



# School Notices

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# Homework 2024-25

We have made some changes to our homework policy this year following feedback from parents and extensive discussion during staff training days. Our transition over the last few years from paper-based homework and/or homework books to an entirely digital offer via Google Classroom was a dual attempt to build on remote learning skills accrued during the pandemic whilst also saving costs and paper. However, we recognise that for various families and for various reasons, a more traditional approach to homework is preferred. This is also the case for some members of our teaching staff, for whom homework carries a workload consideration.

As such, we have removed previous constraints around the issuing, marking and returning of homework and charged our teaching staff with finding a format that works for them and for you. Some teachers may continue to exclusively use Google Classroom, whereas others may prefer to send home a printed A4 sheet to be completed by hand. Where necessary, there may also be the possibility of a hybrid of these approaches, and we have asked teaching staff to be flexible in this regard. In order to maintain standards however, the following non-negotiables have been formalised:

- Homework is set every week (excluding holidays);
- Homework is accessible to all students, or separate homework is provided where this is not the case;
- Children are given at least five days to complete their homework (including the day it was issued), incorporating the weekend into these;
- All homework must be marked and returned within a week of being submitted;
- Parents should not be expected to print homework sheets at home.

Teaching staff will clarify their chosen approach to homework during the 'Welcome To' meetings scheduled for next week but if you aren't able to attend these, copies of the information they share will be posted via Google Classroom.



BACK  
TO  
SCHOOL



## NHS Mental Health Team Coffee Morning - 20/09/24

At Hartsbourne, we are lucky enough to be part of a brand new pilot scheme with the NHS mental health team. We have been assigned our own mental health worker who is in school weekly and can complete work with whole classes, small groups, parents and individual children. We would like to invite you to a coffee morning at 9am on Friday 20th September to meet Laila our support worker. She will be talking through the support that she can offer and strategies for supporting your children. We would love to see as many of you there as possible to make use of this fantastic opportunity.

Last year we had varying success with our coffee mornings and do not want to continue them if they are not needed. I have created a google form to try and find out which topics you maybe interested in attending. Please could you complete this form to help us make a plan for the year.

<https://forms.gle/gbciHRFyTgkFejQJ7>

## **Absences for Religious Observance**

If your child is going to be absent from school due to Religious Observance, please let us know as soon as practicably possible via email.

This will of course be an authorised absence provided the day is exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which you belong, but please be aware it does still affect their attendance percentage.

# Hartsbourne Road Partial Closure

## 16th Sept - 20th Sept



We've received a call to let us know that a section of Hartsbourne Road will be closed w/c 16th September, around the entrance to Lake Drive. It is quite far down, but please bear this in mind when planning your journey.



## 'Welcome to' Meeting Dates



It's been lovely to watch your children settle into their new classes and routines, and get to know their new teachers.

As always we'd love to invite you into school for an opportunity to learn all about your child's new class and ask any questions you might have. Please don't worry if you're unable to attend as all the information will be added to Google Classroom after the event.

The dates and times are as follows:

Tuesday 17th September

Year 1 - 2.00pm

Year 2 - 2.30pm

Wednesday 18th September

Year 5 - 2.00pm

Year 6 - 2.30pm

Thursday 19th September

Year 3 - 2.00pm

Year 4 - 2.30pm

All meetings will take place in the school hall, so on arrival please make your way directly to the outside hall doors.

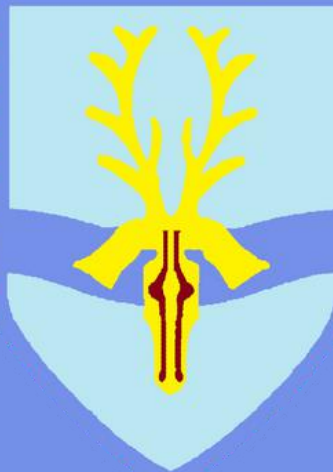
## Meet your new house captains!

Fallow - Hudson and Alma

Roe - Shiri and Brodie

Sika - Nathan and Belle

Muntjac - Yashil and Albie



## Meet your new school councillors!

Year 2 – Francesca and Pippa W.

Year 3 – Ria and Josh

Year 4 – Thelma and Louis

Year 5 – Georgia and Teddy

Year 6 – Esme and Ollie

**Friday 13th September – Pearl: maintains focus, stays on task, ignores distractions and has good listening skills with peers and adults.**



Year 1 – Blake and Lottie have been fabulous role models this week showing others how to ignore distractions and stay focused during all lessons.

Year 2 – Phillipa has been a role model at demonstrating good listening skills and staying focused and Harrison has worked hard to maintain his focus and ignore distractions.

Year 3 – Leah and Ria have been great examples this week of how to ignore distractions and stay on task, especially when working as a learning pair.

Year 4 – Eliana and Louis have both been showing brilliant focus in lessons and engage fully in pair and group discussions.

Year 5 – Madeleine and Kamile have both been excellent role models, showing great listening skills and staying on task in all lessons.

Year 6 – Samuel has maintained his focus in all lessons producing wonderful work and Amelie has demonstrated excellent listening skills in class throughout the week.

