

*Hello / Hallo*

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a long week in the **Junior School**, the children have worked hard in their assessments in **Year 3, 4, and 5**. Some challenging questions were asked of them but they showed perseverance and we are proud of their efforts.

Thank you to everyone who remembered their **Autumn Parent Consultation Meeting**, I hope that you found it worthwhile. It makes the class teachers' lives easier to meet on a set date so that they can then plan their lessons, mark books and organise their own families. When appointments are missed it can be a challenge to reschedule. It was lovely to see you all and both Mrs Rudd and I appreciate your promptness with the appointment timings!

This week we have had some special visitors from **Christ Church Huntingdon**, **Charlie Newcombe** and **Beth** popped into the **Infant and Junior School** to talk about the true message of Christmas. The children have enjoyed the assemblies and if they would like to know more there are regular services held at Stukeley Meadows School each Sunday at 10.30am.

This week we have been busy taking the children to **Elfridges** and our Lil Elves have been working hard to wrap all the gifts to bring home. Please bear with us as this can take some time to make a purchase, especially if you are young there is so much choice and decisions need careful consideration and then writing tags can be a challenge too. It has been delightful though seeing their deliberations. **Last day for purchasing Christmas Fair tickets on Parent Pay is on Sunday 10th December.**

Our **PATHS** Co Chairs [Mr Gavin McCartney and Mrs Freya Davis] are happy to share that from **3.15pm on Monday 18th December** you are welcome to stay and browse a few independent stalls in the **Junior School Hall** and stay for refreshments before the start of the **Christmas Carol Service** that will start approximately **4.00pm**. This Carol Service is for outdoors and there will be a mixture of carols sung by our **Infant** and **Junior** choirs children and songs for the audience to participate in too. Please come **wrapped up warm**, bring **torches** and **money** to purchase refreshments or maybe a late gift from the few stalls we have in the hall [stalls include Christmas Crafts to be paid with cash]. [Click here](#) if you will be attending this event, so that we can ensure we have enough refreshments and can plan appropriately for health and safety requirements in the hall.

Today we said an earlier than anticipated goodbye to **Mrs Emily Swann**, she will be starting her maternity leave and we wish her all the best. All Holly Class parents will have received further communication today via email.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes / Beste Wünsche

Rae Lee [Headteacher]

### *Dance / Tanzen*

This week the children across the Preschool **and Infant School** had a Festive Christmas Dance session with Miss Charlotte in the school hall. It was very moving to see all the children engaged with learning a short sequence of dance moves to popular songs and all with a huge smile on their faces.

**Last week** the children exercised their democratic rights and elected their class representatives onto the **School Council** across both schools. We are pleased to announce that following their presentation of their manifestos, and the counting of votes, the following children are now school councillors.

### *Congratulations to:*

<b>Class 1:</b> Matylda and Jonas	<b>Beech:</b> Connor and Martha
<b>Class 2:</b> Emma and Louie	<b>Chestnut:</b> George and Emily
<b>Class 3:</b> Julian and Amelia M	<b>Willow:</b> Theo and Camille
<b>Class 4:</b> Colton and Evelyn	<b>Holly:</b> Lorenzo and Adriana
<b>Class 5:</b> Ayla and Alessia	<b>Oak:</b> Anna and Lakshit
<b>Class 6:</b> George and Luna	<b>Ash:</b> Cara and Alicja
	<b>Pine:</b> Lia and Luke
	<b>Sycamore:</b> Joe and Kira

*Preschool*

This week, **preschool** continued learning about Christmas. We have sung Christmas songs, having great fun using the jingle bells! We linked this to phonics learning by following 'stop' and 'go' instructions as well as 'fast' 'slow' 'quiet' and 'loud' and trying to shake our bells to match the syllables of the word. We found it funny singing about Santa getting stuck in the chimney! We made paper chains, it took perseverance to learn the skill of manipulating the paper into a chain! We loved our Christmas dance session with Miss Charlotte, rocking around the Christmas tree and finding ways to move our bodies to be reindeers! **Next week** we will introduce a Christmas tree into the classroom and use our fine motor skills to hang decorations, we will be printing our Christmas folders. We will learn, 'The Robots Came To Dinner On Christmas Day' song linking to a phonics activity where we will 'feed some sounds' to our robot!

*Reception*

This week **Class 1 and 2**, have been busy singing festive songs and using a range of percussion instruments to tap out a rhythm. We have been thinking about playing fast and slow and have learned the word 'tempo'. In maths we have been investigating wholes and parts of objects and exploring ways to compose and de-compose sets of 2 and 3. We have been using our phonic arm to help us to segment CVC words to write simple labels and captions. **Next week**, in PSHE we will be thinking about our thoughts and feelings and how we can be kind to one another and get along with our friends. We will also be making Christmas cards and party hats!

*Year 1*

This week in **Class 3 and Class 4**, we have been busy practicing our play. In maths we have been learning about 2D shapes. In music we have been playing instruments fast and slow and hearing different tempos. **Next week**, we are looking forward to seeing you at our nativity play on Tuesday morning.

