



Hartford Headlines 20

Hartford Infant and Preschool & Hartford Junior School Newsletter Friday 7th February 2025

Headteacher Highlights...



- This week we have enjoyed our **first full week** of [OPAL](#).
- The children have enjoyed the use of both the **front** and **back playground**.

- Both schools have mixed following the [Golden Rules](#) to ensure everyone is **happy and safe**.
- We had a **NSPCC Number Day** and thoroughly enjoyed the activities organised by **Mrs Michelle Smith** and **Mrs Cheryl Esaw** [our Math Leads in both schools]. Thank you to everyone who came in to school. We apologise that we could not invite the Junior Children's parents and carers into class, we thought our stairwell renovations would be underway but sadly not.
- I will send a **stairwell renovations** update soon, once everything has been finalised.

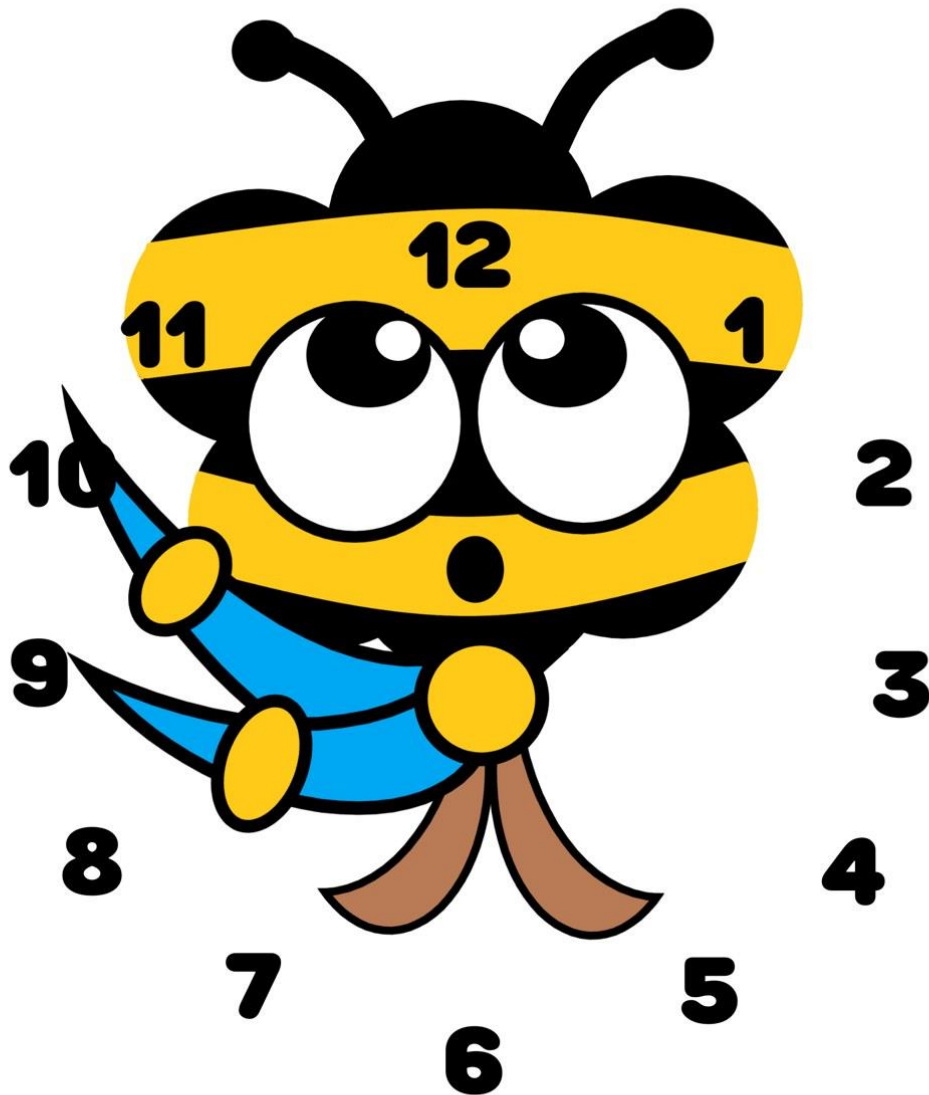


1 - NSPCC Number Hats in Class 6...



2 - Our Golden Rules are to keep everyone happy and safe.

!Attention 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 6 in the Infant School and Ash Class in the Junior School. Our Bee on time winner is Eleanora. We reward the

child with the **best punctuality** each week in the infant class with the best attendance. A **Tesco voucher** for home and a lil' prize for the child is given.



