



NEWSLETTER 4 19th December 2024



Christmas Activities

The last couple of weeks have certainly been busy and it was great to see so many parents/carers attending the week of Christmas performances. This week we have shared a whole school pantomime, performances from the Knights Templar brass band and Christmas dinner- complete with crackers and Christmas music. The KS2 choir have been busy, and the Year 3 children went and sang at Magdalene Court yesterday. We will all need a lie down by the end of the week!!

Attendance

Thank you to all those families that ensure their child attend school fully and arrive on time each day. Current whole school attendance is running at **95.9%**. Children that attend fully are proven to achieve their potential and reinforces that school is important and I personally review attendance data every day. Lateness prevents children arriving with their peers and a calm start and, as we start learning as soon as children arrive with many completing pre-learning sessions first thing, can also affect their learning outcomes. Please reach out to us for support if you are struggling to get your child into school regularly or on time.

FHSA Update- The Friends have had a really successful term and raised over £5,000. Thank you to the committee and volunteers and all our parents for their support- it is greatly appreciated.

Staffing Update- We are saying goodbye today to **Mrs Allin** who has worked as a TA in several year groups but mainly upper KS2. After over 7 years at Hartsfield and several more in other Hertfordshire schools we wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

Mrs Dearn leaves today as previously reported. She wanted me to say a big thank you on her behalf for all the kind words and gifts from staff and parents. After over 30 years at Hartsfield and several more at other schools including Hitchin Boys School, Mrs Dearn should be proud of her legacy, and we all wish her a great retirement and more time to spend with her family including her precious grandchildren.

Please note that we finish at 1.30 tomorrow for the Christmas holidays. Although staff will be back on Monday 6.1.25, the children's first day is Tuesday 7th January 2025.

DIARY DATES

December 2024

19 Trading Card Club
20 Last day of term- 1.30 pm finish

January 2025

6 INSET day
7 First day back for children
16 Labtots sessions with Year 1
23 Labtots sessions with EYFS

February 2025

10 Great Fire of London workshop with Year 2
11 Parents/ Teacher Consultations @ 4.00-7.00 pm
13 Parents/ Teacher Consultations @ 4.00-7.00 pm
17-21 Half term
26 Creative Chef sessions with Year 1
27 Happy School Bag Company collection

March 2025

4 Labtots sessions with Year 2
5 Pancake workshops
6 Pancake workshops
10-14 Year 4 Bikeability sessions
17 Football Tournament
19 Year 6 K'Nex challenge
28 Football Tournament

April 2025

4 Last day of term- 1.30 pm finish
7-21 Easter Holidays
22 INSET day- school closed
23 First day of term

May 2025

6-7 Reception classes health screening
8 EYFS/ Year 6 class photos
12-15 Year 6 SATs
12-16 Year 4 Hudnall Park trips
26-30 Half term

June 2025

2-6 Year 4 Multiplication Tests
9-13 Year 1 Phonics screening

Thank You

Thank you for all the lovely cards and Christmas gifts received by staff, while they are never expected they are greatly appreciated.

Wishing all our families a great Christmas and New Year and we will see you all in 2025!

Philippa Smith and the Hartsfield Team