



HARTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEAD'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

22nd October 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, and Families

As we reach the end of the first half term of the academic year, I would like to thank our staff, pupils and families for their continued hard work and support. I hope everyone enjoys a restful half-term break before we return for what is always a busy and exciting Christmas half term. There will be plenty happening in school, with festive activities, events, and the usual focus on learning as we work towards the end of the term. I look forward to sharing news of all that is taking place over the coming weeks and thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

Parents' Evenings

It's been lovely to see so many of you in school this week for parents' evening. I hope you've enjoyed hearing how your child has settled into their new year group and about their progress so far.

Early Years Come and Play Sessions

This week our Early Years children welcomed a member of their family into class for their first come and play session of the year. Squirrels hosted on Monday afternoon from 2pm and Hedgehogs hosted on Tuesday. The children were so excited to show off their learning environment, share their proud pegs and engage in autumn themed activities with their adult. It was a busy afternoon which we all enjoyed. Thank you to those that were able to attend. Our next one will be before Christmas; dates will be confirmed soon.

Year 5 Visit to Hartford High School's Performing Arts Extravaganza – Wednesday 21st October

Year 5 had a fantastic morning at Hartford High School for their Performing Arts Extravaganza! We enjoyed a brilliant showcase of acting, dancing, singing, and instrumental performances. It was inspiring to see the students perform with such confidence and enthusiasm, and especially lovely to spot some familiar faces among our former Hartford pupils. Thank you to the high school for making us feel so welcome!

Co-Opted Governor Opportunity

Our Local Governing Board is looking to appoint a Co-Opted Governor to join the board. **This role could be held by a parent or a non-parent member of our local community.**

No special qualifications are needed, and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the Governing Board's work. However, we do require individuals with the following experience and commitment:

- **Knowledge and background in education specifically - ideally, this would be at primary school level, however this is not strictly necessary.**
- **Able to attend one meeting every half term and one additional visit to school every half term as a minimum.**

If you believe you have this specific knowledge and experience or know of someone in the local community who does and would be interested in joining our Local Governing Board, please contact our school office in the first instance. This information will then be passed on to our Chair of Governors who will arrange a follow-on conversation.

Attendance

Whole school attendance up until Friday 16th October was 97.72%, we had 31 children recorded as late last week.

PTA News

We can't believe we are already through the first half term!

A big thank you for all the donations so far for the **Own Clothes Day** taking place this coming **Friday 23rd October** – donations can be made either on Sum Up or cash on the day too.



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Last week the children will have come home with individually designed Christmas cards and decorations (very early we know!). We receive 30% commission on all orders and have already received £490 which is fabulous! Planning is now well underway for our **Winter Event on Friday 27th November**. If you can help or want to do any of the following, please email pta@hartfordprimary.cheshire.sch.uk

- a stall for your own business including food
- volunteering on one of our school stalls/games

Last but not least, are you ready to add some festive cheer to your doorstep? This Christmas season, why not create a personalised masterpiece to welcome your guests?

Join Imaginators and get creative with their exciting “Festive Doormat Workshop,” right here at Hartford Primary School.

During this fun, hands-on session, you'll paint and create your very own custom doormat.

No prior artistic skills are needed - this workshop is perfectly suitable for beginners! It's a fantastic opportunity to relax, get creative, have a night with friends, and meet other people in the community. All materials are provided.

Event Details:

Date: Thursday, 3rd December

Time: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Price: £30 per person

Location: Hartford Primary School – Main Hall

Bring your own drinks and snacks

Places now available to book on ParentPay, spaces are limited, so be sure to book early to secure your spot. We look forward to creating with you!

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

This year we will be taking part in the Christmas Shoebox Appeal run by Samaritan's Purse and would like to encourage the children to get involved. Please return your shoe box to the school office by Friday 6th November. Please follow this link for full details of the appeal: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/how-to-pack-a-shoebox>



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Families receiving Free School Meals

CWAC have asked us to share the following information with our school community: Support with food during the school holidays through the Crisis and Resilience Fund is now open again for applications.

This support is available for £30 per week per school age child that receives income based Free School Meals if families are struggling to meet these additional costs during the school holidays.

This payment will cover the combined October half term and Christmas holidays period of 3 weeks, and therefore if successful, an award of £90 will be given per eligible child, which will be paid via a payment to your bank account.