OPAL

Hopefully you have seen our OPAL Bingo Card [see the last page of this newsletter]. We thought it might be fun to make this into a game. We are going to play OPAL Bingo in each class from Preschool through to Year 6. The class that can tick off the **most items**, preferably a full house, by **Friday 14th February** will be rewarded with extra play time. We know the children always request extra playtime when rewards are distributed, so they will be super excited about this initiative. Thank you for all your support. **Don't forget those wellies so they can go on the field soon.** Junior children please start to bring in **named wellies** in a **named bag**.





3 - *Sharing* the back playground...



4 - *Exploring* the front playground...



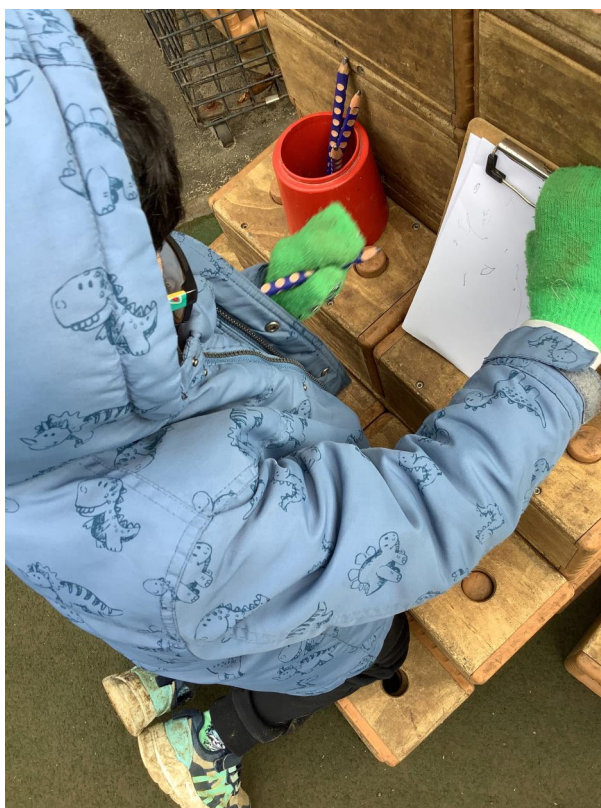
5 - *Waiting* eagerly for the OPAL shed...

Classroom Curiosity...



6 - What has been going on in school?

Preschool



This week, we have been looking at our own baby photos and thinking about how different we look, how we have changed and what we can do now that we couldn't do when we were babies!

We used bean bags in our PE session, holding them on different parts of our bodies and tried to throw and catch them!

Next week, we will be thinking more about our families and the people around us that we love and that help look after us as well as using story cards to help us order the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

Year R



7 - Making birdfeeders in Forest School

This week we been busy singing and using a range of untuned percussion instruments! We have been learning about pitch and using the words 'high' and 'low' to describe the sounds we hear. We have also been thinking about how we can play our instruments 'loudly' or 'softly'.

Next week in literacy we will be making a zig-zag book to tell the story of 'The Enormous Turnip'. In maths we will be exploring the composition of 5.

Year 1



This week, in maths we have been measuring length and height using non-standard units and CM. We enjoyed making and eating our fruit kebabs in Design Technology. In Forest School we hung our ice decorations from the trees. **Next week**, in music we will be using instruments to accompany the story 'Funnybones'.

Year 2

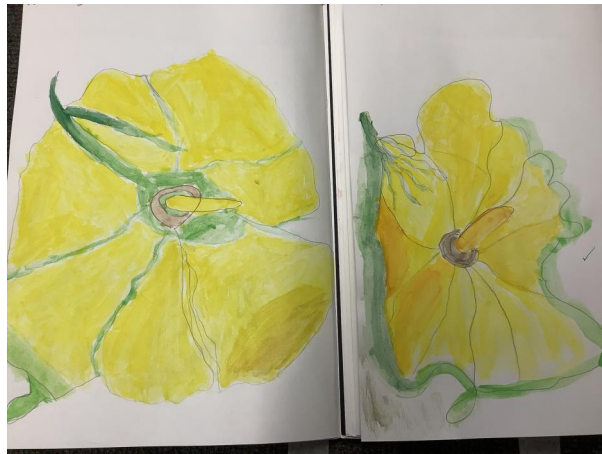
This week, we read information about the Blitz and recorded ourselves saying sentences in English lessons. We recapped how to measure in centimetres and metres in maths. We enjoyed making a healthy flapjack.

