools	Monday 16th December	A Christian Service at All Saints Church Hartford, led by Father Geoff along with the choirs from both schools . Spaces are limited . 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start . Don't forget to bring a Christingle .
Burwell Residential	Year 4	16th - 18th December	Year 4 pupils residential visit.
Christmas Dinner Day	All schools	Wednesday 18th December	Look out on Parent Pay to book your child's festive lunch.
Christmas Parties	Infant School	Wk beg 16th December	Y2: Wed 18th, Y1: Thurs 19th , YR & Preschool: Fri 20th - all children to come in their party clothes to school on the designated day.
Christmas Quiz	Junior School	Friday 20th December	KS2 children can come in Christmas Jumpers and participate in a Christmas Quiz and Games in the afternoon
Treehouse Club	All Schools	Friday 20th December	Our After School Club will not be open due to staff training.
End of Term	All Schools	Friday 20th December	All schools will close for the Christmas Break.
Spring Term	All Schools	Tuesday 7th January 2025	School reopens to the children from 8.40am [HJS] & 8.45am [HIPS].
Treehouse Club	All Schools	Thursday 9th January	Our After School Club will not be open due to staff training.
Heights & Weights	Year R	14th January	All children are expected to be weighed and measured in school by the Local Authority Health Team.