



HARTBEAT

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

12 January 2024

Issue Number 16

GREETING FROM THE HEAD

happy new year

I was delighted to meet with a group of very enthusiastic Year 10s this week! They are working on an entry for the [Design Ventura](#) competition this year. This is a STEM type competition to develop a product that could be sold in the Design Museum. They showed me their amazing idea based on the design brief of colour and community, for which they are in the process of developing a prototype! I can't share with readers what their idea is yet in case any competitors were to find out! However, I can tell you that it is fantastic! Maisie Almond, Gabi Walker, Josh Power, Calum Duncalf and Tomos Dugard are examples of the brilliant students that we have here at Hartford Church of England High School. They are going above and beyond in their pursuit of excellence both in and out of their lessons! We wish them lots of luck in the competition and can't wait to see what they produce!

FAMILY NEWS

Following a very successful trial period in which Whitehall came out victorious, our brand new family system officially launched this week!



Students joined together for their first family assemblies and the healthy competition really hots up with Mr Jenyons in charge of Beeches, Miss Logie in charge of Hollies, Mr Perry in charge of Riddings and Mr Rooney in charge Whitehall! Our family system is specially designed to offer children and staff the chance to come together and work as a team as part of special family groups within school. Heads of Family launch regular competitions and activities for the children to take part in and this week they launched [Hartford's Got Talent!](#) Students and staff are encouraged to put their names forward either individually or in groups for auditions that will take place before half term. The official 'Hartford's Got Talent Showcase' will happen at the end of February!

We cannot wait to see what talents our students and staff can show off! Heads of Family will keep us up-to-date with the auditions process and other activities that students, staff and even parents can take part in over the coming months.

MUSIC

Miss Firth, Music teacher, writes: the Musical Wall of Fame for 2024 has begun and this week we celebrated Isaac G (7S), Myles F (8S), Miley K (9R) & Jonah S (10A). All of these students have made a great start to 2024 and have made incredible progress during this week's lesson. A huge 'shout out' goes to Isaac who could play a brand new piece of music perfectly, using the correct technique in one lesson!

ORCHESTRA – Ms Philippou, Head of Performing Arts, writes: After an amazing commitment from our orchestra members before Christmas they have come back to school keen and ready to go. Our repertoire this half term is: 'Amazing Grace', 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough', 'The Avengers' and 'Party Rock Anthem'.



Ms Philippou also writes: I was very impressed with my Year 9 classes as they showcased their Britpop work. Special mentions go to 9C with Jonathan Merton on bass, Ellie Lewis on vocals and keyboard and Will Holland on keyboard performing Blur's 'Parklife'; to 9D with Scarlett Briers on drums and Iyarnah Malek on keyboard performing Oasis' 'Don't Look Back in Anger', Max Noden on drums, Ruben Ennis and Luke Porter on keyboard and Harry Bebbington on guitar performing Oasis' 'Wonderwall' and to 9T with Noah Matthews on vocals, Lucas Yates and Nathan Yue on keyboard performing Oasis' 'Don't Look Back In Anger'. What's more, for the very first time, some students made a sterling attempt at recording and inputting their work directly onto "Bandlab", definitely our music producers of the future!

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Mr Williams, Drama teacher, writes: The **Beauty and the Beast** rehearsals are well underway and we are so impressed by our wonderful talented cast! They have been so professional in the way they have handled themselves in rehearsal and we are very excited to continue this creation as a brilliant drama family.



Our shows are on the 26th and 27th March. We can't wait for everyone to see our amazing production!

ART

Miss Hughes, Art teacher, writes: We are proud to share with you some of the work from the recent 'print making' project undertaken by Year 11 during the last half term.



The process of creating a successful lino print required students to think creatively and use cutting tools both effectively and safely. The images produced were inspired by themes addressed in an earlier coursework project.



On returning to school this week GCSE Art students were issued their Art Exam paper and this is now to be the focus of work this term. We would like to take this opportunity to wish them every success!

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Ms Philippou, Associate Assistant Headteacher, writes: Every lunch time and after school we have a brilliant range of extra curricular activities for all students across all year groups to access, from quiet reading and music jamming sessions to dance clubs and art clubs to name but a few...see below what's on every Monday alone!

LUNCH TIME	AFTER SCHOOL
Sports Hall & 3G every lunch	3:00pm-4:00pm
Year 7 Chat Together - A3, Mrs Tolley	All Years Hockey
Music: Practice Makes Perfect - M1, Ms Philippou	Years 9, 10 & 11 Basketball
Dance: KS4 - Dance Studio, Miss Haughton	Music: Jam Session M2, Miss Firth
Ambassadors - Chapel C23, Mrs Morgan	Drama: Ensemble - VDS, Mr Williams & Miss Bates
Purple Badge Lunch Club - Rosla	Dance: Production - Dance Studio, Miss Haughton

We have similar, if not bigger timetables running every day of the week. We encourage all students to join in with extra-curricular activities. Students can check out the posters in their form rooms for more information.

FICTION ADDICTION

Miss Gregory, English Teacher, writes: This week, our Year 7 Fiction Addiction group read the opening extract of 'Joy' written by Anton Chekhov, which explores the story of a young boy (Mitya) who is elated to tell his parents that his name ends up in the newspaper! Our fantastic Fiction Addiction members then worked in groups to predict and generate ideas as to why Mitya's name had been published.

They began planning their own Newspaper articles which revealed their predictions for Mitya. Keep your eyes peeled as the headlines and articles they have created will be revealed soon!



ATTENDANCE

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Mrs Lewis, Assistant Headteacher, writes: Congratulations to the 403 students who, despite a lot of illnesses doing the rounds, had **100% attendance** last half term. All 403 were entered into a prize draw and the following students won an Amazon voucher:

Spencer Billington (7D), George Williams (7D), Summer Thompson-Shorrocks (8R), Noah Smith (8A), Jonathan Merton (9C), Finlay Boughey (9S), Henry Lightburn (10F), Max Donlon (10S), George Nixon (11F) and Chloe Lamont (11S).

There will be weekly prizes again this half term for students who are in school every day.

Every day in school matters. Please remind yourselves of the NHS guidance - [Is my child too ill for school?](https://www.nhs.uk) (www.nhs.uk)

The link between attendance and attainment is clear and it is never too late to improve attendance! Contact us at attendance@hartfordhigh.co.uk if you have any concerns or need support.

AND FINALLY...

We were delighted to welcome a number of new staff to work at our school this week. Mr Skilbeck, teacher of English and Head of Year 8, Miss Haughton, teacher of Dance and Associate Key Stage Leader, Mrs Tilley, Pastoral Manager and Ms Done, Finance Officer. Mr Travis joins our pastoral team on Monday, too. We wish all of these colleagues an enjoyable and fulfilling career at Hartford Church of England High School.

Have a happy and restful weekend,

Rachel Pickerill