

# HARTSBOURNE NEWSLETTER

---

[www.hartsbourne.org.uk](http://www.hartsbourne.org.uk)

25th October 2024

What a wonderful start we've had to the Autumn term! It's been absolutely brilliant to see our children settling back into school life with such enthusiasm and positivity. I would like to say a big thank you to Friends of Hartsbourne for funding the inflatable tunnel which enabled us to keep up our Hartsbourne tradition of starting the new term with style! The work that the Friends of Hartsbourne do enable us to provide these wonderful extras that make such a difference to our children's school experience. I'd like to encourage everyone to get involved and support their events whenever possible. It's through your participation that we can continue to offer these exciting opportunities for our children.

September also saw the opening of our brand new nursery, and I'm delighted to report that our littlest learners have settled in beautifully. It's been an absolute joy to watch them explore their new environment, make friends, and embark on their educational journey with such enthusiasm. The nursery team has done a fantastic job in creating a warm, welcoming space where our youngest children can thrive. We are holding a Nursery open morning on Saturday 16th November. Please share our flyer with your friends and family to help us make this a big success.

Looking ahead, we've got so much to look forward to in the second half of this term, there are numerous exciting events and activities on the horizon. To ensure you don't miss out on any of these fantastic events, please keep a close eye on our Friday school notices.

I hope everyone has a wonderful half term break and I am already looking forward to a fantastic second half of the term filled with learning, laughter, and lots of Hartsbourne magic!

Mrs Harte and the team at Hartsbourne

## We Are Very Proud Of.....



Florence and her Mum for taking such good care of the Year 1 chicks! Look how big they have grown. It is lovely to still know how they are doing!

Sebastian for earning his yellow belt grading in martial arts. Well done Sebastian, we are very proud of you!



Alma, Belle, Sophia, Daniela and Harry have singlehandedly run the second hand uniform sale this week, and taken in all of the harvest donations. Alma, Belle and Sophia spent a lot of time last year sorting through the donated uniform and it's been lovely to see them getting their siblings involved in their community project.

### Reading Maps

The following children have completed their reading maps already! A huge well done to them.

Reception - Archie, Allegra

Year 1 - Victoria, Celeste

Year 2 - Pippa



# 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 apposed to you be 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/>

## Contents

- Dates for your Diary.
- Attendance Matters (a reminder about the impact of term time holidays).
- Flu Vaccination Details.
- Parents Evening Booking Information.
- Herts Parent Carer Involvement Survey.
- Term Dates - 2025.2026.
- Nursery Open Morning for Prospective Parents.
- Poppy Appeal.
- Topkidz Update
- Learning Gem, Clive Points and House Points.
- Class Specific Messages.
  - Year 4 - Second Half Swimming Group
  - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 - The Gruffalo
  - Year 3 - Natural History Museum Trip
  - Year 2 - Speed Stacking
  - Year 5 - Cross Country




# Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event
Monday 4th November	INSET Day
Tuesday 5th November	Start of Autumn 2
Tuesday 5th November	Flu Vaccine - All Years
Wednesday 6th November	Reception -Year 2 Theatre Trip
Friday 8th November	Friends of Hartsbourne Cake Sale
Friday 8th November	Arsenal Football Leadership program Yr 4,5,6 starts
Monday 11th November	Remembrance Assembly
Tuesday 12th November	School Nursing Team - Heights and Weights Year 6
Tuesday 12th November	Parents Evening Early
Thursday 14th November	Parents Evening Late
Thursday 14th November	Year 2 Speed Stacking at Bushey and Oxhey Infants
Friday 15th November	Year 5 Cross Country
Tuesday 26th November	School Nursing Team - Year 6 The Lancaster Model
Wednesday 27th November	Year 3 Natural History Museum
Tuesday 3rd December	Mop Up Flu Vaccines
Wednesday 4th December	Year 6 West Side Story Performance - St Margarets
Wednesday 4th December	KS1 Christmas Story Night




# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

## THE HIDDEN COST OF TERM TIME HOLIDAYS



Before I started working in a school I definitely wasn't aware of the huge impact on children when they have time off during term time, but over the years I've seen how it affects friendships and self esteem, as well as causing gaps in children's learning. From the outside it's easy to think that a couple of days here and there won't matter too much but you'd be surprised how quickly it all adds up



### Absences and Anxiety

When a child is absent from school for any amount of time, it can cause feelings of anxiety. They are aware that they'll have missed out on learning which is hard to catch back up, but also friendship dynamics change extremely quickly at primary school age and children often struggle to fit back in on their return. We definitely see a higher number of friendship issues in classes with a lower attendance percentage, than we do in others where the children have had the opportunity to learn to resolve issues for themselves in school on a regular basis.

