# School Notices

Welcome to this week's School Notices. As a school we try to support the busy lives of our families by consolidating communication to one weekly newsletter, and these are posted to the school website each Friday as an easy point of reference.
In addition to this don't forget about our FAQ page on the school website. Our aim is to provide the answers to your questions when you think of them, as opposed to you being restricted by school hours, so please let us know if you there's anything you would find helpful so we can add it in 😊.
https://hartsbourne.org.uk/parent-hub/

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# A Note from Mr Harper



Good afternoon!

The first half of the Autumn term is simultaneously one of the longest half-terms we have and one of the most intense. There isn't really a way around this - the start of a new school year, as I have said and written on multiple occasions, is always busy as the children settle in to their new classrooms and staff instill new routines and expectations. Add into the mix the end of summer, the descent of temperatures, the shorter days and rainy weather, and we have a school full of children and adults who are definitely ready for a break!

However, I do feel the need to pay homage to three groups of people within our school community: the children, the staff and you, the parents and carers.

The children, as they so often do, have risen ably to the heightened expectations that come with a new year group. They settled quickly into routines, took on board the changes that came with a shift in classroom and have already produced work of which they are extremely proud. I was called down to Year 2 yesterday afternoon so see some fabulous Frieda Kahlo-inspired self-portraits and also saw some fabulous surrealist images created with oil pastels in Year 6. Rarely does a day pass at Hartsbourne without a bashful child appearing at my door with a maths or English book in hand, ready to show me work worthy of recognition and a sticker (especially since I upgraded to shiny stickers!). Not every transition into a new year group is plain sailing, but in so many cases the children have started this year magnificently.

Our staff are also worthy of praise this half-term for the way that they have adapted to a changing landscape around them whilst still determinedly delivering the high standards they hold. Hartsbourne has not been immune to the national issue of declining birthrates and the resulting impact on pupil numbers and thus school funding, meaning we are all trying to do more with less. The greatest compliment I can pay the people I work with is that the additional strain this year has not been noticeable at all in the quality of teaching or work produced, and this is no small achievement.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you, for everything you do to support us. The brilliance of your children is your achievement, and in so many conversations, telephone calls and e-mails between us, one thing is abundantly clear - we all want the best for your children.

Have a lovely half-term holiday and we will see you in November for Autumn Week!

Mr Harper

# Dates For Your Diary

| Date | Event |
|---|---|
| w/c Monday 26th October | Half Term Holiday |
| Saturday 31st October | Deadline for Secondary School Applications |
| Monday 2nd November | School Closed - INSET |
| Tuesday 3rd November | First day of Term |
| Tuesday 3rd November | Year 4 Swimming Starts - Second Group |
| Monday 9th November | Year 6 - Sports Partnership Athletics Festival |
| Tuesday 10th November | Parents' Evening (Early) - 3:45 – 6:25pm |
| Tuesday 10th November | No Choir |
| Tuesday 10th November | No Relax and Recharge |
| Thursday 12th November | Parent's Evening (Late) - 5:00 – 7:40pm |
| Thursday 12th November | No Forces Club |
| Thursday 12th November | No Relax and Recharge |
| Friday 13th November | Children in Need |
| Monday 16th November | Year 6 - Crucial Crew Trip |
| Tuesday 17th November | Year 6 - NCMP Heights and Weights |
| Friday 20th November | Flu Vaccinations - Second Visit (Year 5 and 6) |

# Autumn Term Parent Teacher Consultations

## Nursery to Year 6

Autumn Parents' Evening - Appointment Booking

Parent consultation evenings for this term will be face to face appointments on **Tuesday 10th November from 3.45pm – 6.25pm, and Thursday 12th November from 5.00pm - 7.40pm.** This is an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress, in confidence, with the class teacher.

**Appointments can be made from 7pm Monday 12th October and will close on Monday 2nd November at 12pm.**

Bookings are made via **Arbor** and full instructions can be found here

As much as possible, please could parents who live separately attend parents' evening together. Unfortunately we do not have enough slots to accommodate parents separately where classes are full, but alternative appointments with class teachers can be arranged.

## School Photos are now live

If you have pre-registered you should now have an email with your unique access link. If not please contact Carmel Jane Photography via the following link: https://www.carmeljane.co.uk/pre-registration-support/
and enter the code: JR6BGCXTFD
then please enter the school name as: Hartsbourne Primary School

All photographs will be sent straight to home address with time limited discounts available for the first 10 days from when you log in.
info@carmeljane.co.uk
Tel: 01277 822674 (9am-4pm)

# Autumn *Week*

## Tuesday 3rd - Friday 6th November

On the first week back after the half-term holiday, we will be having a whole-school themed week called 'Autumn Week'.

