Hartford Infant and Preschool & Hartford Junior Newsletter 33. 14.6.2024

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Dear Parents and Carers

Is that the sun we can see and is it warming up? The children have been on the field this week and have been exploring the new additions to our field. **PATHS** have purchased some **picnic benches and parasols** to create some much needed shade at break and lunchtimes. Please can you remind the children how to use these properly so that everyone can enjoy them safely and happily.

As per last week's newsletter we are always trying to make our **school site a safer and happier place** to be in for all. We appreciate all parents who ensure that their child does not use their scooter or bike on site at anytime in the school day [8.15am - 4.15pm], this allows for everyone to be safe. I also put out a plea to parents to talk to the children about using the forest areas, field and equipment on site safely. If your child comes to school independently they must wait in the designated areas so that there is no risk of accidents. Unfortunately, we cannot provide supervision before or after school. **If children are using the trim trail or fitness equipment they need an adult to supervise. Thank you to everyone who helps.**

This week Year 4 children participated in the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check. Mrs Claire Booth, Miss Gill Vierstraete and Mrs Hollison were over the moon with the children's dedication to learning their multiplication tables through Times Tables Rocks Stars.

Meanwhile the Year 1 children took the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check with Mrs Liz du Toit, Mrs Hayley Shaw, Mrs Sara Turner and Mrs Rachael Hyem worked with the Year 2 children who didn't meet the threshold last year. The children blew us away with their progress and determination to read the combination of real and nonsense words.

Mrs Cheryl Esaw has created a small Gardening Group and it is sprucing up our site with the help of Year 3 children and donations of plants from Idverde UK. We thank her and Mrs Hall for making our site more attractive. How lucky we are to have such a keen bunch of gardeners. Elsewhere Miss Leah Culpin and Mrs Gill Vierstraete are running a Cricket Club and will be taking some of the children to an event next week to participate in some friendly competitions.

Mrs Liz du Toit and Mrs Jo Smith will be working with our School Councillor children across both schools to talk about lunchtimes and the school meals so that they can feedback to Caterlink about meals. It will be good to hear the children's voices.

This half term is extremely busy with **transition**, there are many events to support our **Year 6 children** moving onto secondary school and in school activities to support the children moving from KS1 [**Year 2**] over to the Junior School. **Please see overleaf for further information on events.**

To all our families who will be celebrating the Islamic Festival of Eid next week we send our best wishes at this happy time - Eid Mubarak / ਈਦ ਮੁਬਾਰਕ

Have a wonderful weekend.

Bestwishes /ਸ਼ੱਭ ਕਾਮਨਾਵਾਂ

Rae Lee [Headteacher]

Stay & Play

We held our first **Stay & Play** today for our new Reception Starters for 2024. It was a pleasure to meet the new children and their parents. How exciting! Our next session is on **Friday 21st June. We look forward to seeing you there.**



Preschool

This week **preschool** have enjoyed some stories around families and 'Daddy's' this week talking about how families are all different and celebrating what they do for us, we then made cards to take home! We rolled large dice to see if we could say how many dots we see and also made marks on paper to represent the number of dots. We enjoyed a listening game identifying what sounds we could hear – we were all very good by the end of the week! **Next week**, we will listen to some household sounds and we will continue with our transition activities visiting the Reception classes for our children starting in September.

Reception

This week **Class 1** and **2** have loved our trips down to Huntingdon Library! The children were able to explore the huge range of children's books and many even borrowed one to read at home. A huge thank you to the kind parents who accompanied us. We enjoyed finding out more about Captain Robert Falcon Scott and his expeditions in Antarctica. We have been using our phonic knowledge to write captions and sentences about the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' and in maths we have explored odd and even numbers. **Next week**, in our computing sessions we will be using the programmable Bee-Bots and building commands to move them.

year |

This week **Class 3** and **Class 4** have been recalling the opening of our story 'Anansi and the Golden Pot' and made our own story opening. In science we went on a walk of our school field and Forest School area and identified and named common trees. We looked at different sources in history to find information about Captain Robert Falcon Scott. **Next week**, in maths we will be using our knowledge of addition facts within ten to add within twenty.

Year 2

This week **Class 5** and **6** planned and wrote the beginning of an alternative story to 'Lila and the Secret of the Rain', we remembered to include interesting time words and phrases. In maths we investigated volume and capacity. What fun we had with water and estimation! We took photographs in our digital media computing lesson and enjoyed the challenge of taking a close-up, selfie, something in the distance, a person, a building and an action shot. The children learnt how it is important to ask for permission when taking someone's photograph. **Next week**, in English we will continue writing our stories. In maths we will solve multiplication problems and in science we will recap the suitability of materials.

