



HARTBEAT

*Hartford's weekly School Newsletter about the community,
for the community, published every Friday*

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Issue Number 21

GREETING FROM THE HEAD

Last Friday we held our Staff-Parent Quiz night to raise money for the students' forthcoming production of *Beauty and the Beast*. It was a lovely, fun occasion with great excitement and hilarity as the rounds progressed! I'm delighted to report that my team 'The Quizzicals' won - I can reassure all readers that this was down to the skill and ability of my team (rather than me!) and not any bias towards the Headteacher! Thank you to everyone who took part and to the Heads of Family who ran our quiz. We are already looking forward to next year's event!

Last night the Year 7s enjoyed their disco in the second of the *Beauty and the Beast* Fundraisers! They had a brilliant time and it was great to see the students mixing together and enjoying themselves in such a happy atmosphere. Thanks to all the staff who supported and organised this special event for the students.

FAMILY NEWS

Mr Rooney, Head of [Whitehall](#) Family, writes: This half term our students have been competing for their Families across subjects in their lessons. The competitions ranged from DT book cover designs, to History quizzes and English poetry challenges. We would like to thank our students across all the Families for their engagement and brilliant effort this half term. It has been fantastic to see the Family system working alongside our subjects to create competitions that are inclusive and accessible to all students - there really has been something for everyone!

As a result, I can share the Family leaderboard heading into the half term break; 2024 has started with a bang and all Families are extremely close in the table! Points have been won for subject competitions as well as entries into the 'Hartford's Got Talent' audition stage.

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| 1st place | Whitehall | 69 points |
| 2nd place | Riddings | 62 points |
| 3rd place | Beeches | 58 points |
| 4th place | Hollies | 51 points |

Well done to my Family, [Whitehall](#), for leading the table at the end of the half term! My challenge to the other Families is...catch us if you can (it's all to play for)!

We wish you all a happy and restful half term break and are excited to welcome all our students back with more opportunities for competitions, challenges and rewards within each Family!



Miss Hughes, Art teacher, writes: Year 10 have got off to a flying start drawing for their personal projects! We've seen some fantastic tonal studies which will be developed further for the students' portfolios.



Miss Hughes also writes: [Year 8 Art club](#) is back on Tuesday 5 March. This weekly club is a place for budding artists to hone their skills.

Students will have the opportunity to develop and explore new techniques and produce work that will be used to beautify our school environment!



African wildlife will be the theme after half term and we will be producing work inspired by colour, pattern and decoration (as seen in these examples) to produce a painting on canvas to be exhibited in our summer art exhibition.



Miss Sadler, Head of Art, writes: [Year 9 Art club](#) will start back after half term on Monday 4 March, when will be making large Jellyfish sculptures. Students should sign up with me if they are interested in getting creative!

Miss Logie, PE teacher, writes: On Monday the Year 7 and 8 indoor athletics teams competed in the Vale Royal School Sports Partnership Indoor Athletics Competition. All teams performed a number of track and field events, from obstacle relay races to standing triple jump. There were some excellent results, with many of our athletes finishing first in their events!

The success didn't stop there; the Year 7 and 8 girls teams finished first overall in the competition and have qualified for the Cheshire and Warrington Finals which will take place next month. All the girls represented the school proudly and are already excited for the finals!!



Both Year 7 and 8 boys teams were also very successful on Monday night. The Year 8 boys qualified for the finals and the Year 7 boys finished second, narrowly missing out on first place by a single point! Well done to all the lads!

Mr Hardwick, PE teacher, writes: On Wednesday, Hartford hosted an under 13s indoor cricket tournament against our cohort schools. Hartford entered two teams into the event finishing 1st and 3rd respectively. A massive well done to Mille Gunn, Billy Toy, Eshan Syed, Ashleigh Hassall, and James Collins who were the winning team on the night!



YEAR 7 ACHIEVEMENTS

Ms Daniels, Head of Year 7, writes: Congratulations to Finn Marsh (7H), Grace Smith (7A), Alex Leicester (7R), Cerys Marklove (7T), Henry Williams (7F), Georgia Masters (7D), Joseph Dimelow (7S) and Allegra Iskandarani (7C), for receiving the most achievement points in their tutor groups this half term. They have truly displayed our HART values!

The top 3 tutor groups for the most achievement points so far this half term are 7S (6680), 7C (5850) and 7R (5751).

The best achieving Family is **RIDDINGS** with a combined total of 9,304 followed by **Hollies** with 9,251. Competition is very close with **Beeches** at 8,687 and **Whitehall** with 8,099.

Congratulations to all those who have also received VIP passes this half term, they will be entered into a prize draw at Easter!



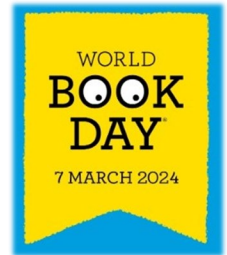
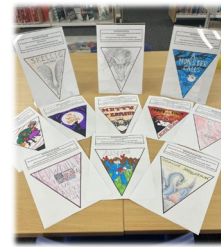
PERFORMING ARTS

Ms Philippou, Head of Performing Arts, writes: We are delighted to invite you to come along and enjoy our forthcoming school production, 'Beauty and the Beast'. Tickets are £5 each and will be available to buy on Scopay from Monday 26 February. The performances will take place in Caritas Hall on Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 March. Doors will open at 6:00pm and the show will start at 6:30pm.

Mr Williams, Drama teacher, adds: We have made brilliant progress in rehearsals and have done an entire full run of the show. We couldn't be more proud of our cast than we are right now! We are really looking forward to sharing this beautiful story with everyone under the bright lights and putting on a show to remember!

LIBRARY

Mrs Lea, Librarian, writes: Preparations are underway for World Book Day, which falls on Thursday 7 March this year. Our students have been working very hard this week creating some book-themed bunting to decorate our library.



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING



Miss Godfrey, School Counsellor, writes: This week the focus for 'See Me Thrive' sessions was based around self-care. Students created 'safe boxes' for keeping important self-soothe items. They also made self-love affirmation cookies just in time for Valentines Day!

There is a [FREE anxiety management course](#) in Chester for 14 to 18-year-olds in the run up to exams. It is designed to help empower students to understand anxiety and stress and give techniques on how they can manage these.

Any students who may be interested, should visit <https://www.pausa.life/untangled-course/>

AND FINALLY...

As we put the dark days of January behind us and look towards the spring, we wish all staff and students a happy and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 26 February at the usual time of 8:30am!



Best wishes,

Rachel Pickerill