



HARTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

18th July 2025



Dear Parents, Carers and Families

As I write this morning our Early Years families are enjoying their final stay and play session of the year with a picnic and outdoor games on the field. It's a lovely way to bring to an end the children's first year at Hartford and looks like lots of fun!

At the opposite end of the school, our Year 6 children have come into their own this week, with 3 performances of their production of The Wizard of Oz. It has been my absolute pleasure to welcome parents, grandparents and even former staff and pupils to watch what I can only describe as a truly magnificent show! We were treated to superb singing/choreography from the whole ensemble as well as outstanding solo performances. I'd like to thank the whole Year 6 team for their hard work; the results speak for themselves! Well done Year 6! The children now have their bowling trip to look forward to next Tuesday and their leavers' assembly on Wednesday. It's been a busy last couple of weeks for the children – only this Tuesday they were rolling around the field in giant inflatables and having a great time playing Bubble Football.

A Sporting Update from Mr Cairns

For the first time in years, we got both sports days done at the planned time! Last Friday was a little hot for Early Years and Key Stage 1 but with a few sensible adjustments the event was a success. The children had a great time, sprinting down the track, doing the tug of war and even doing a water relay to cool down at the end. The winners this year were 2EC, well done! I'd like to say a big thank you to the Year 6 children who helped me so much throughout the event.

Cricket County Final - Tuesday's rain saw this event postponed but we managed to play yesterday instead. The Year 5/6 team had already won two rounds to qualify for the event at Warrington Cricket Club. The quality of cricket at the event was very high which unfortunately saw our team lose all 4 matches although often by the tightest of margins. Seven of our nine players are in Year 5, so the day was a great experience and we'll be ready to have another shot at the title next year!

I would like to thank all the staff and parents who have helped with sports events this year. Our children would be unable to attend the wide range of events they do without your support, and so this is very much appreciated.

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 21st July – Year 6 Leavers' Lunch

Tuesday 22nd July – Year 6 Bowling trip

Wednesday 23rd July – Year 6 Leavers' assembly 2pm

Wednesday 23rd July – School finishes at normal time for the Summer holidays

Monday 1st September – Inset Day – school closed to pupils

Tuesday 2nd September – School reopens for the 2025/26 academic year

HPS Pupil's Fundraising Challenge

Back in October Miss Fairweather included a piece in her newsletter about Yasmin's (5CW) fundraising challenge to swim to Norway to raise funds for Weaverham Sea Scouts. I'm delighted to inform you that last Sunday Yasmin completed her challenge! On the way she did sea swimming, wild swimming, lake swimming and pool swimming. If you'd like to donate, her JustGiving page is still active: [Donate Here](#) Well done Yasi, what a fabulous achievement!



RESPONSIBILITY – RESPECT – ASPIRATION – PRIDE



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A Message from our Chair of Governors, Mrs Katherine Ottewell, on behalf of our Local Academy Board

As we reach the end of another academic year, we wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been an incredibly positive and productive year for our school community.

Firstly, we would like to recognise the outstanding work of our Early Years team. Their dedication, creativity and commitment have ensured that we have two full classes starting in September — a fantastic achievement that secures the future strength of our school. From developing a strong social media plan to inviting families into school activities and visiting every potential new child in their pre-school setting, their hard work has paid off. Thank you to the whole Early Years team for going above and beyond.

Our thanks also go to all our teachers and support staff. Alongside their day-to-day work supporting and inspiring our children, they have spent time this year reviewing and refreshing our curriculum. Using the latest thinking and best practice, they have re-energised every subject area to ensure that what we offer is the very best for our children. It's an exciting time for us as we look ahead to September. I also want to take the opportunity to thank our incredible Teachers and Support Staff for all of the extra things that they do for the children at school. At HPS our children are fortunate to be able to participate in many enrichment activities including school trips and residentials - these trips often require staff to give up time outside of their working hours to be able to accompany the children and without that these events wouldn't take place - thank you.

We would also like to extend huge thanks to our wonderful PTA, who have taken things to another level this year. Events like the Colour Run were real highlights — and we know just how much planning, organisation and effort goes into making these things happen. The final accounts are still being confirmed but the estimated funds that PTA have raised this year is phenomenal. The money raised by the PTA not only provides our children with special experiences and helps build our community spirit but also contributes to vital resources for learning. Some of the things that PTA money has been used for this year include the Library service for critical reading supplies, the outdoor classroom, the Year 6 leavers hoodies and awards as well as many trips and visits. We know the PTA are looking for new members for September, so we would really encourage anyone who is interested to get involved - it makes such a difference to the school, and I know all of the current PTA members have found it so rewarding. Contact the school office before the end of term if you want to know more about how to get involved in the PTA.

This year has also seen our partnership with the Create Learning Trust grow even stronger. We have worked closely with the central team and other schools in the Trust to strengthen our strategic priorities. Hartford has led on key areas across other schools, and we have also benefited greatly from the expertise and fresh ideas shared with us in return.

Finally, we want to say a heartfelt good luck to our Year 6 children and families as they move on to the next stage. This year's Year 6 have played a big part in our school community, helping with events and really making the most of their final weeks with us. We wish you all the very best for the future.

Thank you to all of you — parents, carers, families — for your continued support. We wish you a restful and enjoyable summer holiday and look forward to welcoming many of you back in September.

