



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

There are certain things in life that I will never grow tired of. Peanut butter and jam on toast. The steam from a fresh, black coffee, billowing from the mug on a crisp yet sunny winter's morning. Spurs lifting trophies (okay, admittedly that last one is a fairly new addition to the list).

But you know what else I never get tired of? Hearing people say how polite, respectful and thoroughly charming our children are.

(I'll pause for a moment for some of you to recover from your reaction to that last sentence, particularly those of you whose children save their best behaviour for school hours, or seem to be suffering from an early onset of 'teenageritis', which, it seems, can afflict children of almost any age!)

On no less than four occasions in the last week or so, someone has informed me how delightful our children are. It started last week, when one of the volunteers from Bushey Museum, who had come to deliver a workshop about toys through history with Year 1, took the time to comment on how lovely the children had been throughout (and what a contrast it had been to another school they had visited, where they used to work!) A few days later I received an e-mail from the lady who coordinates the sporting events in our local partnership, to say how polite and well-mannered she'd found our Year 5 children during their cross country competition in the previous week. On Monday, the photographers from Carmel Jane were keen to stop by before they left and comment on how well behaved and polite they felt our children had been throughout the day. Finally, just this morning, Mrs Tregear commented on her experiences when standing outside in the mornings; not only does she enjoy the animation and showmanship of some of our younger children, she is equally impressed that our older children will stop and greet her as they walk past.

Comments like these, made by people who are, on the whole, external to our school and who definitely don't need to butter us up with false compliments, are one of the many reasons that so many of us love working at Hartsbourne, and have chosen to stay here for a significant number of years. Of course the children aren't perfect, of course they will sometimes make bad choices, that's all part of growing up! But as we rumble towards the end of our first half-term, it's heartening to know that on their day, when they put their minds to it, they can be utterly wonderful.

Have a lovely weekend and happy Diwali to those of you celebrating!

Mr Harper 😊



Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event
W/C Monday 20 th October	Harvest Festival and Second Hand Uniform Sale
Wednesday 22 nd October	BSJT Dance Show - Year 5
Friday 24 th October	Year 3 and 4 - Harvest Assembly
W/C Monday 27 th October	October Half Term Holiday
Monday 3 rd November	INSET Day
Tuesday 4 th November	First Day of Term
Tuesday 4 th November	The Smeds and The Smoos - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
6 th and 7 th November	Moat Mount - Year 4
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Assembly
Tuesday 11 th November	No Candice Conway Musical Theatre
Tuesday 11 th November	No Journalism Club
Tuesday 11 th November	Early Parents' Evening (3.45 - 6.30)
Thursday 13 th November	No Forces' Club
Thursday 13 th November	Late Parents' Evening (5.00 - 7.45)

SPOTLIGHT ON...

COMMUNICATION WITH HARTSBOURNE

At Hartsbourne we always aim to remember that our Parents and carers are incredibly busy. They are juggling work, homes and personal lives, as well as the many things their children may need on any given day. We feel it is vital that communication from school is clear, concise and accessible at all times.

As a small school our staff all cover a number of different responsibilities that we would never expect our families to keep track of and this is why we ask that ALL communication to school come via the [**parents@hartsbourne.org.uk**](mailto:parents@hartsbourne.org.uk) email address.

This mailbox is the only one that is consistently monitored during school hours, and is the only one that should be used for communication with all of the staff at Hartsbourne including **class teachers**. The email addresses linked to the Google Classrooms are not regularly used by staff and so you may not receive a reply if you use these addresses.

All emails sent into the school office are treated as confidential, and allow us to get the information to the correct people as efficiently as possible.

When sending in your email, please include a brief description of the issue so it can be sent on to the correct person. For example this could be Miss Picton - Block for SEND (n.b. Wednesdays are her SENCo days), Miss Allen for Mental Health / Wellbeing inquires, for pastoral support and login / processes information, the Class Teacher for homework queries etc.

By including a description it also means that if you have asked for a call then the person returning it can make sure they have to hand any information you might need, making the whole process more effective.





PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor and welcome applications from parents who are keen to make a positive contribution to our school. In this voluntary position, you will work as part of a team and play a vital role in ensuring the Local Governing Board Committee is connected with parents and the community.

In particular, we are looking for candidates who possess skills and experience in industries other than education (for example premises, finance, business etc) to broaden the skillset of our current governing body.

What does an effective Parent Governor require?

- A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for pupils.
- Good interpersonal skills, a willingness to learn, develop new skills and attend relevant training.
- The ability to support and challenge by contributing to the vision and direction of the school.
- The ability to attend and contribute in meetings whilst maintaining confidentiality.
- The ability to work as part of a team and value the contributions of others who may hold alternative views to your own.
- An appreciation of the right to privacy of our staff and children, who will not generally be referred to by name during meetings.
- To attend at least one full meeting a term.
- To be willing to join a subcommittee/working party which will meet termly.
- To visit the school in between meetings as part of a link governor role to gain a great understanding about specific aspects of Hartsbourne and provide support to the staff members designated to lead it.

Being a Governor is a “hands off” role – strategic decisions made by Governors influence the wider leadership of the whole school, but Governors are not responsible for, or involved in, the day-to-day, operational running of the school.

For an informal discussion regarding the role please contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Alison Hanbury (via parents@hartsbourne.org.uk).

If you would like to apply, please write a short statement of no more than one side of A4 saying why you would like to join the board and what you can bring to the role.

Nominations should be returned to the school office or emailed to parents@hartsbourne.org.uk by noon on Wednesday 22nd October 2025.

