Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that this latest newsletter finds you well.

We have been very busy, as you may know if you have been in either/both schools to see your children working hard. A HUGE thank you to Mrs Jo Eagle, Mrs Rachael Hyem and Mr Christopher Squires for organising the Phonics and Reading Workshops across Year R, Key Stage 1 [Years 1 and 2] and Key Stage 2 [Years 3, 4, 5 and 6] respectively. I know that the staff and children were delighted to see you! We would welcome feedback for our workshops, please would you engage with the following surveys: Phonics Workshops in HIPS and Reading Workshop in HJS. Congratulations to Robyn in Holly Class and Eddrick in Class 2 for winning the cinema vouchers form our Prize Draw.

As shared last week, we are supporting **Black History Month** in **both** schools, we have been purchasing more books to reflect the diverse cultures within our classrooms. If you have any ideas on how to support us further please contact the school offices. **Thank you in advance**.

Sparky Start Day for our younger children. After half term the children in the **Infant School** will embark on their new history work on **Monday 30th October**. We are inviting the children to participate in the following:

- Wear their own favourite clothes to school for a catwalk show
- Bring their **grandparents to school with photos** of themselves as a child at **2.00pm**. This event will take place in the **Infant School** hall with refreshments and talk about the clothes children wear now and when their grandparents were young children.

Please let us know if your child's grandparents can pop in to share their photos, please click here.

The Infant School children have been enjoying using and exploring new PE equipment. Both Year 1 and 2 have been learning how to jump and land safely and been putting their skills to good use by doing some French skipping. Where possible all earrings MUST be removed for both PE and Forest School days as using a headband should only be a last resort. Mrs Booth's Healthy Selfie Board is looking a little bare – Please send in some more pictures of children enjoying healthy activities or hobbies, please send here.

Next week it is our annual Autumn **disco** on **Thursday 19th October [Infant School 4.00pm - 5.00pm** and **Junior School 5.15 - 6.15pm]**. Please ensure you book their ticket on **Parent Pay** by **Monday** at the latest, children will receive their actual ticket on Thursday to bring back to school for their refreshments. We need to know the numbers so that we can purchase the refreshments.

<u>Please refrain from using any scooters or bikes on school site.</u>

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes/ Najlepsze życzenia

Rae Lee [Headteacher]

Gardens/Ogrod botaniczny

If you have a child in Year R [Class 1 or 2] and are passing through the Preschool garden please DO NOT TOUCH the activities set up or the trikes in the parking area. Thank you for the support.

Infant Art Exhibitions/ Wystawy

Year 2: Wednesday 18th October Year 1: Thursday 19th October Year R: Friday 20th October

From 2.30pm in the Infant School Hall.

Donations for resources greatly
appreciated.





Preschool

This week, **preschool** have been exploring the concept of 'Harvest', through our Harvest song, we explored real vegetables and fruits, tasting pomegranates and avocados and planting vegetables outside. We learnt new vocabulary through our conker tray, filling pots until full, emptying them, hiding conkers below pots, we thought about where the conkers came from. We developed our physical skills in the garden building balancing beams – this will help us greatly! **Next week**, we will use our conkers to mark make and create some wonderful artwork and continuing exploring Harvest.

Reception

This week **Class 1 and 2**, have enjoyed being artists and experimenting with colour mixing powder paints. The children have painted a self-portrait and have learned about the famous artist, Vincent Van Gogh. **Next week**, we will be using iPads to take and edit photographs and will also have a go at filming a video! As part of our R.E learning we will be thinking about how special events such as birthdays are celebrated and learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali.

Year 1

This week in **Class 3 and Class 4**, we have been listening to poems in reading lessons and in English we have been reading and writing some common exception words and identifying the parts of the words that are unusual. In PE we have been using agility ladders and learning how to jump and land with soft bent knees. **Next week**, in maths we will be learning to add by counting on and are excited for you to come into school so we can show off our artwork on Thursday afternoon.

Year 2

This week, in Class 5 and 6, the children have written a story based on 'Journey'. We were impressed with the stamina the children displayed for writing a whole story. In maths they completed assessments based on tens and ones knowledge, comparison of 2-digit numbers using inequality symbols and application of 2s, 5s and 10s number patterns. We learnt about landscapes, portraits and still life through the work of Vincent Van Gogh in our art lessons. Next week, we will feedback any areas the children need to improve on from their recent story writing. We call this purple polishing! In maths we will add/subtract ones to/from a 2-digit number using a formal column method. Please see to the calculation policy on our website for further guidance. Finally, could we ask that Class 5 (as usual) and Class 6 come to school in their full PE kit on Monday. There will be no forest school next week.

