



HARTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

17th October 2025



Dear Parents, Carers and Families

It's been another busy week here at HPS. We've welcomed prospective Early Years 2026 parents and their children to the second round of our open events, Year 5 have been visited by Mr Ranjev Singh from Guru Nanak Dev Ji Gurdwara, 3HE are continuing with their swimming lessons and the first of this year's sporting fixtures have got underway.

Year 5 – Sikh Visitor

On Tuesday, Year 5 welcomed a special visitor from the Sikh community, Mr Hardev Singh, president of a Guru Nanak Dev Ji Gurdwara. We were especially grateful that Hardev was able to travel from Manchester to be with us, thus enabling the children to enhance their knowledge of Sikhism. The children listened with great interest as Hardev spoke about Sikh beliefs, traditions and the importance of kindness and equality in everyday life. They enjoyed hearing real-life stories and looking at items with special significance to the Sikh religion. It was a fantastic opportunity to deepen the children's understanding of Sikhism and celebrate the diversity within our community!

A Sporting Update from Mr Cairns

On Tuesday, the Year 5/6 girls' football teams went to Hartford High School for the first tournament of the year. We were the only school to take two teams to the tournament, which gave 18 girls the chance to represent their school. Both teams played against Hartford Manor, Barnton, Charles Darwin and Winnington Park, as well as playing each other.

The B team improved throughout the tournament, learning rules and skills as they went. They had a great team spirit and kept going right until the end when Keanna scored a fantastic goal. Well done girls!

The A team played fantastically throughout. They rotated goalkeepers and did not concede a goal in the whole tournament. They scored some amazing goals and won the tournament overall. They will now go to Winsford Academy on 10th November for the Partnership Final. Well done to everyone who took part.

Moving on to some more general points regarding safety during PE lessons and sporting fixtures:

Shoelaces - I have noticed this year that a lot of children have trainers with shoelaces but cannot tie their own laces without help from an adult. Could all parents please try to teach their children to do this over the half term break? Any child who learns this skill should let me know in their PE lesson and I will award them 10 aspiration tokens for their class.

Earrings - A reminder that children have to either take their earrings out or use their own tape to cover their earrings whilst they are taking part in PE. Please either teach your child to remove their earrings so that they can put them in their tray during PE or show them how to tape them up themselves. Again any child who learns to remove their earrings over the half term holiday will receive 10 aspiration tokens for their class.

Selection for Sports Events – We are very proud of our sporting achievements here at HPS and try to enter every sports event available to us, whether they be competitive or just for fun. The majority of the events are run by the Vale Royal School Sports Partnership who are based at Hartford High School. These events are aimed at different children. Inspire events are aimed at the most able children and the winners of these competitions will progress to the Partnership Finals. Aspire events are aimed at children who enjoy PE at school and are ready to attend a competition. These events are less competitive and do not have a pathway to a 'next' round. Celebrate events are non-competitive events and are aimed at children who are less confident in PE and want to compete in a fun atmosphere with no pressure.

A lot of thought goes into which children attend each event. Every child in Year 5 and 6 will be chosen for an event at some point in the year. The Year 3 and 4 children, who are ready, may attend an event and in the meantime the children can attend the competitions that the Year 6 children run at lunch times. Unfortunately, I'm unable to inform every parent why their child has not been selected for individual events. Please trust that I will choose your child for an appropriate competition when they are ready. Thank you for your support.

RESPONSIBILITY – RESPECT – ASPIRATION – PRIDE



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Dates For Your Diary

Monday 20th October – Thursday 23rd October – Parents' Evening appointments
Friday 24th October – Gladiator Steel visiting school
Friday 24th October – School breaks up for half term
Monday 3rd November – Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 4th November – School reopens for Autumn 2
Tuesday 11th November – Zoolab Visitor Year 1
Monday 1st December – Academy Photography in school, individual and sibling photographs
Friday 5th December – Early Years visit to The Ice Cream Farm
Wednesday 10th December – KS1 Nativity 2pm
Thursday 11th December – KS1 Nativity 2pm
Friday 12th December – Early Years Nativity 10am and 2pm
Monday 15th December – KS2 Christmas Performance at St. John's – Years 3 & 5
Wednesday 17th December – Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 18th December – KS2 Christmas Party
Friday 19th December – KS2 Christmas Performance at St. John's – Year 4 & 6
Friday 19th December – Early Years & KS1 Christmas Party
Friday 19th December – School closes for the Christmas break

Attendance

Whole school attendance up until Friday 10th October was 97.26%. Regrettably, we had 42 children recorded as late last week. If you're having trouble getting to school on time, please do get in touch with school via the office so that we can see what we can do to support you.

Parents' Evenings

The booking system for next week's Parents' Evening appointments has now closed. If you've not managed to make an appointment and would like one, please contact a member of the office team.