This week in **Beech** and **Chestnut** Classes we completed reading assessments, looked at prefixes, suffixes and word families in English. In maths, we focussed on non-unit fractions. The children have become confident when finding non-unit fractions of shapes and objects as well as writing these as notations. See this week's homework for examples of this. In science, we have furthered our knowledge of plants. This week we have looked at the parts of the flower which play a role in plant reproduction. The children have made a model of this and sent a picture to Seesaw. In Design and Technology, we have been identifying features of a castle. Over the next few weeks, we will be building our own castles. Please collect cereal boxes, kitchen roll tubes and other smaller boxes ready for this (cereal box will be the main castle).

Year 1

This week **Holly** and **Willow** Classes have designed their purses and wallets in DT in preparation for the making part of our unit - watch this space for the latest designs hot off the press! In Maths we have been calculating the duration of time and will continue with this next week. In English, we have been consolidating sentence starters and the impact they have in engaging the reader. **Next week**, we will use these to write powerful descriptions. In science, we are learning about the impact pollution has on different habitats.

year 5

This week **Oak** and **Ash** Classes have been busy in English thinking about how to plan a non-chronological report and the kind of formal language required to write a good one. In maths we have been adding and subtracting decimals, thinking carefully about decimal places. In science this week we learned about foetal development, in geography we learned about farming in the Amazon and in PSHCE we discussed misleading information and appearances online. **Next week**, we will be practising cricket skills in PE and making and stuffing our soft toys in DT.

This week **Pine** and **Sycamore** Classes we have been working hard on creating tension and suspense in our writing – the children have done a great job trying to scare the teachers! Some of us have made our cupcakes while the others are creating a box to transport it home, everyone will be completing both – fingers crossed you get a bit of cake! There has been some lovely singing echoing around the school as the children practice the songs for the play and we are starting to develop our acting skills as we put everything together ready for our performance. **Next week**, in English we will be writing direct speech, practicing our athletics, swimming and our play.

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Pates for the Diary/Mga Petsa para sa Diary			
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	Reception 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
New to Year 3 Parents Meeting	Y2 parents	Tuesday 25th June	Current Year 2 Parents are invited to pop into the Junior School at 6.00pm to find out more about KS2 life
Come & Play [A]	For new to Preschool	Thursday 27th June	All new to preschool children starting Preschool in September 2024 are invited to Come and Play on our front playground to meet their new teachers and make friends.
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] Parent Pay available from Monday 10th Jun - Thursday 21st June [£3/child]
Change Over Day	All schools	Wednesday 3rd July	All year groups 'jump up' to their new classes and we welcome new 2024 Reception Starters for a taster in Classes 1 and 2.
Come & Play [B]	For new to Preschool	Thursday 4th July	All new to preschool children starting Preschool in September 2024 are invited to Come and Play on our front playground to meet their new teachers and make friends.
Stay & Play [4]	Preschool children	Friday 5th July	For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground.
Gulliver's Trip	Year 6	Friday 5th July	Year 6 Annual trip to Gulliver's in Milton Keynes
Y6 Performance	Year 6	Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th July	Two Year 6 performances [9th] at 6.00pm and an afternoon [10th] at 1.45pm to come and see [2 tickets per family only]
Come & Play [C]	For new to Preschool	Thursday 11h June	All new to preschool children starting Preschool in September 2024 are invited to Come and Play on our front playground to meet their new teachers and make friends.
Y2 Leavers Assembly	Year 2	Thursday 11th July	Our Annual Leavers Assembly , parents and carers of Year 2 children are invited to this assembly from 9.00am
Stay & Play [5]	Preschool children	Friday 12th July	For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground
Y6 Leavers Assembly	Year 6	Friday 12th July	Our annual Leavers Assembly , parents and carers of Year 6 children are invited to this assembly from 9.30am
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 and pm for Junior
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 <u>not</u> be open on this day due to staff training.

Sports Day

We have organised our **Sports Day** for **Wednesday 17th July** for both schools. We hope the weather will be on our side, however we will have no capacity to reschedule if we must cancel, due to prearranged visits and trips for all year groups to the **Olympic Gym**. Also, please be aware that **all** children participate in athletics type activities in the lead up to Sports Day. They will **all** be involved in running races and encouraged to participate in the heats for the actual Sports Day. Therefore we will **not** see *every* child race on Sports Day, however they will be involved in many athletics and multi skills activities for you to see. **Thank you for your understanding.**

Please remind your child that they **cannot play football** on the field at the start or the end of the school day we have no supervision for them. If your child is playing on the **trim trail, tyres, gazebo, small hut, outside classroom, or the fitness equipment this must be done with <u>your</u> supervision. The children have been reminded. Please support us to keep everyone safe and happy.**

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