



HARTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

28th February 2025



Dear Parents, Carers and Families

Welcome back to Spring 2! I hope you all had a lovely half term break. I was going to start this week's newsletter with a comment about the beautiful Spring like weather we've had this week but sadly this morning's weather seems to have different ideas!

Thank you for supporting our new changes regarding the use of the school car park. I'm pleased to report that these have resulted in a much calmer and safer start and end to the school day. I've made a couple of observations this morning and would like to remind parents to park up at the side of the road without mounting the pavement and assist your child/ren in crossing rather than stopping in the road, blocking traffic, and allowing them to get out of the car unaided – all of which poses obvious safety risks. Secondly if you're running late, please ensure you accompany your child to the school office and sign them in. Thank you again for your support in keeping all of our children, families and staff safe.

On Tuesday I had the pleasure of accompanying our Young Voices choir to the new Co-Op Live Arena for their performance as part of Young Voices 2025. As usual the event didn't disappoint! We had a wonderful time, and I'd like to congratulate the children on their fabulous performance as part of an 8000 strong choir. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Ovenden for leading our choir this year and to Miss Lee, Mrs Oldfield, Miss Thompson and Mrs Walker for supporting us. Thank you also for the lovely feedback we've received from parents regarding this event.

A Sporting Update from Mr Cairns

Year 4 Netball

This week has been a busy one for sporting events. It started on Tuesday with Year 4 netball. Our team of eight girls went to Hartford High School and moved round a series of netball challenges including shooting, passing and finding space. It was great fun, and they all improved their skills during the afternoon.

Gymnastics

On Wednesday morning, eighteen children from Years 3-6 headed to Cheshire Gymnastics at Moss Farm. They started by working together to create a short routine with balances and rolls in unison. They then all showed their vault and the individual routine they had created. The children had worked hard over the half term break to remember and perfect their routines and all of them did incredibly well.

Year 5 and 6 Netball

On Thursday afternoon, a team of ten Year 5 and 6 girls went to Hartford High School for the netball Partnership Final. The standard of netball on the day was amazing. They started off very well with a 6-1 win against Hartford Manor and a 5-1 win against Winsford High Street. They also had a thrilling 5-5 draw with Winnington Park. The other two matches were against very strong sides. All the girls played brilliantly, losing tight matches 2-1 to Kingsmead and 8-6 to Davenham. At the end of the event, the team were given the Spirit of the Games award for the team that showed the best sporting values on the day, which they should be very proud of.

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 3rd March – Year 4 Park in the Past Visit

Friday 7th March – World Book Day Celebrations – Whole School

Friday 7th March – Author, Ewa Jozefkowicz, visiting Years 1 - 6

Monday 10th March – Science week commences

Tuesday 18th March – 4MH, 4JO, 5CW, 6LO visiting St. John's Church - Easter Trail

Wednesday 19th March – 3GC, 3HE, 5ES, 6LW visiting St. John's Church – Easter Trail

Thursday 20th March – Year 3 Visit to Imagine That

Monday 24th March – 2EC Visit to Safety Central

Tuesday 25th March – 2NB Visit to Safety Central

Thursday 27th March – Year 6 parents' meeting for Conway residential 5pm in the main hall

Friday 28th March – Year 5 visit to Jodrell Bank

Friday 28th March – Early Years visit to St. John's - Easter Trail

RESPONSIBILITY – RESPECT – ASPIRATION – PRIDE



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Wednesday 2nd April – Year 4 parents' meeting for Tattenhall residential 5pm in the main hall

Year 4 Park in the Past Visit - Monday 3rd March

Year 4 are learning all about Romans this half-term and Mr Harris and Mrs Oldfield have arranged an exciting visit for the children to visit an actual Roman Fort at "Park in the Past" near Chester next Monday. The children will experience just what life was like for the Roman soldiers living in and defending their stronghold. They will be learning about how the soldiers hunted and foraged for food and how they maintained the fort to ensure that it kept them safe from attackers. The children will also get the chance to practise Roman Army fighting techniques and have a go at throwing Roman javelins and wielding Roman swords (plastic of course!). I'm sure Year 4 will have a great time and that the visit will nurture their learning of this fascinating period in English history.

