

Hello / Hallo

Dear Parents and Carers

What a festive and fun packed week we have had across both schools. The **Year 1** children were superb in the Nativity Performance, 'It's a Baby'. Well done!

The **Year 5** children in **Oak** and **Ash** had an amazing immersive experience on Wednesday in the **Wonderdome**. This blow up planetarium filled our hall and each class engaged with a show projected onto the walls of the dome and then participated in a few activities to support their learning about space. How exciting!

Today, **all** the children went to the **school fete** and engaged with a variety of festive activities organised by **PATHS** and **Mrs Orledge**. All children should have brought home a goodie bag and the **Infant Children** would have met the **Santa's Lil Elf** who might be back next week in our Infant School grotto to give out a lil something to each child. A **huge** thank you to everyone who contributed to the Fete, all the money raised will be used to support the little extras across both schools to make your child's learning in school special.

On Wednesday, we **all** wore our **Christmas jumpers** and raised £80 across **both schools** for **Save the Children**, if you would like to contribute towards this please drop your donation into the offices. We cranked up some Christmas music and had a little boogie in the hall whilst we waited to be served.

On **Monday 18th December** we have our **Carols on the Playground** event from **4.00pm** with refreshments and a few stalls in the junior school hall straight after school.

✿ Adriana's mum will be selling **homemade produce** ✿ Iza's mum will be **hair braiding** ✿ Diana Harman will be **sharing information about fostering**

✿ Mrs Jarmaine will have a **gift stall**, ✿ Mrs Sellors [my mum] will **have Christmas crafts stall**

Please bring **cash** for any purchases and [click here](#) to let us know if you are intending to come so that we can order the right amount of refreshments and enable adequate space. **Please note we cannot bring any buggies or prams into the hall.**

After working at **Hartford Infant** and the **Junior School** for **32 years** and being a former pupil, **Mrs Sharon Lacey** has decided that she is retiring from school life from January. We will be very sad to see her go after so many years of dedication from cleaning the school, a long stint as a Governor and for supporting children as a fabulous Teaching Assistant in every year group. We wish her all the best and will miss the little extras she does for the school.

Children in **Hartford Junior School** will **not** need to wear their PE kits next week. Instead we have an interactive cross curricular **RE themed days** planned. Children will have the opportunity to answer some questions in a variety of ways either independently or collaboratively and then present their answers to another year group. **Questions included are**, 'What does it mean to have faith?', 'How was the world created and why should I care about it today?', 'Do ALL people of faith worship in the same way?' and/or 'How is Christmas celebrated around the world?'. You may wish to support them with some fact finding over the weekend.

Mrs Jenn Crabb wanted to express how amazing the **Junior School Artscapers group** has been since September. They have used many mediums in various weather conditions and the children have grown in confidence and abilities, they had their last session this week. Thank you to **Ms Holly Watson**, who has often supported. If you would like to support in either school, do let us know and we can make the necessary safeguarding arrangements.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes / Beste Wünsche

Rae Lee [Headteacher]



Preschool

This week, **preschool** have been very busy being creative with their Christmas crafts. We thought about size using lots of rich vocabulary to create our Christmas cards, sizing them to make a Christmas tree from 'longest' to 'shortest' using 'long' 'short' 'smaller' 'bigger' 'smallest'! We also met 'Robert Robot' and 'fed' him lots of different objects and blended the words to see if we could recognise them. We linked this to our Christmas song 'When the robots came to dinner'. **Next week**, we will be doing some Christmas dancing in PE and seeing if we can wrap 'presents'.

Reception

This week **Class 1 and 2**, have enjoyed making our own musical instruments out of recycled materials and boxes. We had lots of fun playing these along to some Christmassy songs! **Next week** in RE we will be thinking about religious festivals and learning all about the Christmas story and how Christians celebrate this special time. **We will not have PE next week**, but Forest School will continue as usual – on Tuesday for Class 1 and on Wednesday for Class 2. **Our Christmas party is on Thursday.**

Year 1

This week **Class 3 and Class 4** entertained their family members with their nativity performance - what stars! In English, we have been writing a reflection using our phonics and CEWs of our enquiry lessons, history, DT, and music. During PSHE we worked together like Teamwork Tigers and made colourful paper chains to decorate our classrooms. In maths we have been making our own repeated patterns with 2D shapes. **Next week**, in RE we will be learning why we have celebrations like Christmas and Diwali. **Our Christmas party is on Wednesday.**

Year 2

This week, in **Class 5 and 6**, we learnt how to write instructions. We were careful to use imperative verbs and bullet points. In maths we learnt about o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past. We also looked at equal and unequal groups in maths which is the first step towards multiplication. We talked about the festival of Eid, Diwali, and Advent in our Religious Education lessons. The children took great care when creating their Rangoli patterns. **Next week**, we will continue multiplication in Maths by solving problems in groups of 2, 5 and 10. We will celebrate all children who have completed every piece of homework this half term with a Hartford Hedgehog Homework Assembly. We will have some Christmas fun with quizzes and decorations. Our Christmas party is on Tuesday. Bring your best dance moves children!