### SEND or Missed Learning?

One of the first things external agencies will look at when a query is raised around SEND needs and support is has the child had the opportunity to make the same progress as their peers. If a child has not been in school regularly then is their lack of attainment simply due to not being in lessons when they are supposed to? In order for us to support all of our children to the best of our ability they need to be in school and ready to learn at the right time. These steps will give your child the best possible chance of making progress and getting the support they need if additional intervention is required.

### Missing school means missing out.


Regular attendance and punctuality is paramount to our children reaching their full potential and making the most of the educational opportunities which Hartsbourne offers them.



#### CURRENT ATTENDANCE

#### WHOLE SCHOOL - 96%

NURSERY - 98.8%	YEAR 3 - 95%
RECEPTION - 97.5%	YEAR 4 - 97.1%
YEAR 1 - 95.2%	YEAR 5 - 95.3%
YEAR 2 - 97.3%	YEAR 6 - 95.4%



IF YOU WOULD LIKE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT WITH YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE THEN PLEASE LET US KNOW.

# Flu Vaccinations

## 5th November

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](https://www.schoolvaccination.uk)





# Autumn Term Parent Teacher Consultations

## Reception to Year 6

### Autumn Parents' Evening - Online Appointment Booking

Parent consultation evenings for this term will be face to face appointments on **Tuesday 12th November from 3.45pm – 6.25pm, and Thursday 14th 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 21st October and will close on Monday 4th November at 12pm.**

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

Please note an alternative event will be held for Nursery later on in the term.



## Herts Parent Carer Involvement Survey

Herts Parent Carer Involvement, the independent parent carer forum for Hertfordshire, has asked us to share their annual survey with you. They want to hear from Hertfordshire parent carers of children and young people (age 0-25) with any Special Educational Need and/or Disability. Your child doesn't need to have a diagnosis or EHCP for you to take part. The survey is open until Sunday 3 November and can be accessed here: <http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HPCISurvey2024>

If you would like to know more about HPCI or to become a member, you can visit their website: [www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk](http://www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk) or call 07840 360 245.



Academic Year 2025 - 2026

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

INSET - Staff Only:

Weds 3rd Sept, Thurs 4th Sept, Mon 3rd Nov

Occasional Day: Friday 5th Dec - School Closed

Autumn 1: Friday 5th September - Friday 24th October

Autumn Half Term: Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October

Autumn 2: Tuesday 4th November - Friday 19th December (2pm finish)

Spring Term 2026

INSET - Staff Only: Monday 5th January

Spring 1: Tuesday 6th January - Friday 13th February

Spring Half Term: Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February

Spring 2: Monday 23rd February - Friday 27th March (2pm finish)

Summer Term 2026

Bank Holiday: Mon 4th May - School Closed

INSET - Staff Only: Monday 13th April

Summer 1: Tuesday 14th April - Friday 22nd May

Summer Half Term: Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May


Spring 2: Monday 1st June - Thursday 23rd July (2pm finish)



# NEW HARTSBOURNE NURSERY OPEN MORNING

 Saturday 16th November

 10:00am – 12:30pm

 Hartsbourne Road  
Bushey  
WD23 1SJ

**15 and 30 hours funded  
places offered**



Please register your attendance on this short online form  
<https://forms.gle/Ci4iEtg6hnt4fd5GA>

Join us with your children for a fun-filled and educational experience at our brand new Nursery. Meet our dedicated teachers and explore our facilities and beautiful grounds. There will also be opportunities to get a glimpse of the exciting curriculum we offer including our Forest school and wrap around care.



Children are able to join our Nursery from the term after they turn 3 with a September, January and April intake depending on spaces. Come and visit our wonderful school community and find out what we do!



# Poppy Appeal

**Tuesday 5th November -  
Monday 11th November**

**Year 6 will be selling poppies  
and assorted poppy  
merchandise on the KS1  
playground (by the wooden  
boat) every day at school pick  
up time on the above dates.**

**Just a reminder it is CASH ONLY  
for the poppy appeal.**

# Topkidz After School Club Update

Sadly only a few families signed up for the planned after school club and so they are unable to launch just yet. Our parent survey said there was a demand and so we will continue to strive to make this happen for Hartsbourne. Please do let them know if you would like to sign up in the future, so we can get this club up and running.



