

*Hello/Buna Ziua*

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term, which is incredibly short. Hopefully the weather will improve as this week has been quite muddy from all the rain.

However, we started our enquiry sessions in the **Infant School** with our **Sparky Start Day** organised by Mrs Hayley Shaw on Monday which was delightful. For our Sparky Start day we found out about the Treasures of the UK. The children were busy with craft activities such as making paper cup dragons and painting tartan patterns. They all had a go at using musical instruments to create some traditional Irish music and they even got to taste a Welsh cake! We will now continue our enquiry and learn about each country of the UK, the capital cities, landmarks and the surrounding seas.

HUGE congratulations to the 40 children from **Year 6** who participated in the annual **General Knowledge Rotary Quiz**. We won for the 4th successive time by a whisker against 10 local schools. Go Team Hartford! The children worked wonderfully as a team sharing the answers with Anya and Genevieve who were selected to be the Team Captains. Mrs Jo Smith, Mrs Ellie Shaw, Miss Gemma Jarman and Mrs Loredana Hulea who organised and stayed throughout the event were extremely proud of all their efforts.

Our PATHS Team met on Thursday and would like to spend some of our profits on additional equipment for the children across both schools including new dictionaries and play equipment for our **Junior Courtyard**. The **Junior School** also needs a canopy to give some shade for when the summer weather comes. Does anyone know of a company that might work with us to create some bespoke shading. Please contact the [office](#).

As part of our fundraising activities we will be organising our **Easter Fete** for the last week of term. Due to the Reception Easter Concert in the Infant School and Parents Evening across **both** schools [**Monday 25th and Wednesday 27th March**], the **EYFS and KS1 children** will attend the fete over 2 mornings and the **Junior children** across 1 school day. We have organised a **colouring competition, adult and child raffle** and each child will bring home a **goody bag and Easter egg**. Please donate £5 to the school for your child to engage with our activities. Parent Pay will be available from **Monday 4th March**. If you are able to donate any raffle prizes we would be very appreciative. **Thank you in advance for any raffle prizes and support.**

I have enjoyed being in the refurbished library with the **Junior Children** this week during lunchtimes. Lots of children have come in and sat and read a range of poetry books and non fiction texts. What a lovely activity!

I hope that you have seen the **Learning Leaflets email sent today** to support learning at home over the half term.

Have a lovely weekend, I hope it is dry for us all so we can get out and about.

Best wishes / Cele mai bune urări

Rae Lee [Headteacher]

**Next Page Book Sales**  
after school on Wednesday in both school halls there will be a chance to use the children's book tokens to purchase a new book.  
CHILDREN'S • NEURODIVERSE • INCLUSIVE

Our latest **Language of the Month** is Romanian for the month of March. If you have any resources including books that we could borrow we would really appreciate them.

Please don't forget **World Book Day** on **Thursday 7th March**. All children invited to wear pjs for the day and bring in their favourite book. Parents invited to 'drop in' from 8.45am-9.30am to help out in class with making book marks etc.

*Preschool*

This week **preschool** children have been exploring different ways to make marks, using a current interest in snakes to create pictures, attaching pens to cars to see how we can then make tracks as well as whiteboards and markers. We also went puddle jumping to explore this rainy weather! This half term Preschool will be reading 'The Three Little Pigs'. **Next week**, we will make Mother's Day cards as well as explore lots of stories to link to world book day.

*Reception*

This week **Class 1 and 2** enjoyed our 'Treasures of the U.K. Sparky Start Day. They enjoyed a range of exciting activities including food tasting, making flags, making a Welsh Dragon and some Irish dancing! In Literacy we have begun our focus on the story of 'Supertato' and the children have explored our story shelves, using the props to retell the story in increasing detail. In maths we have been ordering numbers 0-10 and reasoning about which numbers are 'more than' others. **Next week**, we will be learning about London's famous landmarks as we find out more about England as part of the United Kingdom. We will be using our phonic knowledge to write captions for our 'Supertato' story and in maths we will be exploring ways to partition 5 e.g. 4 and 1, 3 and 2 etc and then numbers 6-9 using the '5 and a bit' structure.

*Year 1*

This week **Class 3 and Class 4** had an exciting, fun Sparky Start day learning so much about the United Kingdom by making paper cup Welsh dragons, food tasting, making flags, and playing musical instruments and dancing. In maths we have been making and solving subtraction stories using the words first, then, and now. We sorted pictures of animals into different groups in science and voice recorded on Seesaw how we had sorted them. In English we have started to read our new story 'Giraffes Can't Dance' by Giles Andreae. We discussed parts of the story and the meaning of different adjectives. **Next week**, in art we are practicing the technique of hatching and scribbling using pens and pencils.