Year 3

This week in **Beech and Chestnut Classes**, focused on summarising a text in English. In Maths, we rehearsed problem solving, linking it to place value. In science, we reviewed our learning on rocks and minerals and the children made informative leaflets. In DT, we finished sewing our Egyptian collars. The children made Christmas cards and enjoyed Christmas Jumper Day! It was lovely eating Christmas lunch together. **Next week**, we are looking forward to carols on the playground and our RE theme days.

Year 4

This week in **Holly and Willow Classes** we wrote newspaper reports. We thought about headlines, introductory paragraphs, captions for images and what content is newsworthy! This inspired us to read the news because there are some fascinating stories out there. In maths, we explored multiples of 3 and 6 making connections between them. In history, we explored chronology plotting all the Roman events we have studied on a timeline. In dance, we linked our understanding of states of matter to movement. We enjoyed getting into different formations and behaving like solids, liquids and gas. **Next week**, we have RE theme days. Thank you for all your support this term and we look forward to this continued collaboration next term.

Year 5

This week **Oak and Ash Classes** have continued to learn about fractions in maths, converting improper fractions into mixed numbers and comparing fractions less than 1. In English, we have been thinking carefully about the character of Lucien Silver from our class novel and writing a biography about him. We also enjoyed writing a recount in science about the Wonderdome visit on Wednesday. We thoroughly enjoyed this end of unit treat and learned some fascinating facts from it. We are sure the children will have shared one or two facts with you! **Next week**, we are looking forward to finishing reading the 'Nowhere Emporium' and using our research skills to find out how Christmas is marked by different faiths across the world in our RE themed days.

Year 6

This week in **Pine and Sycamore Classes** we have been practising our persuasive writing, creating a letter to the alchemist from the perspective of Veridian. We have also read more of 'The Secret Garden' finding out how strong Colin is – we wonder how long he can keep his secret! In science we had a very entertaining visit from a teacher at St Peters who told us about evolution, the children asked some fantastic questions. They also finished their playground models this week, they look fantastic and very inventive. **Next week**, we will continue to work on fractions and have 2 very special days for the children to be creative in our RE theme days.

Dates for the Diary/Mazuva eDiary

Santa Run	All schools	Friday 15th December	Watch out Santas about this evening from 6.30pm, making his way up Sapley Road and around the Bird's Estate. All contributions go to the Rotary Club who make a sizeable donation to the school. We have lots of staff members who will be out and about knocking on doors.
Carols on the Playground & Stalls	All Schools	Monday 18th December	Everyone invited to the front playground to sing festive songs by torchlight. Our school choirs will sing solos for us. Bring torches and mittens and cash for hot chocolate. 4.00pm start. Please click here to let us know if you are attending so we can ensure enough refreshments. We will have a range of stalls in The Junior School Hall from 3.15pm.
Christmas Party	Infant School	Wk beg 18th December	Y2 Tuesday , Y1 Wednesday and YR Thursday , all children will have party in the school hall, come dressed in party clothes
End of Term	All schools	Thursday 21st December	End of the Autumn Term from 3.15pm.
Spring Term	All schools	Friday 5th January	All children in Year R through to Year 6 start at 8.45am
Sparky Start	Infant School	Wk beg 8th January	We would really love to get some 'real life' visitors in to school to speak to the children about their roles that help others [e.g. nurses, paramedics, train drivers, firefighters etc]. Please contact Mrs Shaw - Hshaw@hartfordinfantschool.org thank you.
SATs Meeting	Year 6	Monday 29th January	Parents and Carers of children in Year 6 are invited to a meeting at 6.00pm in the school hall for a workshop about the end of year statutory Assessment Tests [SATs].
Sleep Workshop	All Schools	Tuesday 30th January	Everyone is invited to meet with Emma to talk through how to support your child if they have difficulties with sleep. Refreshments will be provided. In the infant school hall at 9.00am