The graphic features a dark blue background with yellow text and icons. At the top left is the Hartsbourne Primary School crest. In the center is the 'TOPKIDZ' logo with a smiley face in the 'O' and the email 'Topkidz@Hartsbourne'. At the top right is the 'Ofsted Registered' logo. Below these are two cartoon children, a girl on the left and a boy on the right, flanking a central yellow-bordered box containing the text 'AFTER SCHOOL CLUB' and 'COMING SOON...'. Below this box are six informational items, each with a yellow icon and text. At the bottom is a yellow-bordered box with contact information, and a location pin icon with the school's address.

 **TOPKIDZ**  
Topkidz@Hartsbourne 

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**  
**COMING SOON...**

 **SIBLING DISCOUNT:** 10% sibling discount offered

 **SNACK:** Healthy substantial snack served to all children

 **FUN:** Fun activities offered alongside outdoor play

 **WHO CAN ATTEND?** Children attending Hartsbourne Primary School

 **SCHOOL YEARS ?** Reception to Year 6 children only

 **DAYS OPEN?** Mondays to Fridays (subject to demand)

 **TIME OPEN?** After school until 5pm or 6 pm (subject to demand)

**HOW TO REGISTER? CONTACT US VIA...**

 [info@topkidzgroup.co.uk](mailto:info@topkidzgroup.co.uk)  [topkidzgroup.co.uk](http://topkidzgroup.co.uk)

 Hartsbourne Primary School, Hartsbourne Road, Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire, WD23 1SJ

**Friday 25th October 2024 – Diamond: being independent learners and responsible people, solving our own problems where appropriate.**



Year 1 – Theodore is an independent learner who tries to solve his own problems. Dhiya always works hard and completes tasks independently.

Year 2 – Francesca is an independent and responsible learner and Tabitha has grown confidence to complete work independently, even when it is tricky.

Year 3 – Anthony and Ivy are always dedicated learners and try their best to complete their work independently as much as possible.

Year 4 –Thelma and Ta'Ziyah both persevere in their learning to solve problems and complete tasks independently.

Year 5 – Bella and Shiv have both shown this week that they are independent learners when writing their own adventure stories in English.

Year 6 – Nathan has shown responsibility and independence in all his work and Josh R has shown on several occasions this week his ability to solve problems he is struggling with in class.

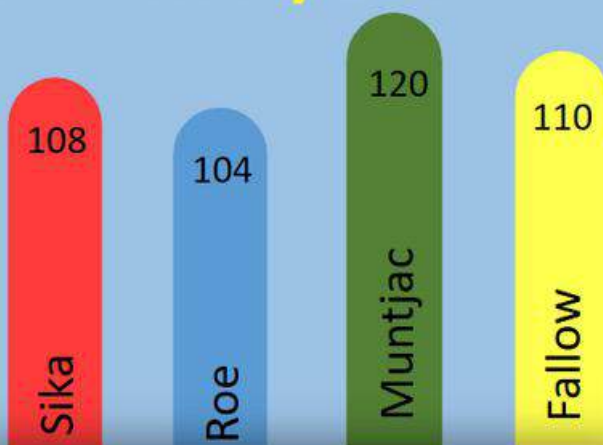
**This week Clive the Carrot is awarded to...**



**Year 4!**



**Housepoints – Friday 25th October 2024**



**Muntjac 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 now been added to Arbor for the **second group of children**.

## Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 - The Gruffalo

This is just a quick reminder that the deadline for making your payments for this trip is **Monday**. In line with school policy we may have to cancel this trip if we do not receive enough contributions.

## Year 3 - The Natural History Museum

On the 27th 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 £18.77 which is payable either via Arbor, or by handing cash into the school office by the 11th 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/pNniw616A7CaQQHj7>

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 2 - Speed Stacking**

On the 14th November Year 2 will be travelling to Bushey and Oxhey Infants school to take part in a local school Speed Stacking event. They will be travelling via the school minibus and so should come to school wearing their P.E kits that day and ensure they have their water bottles with them.

## **Year 5 - Cross Country**

On 15th November Year 5 will be travelling to Bushey Manor Junior school to take part in a local school Cross Country event. They will be travelling via the school minibus and so should come to school wearing their P.E kits that day and ensure they have their water bottles with them.