Next week, we will edit and improve our explanation texts in English. In maths, we will use different methods to add and subtract 2-digit numbers. We are looking forward to playing recorders in music.



8 - Healthy baking in school for DT lessons.

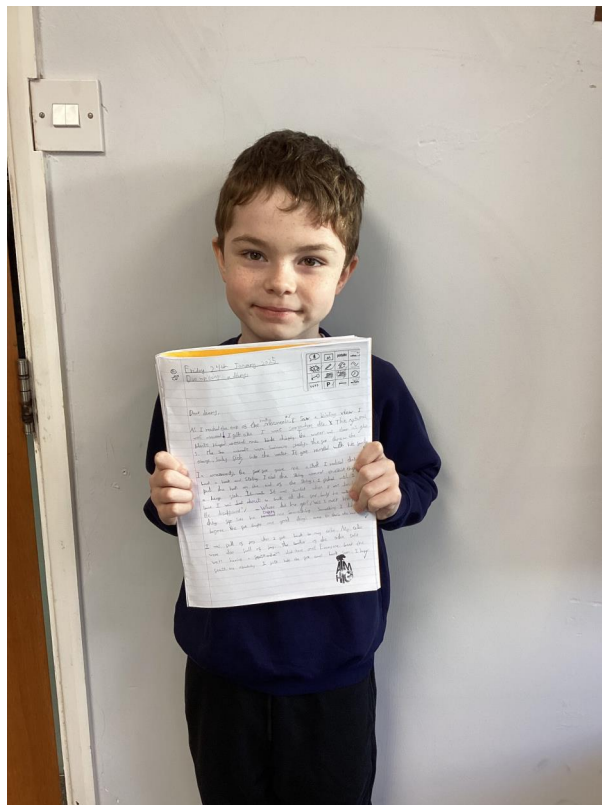
Year 3



9 - In art the children used water colours to create a flower painting in the style of our artist 'Georgia O'Keeffe'

This week we have been writing, editing and performing our monologues in English. We have been so impressed with the children's use of language and how they have taken on the 'role' of the Iron Man. In maths we have been exploring column addition using resources to help us lay it out correctly. **Next week** we are looking forward to our science visit focusing on rocks from Mr McClennan from St Peters School.

Year 4



10 - Involved learning...

This week we had a lovely visit for Mr. MacLennan, a science teacher from St. Peter's Secondary School. We got to participate in experiments and had great discussions about our topic, 'sound'. In English, we have been focusing on direct speech and we are becoming experts at writing dialogue. **Next week**, we look forward to our RE days, where we will learn about people of faith.

Year 5



This week, we have been learning about Haiku and Tanka poems. We have heard some beautiful poems and the children have performed them brilliantly.

Next week, we will be looking at how people of different faiths celebrate their religion through music and painting in our RE sessions.

Year 6

This week we have been practising how to use pathetic fallacy as a descriptive language tool, alongside dialogue to write narratives based on a short clip we have watched in class. In maths, we have focussed on geometry and have learned how to find the perimeter and area of triangles and in science we used our enquiry skills to carry out group investigations testing voltage in electrical circuits. **Next week**, we will think about urban planning in geography and Humanism in RE.

