

Hello/Kamusta Na

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are well and looking forward to a 3 day weekend. The children have been working hard especially our **Year 6** children in preparation for SAT testing week beginning on **Monday 13th May**. It has been a pleasure to look in the children's writing books across both schools and observe how they are using their editing skills to improve their work. The children enjoy using the **purple polishing pens** to reflect on how to correct spellings, add in adjectives, create noun phrases and change punctuation. Reflective Rex in the **Infant School** has never been so busy!

Our **characteristics of learning** support the children in their work. In the **Infant School** they are referred to as the Hartford Heroes and we teach them their values to help them to learn well. The **Junior School** children also use these **6 characteristics**: aiming high, reflection, involvement, problem solving, team work, and perseverance in their learning. For more information please see the schools websites.



Last night, I had the pleasure on behalf of the PATHS committee to attend the annual Mayor Making Ceremony in Huntingdon Town Hall. The outgoing Mayor honoured our school with a cheque for £455.17. This money will be added to our PATHS fund. We are currently purchasing many picnic benches with parasols for the summer. As many of you know we are lucky to have such a large field but it does need some shaded areas on hot sunny days.

PATHS [Parents and Teachers of the Hartford Schools] is a PTA committee that currently is chaired by **Mr Gavin McCartney** and **Mrs Freya Davies** with the support of **Mrs Gemma Jarmaine**, all are members of staff. We would love to involve more parents on our committee. Please contact us for further information. Currently the PATHS team are organising the **Summer Fete** scheduled for **Friday 28th June** from **2.00pm**. This year they would like to invite the children and families to donate the following items:



bottles for a tombola (e.g. drink, shampoo etc so long as they are sealed)
jars for the jar tombola
soft toys for prizes
good quality raffle prizes



Part of the fair for the children will be pre-paid again, and we are also inviting **outside stall holders** to join the fun, if anyone knows anyone who would be interested or who would like to run their own pre-approved stall please contact us for further information. How exciting!

This week in the **Infant School** we started our **Book Club** which takes place on the first Friday of each month. Each class looked at a book from our **Hartford Infant and Preschool Read Aloud book spine**, texts all recommended by the teachers in school. We then played 'roll and read' and answered some questions about the book. [Click the link](#) which will take you to our website where you can see which stories the children listened to.

Have a wonderful long weekend and thank you for all the continued support. It is especially heart warming to hear the lovely comments you make about the school, we really appreciate your thoughts.

We will see you all back in school on **Tuesday 7th May**.

Best wishes / Pinakamahasay na mga kagustuhan Rae Lee [Headteacher]

This month we are learning to say key phrases in the **Infant School in Filipino. If you have any resources that would support our display we would appreciate them for the month of May.**

Preschool

This week **preschool** have extended their current interest in minibeasts by going on some minibeast 'hunts' in the garden and using books and bug guides to find out about what they have found, linking the real world to print and giving print meaning. We used some special pens and stones to mark make some bugs onto the stones and felt very proud of ourselves! **Next week**, we will be making 'silly soup' recipes in the role play area as part of our phonics learning and thinking about listening out for the initial sound of the ingredients! I wonder what we will make!

Reception

This week **Class 1 and 2** have been using iPads and non-fiction books to find out more about animals, sea creatures and birds that live in Antarctica and have been comparing these to British wildlife. In maths we have been exploring the composition of numbers 6-9 using practical resources. **Next week**, we will be unscrambling some 'silly sentences' in literacy and exploring the Antarctic Dome! **Please note that there will be NO Forest School for Class 1 on Wednesday next week due to the Dome experience and children should wear their usual school uniform.**

Year 1

This week **Class 3 and Class 4** listened to the story 'One day on our blue planet in the Antarctic' and used known phonics to read new words from the story and explain their meaning. In maths we counted to 100 and beyond and grouped tens and ones. In enquiry we started DT, and we began by exploring levers and sliders in books. We made our own simple slider mechanism. **Next week**, in science we will be identifying and naming a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.

Year 2

This week **Class 5 and 6** we wrote a description of a setting from The Story Machine. In maths we went to the disco! Don't worry parents, we were doing maths. We used mini dance mats to learn about positional language. We made comparisons between Huntingdon and Antarctica. **Next week**, in English we will write a recount about the Antarctic Dome we will experience. In maths we will learn about symmetry. We will learn how to measure, saw and use sandpaper in Design and Technology. **Don't forget to supply a shoe-sized box for your child.**

Year 3

This week **Beech** and **Chestnut** wrote diary entries from the perspective of the character Tidgy from the novel 'The Nothing to See Here Hotel'. The children did an excellent job writing, editing and polishing their work. In maths, we started our fractions unit focusing on parts, wholes, equal and unequal parts. In computing, the lesson was based on internet safety, discussing our trusted adults, what we can and cannot tell people on the internet and ways we can stay as safe as possible. **Next week**, we will be creating sculptures based on Barabara Hepworth in art. **A polite reminder to label and name all clothing items and towels that come to swimming.**