Create Learning Trust Updates

I'm delighted to share some of the exciting developments and successes across our Trust this term. Our commitment to collaboration, innovation, and continuous improvement has been reflected in several key achievements:

- Launch of our **Writing Development Hub**, supporting high-quality teaching and progression in writing across all schools
- Establishment of new **Assessment, Early Years, Behaviour, and People Strategy Hubs** to drive consistency, expertise, and innovation
- Strengthened **collaboration across schools**, including a new Deputy Heads cluster delivering a personal development project focused on **Fundamental British Values**
- Ongoing work with **Kelly Butler**, Ofsted Inspector and School Improvement Partner, offering valuable challenge and strategic insight
- A **successful Ofsted outcome at Sandiway**, celebrating the hard work and dedication of the entire school community

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- Upcoming **Trust-wide training with Mark Finnis**, focusing on relational behaviour management and the power of routines and relationships
- Continued development of our **SEND Hub**, led by SEND Lead Jane Williams, ensuring inclusion through coordinated best practice, targeted training, and strong collaboration across our SENDCo network
- All Trust schools' involvement in the **intergenerational project 'Leading Lives Together'**, connecting learners with the wider community through art, play, and shared experiences
- Local collaboration through **Trust-wide sports and music events**, social opportunities for **Year 6 pupils to meet future peers**, and co-participation in a Trust-wide **online safety show**.

These developments are part of our continued focus on excellence, equity, and enriched experiences for every child across the Create Learning Trust.

Picture News Assemblies

During assemblies each week the children are learning about a current news topic. This week we've been talking about how the story book *Veronika's Treasure Adventures* and asked the question: "How can stories help us understand others?" Here's a summary and some suggested discussion points for you at home:



TAKEHOME

In the news this week

After fleeing the war in Ukraine, Yulia Brykalo moved to the Isle of Man with her daughter, Veronika. Yulia has since written a children's book inspired by Veronika's experience of settling into a new school. The story, *Veronika's Treasure Adventures on the Isle of Man*, follows a young girl exploring the island and discovering that the real treasure is friendship. Veronika was warmly welcomed by her new school, where pupils even learned Ukrainian words to help her feel included.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Do you think writing a book is a good way to help share an experience?
- Ask someone at home about their favourite book. What is it they like about it? Tell them about yours. Are there any lessons you can learn from your favourite stories or books?

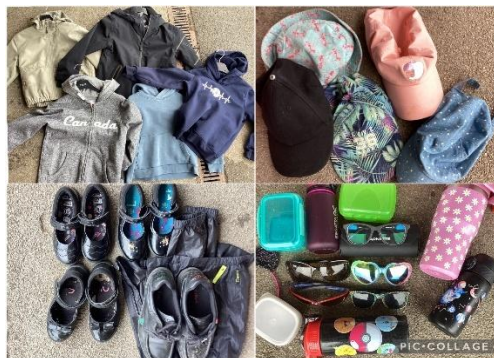
Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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Lost Property

Lost property will be outside Mrs Moore's hall every day at drop off and pick up next week. Anything unnamed that is not claimed by the end of term will be donated to the PTA or charity.





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Changing Lives Together – Recycles

Mr Beckley, one of our Year 3 and Year 6 parents, has asked me to publicise a scheme offered by the company he works for: Changing Lives Together. They are a charity based in Winsford and run a recycling scheme for old and unwanted bicycles. Their mission is to save bikes from going to waste by refurbishing and reusing them, offering low cost bicycles and quality bicycle services for everyone. From toddlers to adults, they provide a wide range of low cost bicycles that have been carefully serviced and restored with new parts to ensure they're as good as new. If you'd like to donate a bicycle, they offer a **FREE** collection service within Cheshire West and Chester, Cheshire East and Warrington. They can be contacted via their website <https://www.changing-lives-together.org.uk/bicycle-donations> or email: donations@changing-lives-together.org.uk or via WhatsApp: 07523270677. I'm sure you'll agree that this is a fabulous scheme.

Finally, a couple of pleas for help!

Gardening Help Request from Mrs Clinkard

We are working hard to develop some more green spaces in school to help the children learn more about growing flowers and vegetables. The Year 1 garden is blooming, and the school flower garden is now becoming more established. These areas are attracting minibeasts now, which helps the children to learn more about pollination and animal habitats. This all supports learning throughout the school in science.

Our children are fabulous at watering our gardens, but we are in desperate need of some willing volunteers to help with a bit of weeding throughout the year. We are also in the process of adding vegetable planters so help with this will be needed too! This help can be from parents or grandparents or someone you know who is willing to help us. It doesn't have to be every week and there can be just a few visits throughout the year to help us to maintain these spaces. If you can help us, please get in touch with Mrs Clinkard either by popping into her Year 1 classroom or via the school office. She will be very grateful!

We're also looking to establish if a parent owns a mini digger or knows someone who does, as over the Summer we'd like to clear the area where the old trim trail used to be. Unfortunately, we keep getting let down by digger companies. If you can help, please get in touch via the school office.

My last newsletter of the year will be next Wednesday 23rd July, until then I hope you have a lovely weekend, and the children enjoy the last few days of this academic year.

Kind regards

Mrs L Cade

Deputy Headteacher