HARTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL
HEAD'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
4th November 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, and Families

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely half-term break and enjoyed some well-deserved time together. It is wonderful to welcome everyone back for Autumn 2, which is always a busy and exciting half term as we move towards the end of the calendar year. We have already had a very positive start, particularly as we officially joined the **Sir John Brunner Foundation on 1st November**. This marks an important new chapter for our school, and we are looking forward to the opportunities and possibilities that lie ahead as part of the Trust. I hope you have all had the opportunity to read and watch the welcome email and video from Matt Snelson, CEO of the Trust, which we shared on Monday.

We've already got a number of trips/activities booked in for the children this half term. Foxes (Year 5) start their swimming lessons this Friday. Year 1 are visiting Reaseheath Zoo next week and today Early Years and Year 3 have taken part in an Indian dance workshop. Here's a summary of what's happened so far this week and what we've got coming up:

Early Years and Year 3 Indian Dance Workshop

This morning Early Years and Year 3 took part in a wonderful Indian workshop; this supported their current learning of the festival of light Diwali. The children listened well and learnt a wonderful dance to celebrate Diwali together. They learnt a sequence of moves, listened to traditional music, used some props, and shared their learning with our workshop host Lauren. This session also forms part of our RE curriculum and we would like to thank Mrs Wheeler (our RE Lead who is currently on maternity leave) for organising it for us.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

A representative from The Royal British Legion has provided school with some poppies, wristbands, keyrings, rulers, pencils and stickers which our Year 6 Ambassadors will be making available to the children in each class on Thursday and Friday this week. If your child would like a poppy or one of the other items (whilst stocks last) please send them into school with a minimum donation of £1 towards the appeal. Thank you for your support.

Scholastic Book Fair

We will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair after school on Friday 6th, Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, and Wednesday 11th November. It will be a great opportunity for parents to buy books as Christmas presents as well as raising money for the school. The fairs will be held outside Mr Harris' Year 4 classroom from 3:15pm to 4:30pm.

Attendance

Whole school attendance up until Friday 23rd October was 97.46%, we had 31 children recorded as late during the last week of Autumn 1 half term.

PTA News

A big thank you for all the donations we've received for the Own Clothes Day that took place on Friday 23rd October – we'll publish the total amount raised in next week's newsletter.

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

Finally, a reminder of our "Festive Doormat Workshop" which is taking place at school on Thursday 3rd December.

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.

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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 are available to book on ParentPay, spaces are limited.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal
A reminder that we are taking part in the Christmas Shoebox Appeal run by Samaritan's Purse and would like to encourage the children to get involved. We've had some fantastic boxes dropped off at school so far and I'd like to thank families for supporting the appeal. If your child would like 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



Dates For Your Diary

Friday 6th November – Wednesday 11th November	Scholastic Book Fair (After School)
Friday 6th November	Swimming Lessons Start for Foxes Class
Monday 9th November	Otters Visit to Reaseheath Zoo
Wednesday 11th November	Badgers Visit to Reaseheath Zoo
Tuesday 24th November	Early Years Christmas Visit to St. John's Church
Friday 27th November	PTA Christmas Event
Monday 30th November	School Photographer – Individual & Sibling Portraits
Thursday 3rd December	PTA Festive Doormat Workshop 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Friday 4th December	Early Years Christmas Visit to The Ice Cream Farm
Monday 7th December	Years 1 – 6 Visit to The Storyhouse Chester - Rapunzel
Tuesday 8th December	Early Years Nativity 10am and 2pm
Wednesday 9th December	St. John's Church Christmas Celebration – Years 3 & 5
Thursday 10th December	KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 2pm
Friday 11th December	KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 2pm
Monday 14th December	St. John's Church Christmas Celebration – Years 4 & 6
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 18th December	School Closes for Christmas
Monday 4th January 2027	Inset Day – School Closed
Tuesday 5th January 2027	School Reopens for Spring 1`

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Preloved Uniform - *Important update*

As we will be holding a preloved uniform sale at the PTA's Christmas event on 27th November, we are now welcoming donations of school logoed uniform (no non logoed or grey items please) that are clean and in good condition. Please drop any donations off at the school office.

If you need items of uniform, 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.

Have a good week.

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.

- 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

Winnington Park Girls Rugby – Opportunities for Girls in Year 5 and 6
Winnington Park Rugby Club are having a recruitment drive to promote girls' rugby in the local area. If your daughter is in Year 5 or 6 and is interested in giving rugby a go, please see the attached flyer for further details.

FLYT Future Flyers Netball Programme – Free Taster Session Friday 6th November
Please find attached a leaflet from FLYT Future Flyers who run a fun, friendly and inclusive netball programme for boys and girls in **Years 4 to 6.** They are holding a free taster session this Friday 6th November 6pm-8pm at Hartford Dome.

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Social Care, Family Support and Early Help:
Wednesday 25 November 2026 | 9:30am to 1:30pm | Hartford Golf Club

Do you ever feel like you need a map just to find the right support for your child?

You're not alone. Many families of children and young people with SEND tell us the hardest part isn't knowing support exists. It's knowing where to start, who to ask, and how to get help early, before things reach crisis point.
Social care and family support in Cheshire West and Chester are changing, and what happens next matters to families like yours. Come along to hear directly from Zara Woodcock, Director of Social Care, about what the reforms mean for you and your child. Then have your say on how things should work.

What's on:

- **Straight talk from the top:** hear about the changes to social care and family support, and what they mean for SEND families.
- **Meet the people who can help:** our marketplace brings together Family First Hubs, Family Link Workers, Starting Well and Youth Services, alongside Disability Positive, IASS, Koloa, Live and Carers Trust. Chat face to face, ask your questions and find out what's on offer, with no appointments or referrals needed.
- **Your voice, your experience:** join table discussions with other parents and carers about what has helped you most, what you wish you'd known sooner, and what gets in the way. Your experiences will help shape local services.
- **Useful things to take home:** every table has a jargon buster, a guide to who does what across health, education and social care, and information for families just starting out.

Whether you're at the very beginning of your journey or have been navigating the system for years, your experience counts. Come and meet other families, enjoy a breakfast bap and a coffee, and help make sure support is easier to find and quicker to reach.

Your voice. Your family. Your support.

To book your place, Social Care, Family Support and Early Help Forum - 25th Nov 2026