Year 4

This week **Holly and Willow Classes** have been thinking about the different features of a persuasive letter ready to write a letter in role as 'Ruskin' from our class text 'Krinklekrax'. It has been wonderful to hear the different persuasive arguments the children are planning. In maths the children have shown great perseverance when looking at fractions of quantities and we have used a range of physical resources to support us. We enjoyed our science investigation about effective teeth cleaning and carefully shared our results and findings. In art we explored different ways we can manipulate clay and next week we will continue to delve deeper with the different skills as we will eventually be creating our own clay pieces. **Next week**, we look forward to writing our persuasive letters and continuing our geography work on earthquakes.

Year 5

This week **Oak** and **Ash** Classes started our learning on geometry. We looked at the different types of angles; acute, right, obtuse and reflex. In English, we have read chapter 5 and 6 from 'Who Let the God's Out' and have written a diary entry about what we've read. In science, we learnt about reversible and irreversible changes and conducted the coke and mentos experiment! **Next week**, we will learn to measure angles and continue improving our tennis skills.

Year 6

This week **Pine** and **Sycamore** classes looked at language for emotive impact. The children wrote emotive descriptions of a one-legged dog, desperate for love. Some of the pieces have been tear jerking! In maths, we looked at algebraic formula and consolidated our understanding of four quadrant grids. The children have worked hard on their homework past papers – please ensure your child brings these back so they can have feedback prior to SATs. On Friday, we welcomed back Mr McLennan from St Peters who gave us a fascinating lesson on electricity. The children thoroughly enjoyed making clay sculptures in Art and are beginning to pick up some of the songs for our end of school play – more information to follow!

Hartford Infant and Preschool & Hartford Junior Newsletter 28. 3.5.2024

Dates for the Diary/Mga Petsa para sa Diary

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| May Day | All Schools | Monday 6th May | All schools closed for May Day |
| Mosque Trip | Year 2 | Friday 24th May | Year 2 children will be visiting a mosque in Cambridge as part of their RE work. |
| SAT Week | Year 6 | Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May | Our Y6 children are invited to Breakfast Club in the Junior Hall |
| Work Share Outcome | Infant School | Tuesday 21st May - Thursday 23rd May | Parents are invited into classrooms from 2.45pm to look at your child's work on Antarctica Year 1 – Tuesday 21st May Year 2 – Wednesday 22nd May Reception – Thursday 23rd May |
| Half Term | All Schools | Monday 27th May - Monday 3rd June | A week and 1 day for half term |
| Library Trips | Infant School | Wk beg Tuesday 4th June | Infant children walk into Town to visit Huntingdon Library for their Sparky Start on geography |
| Y6 Swimming begins | Year 6 | Wednesday 5th June | Y6 top up swimming lessons |
| Empathy Day | Junior School | Thursday 6th June | A chance to celebrate and support children's ability to empathise with others. |
| Phonics Screening | Year 1 & Year 2 | Wk beg: Monday 10th June | Year 1 and some Year 2 children will participate in the DfE Phonic Screening Check |
| Stay & Play [1] | Preschool children | Friday 14th June | All preschool children starting Reception in September 204 are invited to Stay and Play on our front playground to meet their new teachers and make friends. |
| New Reception Parents Meeting | Preschool children | Monday 17th June | An opportunity to find out which Class your child will be in from September and more information to support them in their transition to school from 6.00pm. This is an adult only event. |
| New to Year 1 Parents Meeting | Preschool children | Thursday 20th June | Parents are invited to pop into the Year 1 classes with their Reception child |
| Stay & Play [2] | Preschool children | Friday 21st June | For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground |
| Stay & Play [3] | Preschool children | Friday 28th June | For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground |
| Summer Fete | All schools | Friday 28th June | Summer Fete from 2.00pm on the school field and playgrounds [weather permitting] |
| Stay & Play [4] | Preschool children | Friday 5th July | For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground. |
| Stay & Play [5] | Preschool children | Friday 12th July | For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground |
| Gulliver's Trip | Year 6 | Friday 5th July | Y6 Annual trip to Gulliver's in Milton Keynes |
| Healthy Week | All Schools | Wk beg 15th July | A week of activities to support our minds and body including Sports Day on Wednesday 17th [am for Infant children and pm for Junior children] |
| Last day of Term | All Schools | Friday 19th July | Last day of Term |
| Treehouse Club | All Schools | Friday 19th July | Our After School Club will not be open on this day due to staff training. |

Hartford Infant and Preschool & Hartford Junior Newsletter 28. 3.5.2024