To apply or find out more details, you can visit: [School Holiday Support Payment | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)

If you're not in receipt of Free Schools Meals but need help with a sudden financial crisis, you can apply for our Crisis Payment scheme: [Crisis payments | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)

Dates For Your Diary (Christmas Performance Dates Now Included)

Friday 23 rd October	Whole School Flu Immunisation Programme
Friday 23 rd October	PTA Own Clothes Day
Friday 23 rd October	School Closes for Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	School Reopens for Autumn 2
Wednesday 4 th November	Indian Dance Workshop – Early Years and Year 3
Friday 6 th November	Swimming Lessons Start for Foxes Class
Monday 9 th November	Otters Visit to Reaseheath Zoo
Wednesday 11 th November	Badgers Visit to Reaseheath Zoo
Tuesday 24 th November	Early Years Christmas Visit to St. John's Church
Friday 27 th November	PTA Christmas Event
Thursday 3 rd December	PTA Festive Doormat Workshop 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Friday 4 th December	Early Years Christmas Visit to The Ice Cream Farm
Monday 7 th December	Years 1 – 6 Visit to The Storyhouse Chester - Rapunzel
Tuesday 8 th December	Early Years Nativity 10am and 2pm
Wednesday 9 th December	St. John's Church Christmas Celebration – Years 3 & 5
Thursday 10 th December	KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 2pm
Friday 11 th December	KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 2pm
Monday 14 th December	St. John's Church Christmas Celebration – Years 4 & 6
Friday 19 th December	School Closes for Christmas
Monday 4 th January 2027	Inset Day – School Closed
Tuesday 5 th January 2027	School Reopens for Spring 1`

Preloved Uniform - *Important update*

Due to storage we are unable to take any more donations at the moment.

Preloved uniform can be requested at any time using this email address:

preloveduniform@hartfordprimary.cheshire.sch.uk

Let us know your requirements and your child's name and class.

Early Years Appeal

Our Early Years team would be grateful for donations of the following items: knickers, underpants, and socks (for those little accidents). Please hand them directly to the Early Years team either at the start or end of the school day.

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Lost Property

Please take a moment to check our lost property collection in the Small Hall before the end of half term. There are many items waiting to be reunited with their owners. Any items that remain unclaimed at the end of half term will be passed on to our pre-loved uniform shop or donated to charity. We would also like to remind parents to clearly name all clothing, water bottles, and other personal belongings. Named items can usually be returned to children quickly, helping us reduce the amount of lost property.



Have a lovely half term.

Warm regards

S L Cade

Mrs L Cade
Head of School



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Please find below a list of community events and support sessions we have been made aware of that our families are welcome to access

Fun events in Hartford this Autumn / Winter 2026

Dates for your diary! Join these fun events in Hartford this Autumn / Winter 2026.

- Craft for kids - Weds 28 Oct. £3*
- Let's Play - Sun 1 Nov. Free
- Christmas Lantern Parade - Sat 21 Nov. Free
- Christmas Light Up - Sat 21 Nov. Free
- Hartford Christmas Fayre - Sat 28 Nov. Free
- Let's Play - Sun 13 Dec. Free
- Art Club - Tuesdays. £3*
- Play Boccia - Anytime. Free

*All proceeds to NSPCC

Find out more: <https://hartfordparishcouncil.org.uk/events-hartford/>

Blakemere Village Fireworks Display - Saturday 7th November



Tickets can be booked online at www.blakemereevents.co.uk

Free Kellogg's Breakfasts – Morrisons Cafes – October Half Term

With many families facing increased financial pressure over the October half term, Cheshire West and Chester Council have asked us to highlight a nationwide initiative where families can access a free Kellogg's breakfast in all Morrisons Cafes every day.

Families visiting their local Morrisons Café throughout the October half term holidays can enjoy a free 'Kellogg's Breakfast', which includes a bowl of cereal and a portion of fruit. The best part, it's not just for kids, adults get to eat completely free too. Both kids and adults can choose from much-loved favourites of Corn Flakes or Rice Krispies,



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topped with their choice of dairy or non-dairy milk and a free apple or banana. The October holiday offer will be available from 12th October to 1st November across all Morrisons Cafes nationwide.

CWAC Parent Carer Forum Flyer

Please find attached a flyer detailing upcoming events by Cheshire West and Chester's Parent Carer Forum.

Cheshire FA October Football Holiday Camp

The camp features a range of themed days, including match play, team challenges, goal-scoring activities, and tournaments, providing an enjoyable experience for children of all abilities.

The booking links for the camps are below:

Girls Football Camp: [Cheshire FA Girls October Football Camp \(Age 5-12\) | Cheshire Football Association | Pitchbooking](#)

Boys Football Camp: [Cheshire FA Boys October Football Camp \(Age 5-12\) | Cheshire Football Association | Pitchbooking](#)

FACE Family Support

Please find attached a flyer detailing support sessions available during November.