Anyone who has a child on the roll of the main school at the time of the election is eligible to stand (and you do not have to resign if your child leaves during your term of office). If there is more than one candidate, a ballot will be held. Once appointed, an induction will be provided to explain the role and the date of our first full governing body meeting will be shared.

Good luck!



HARVEST

Festival Donations

**WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY
20TH OCTOBER**

WE WILL BE COLLECTING FOOD FOR THE RED TRUST FOODBANK LOCATED IN BUSHEY AS PART OF OUR HARVEST CELEBRATIONS THIS YEAR. THEY ARE MOST IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

- TINS: MEAT & FISH; VEGETABLES; VEGETARIAN AND MEAT MEALS; FRUIT, PUDDINGS AND CUSTARD; BAKED BEANS AND PULSES, SOUP
- JARS: PASTA SAUCE, OTHER COOK-IN SAUCES,
- PACKETS: RICE, PASTA, INSTANT NOODLES, BREAKFAST CEREAL, PORRIDGE, SUGAR, BISCUITS
- DRINKS: TEA AND COFFEE, LONG LIFE MILK, LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE
- OTHER: TOILET ROLL, SANITARY PRODUCTS, NAPPIES, WASHING UP LIQUID, TOOTHPASTE.

Please bring all donations to the school hall.

Second Hand Uniform

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated second hand uniform to the school. We will be in the hall from 8.30 to 8.55 each morning on the above dates as well to give everyone an opportunity to pick up some second hand uniform as they drop off their Harvest Donations.

All money raised from the second hand uniform will also be donated to the Red Trust





Autumn Term Parent Teacher Consultations

Nursery to Year 6

Autumn Parents' Evening - Online Appointment Booking

Parent consultation evenings for this term will be face to face appointments on **Tuesday 11th November from 3.45pm – 6.25pm, and Thursday 13th 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 20th October and will close on Monday 3rd November at 12pm.

Bookings are made via **Arbor** and full instructions can be found [here](#)



Pupil Wellbeing Parent Survey

As part of our ongoing work to support children's wellbeing, resilience, and independence, we'd like to understand more about parents' views and experiences.

Your responses will help us strengthen how we support pupils at Hartsbourne – both in school and in partnership with families.

This short survey should take around 5 minutes to complete. Responses can be anonymous, and all feedback will be used to improve our approach to pupil wellbeing.

Pupil Wellbeing Survey

Friday 17th October 2025: Emerald – works well on a 1:1 basis with a range of different partners.



Year 1 – Archie works well with a variety of partners, always bringing a positive approach and Grace builds thoughtful and supportive connections with the peers she works with.

Year 2 – Victoria works well with a range of partners providing support and encouragement and Ariella is flexible and resilient making her an ideal learning partner.

Year 3 – Robert enjoys working with different classmates and collaborates with ease, and Emilia is a supportive and dependable team member.

Year 4 – Raffi works well with all his peers in class and Ria confidently shares her ideas with lots of different children.

Year 5 – Ria always has a big smile to encourage her peers when working with them and Adithi has shown she is able to work with a range of different partners.

Year 6 – Gabriella has work with a range of partners throughout the week showing excellent teamwork and Leon has shown his ability to adapt to a variety of classmates demonstrating co-operation with others.

This week Clive the Carrot is awarded to...



Year 5!



Housepoints – Friday 17th October 2025

165

Sika

105

Roe

120

Muntjac

88

Fallow

Sika wins!



Class Specific Messages



Year 5 - BSJT Dance Show Reminder

On the 22nd October, Year 5 will be performing at Bushey Meads as part of the BSJT Dance Show.

- The children will be taken to Bushey Meads School via school minibus at 11:00am for rehearsal on 22nd October and will remain on site until the completion of the show.
- As such, they will need to be collected from Bushey Meads, not Hartsbourne, and will be available for collection from 3:00pm. School staff from Years 5 will chaperone and remain with the children until they have been collected, so if you need to collect siblings from Hartsbourne first, we can wait with the children at Bushey Meads until you arrive.
- If you need your children to be collected by a different parent, please ensure that the children are made aware of this plan ahead of time. We aren't able to send children with other parents if neither they or we are aware of this arrangement.
- Children will need to wear a plain black top, black leggings/joggers and black trainers/plimsolls, or as close to this as possible.
- Children will also need to bring a packed lunch in a named, re-usable bag as they will be eating at Bushey Meads.

Year 3 and 4 - Harvest Assembly

On Friday 24th October, we are holding our Harvest Assembly. Traditionally Year 3 and Year 4 lead this assembly and so we would like to offer you the opportunity for you to come in a it earlier for pick up to watch it.

The assembly is due to start at 2.30pm. Sadly due to space limitations we can only accommodate one person per child/household I'm afraid.

Year 3 - Bushey Library

On the 25th November Year 3 will be travelling to Bushey Library for a workshop and to learn how to use all of the library facilities. They should wear their usual school uniform and will be back in time for their usual lunchtime arrangements. They will be walking to and from the library and so will need to ensure they have their coats with them.

To cover the cost of this trip we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £3.65 which is payable via Arbor by the 12th 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/Vapd5y3huXNq9EDL7>

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.



Class Specific Messages



Year 4 - Moat Mount Residential

We are once again offering Year 4 the opportunity to go on a one night residential to Moat Mount. 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 **£56 per child (£46 is left to pay if you have already paid your deposit)** and is available on Arbor for payment. The deadline for payments is **Friday 24th October at 12.00pm.**

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/rfVdHm9Y8WBq5wqT8>

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.