*Year 2*

This week **Class 5 and 6** used feedback in English we made predictions and inferences about a new character Traction Man. In maths we solved addition problems including those that required us to cross the tens boundary. We looked at facts about England in geography as part of our new Enquiry topic about the United Kingdom. Next week in English we are planning and writing a character description about Traction Man. In maths we will solve subtraction problems. In geography we will learn about the characteristics of Scotland.

*Year 3*

This week **Beech** and **Chestnut** children wrote a narrative about the origami bird, using writing devices that Ted Hughes used. The children worked hard to use onomatopoeia, expanded noun phrases and similes independently. In maths, we used the column addition strategy and next week we will start crossing the 10s boundary. In science, we started the 'forces and magnets' topic. We explored how things move and understand that all forces are a push, pull or a twist. **Next week**, we will explore magnets. In design and technology the children started a new topic of 'pneumatics'. The children will design their own pneumatic mechanism. **Please can the children bring in a box from home that opens with a hinge, for example a tea bag box.**

*Year 4*

This week in **Holly** and **Willow** Classes it has been wonderful to hear their holiday news and see them immerse themselves in their learning. We investigated synonym strings and learnt how to use these in our paragraphs to create atmosphere and drama. In maths we applied our times table knowledge to solve larger multiplication problems, e.g.:  $4 \times 6 = 24$  so  $40 \times 6 = 240$  and  $400 \times 6 = 2,400$ . Living things and their characteristics is our new Science topic and we have explored the seven characteristics of living things. **Next week**, we will categorise vertebrates in Science, explore expanded column multiplication and learn how to invent our own words in a Roald Dahl style!

*Year 5*

This week **Oak** and **Ash** Classes had their first swimming session. The children are commended for their conduct. In maths, we looked at short division in and solved real life multiplication and division questions. **Next week**, we will turn our attention to decimals. In English, we finished reading 'Kensuke's Kingdom', and planned a story to be told in role as one of the book's main characters. In geography, we started our new topic about North and South America and in science we started our new topic about properties of materials. **Next week**, we will look at Megacities in geography and the Saga of Erik the Great in history.

*Year 6*

This week in **Pine** and **Sycamore** classes had lots of excitement in science, dissecting hearts with a teacher from St Peters School [Sycamore will be doing this on Monday]. In maths we started a new unit on shape, remembering the different angles and how many degrees are on a straight line, in a full turn etc. In English we found out more about our two main characters and practised summarising what we have read, and inferring how the characters may feel. In PE, we practised our tennis skills and will develop team building skills. Next week we will learn about missing angles in maths.

*Dates for the Diary / Date per il diario*

Next Page Book Fair	All Schools	Wednesday 6th March	To support our <b>World Book Day</b> festivities we will have a <a href="#">Next Page Books</a> stall in each school
World Book Day	All Schools	Thursday 7th March	We will be dressing up in PJs and bringing our favourite books, look out for more information about events in both schools
Comic Relief/ Sports Aid	All Schools	Friday 15th March	All children can wear non uniform [no football strips or bare midriiffs please] and bring a red nose for a donation of £1. The School council are inviting children to share a joke [for 20p donation] and/or create a red nose of their own [50p donation]- jokes and nose designs will be entered into a competition for a prize.
GenR8 Assembly	Junior School	Tuesday 26th March	The KS2 children welcome back <a href="#">GenR8</a> into school to celebrate Easter
Parents' Evening	All Schools	Monday 25th & Wednesday 27th March	These will be in person in the school halls – PLEASE BOOK ONLINE VIA SCHOOLCLOUD
Reception Easter Concert	Infant School	Tuesday 26th March	All parents are invited to join in with class 1 and class 2 Easter concert from 9.15am in the school hall.
PATHS Easter Fete	Infant School	Wednesday 27th & Thursday 28th March	The <a href="#">Infant School</a> children will engage with the Easter Fete over the 2 mornings. For a ticket please pay £5 via ParentPay.
PATHS Easter Fete	Junior School	Thursday 28th March	The <a href="#">Junior School</a> children will engage with the Easter Fete across the school day. For a ticket please pay £5 via ParentPay.
Easter Bonnet Parade	Infant School	Thursday 28th March	Our traditional Easter Bonnet Parade will take place at 2.30pm on the last day of term, we look forward to seeing the children's creations. Do come and join us on the front playground.
End of Spring Term	All Schools	Thursday 28th March	School will be closed on <b>Friday 29th March</b> and reopen on <b>Tuesday 16th April</b>
Treehouse Club	All Schools	Friday 19th July	Our <b>After School Club</b> will <b>not</b> be open on this day due to staff training.

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