On 22nd October, Mrs Williams, the Create Trust SEND and Inclusion Lead will be available from 3:30pm - 5:30pm during our parents evening for any parents to share their views around our support for children with Special Educational Needs.

On 23rd October, Mrs Rowland, our Senco, will be available for drop in appointments from 3.30pm – 6pm.

PTA News

Please find attached the minutes from our AGM held on 2nd October for your information. Our newly formed committee consists of:

Chair – Kate Farmer (Mum of Thomas Year 6 and Izzy Year 2)

Deputy Chair - Rachael Edwards (Mum of Harry and Jac Early Years)

Secretary - Rachel Tomlinson (Mum of Gabriel Early Years)

Treasurer - Charlotte Fawcett (Mum of Daniel Year 3 and Ben Year 1)

I'd like to formally welcome our new committee members. I'm very much looking forward to working with them this year.

Excitement is building for our visit from Steel next Friday, don't forget the children can enter our competition to design a **"Healthy Eating Poster"**. The poster should be designed to encourage friends and family to eat more healthy foods and/or drink more water. It should be no bigger than A4, and the deadline for submission is next **Monday 20th October**.



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Cost of entry is **£1** a poster, which can be paid on ParentPay or by sending **£1** in with the completed poster. Please ensure your child/rens name is on the back of the poster so that we can identify the artist, and payment in a sealed envelope also showing their name.

We will pick one winner per class, who will receive a signed photo of Zack, as well as having their poster displayed around school.

Parents' Coffee Morning at Sandiway Primary School – Thursday 13th November 9.15am

Sandiway Primary School are delighted to welcome Kathryn Alexander from **SPOTSS** (Sensory Processing Occupational Therapy Support Service) to their upcoming parents' coffee morning on Thursday 13th November at 9.15am.

The SPOTSS team provides training, signposting, and resources for schools across Cheshire West and Chester (CWAC) and Cheshire East (CE). Their aim is to help introduce sensory processing approaches and offer practical tools for working with parents and young people to identify and implement effective sensory strategies that support children's regulation in school.

Kathryn will be able to share information and also answer questions and give advice.

If you would like to join her for the coffee morning, please email senco@sandiway.cheshire.sch.uk so that they can plan and organise the event.

Autism Family Support Service – Free Online Drop In for Families – Tuesday 4th November – 7pm – 8.30pm

Please see the attached flyer for more information on these online drop in support sessions run by the Autism Family Support Service.

Thriving Families Project

Home – Start Warrington and Cheshire have asked us to share details of their Thriving Families project which provides non-judgmental support tailored to the needs of parents, carers, children and young people aged 0–19 (up to 25 with SEND). Whether it's help with daily routines, parenting strategies, emotional well-being or strengthening family relationships, they offer help to make a positive and practical difference.

They are partnered with Her-Place and HealthBox. Her-Place offer their specialist BACP accredited counselling services to all Thriving Families parents in a bespoke and family centered way. HealthBox provide therapeutic support to children using the most appropriate programme to suit their needs.

A family must live in the Winsford or Northwich area and also can't be currently on a TAF. Please see attached leaflets for Winsford and Northwich for further details. Thriving Families referral:

<https://homestartwarringtonandcheshire.org.uk/thriving-families/>

Hartford NSPCC/Hartford Parish Council Events

A reminder of forthcoming events organised by Hartford NSPCC and supported by Hartford Parish Council.

Let's Play, Sunday 19th October

This outdoor event is free-of-charge and takes place from 2 - 4pm on [Hartford's Green Field](#) (behind the Chester Road shops).

Craft for Kids, Wednesday 29th October

Want to try painting, knitting and other crafts? Hartford NSPCC invites children aged 5 - 11 to a craft session. Join in from 10am-12 noon or from 1.30 - 3.30pm at Hartford Village Hall (the black and white building by the tennis courts on Chester Road).

Entrance is £3 per child. All proceeds go to the NSPCC. To book your place, contact Linda on 07813 662 654, then pay on the door on the day. Please note, children are the responsibility of their parents/carers and must be supervised at all times.

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Tuesday art club for 11 – 16 year olds

The club takes place at Hartford Village Hall on selected Tuesdays from 4 - 5pm. Cost: £3 per session, with free refreshments. Concessions available – contact us to discuss. All proceeds go to NSPCC.

Book your place now! Contact Linda on 07813 662 654. Places are limited so book now to avoid disappointment.

Free half-term events at Sandiway and Weaverham Libraries

Looking for fun activities over the Autumn 2025 half-term holidays? Sandiway and Weaverham Libraries have lots of family-friendly events on offer – please see the attached flyers.

Lost Property

We will be clearing out lost property at the end of next week. If your child has lost anything, please get them to check lost property before we break up.



A reminder that we break up for half term next Friday 24th October and Monday 3rd November is an Inset Day. Autumn 2 starts on Tuesday 4th November.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Kind regards

S L Cade

Mrs L Cade
Acting Headteacher