



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!

As a teacher, the majority of my career has always been based in Upper Key Stage 2, meaning that I've always eyed the Early Years Foundation Stage through a mystified lens of bafflement and confusion. What is this 'learning through play' you speak of? How can learning be done without a book and pens for everything? And what's that funny smell?

Over the years I've tried to improve my understanding of what happens in those formative year groups (if you listen carefully, you can hear Mrs Durrant-Patel scoffing audibly!) This has involved a combination of trying to spend more time in Nursery and Reception, as well as undertaking online courses to unpick the power of play. Thus, it was a treat to watch Nursery slowly sliding into deeper and more involved play at lunchtime today. It started with them whizzing up and down on an assortment of trikes, before graduating to two of them turning one up on its end in order to 'fix it'. Once I'd poked my nose in and used terms like 'mechanic' and 'garage', the fantasy world we were inhabiting grew more detailed. High-vis vests were sought ("well done guys, great commitment to health and safety"), a variety of tools were brought over and soon a service was taking place that was so involved and in-depth, I started to worry that it wouldn't be covered by my service plan. Spending time with our youngest children is always a treat, and today it served as a delightfully whimsical end to the week.

It was also lovely to see so many of you at our 'Welcome To' meetings this week. To those of you with two or three siblings in our school, thank you for the patience you showed when listening to me parrot the same information about attendance, punctuality and communication! This might be a strange concept because they look so confident when they get into their flow state, but these meetings cause all manner of anxiety amongst the majority of our teaching staff. They'll stand and speak confidently in front of your children all day, but the moment we put adults in those same chairs, it becomes a whole other experience. The nerves felt however, were very much allayed by the depth of positive feeling that emanated from all of you during the meetings, so thank you for your kindness and Shanah Tovah to those of you celebrating next week!

Mr Harper 😊



Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event
Friday 3 rd October	Flu Vaccinations (Reception - Year 6)
Monday 13 th October	Carmel Jane - Individual School Photos
W/C Monday 20 th October	Harvest Festival and Second Hand Uniform Sale
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 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)

Flu Vaccinations

3rd October

Please find attached the E-consent letter for your child's Flu vaccination for this coming winter. Please note that you can consent for either the **Flu nasal spray, OR the non-gelatine IM Flu vaccine.** Please make sure you complete the form online as soon as you can. The portal will close 48 hours ahead of the Flu session.

[Vaccination UK East Anglia Immunisation \(schoolvaccination.uk\)](https://schoolvaccination.uk)

Flu can be very unpleasant for children and can sometimes cause serious problems, such as pneumonia. Children can catch and spread flu easily. Vaccinating them also helps protect others who are at higher risk of getting seriously ill from flu, such as babies and older people.

The School Immunisation team will be coming into the school to deliver the vaccine. Please be aware that children can NOT receive this vaccination with their GP unless they are clinically vulnerable.

Kind Regards,

Hannah Chalkley - Immunisation Programme Manager

3 Portmill House | Portmill Lane | Hitchin | Herts | SG5 1DJ

Tel: 01462 427008

Mobile: 07837 251791

www.schoolvaccination.uk



SPOT LIGHT ON ...

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

At Hartsbourne each class has a Google Classroom that teachers use to set homework, or to provide electronic back up versions if they prefer to hand out paper based homework. It's also used to share information about which days are P.E days, and they may also add some class specific reminders.

Please find below the most frequently asked questions about Google Classroom.

How do I access Google Classroom?

Due to GDPR you can only access your child's Google Classroom by signing in with their Hartsbourne email address. If you do not know or forget your child's email address then you can view it at any time via Arbor.

Your account will be set up with the password '**changeme**' so please update this to something memorable when you log in for the first time.

I've forgotten my password what do I do?

Unfortunately we do not have a record of people's passwords and so we do recommend you make a note of it when you upgrade your phones, as this is often when people lose them. In the event that you do lose your password then it will need to be re-set by the BSJT I.T department, so please send an email to parents@hartsbourne.org.uk and we will pass your request on.

I have emailed the teacher via Google Classroom, why haven't I heard back?

In order to set up Google Classrooms email address need to be assigned to them so that staff can upload and mark homework. These email addresses are **not** consistently monitored and should not be used for general communication. If you would like to contact your child's teacher, then please either catch them briefly at the door, or better yet send your email to parents@hartsbourne.org.uk.



'Welcome to' Meeting Slides



It was lovely to see so many of you at our 'Welcome to' Meetings and we hope it gave you a clear understanding of what to expect from this school year. As we said in last week's School Notices we completely understand that other commitments can mean you're unable to make the meetings, and so please find below links to all of the presentations, including the Reception Phonics meeting.

[Welcome to Nursery](#)

[Reception Phonics Workshop](#)

[Welcome to Year 1](#)

[Welcome to Year 2](#)

[Welcome to Year 3](#)

[Welcome to Year 4](#)

[Welcome to Year 5](#)

[Welcome to Year 6](#)

Friday 19th September 2025 – Topaz: brave enough to have a go at tricky work; kind and supportive when others make mistakes.



Year 1 – Louisa shows great courage by stepping out of her comfort zone and trying her best with difficult tasks and Kiana is kind and thoughtful, always supporting and encouraging others.

Year 2 – Najma is a kind, caring and supportive towards her peers and Alfie M is always courageous and gives any task his all.

Year 3 – Vinnie is a caring and encouraging friend to his peers, and Oliver demonstrates impressive perseverance and determination in his work.

Year 4 – Maddison has been kind and supportive to others in all her lessons this week and Aurora has put in exceptional effort with all her work.

Year 5 – Zainab has worked so hard this week to challenge herself in all lessons and Eduardo is such an encouraging and caring peer, always looking for ways to support others.

Year 6 – Ellie has challenged herself throughout the week attempting new concepts in all lessons and Jesse has shown true compassion and support for his peers.

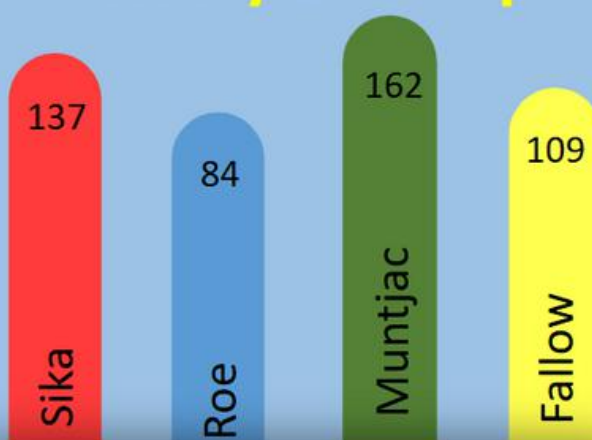
This week Clive the Carrot is awarded to...



Year 2!



Housepoints – Friday 19th September 2025



Muntjac wins!



Class Specific Messages



Year 6 - NHS Health Needs Assessment Questionnaire.

Each year the School Nursing team run a series of checks across various year groups. in school. One of these checks is the Health Needs Assessment Questionnaire that they do with Year 6. Please read the official letter by clicking on the link, as this also contains the details of how to opt out if you so choose.

[Health Needs Assessment - Parent Letter](#)

Reception - My First Day Photo Consent.

Each year the Watford Observer publishes photos of Reception classes in the area as part of their My First Day supplement and we submit a photo each year for this. As this is outside of our standard image consents, we have made the 'Watford Observer' consent type available to you on Arbor so you can either give consent or decline.

Please could you login and confirm by **12.00pm Monday 22nd September** so Mrs Durrant - Patel has plenty of time to take the photo.