This week in **Beech** and **Chestnut Classes**, we read a lot of our class book 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. We used our five senses to describe the beavers house from the story using descriptive language. In science, we carried out our first scientific investigation to see if people with longer femur bones can jump further. In PSHE we talked about Mental Health and ways we can keep our minds healthy and who are our trusted adults to talk to. A polite reminder to give children a **healthy snack for break times** and can any tubs be labelled with the child's name. Thank you for the support.

Year 1

This week in **Holly** and **Willow Classes** we have enjoyed learning the hand jive in music and using percussion to play 'Rock around the Clock' too. In maths, we extended our understanding of mentally adding one-digit numbers to add multiples of ten and hundreds. In English, we loved having parents visit our Reading lesson, giving us the opportunity to share our understanding of 'Boy Overboard' and demonstrate how we read to each other. Our understanding of the Roman Empire is increasing; this week we discussed Roman culture and the difference between Plebians and Patricians.

Year 5

This week **Oak** and **Ash Classes** have been continuing to look at direct and indirect speech as well as relative pronouns and clauses. We continued to read the next few chapters of 'The Nowhere Emporium' and build on our retrieval skills. In maths, we continued work on place value, looking at rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 of numbers up to 1 million. In science, we enjoyed learning about the life cycle of birds. **Next week**, we will turn our attention to addition and subtraction in maths and work towards writing a newspaper article in English.

Year 6

This week in **Pine** and **Sycamore Classes**, we looked at dividing numbers with divisors of two digits building on our knowledge of short division with exchanges and remainders. In English, both classes wrote some fantastic narratives, focussing on building tension and suspense. They were packed full of rhetorical questions and cliff hangers, with some fantastic description of the chase scene in the ruined city. In geography, the children thought about the impact they can have on the environment by conserving water and in art, we started to plan a piece of street art that has a message on the environment, linking the two subjects nicely. **Next week**, we will be focussing on tenses in grammar and will be introducing BIDMAS to the children in maths!

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Dates for the Diary/Daty do Pamietnika

Harvest Festival	All Schools	Wk beg Monday 9th October	We invite all families to contribute to our Harvest Festival. All donations will be split between Godmanchester Foodbank and The Salvation Army
Van Gogh Exhibitions	Infant School	18th – 20th October	Starting with Y2 on Wednesday, Y1 on Thursday and YR on Friday from 2.30pm, come and see the children's Van Gogh art work in the Infant School hall [children can go home early on their exhibition day]
Disco	All Schools	Thursday 19th October	Our PATHS [Parents and Teachers of the Hartford Schools] are organising a disco in the school hall. PLEASE NOTE THIS WILL BE A TICKETED EVENT. Pay on PARENTPAY.
Half Term	All Schools	Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October	All children have earned a break from school, we only ask that you keep up the reading with them.
Sparky Start Day	Infant School	Monday 30th October	Infant children to come to school dressed in their favourite clothes for a fashion show. Children 's grandparents can pop in to school at 2.00pm to share photographs of themselves in clothes as a child with refreshments in the school hall.
Kingswood	Year 6	Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November	Our Year 6 [Pine and Sycamore Classes] will be off to Kingswood in Norfolk for the week.
PATHS meeting	All Schools	Thursday 9th November	All Parents are welcome to support the PATHS team organising the Christmas Fete at 2.30pm in the Junior School Staffroom
Anti Bullying Week	All Schools	Wk Beg Monday 13th November	All children are invited to wear Odd Socks as part of our campaign to eradicate bullying in school.
Children in Need	All Schools	Friday 17th November	Staff and children are invited to wear bright clothes and donate to this worthwhile charity.
Parent Consultations	All Schools	Wk beg 4th December	Autumn Term Consultations with class teacher and a chance to look at core books in school. All meetings will be for 10 minutes in the school halls and will be organised via School Cloud.
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

Trains/Pociagi

Trainline have put together a guide to **booking family train tickets** to help people save money on train tickets and child fare information.

Please **click here** for further information.



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