

## Hartford Infant and Preschool & Hartford Junior Newsletter 22 24.2.2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

*Hello/Sveiki*

What a busy week it has been! The **infant children** had their Sparky Start at the Hamerton Zoo, which they all thoroughly enjoyed despite the gloomy weather on Tuesday. They were able to see camels and hear the screaming monkeys [they made us jump] and some returned to see the sloth several times. It was a lovely day out with the whole school and I was proud of them as there was a lot of walking involved.

Elsewhere the **Year 5 children** have started their swimming sessions for this half term and had a good time.

**Hartford Junior children** were invited to the very first **Hartford Junior VIP Writers Assembly** on Thursday, these will be scheduled each half term. Mr Squires literally rolled out the red carpet and awarded **Coby** in Year 6, **Ainara** in Year 5, **Lakshit** in Year 4 and **Robyn** in Year 3 special certificates and have framed their work in school to celebrate their amazing writing skills. How inspiring!

On Thursday evening a record number of **Year 6 children** returned to school to take part in **The Rotary Club Quiz**, answering over 100 questions on geography, history and general knowledge that even had Mrs Swann and Mrs J Smith scratching their heads at some points. But despite some tough questions the children worked hard as a team and **Coby** and **Matthew**, our 2 wonderful team captains delivered the answers and secured a winning result. So Hartford Junior School retains the Rotary shield for the fourth time – well done Year 6 children!

Mrs Eagle held an information workshop on Thursday morning for **Reception Parents** but unfortunately only a few parents could make the time, if this is something you would have liked to attend but couldn't please let us know and we can see if we could put it online.

Coming up we have a **Year 1 phonics** information evening and a **Year 4 Burwell Trip** meeting.

Have a good weekend. Best wishes/Geriausi linkėjimai  
Rae Lee [Headteacher]

You may have noticed at the front of the school a **defibrillator** has been installed. Many years ago some of our dedicated members of staff took part in a gruelling challenge to raise money towards purchasing one and finally we have been able to install it for the community to access.

### *PATHS*

The **PATHS Team** met on Monday afternoon and were over the moon to report the profits made at the recent disco, over £600 was raised which we will bank and use for those little extras across the schools. Currently in the Infant School we need new visualisers to support with the children's learning.

Mrs Eastwood, our PATHS Secretary will be creating a PATHS newsletter to share with the rest of the community in due course.

We have agreed to have a **clothes bank** put on site that everyone can use with profits ploughed back in to schools.

We have also set up an account with **EasyFundraising** which will also raise funds for the school when you shop through their app with certain retailers. You can sign up here <http://efraising.org/HBYEwpbKpj>. However, between Monday **27th March** and Tuesday **14th March** EasyFundraising will give us £1 for every new supporter if we can get at least 30 supporters. That's £30 straight away- WITH NO UPPER LIMIT, so 100 is £100, 200 = £200 and so on...how exciting!

### *Fundraising/Lesu*

Three of our Junior children kindly requested if there could be an opportunity to raise funds for the devastating consequences of the recent earthquakes. They spoke eloquently about how passionate they felt that as a community we could raise funds to support those less fortunate than ourselves. Therefore we would like to invite all pupils and staff to wear **non uniform** on **Wednesday 8th March**. All monetary donations will be greatly received.

### *Strike Action/Streiko Veiksmas*

As per last month, we believe there will be a strike on **Wednesday 1st March** for teaching staff although there are talks continuing into the weekend. We currently believe that this will affect **Year 3, Year 4, and Year 5** only. You will be notified if your child has acquired a space to attend in Year 3, 4 and 5 by the school office. **PLEASE** check ParentHub and emails to see if your child *has* been given a space. If you are allocated a space for your child and they are ill on Wednesday, please let us know as per usual for absence procedures. We appreciate **all** your support for the school and wanted to give you as much notice as possible so you can make plans.

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### *Dates for the Diary/Dienoraschio dates*