Diary Dates

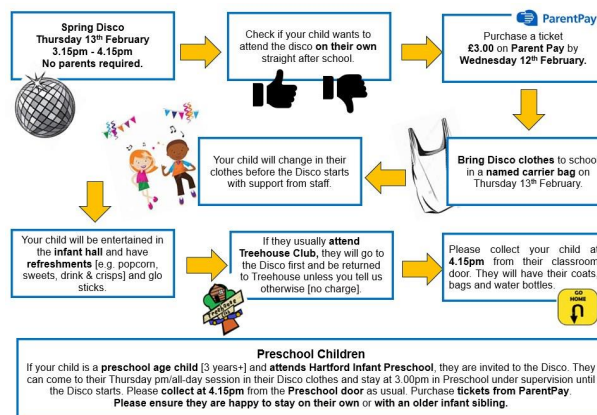


Diary Dates			
Safer Internet Day	All schools	Tuesday 11th February	Both schools will participate in assemblies with a focus on how to be safe when they are online.
Disco	All schools	Thursday 13th February	PATHS will be organising a Disco for both schools. See fliers for further details.
Half Term	All schools	Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	School will be closed for all pupils
NSPCC Assemblies	All schools	Wk beg Monday 24th February	We will be investigating how to 'Speak out. Stay safe.'
NSPCC Workshops	Year 2 Year 5 & 6	Tuesday 4th March	We will be further investigating how to 'Speak out. Stay safe.'
World Book Day	All schools	Thursday 6th March	All children and staff are invited to come to school 'wearing' a word. It could be the word 'sparkly' and wear sequins or 'magical' and come as a Wizard or 'sleepy' and come in PJs.
Vision Screening	Year R	Wednesday 12th March	The NHS Vision Screening Team will be in school to check the vision of all children in Class 1 and 2.
Red Nose Day	All schools	Friday 21st March	We will support this worthwhile charity. More details to follow.
Easter Concert	Year R	Tuesday 1st April	Our children in Year R [classes 1 & 2] will perform a few Easter themed songs for families to enjoy.
Easter Fete	All schools	Wednesday 2nd April	Our PATHS team will be organising our annual festive fair for the children.
Easter Bonnet Parade	Infant and Preschool	Thursday 3rd April	All Preschool and Infant children are invited to make an Easter bonnet at home to bring to school for the annual parade.
Last day of term	All schools	Friday 4th April	School will shut for the Easter Break.
Treehouse Club closed	All schools	Friday 4th April	No Treehouse Club for this evening.
Summer Term begins	All schools	Wednesday 23rd April	School reopens for all children. 8.40am for KS2, 8.45am for Year R and KS1 and 9.00am for Preschool.

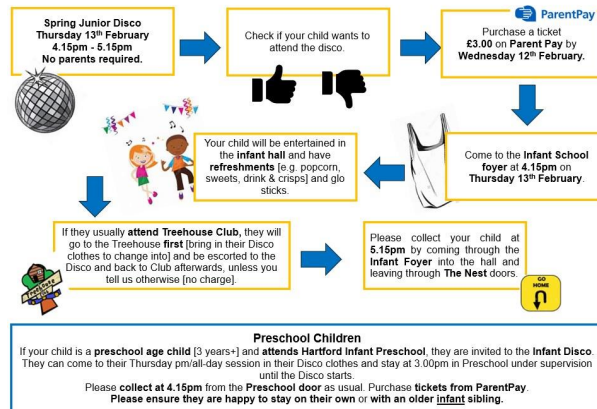
D.I.S.C.O



11 - On Thursday 13th February, we will be hosting our Spring Term Discos for both Hartford Infant Preschool and Hartford Junior School children



12 - How to go to the Infant and Preschool Disco



13 - How to go to the Junior School

Safety Spot!!!



Online Safety January 2025

Roblox

We are aware that some of our children play 'Roblox'. However, there are concerns about the safety of this platform for a whole host of reasons, such as

- highly inappropriate games
- accessible to young children
- questionable moderation
- significant grooming concerns and more.

Roblox is a platform where any user can create games and one of the biggest concerns is that none of these user-generated games have required an age rating system.

That's about to change, from mid-December creators will have to content-rate their games. It's a positive step forward but much more needs to be done by Roblox and other platforms to help parents with keeping their children safe.

You can read more about the concerns and the steps which Roblox are taking [HERE](#).

Loot Boxes

For many children and young people playing games is predominantly about **socialising** with their friends. Because of this there can be significant peer pressure to look and be better than everyone else. In-game purchases such as **loot boxes** capitalise on this peer pressure, enticing users to get ahead more quickly by spending money.

Loot boxes have been a concern for a long time. It is thought by many that loot boxes can be a gateway or lead-in to gambling.

Concerningly, a BBC investigation has found that, out of the top 45 biggest games on the Google Play store, most are not disclosing properly that the games contain loot boxes.

The BBC article can be found [HERE](#).

Online Scams

ParentZone have put together a very simple but useful webpage guide for parents on how to deal with online scams. **You can find the guide [HERE](#).**

OPAL Bingo

Get ready to play... OPAL BINGO				
 Laundry basket	 Acorns	 Wooden and metal spoons	 Strainers	 Plastic crates
 Baking pans	 Pine Cones	 Umbrellas	 Pans	 Utensils
 Colanders	 Jugs	 Sinks and tubs	 Plastic tubes	 Tarpaulin
 Beach spades	 Buckets	 Trowels	 Funnels	 Cardboard tubes
 Guttering	 Big cardboard boxes	 Wooden and plastic pegs	 Wellies	 Watering cans





Have a wonderful weekend!