*Year 2*

This week, in **Class 5 and 6**, in English we looked at a friend's piece of writing and assessed their work. We looked for capital letters, full stops, conjunctions and neat handwriting. In maths we calculated change in 5 pence. In science we completed an investigation about the suitability of materials. We were proud of the Year 2 Choir who entertained The Cambridge Oddfellows society at their Christmas party. **Next week** there is no PE or Forest School. We will begin our Christmas preparations by making hats, tree decorations and cards. In English we will write instructions and in maths we are learning to tell the time to the hour, half hour and quarter hours.

*Year 3*

This week in **Beech and Chestnut Classes**, completed NFER tests and did an excellent job. We finished our cradles of civilization unit in history and our mountains unit in geography. In science, we conducted a mini experiment to determine which type of soil would drain the most water and which would soak up most of the water. **Next week**, it will be Christmas Jumper day and Christmas dinner, the children will also be making Christmas cards. We are really proud of the children for their efforts this week!

*Year 4*

This week in **Holly and Willow Classes** we completed assessments. We enjoyed making our torches in DT using a working prototype. In science, we connected our understanding of the water cycle from Y3 to our work on states of matter. We enjoyed investigating the processes involved in the water cycle and how water transforms from liquid to gas and back to liquid or solid. In English, we explored newspaper reports, this caused excitement as it is linked to our Roman Empire topic. **Next week**, we will begin to draft our own newspaper reports and in maths we will explore multiples of 9.

*Year 5*

This week **Oak and Ash Classes** have worked hard with assessments. It's been wonderful to see so many of them with such a positive, happy attitude. In PE, we have continued hockey and looked at rock 'n' roll dancing. In history, we learnt new vocabulary related to the Anglo Saxons, and in geography we discussed the impacts humans have on the oceans. **Next week**, we will continue with fractions and focus on our class text, 'Nowhere Emporium'. The [Science Dome](#) is coming. Please can children continue to come to school in weather appropriate clothing, i.e., coats, full trousers, tights etc. Thank you for the continued support with the PE kit/uniform.

*Year 6*

This week in **Pine and Sycamore Classes** we continued looking at multiplying fractions by other fractions and integers. In English we looked at the role of symbolism in texts, applying this to our writing on the Alchemists letter. We completed a writing assessment, finishing a narrative themed around a magical wishing well. We tied together all the grammar we have studied this term and produced some wonderful work. In science, we completed our Evolution topic by making fact files about rare and exotic animals that have benefited from natural selection. In PSHE, we had thoughtful discussions about stereotypes around bullies, with the children challenging their preconceptions about who the victim/perpetrators are. Finally, in geography we considered the impact humans have on oceans and came up with strategies the children can use to protect the planet for the future.

*Dates for the Diary/Mazuva eDiary*

Post boxes	Infant School	Wk beg 11th December	Designated post boxes will be placed in each class for the children to pop their cards in.
Christmas Lunch	All schools	Wednesday 13th December	All children are invited to order a festive school lunch on Parent Pay. All staff and children will be wearing their <b>Christmas jumpers</b> and can donate to Save the Children Fund.
<a href="#">WonderDome</a>	<b>Year 5</b>	Wednesday 13th December	<b>Year 5</b> children will experience a planetarium in an inflatable dome in the school hall to support their learning on Space.
Christmas Fete	All Schools	Friday 15th December	Children will participate in a variety of Festive activities across both schools for <b>£5.00 to be paid on Parent Pay before Sunday 10th December</b> . There will be a grotto for infant children to visit across the school day . Y3 children can pop over after school until 4.00pm. <b>All children will go to the fete</b> and can enter into a <b>colouring competition/quiz</b> with a prize and have a <b>goodie bag</b> .
Nativity	<b>Year 1</b>	Tuesday 12th December	Parents are invited to our <b>Year 1 Nativity Play</b> at <b>9.15am</b> , all preschool children/babies are welcome but <u>please vacate</u> the hall if they are finding it a challenge to be quiet. <b>Only 2 adults per child</b> .
Carols on the Playground	All Schools	Monday 18th December	Everyone invited to the front playground to sing festive songs by torchlight. Our <b>school choirs</b> will sing solos for us. Bring torches and mittens and cash for hot chocolate. 4.00pm start. Please <a href="#">click here</a> to let us know if you are attending so we can ensure enough refreshments.
Christmas Party	Infant School	Wk beg 18th December	<b>Y2 Tuesday , Y1 Wednesday and YR Thursday</b> , all children will have party in the school hall, come dressed in party clothes
End of Term	All schools	Thursday 21st December	End of the Autumn Term from 3.15pm.
Spring Term	All schools	Friday 5th January	<b>All children in Year R through to Year 6</b> start at 8.45am
Sparky Start	<b>Infant School</b>	Wk beg 8th January	We would really love to get some 'real life' visitors in to school to speak to the children about their roles that help others [e.g. nurses, paramedics, train drivers, firefighters etc]. Please contact Mrs Shaw - <a href="mailto:Hshaw@hartfordinfantschool.org">Hshaw@hartfordinfantschool.org</a> thank you.



Hartford Infant and Preschool & Hartford Junior Newsletter 12. 30.12.2023