During this week, children will have lots of opportunities for outdoor learning, including outdoor assemblies, and be completing a variety of Autumn-themed activities. There will also be opportunies for autumnal art activities during lunchtimes and for those of you (like some of us!) who remember singing 'Come and Praise' songs in primary school, we'll be learning 'Autumn Days' as a whole school!

If you haven't already done so, please make sure your children have either a pair of wellies in school, or at the very least, a pair of old trainers they can change into, as we're confident that autumnal weather will bring with it muddy conditions!

# CHILDREN IN NEED

Wear spots, pyjamas, or even spotty pyjamas to school and raise money for BBC Children in Need

**FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER**

Donations should be made directly to Children in Need.

**CLICK TO DONATE**



At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# ONLINE CONTENT

## 10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



### 1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



### 2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.




### 3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



### 4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



### 5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



### 6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



### 7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



### 8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



### 9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online, listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



### 10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday





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| **Friday 23rd October 2026 – Diamond: being independent learners and responsible people, solving our own problems where appropriate.** |
|---|
| Year 1 – Odiel shows great independence by taking ownership of his learning and Alyssia confidently solves problems by making sensible and responsible choices. |
| Year 2 – Archie is an independent learner who likes to solve problems and Aelyn is a responsible learner who treats mistakes as stepping stones. |
| Year 3 – Theo is great at finding solutions when things become tricky and Alaia makes sensible choices and works well independently. |
| Year 4 –Oliver is a motivated and resilient independent learner and Harrison has worked hard to solve problems independently, staying calm and positive. |
| Year 5 – Millie has shown great independence and challenging herself in her maths. Raffi has also worked really hard to be independent in his writing and has produced brilliant work in his poetry. Well done! |
| Year 6 – Ria is such a responsible learner, always using her initiative to challenge herself and Zain thinks outside the box to solve problems independently, helping him to think creatively. |

**This week Clive the Carrot is awarded to…**

**Reception**



# Class Specific Messages

**Year 6 - Visit to Hertsmere BC Civic Offices for the Crucial Crew Child Safety event.**

On 16th November, Year 6 will be taking part in the Crucial Crew Child Safety Event at Hertsmere BC, Civic Offices in Borehamwood.

Crucial Crew is a multi-agency safety event aimed at Year 6 children designed to provide children with life skills that will enable them to keep themselves and others safe. The aim of the event is to raise each participant's awareness of threats and dangers, in a fun and interactive way.

The children will be travelling to and from the venue by minibus. They will be leaving the school at approximately 9.00 and will arrive back in time for their usual lunchtime arrangements. Children should wear their usual school uniform.

In order to cover the cost of this trip we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £10.22, which is payable via Arbor. In line with school policy if we do not receive enough contributions then we may need to cancel this trip or be unable to run any future events.

**Year 6 - Sports Partnership Athletics Festival**

On the afternoon of 9th November, Year 6 will attend Queens School to take part in some cross school athletics events. Children should wear their PE kits. They will be leaving school at 12:30pm and travelling by minibus. They should bring a packed lunch to eat before they leave.

# Class Specific Messages

**Year 4 - Phasels Wood Residential**

We are once again offering Year 4 the opportunity to go on a one night residential, this year to Phasels Wood Activity Centre. The children will travel via school minibus and will be taking part in team building activities, archery and outdoor games.

The final cost of the trip has now been confirmed as £58.93 per child and is available on Arbor for payment. The deadline for payments is 3rd November at 9.30am

**Things to note:**

**Food and Medication**

Please send your child with a packed lunch for the first day. The children will be preparing their own dinner in the evening and lunch for the following day. Please could you also complete this form to let us know about any dietary requirements and medication.

https://forms.gle/Mn1bS1nvFpd4jPXe8

**What to Bring**

- Packed lunch
- Clothes suitable for outdoor activities
- Slippers
- Wellies
- A rain jacket
- A sleeping bag
- A cuddly toy
- A book for bedtime
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, flannel
- Pyjamas
- A torch (if they have one)

Children should come to school on Thursday in trainers and clothes suitable for outdoor activities.

# Class Specific Messages

**Year 3 - The Natural History Museum**

On the 25th November Year 3 will be visiting The Natural History Museum as part of their geography topic, earthquakes and volcanoes. Your child will need to wear usual school uniform for this visit and bring a packed lunch and a still drink (No cans or fizzy drinks) in a named recyclable or reusable bag.

Please do not include any nut products in the packed lunch, including nut-based spreads.

If you have already booked lunch for this day with Innovate, please remember to cancel it with them.

To cover the cost of this trip we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £19.04 which is payable either via Arbor, or by handing cash into the school office by the 6th November.

We would love to have a few parent volunteers join us on this trip. If you would like to add your name to the list then please complete this form.

**https://forms.gle/wV5KQP1E6DERXXMv9**

Names will be drawn out of the hat, with priority given to parents who have not yet been on a trip in the current school year.