World Book Day Celebrations – Friday 7th March

As detailed in our communication yesterday we will be celebrating World Book Day next Friday 7th March and are inviting the children to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book or in a way that celebrates reading. We have author, Ewa Jozefkovicz, joining us for assemblies with Years 1-6 and a specially themed school dinner – menu attached for your information. The children will have the chance to boost their home library by visiting the Scholastic Book Fair which is taking place after school from Thursday 6th March to Wednesday 12th March. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone's costumes and celebrating a love of reading with the children.

Picture News Assemblies

During assemblies each week the children have started to learn about a current news topic. This week we've been discussing why it's important not to judge people on their appearance or our own first impressions. Here's a brief summary and some suggested discussion points for you at home:

TAKEHOME

In the news this week

Why do we judge people based on their appearance?

A girls' football team, in York, has launched a campaign called 'Girls can have short hair. Get Over It'. This was prompted by parents and coaches of opposition teams questioning whether all the players were girls, due to some having short hair. The team has received a positive response, with other young players, who have experienced similar situations, reaching out.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your response to this week's news and your thoughts about the campaign. What changes do you think it hopes to bring?
- Can you think of any other campaigns that have helped to bring about positive change? Ask someone at home if they can recall one too.

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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Charitable Donation!

I'd like to give a special mention to Chloe, one of our Year 6 pupils, who has had 17 inches cut off her hair over half term for the Little Angels Children's Charity! She is very proud, as she should be, and her new hairdo is lovely! Well done, Chloe, what a thoughtful thing to do for others.





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Coaching for a Special Cause Fundraiser Update – Nearly There!

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported Emma Williams, one of our Year 5 mums, in her fundraising campaign. She's now at 85% of her £3,000 target, raising vital funds for Alzheimer's Research UK, Versus Arthritis, and Asthma + Lung UK in memory of her mum, who was profoundly affected by Alzheimer's, COPD, and rheumatoid arthritis.

There are just 5 Coaching Taster Packages left for £99, with all proceeds going directly to the fundraiser. These one-to-one coaching sessions can help you gain clarity, confidence, or balance in life—while supporting an incredible cause.

If you can't commit to a coaching package at the moment but would still like to support Emma's fundraising, any donation is gratefully appreciated and will make a real difference. For more information or donate here: <https://www.givewheel.com/fundraising/2182/coaching-for-a-special-cause/> (or see overview attached).

Let's help Emma reach her goal by Mother's Day! Thank you for your support!

Children's Sleep Awareness Month

We've been contacted by The Sleep Charity regarding Children's Sleep Awareness month and would like to share the following information with you as you might find it useful:

Did you know that up to 50% of children struggle with sleep at some point, which rises to 80% where there is a diagnosis of SEND? Poor sleep can lead to cranky mornings, trouble focusing in school, and even long-term health challenges - not to mention tired, stressed-out parents. Whether you're navigating toddler wake ups, battling bedtimes, or convincing your teen to switch off at night, we're here to help!

- ✦ Practical tips for better sleep routines.
- ✦ Free weekly webinars with our experts to tackle sleep challenges.
- ✦ Resources, info and challenges.

Download the supporter's pack here: <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/get-involved/awareness-events/>

Cheshire West and Chester's Parent Carer Forum Newsletter

The latest newsletter from Cheshire West and Chester's Parent Carer Forum can be found by following this link: <https://mailchi.mp/f3e12c96ea03/pcf-news-and-events-february-2025-174february-202559256>

Weaver Panthers Football Club and Weaverham Soccer School

Weaver Panthers are currently looking to recruit girls specifically for their Under 7's team (ages 6 or 7 - school years 1 and 2) but do welcome girls of all ages to join. Their training sessions are held at Grange High School and are run twice a week: Wednesdays from 17:45pm to 18:45 and Sundays from 09:30am to 10:30am. Please see the attached flyer for further information. Also attached is a flyer from Weaverham Soccer School which is aimed at parents of children aged 5 – 7. Sessions are on a Wednesday 4.30pm – 5.30pm.

Have a lovely weekend, let's hope for some more Spring sunshine!

Kind regards

Miss M Fairweather
Headteacher