



HARTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL
HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
6th October 2023



Dear Parents/Carers and Families,

As we come to the end of our fourth week of term, the days are growing shorter, and we have well and truly welcomed Autumn. The children are doing very well in terms of dressing for the somewhat unpredictable weather – please keep sending in those raincoats and sturdy shoes. It's been another busy week here at Hartford, please read on to see what's been going on.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

A final reminder that our coffee afternoon to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support takes place today at 2.15pm. All are welcome; we'd love to see you there for some coffee and cake!

Food Bank Collection

As I explained in last week's newsletter, our Harvest collection for the Mid-Cheshire Foodbank begins on Monday. The foodbank has made requests for the following items, as these are the most in-demand and often the least-supplied:

Tinned meat	Pasta/noodle snack meals (just add hot water)
Long-life fruit juice	Tinned fish
Premade custard	Coffee/hot chocolate
Rice pudding	Biscuits
Tinned fruit	Shampoo/conditioner
Jam, honey, and peanut butter	Washing detergent
Pasta sauce	Store cupboard essentials (oil, sauce, stock cubes)

Our trolley will be open for donations until Thursday 19th October.

Online Safety Guides for Parents – Coming Soon!

We believe all parents, carers, teachers, and trusted adults should be empowered with the all the information needed to have informed and age-appropriate conversations about online safety with children.

As part of our commitment to this, in conjunction with the National Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday campaign we will be sharing useful online safety tips for parents. This campaign is viewed as one of the most trusted and reputable learning resources in the UK, providing expert advice on the latest platforms and online risks that parents and carers need to know about, through easy-to-follow guides which focus on specific risks we think you need to be aware of. Look out for the first guide which will be sent out next Wednesday and then every 2 weeks after that.

Year 1 Park Walk

Unfortunately, due to the poor weather on Thursday we had to postpone our Year 1 walk to the park. We will be communicating a new date in due course so that the children still get to visit the park as a group once the weather improves.

KS2 Walk to St. John's Church: Imagining Eternity

From next week, our KS2 children will be attending an interactive and immersive experience at St. John's Church, Hartford. "Imagining Eternity" is a highly interactive experience using art, poetry, textiles, and music to encourage children to think about the beauty of creation, the things that are wrong in our world and what they might hope life could be like in the future.

Our children had a wonderful experience visiting last year's workshops at the church and we are looking forward to attending this year. Each class will visit separately based on the timetable sent out in the initial communication. Please contact the office for more information.

Film Nights

Our first round of PTA Film Nights have been announced and are live and available to book! The nights and selected films are:

- Years 5 and 6: 18th October, 3.30pm – Under Wraps (PG)
- Years 3 and 4: 19th October, 3.30pm – Space Jam: A New Legacy (U)

Tickets are £4 and include popcorn and a drink – these can be booked via ParentPay. Please be mindful that school clubs are still in session and there may be clashes; it is recommended that you check before booking. Cinema rules apply – children will be asked not to talk or move around during the screening. These nights are always a massive success, and I would like to thank the PTA for their hard work in putting them together.

A Sporting Update from Mr Cairns

Football

The Y5/6 boys' football team headed to Hartford High School on Monday for the first tournament of the year. The A team played some fantastic football. The goalkeeper and defence only conceded one goal in the whole tournament; the midfield and strikers scored some brilliant goals. They won the tournament and will go to the next round at Hartford High School on Monday 6th November.

The B team were also amazing, winning 5 matches, drawing 2 and losing 2 to finish 3rd overall. Well done to all the boys who took part.

Team Selection

The majority of our competitions are for children in Years 5 and 6. Every child in these year groups will be offered the chance to attend at least one competition each year. Some competitions, such as the football this week, lead to Partnership and County Finals. These teams are picked on ability. Other tournaments such as orienteering, golf and dodgeball are used to make sure every child has a chance to attend and enjoy a competition. Children in Years 3 and 4 have fewer competitions outside school. Those children who are ready will be selected for tag rugby, tennis, or cricket but not every child in these classes is ready for this experience.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 do not attend competitions outside school. Instead, they experience competition in their PE lessons and the Y5 and 6 children put on extra lunch time activities for them, called Phys Kids, once their training is complete.

If you have any questions about any of this, please contact Mr. Cairns.

Early Years Open Sessions

Wednesday 11th October is the second of our open sessions for parents of prospective new starters for 2024. These sessions are important as they allow parents to see the school in action, meet staff and children, and make a firm decision on whether Hartford is the right place to send their child. The session takes place from 10am; to book a place, please contact the front office. We have a further afternoon session on Monday 13th November at 2pm; this will be our final open session.

Bags2School

As mentioned last week, Bags2School will be doing another collection of clothing on Wednesday 17th October. If you would like to make a donation to help raise funds for the school, please drop any bags off on the day, beneath the office window, before 9am. We ask that you do not bring any donations at any other time due to space constraints.

Disabled Parking

Please do not use our disabled parking spaces for late drop-offs. These spaces are reserved for blue badge holders and visitors with mobility issues.

Cheshire West Parent Carer Forum

Tap the link to read the first newsletter of the term from Cheshire West and Chester Council's Parent Carer Forum. Here you will find information about the Parent Carer Forum Events, signposting information, and useful contacts. <http://tiny.cc/zwxbvz>

Little Superstars Holiday Club

Superstars are running their Multi Sports, Football and Dance holiday clubs from St. Wilfrid's Primary school from 23-27th October. Clubs are priced at £20 per day and run from 8am-4pm, though late pick-ups up to 6pm are available and charged at £3. To book, please follow this link: <https://superstars.classforkids.io/camp/664>.

Have a great weekend and we will see you on Monday.

Warm regards,



Mrs L Cade

Headteacher