|                                   |               |                                      |  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Y 6 heights & Weights             | Junior School | Tuesday 28th February                | All Y6 children will have their heights and weights measured unless otherwise pre arranged   |
| Phonics Screening                 | Infant School | Wednesday 8th March                  | For parents of children in Classes 3 and 4 at 6.00pm   |
| Book Fair                         | All Schools   | Wednesday 1st & Thursday 9th March   | <a href="#">Next Page Books</a> visiting our schools more information to follow soon   |
| World Book Day                    | All Schools   | Thursday 2nd March                   | <b>All</b> children and staff invited to wear their pjs for the day and bring in their favourite book  |
| Reading Workshop                  | Infant School | Thursday 2nd March                   | From <b>2.00pm</b> come to school learn about how to help your child with reading and then <b>support them in class</b> with a World Book Day activity [PJs for <i>you</i> are optional]   |
| Non uniform for Earthquake Appeal | All Schools   | Wednesday 8th March                  | All children and staff are invited to wear non uniform for a <b>monetary donation</b> to support the Earthquake Appeal   |
| Burwell Trip Meeting              | Year 4        | Wednesday 8th March                  | All <b>Year 4 parents</b> invited to hear more about the <b>Burwell Residential Trip at 6.00pm</b>   |
| Parent Evenings                   | All Schools   | Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd March | Online <b>Parent Consultations</b> scheduled. More details to follow   |
| Work Share Event                  | Infant School | Wk beg 20th March                    | Each class invite their parents into the school hall from 9.00am for a short presentation to showcase their learning about the UK this half term. More details to follow   |
| Non Uniform for Fete              | All Schools   | Friday 24th March                    | Children bring in <b>chocolate easter eggs</b> for the tombola and/or <b>raffle prizes</b> for the Easter fete if they wear non uniform  |
| Easter Concert                    | Reception     | Monday 27th March                    | Parents and Carers of children in <b>Class 1 and 2</b> invited to listen to the children's Easter Concert  |
| Musical Production                | Year 3 & 4    | Tuesday 28th March                   | <b>Year 3 and 4</b> perform, 'A Medley of Musicals' at <b>2.00pm</b> and <b>6.00pm</b> . More details to follow re tickets   |
| Cake Sale                         | All Schools   | Tuesday 28th March                   | After school from 3.00pm donated cakes to be sold on front playground. Any parent helpers would be much appreciated [you can collect your child early]   |
| Easter Fete                       | All schools   | Thursday 30th March                  | Easter Fete [similar to the Christmas Fete], £3/child [see ParentPay for how to purchase your child's entry] for a bag of goodies, an entry to the colouring/quiz competition with separate prizes and an entry ticket for the Easter egg tombola. The raffle will be drawn after school at 3.30pm in the Infant School hall for the prizes- you are welcome to pop into hear the draw |
| Easter Bonnet Parade              | Infant School | Friday 31st March                    | Please bring in home made Easter bonnets to school and the children will parade these outside on the front playground at 2.30pm  |
| Last day of term                  | All Schools   | Friday 31st March                    | <b>All</b> children return to school on Tuesday 18th April at 8.45am   |

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### Preschool

This week, preschool children have enjoyed making and tasting pancakes. We practised using whisks to mix. We also tried cracking eggs into the bowl, we linked our experiences to home. Betsy said, 'I had chocolate and syrup on pancakes at home'. We have also started our new book, 'The Three Little Pigs', we are looking forward to reading this more on World Book Day. We will also begin to plant and grow cress seeds and begin thinking about their growth.

### Year 3

This week in **Beech and Chestnut Class**, we started our new class book 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'. We also started our new grammar topic on prepositions and the children were able to identify prepositions of time, place and cause. In handwriting, we have taken our letter formation skills and started to sequence sentences. In history, the children recreated sources from the Indus Valley such as a statue of a dancing girl, a toy whistle and a seal. **Next week**, we will be practicing our songs and dance moves for the upcoming production.

### Reception

This week **Class 1 and 2**, loved exploring the zoo and learning about so many interesting animals, birds and reptiles. We have been programming the Bee-Bots to reach parts of the U.K on a map and have started to find out about the 5 countries in the United Kingdom. In Literacy we have been sharing our new focus book 'Supertato' and retelling the story using our story shelves. Maths learning has been focussed on 3D shapes and we have been using mathematical language such as face, side and vertices to describe their properties and make simple comparisons as we have sorted them. **Next week**, we will be thinking about the differences between wild and domesticated animals. Please check the 'Homework Challenge' post on Tapestry as we would love to share photos of any pets you may have as part of our learning!

### Year 4

This week in **Pine and Sycamore Classes**, we have been exploring multiplication using the column method and continuing with 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. In science we have started our new topic, Living Things and Their Habitats. We have also started our new Humanities topics. In PE we have been doing tennis and benchball. **Next week**, we will learn about speech in text and continue with column method multiplication.

### Year 1

This week, in **Class 3 and 4**, we had a wonderful time at Hamerton Zoo Park and were very excited to talk about it for the rest of the week! In English we were introduced to the story 'Nat Fantastic' by Giles Andreae and practiced our discussion skills. In maths we learned to subtract ones by counting back. We used a number track and part-whole model to help us. In science we have been sorting and naming animals. **Next week**, we will be discussing new word meanings in English and in maths we will begin to use subtraction to find the difference between numbers. World Book Day is on Thursday next week, so class 3 will **NOT** be doing Forest School and Class 4 will not have PE.

### Year 5

This week in **Oak and Ash Class**, we have been busy bees! The children all enjoyed their first swimming lesson and are looking forward to seeing improvements in their ability over the next 6 weeks. In English, we read the next two chapters of 'Kensuke's Kingdom', we have finally met the character of Kensuke and have enjoyed making predictions about how he's ended up on this remote island! In maths we have completed a final week of fractions and moved on to finding equivalent fractions using our multiplication knowledge. In history, we began to look at historical examples of the persecution of Christians, making links to our RE knowledge. We also had our first RSE session, looking at male and female body parts. **Next week**, we will begin our new RE and geography units, looking at The death of Christ and Tourism.

### Year 2

This week **Class 5 and 6**, have been geographers. We learnt that England has a capital city called London, which has lots of famous landmarks like Tower Bridge. In English we wrote a recount about our school trip and in maths we learnt about halves. **Next week**, in English we begin a new text called 'Traction Man' by Mini Grey and will make predictions about his character. In maths we will continue our work on fractions and learn about quarters.

### Year 6

This week in **Willow and Holly Classes**, we have been learning about macro photography in art, the children have been taking images of natural objects and editing them. See SeeSaw to look at your child's pictures. We have started to understand how the circulatory system works in science labelling the different chambers of the heart, next week we are making "blood smoothies" to understand the different components of our blood. **Next week**, in English we will be continuing with the book 'Street Child' and will be writing a non-chronological report on workhouses in Victorian times.

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