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



**Year 5!**



## Housepoints – Friday 13th September



**Fallow wins!**



# Class Specific Messages



## Year 4 - Swimming

In Autumn Term, Year 4 will have swimming lessons on Tuesday afternoons. The class is split into two groups with half having lessons before half term and the other half after half term. Girls are required to wear a one-piece swimming costume (i.e. not a bikini) and boys are required to wear swimming trunks rather than long swimming shorts. Girls with long hair must wear this tied back and jewellery must not be worn in the pool.

In order to cover costs for the minibus we do have to ask for a £5 voluntary contribution. This option has been added to Arbor for the **first group of children only** and so this will not be showing under trips for your child if they are due to have lessons after half term.

## Year 6 - Permission to walk home

As you may already be aware, in Year 6 parents have the option to give consent for their child to walk/travel home by themselves at the end of the school day. We do ask that parents let us know that this is ok by consenting via Arbor. If you do not wish to give consent yet (some parents prefer to wait until the Spring or Summer Term) then please feel free to just leave the request as pending until you would like to.

Just a reminder that if your child is travelling to and/or from school independently, then they are able to bring in a basic mobile phone (not a smart phone) which they should hand to Mr Willimott each morning to be returned to them at the end of the school day.



# Reception Letter



Dear Parents,

It's been a great full week in Reception. Please could I ask that all families join our Google Classroom so that they can view our weekly Friday letter. Next week we will be starting some more structured lessons, as well as Forest School, PE and visiting the library (see information below).

## Nature Reserve Visits/Forest School (Monday)

Reception will visit the nature reserve every Monday afternoon with myself, and alongside the nursery staff and children. Every Monday children will need:

- wellie boots (please bring these, or request to borrow some, on Monday if you haven't already done so).
- legs and arms covered; trousers, tights, or leggings under skirts are best (initially, please send your child with these on until they can dress and undress themselves independently).
- a waterproof jacket that you do not mind getting dirty, or is easily washed; Reception children usually love to play, dig and collect things from the nature reserve. Sometimes staying clean isn't an option!

## PE (Tuesday)

Every Tuesday afternoon Reception will have indoor PE. Initially, our topic in PE is 'Functional Skills' and incorporates moving around the space safely, moving in different ways, and playing games with different movements. Every Tuesday children will need:

- to wear their PE kit and trainers.
- remove any earrings or cover these with micropore tape before school.





# Reception Letter



## Other Reminders and Requests

- If you have not already done so, please provide a spare set of underwear and socks in a small, named plastic bag, that can be kept at school.
- Please make sure EVERY item of your child's school clothing, including shoes and coats, are named; the children will be mixing with Key Stage 1 at lunch time, and with nursery for some afternoons. We want to be able to reunite any mislaid items quickly with their owners.
- Family photos - every year in Reception we make a display of children's family photos that we share with the class and keep up all year. Feel free to include anyone who is important, grandparents, wider family, pets etc. but a maximum of two photos per child please. I have set up a link on Google Classroom for you to upload your photo to and I will print them at school.
- Packed lunches - if you are sending your child with a packed lunch on any day of the week, they also need to bring any cutlery they need to eat with. Please be aware that we always send home all empty wrappers and part-eaten food so you can tell what children have eaten.
- Jewelry - children should only wear one pair of stud earrings to school; these must be removed on PE days before coming to school.

Kind regards,  
Julie Durrant-Patel



# Nursery Letter



Good Afternoon Nursery,

Well what a busy week we have had! It has been so lovely to get to know the children better this week. We have been exploring our classroom and getting to know each other. We had some tired children ( and adults!) by the end of the week as there is a lot to take in.

This week's activities

This week we have been getting to know each other and find out what our favourite things are - from colours to food! We have read lots of stories and sang many nursery rhymes together - taking turns to choose our favourite song. One of the books we have been reading is 'Pip and Posy The New Friend' and then we talked about sharing and being kind to each other. We have made flowers with our photographs to display our birthdays on the wall and got messy making handprints. In maths we have been busy with active maths and singing some counting songs.

We have been very busy moving our bodies, from counting our jumps in maths, to dancing when it was raining outside and then exploring our outdoor space when it was dry. We have been throwing/catching balls and hula hoops on the Astroturf ( the high fence helps prevent the balls escaping!) and on Friday was Forest Friday.

On Thursday afternoon we had Active Learning and a story together with the Reception Class which was lovely. From next week we will be working together with Reception on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.



# Nursery Letter



Finally, on Friday we read 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' and explored the big playing field. We had our snack outside and did lots of investigating of our outdoor space - and lots of running about!

Reminders for Next week

On Mondays and Fridays we will be making use of the forest so please make sure children have their legs covered. We will be putting our all-in-one suits on and our wellies- but they will be more comfortable in trousers / leggings / tights under the suits.

On a Tuesday afternoon we will have PE with Reception - can you please make sure children have their earrings covered or removed otherwise they can not take part in PE. No need to wear a PE kit as the children will remove their socks and shoes/ tights for PE.

On Thursday afternoon we will have Active Learning with Reception and we will visit the school library and choose a book to bring home with us.

We hope you enjoy the pictures of us from this week ( available on Google Classroom). As always if you have any questions please speak to any of the Nursery Team. In future 'This week in Nursery' newsletters we will make suggestions for activities you may like to try at home - linked to what we have done in class. This is not homework. It is simply some ideas to support an aspect of your child's learning and development.

We hope you have a lovely weekend,  
Mrs Bain, Miss Burns, Mrs Ghioaca and Mr Burton.