



HARTBEAT

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

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Issue Number 17

GREETING FROM THE HEAD

As we open up our school and create a sense of togetherness across our community and beyond, we want to ensure that our logo, signage and website reflect that. We have introduced new values, new 'families' and many new initiatives and it is important that all of these are recognisable as features of our school and as features of our ethos. We know too, that parents want better communication and a new website where information they require is easily accessible.

As a result, we have embarked on a review of our 'brand'. Governors are leading this review, but we would like as much input as possible from students, parents and staff. With this in mind, [here is a link to a questionnaire](#) that we would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to complete, to enable parents, staff and students to help shape the future direction of the school.

FAMILY NEWS



Miss Logie, Head of Hollies family, writes: Following on from the first family assemblies last week, we are excited to announce that the next Family competition that will be hosted at school will be a talent show: 'Hartford's Got Talent'!

This is an opportunity for students to showcase their talents, whatever they may be. Each student that enters will earn points for their family, and they are able to join together with friends from other families to perform!

So, to all students: Whether you are a brilliant singer, dancer, magician, comedian, juggler or a musician; sign up using this [link](#) (also available on Satchel) to showcase your amazing talent!

The deadline to complete the form to register your interest in the talent show is on 31st January. Don't delay – sign up today!



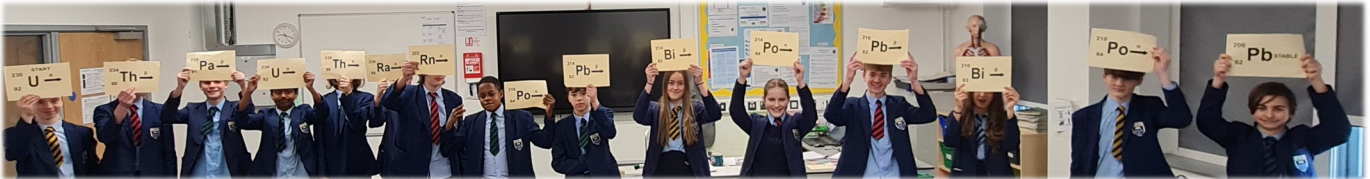
Mr Perry, Head of Riddings family, adds: In further family news, we are excited to announce the return of the [Staff and Parent Quiz](#)! This was a really successful fundraising event to support the 'Shrek' production last year, and we are hoping to replicate that again to support our upcoming 'Beauty and the Beast' show. More details will be released soon, but the date for the diary is Friday 9th February from 7:00pm-10:00pm. We would love to see as many parents, carers and staff there as possible. Start revising!

YEAR 10 THANKS!

As Head of year I am so proud of all students in my year group, for their effort both in and outside of the classroom. Yet, this week I want to extend a massive thank you to the Year 10 students who gave up their time to help execute the smooth running of our Year 11 Parents evening. Their confidence and enthusiasm to support was exceptional and I know how grateful staff were for their help. I know they will continue to represent us by being the best version of themselves each and every day!



SCIENCE



Mr Taylor, Science teacher, writes: Year 10 students are currently learning about the topic of radioactivity in Physics. The photo above shows a decay chain that was worked out by the class after learning about and understanding the properties of alpha and beta-minus particles.

PE



Mr Boys, Head of PE, writes: Huge congratulations go to Winston Hollands (9T) who, following extensive trials, has been selected to represent Sale Sharks Under 14s Rugby DPP Academy Squad for 2024! This is a fantastic achievement, and we all wish Winston the very best for the season ahead.



In girls' rugby we're delighted to share that on Saturday 28 January, Helsby Rugby Club are running an 'Inner Warrior Camp' for girls aged 11-17; a non-contact, fun session led by experienced coaches designed to give girls a chance to try out rugby. If any students are interested, please speak to one of the PE teachers for further details.

Miss Logie, PE teacher, writes: This week, two year 7 netball teams took part in their first festival of 2024. Local schools, including Weaverham, Leftwich, Cransley and Knutsford, all competed and there were seven teams in total. Both Hartford netball teams played exceptionally well and won all their games (they didn't play against each other!!) Well done, girls, and we're looking forward to a successful second half of the season!



PERFORMING ARTS

Ms Philippou, Head of Performing Arts, writes: Our singing teacher Mrs Kemsley ran a singing competition for both her private pupils and school students. I am delighted to say that Enya in Year 9 won singing Ariana Grande's 'Santa Tell Me'. Well done, Enya!



Mrs Kemsley's singing group takes place every Wednesday 3:00pm - 4:00pm.

Year 8 are learning to perform Pachelbel's 'Canon' and we have had amazing performances in 8T from Amber Mulvey, Isaac McHugh, Ollie Turner and Holly Parker. In 8C Lily Bird, Alice Owen, Ethan Harkin and Lily Bird have challenged themselves to learn the piece as Pachelbel intended, as has Noah Smith in 8A. It's very challenging work but our Year 8s are performing brilliantly.



Year 11 have started their BTEC work and have been tasked to create arrangements of one of either 'Don't Start Now' by Dua Lipa, 'New World Symphony' by Dvorak or 'We've Only Just Begun' by The Carpenters in the style of Ambient, Swing, Disco or Britpop. I cannot wait to hear their results!

Mr Williams, Drama teacher, writes: This week in Drama I have been holding high stakes practical assessments and I would just like to say how proud I am of my Year 8s! Everyone has performed so well and that I can see how much effort they have put into to creating a detailed and empathetic performance. Well done!

LUNCHTIME

Ms Daniels, Head of Year 7, writes: We started the new term with a slightly different lunch timetable - we no longer have split lunchtimes. All year groups now have their lunch at the same time, creating a bustling, sociable environment for everyone. The lucky students eating in Caritas canteen are also often treated to some lovely live music from our talented Year 11 pianists!



One of the many benefits of reducing the number of lunchtimes from two to one includes students having the opportunity to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, from music and sports to quiet reading and Spanish bingo!

UNIFORM

Mrs Walton, Head of Finance, writes: Donations of uniform are always welcome! If you have any pre-loved uniform you no longer need (especially school jumpers and blazers!), students can drop it off at the student reception.

ATTENDANCE



Mrs Lewis, Assistant Headteacher, writes: The names have been drawn for our 'Secret Students' with 100% attendance last week, and the lucky winners of a Chocolate Orange were Allegra Iskandarani (7C), Isabelle Hughes (8T), Thomas Kettle (9C), Jay Kryger (10A) and Chloe Lamont (11S).

This week we are launching our new 'Attendance Lottery'. On the Friday of each week a name will be drawn at random. If a student has been in school every day that week they will be entered into a draw to win a £5 Amazon gift voucher!



The winner will be announced every Friday at 2:50pm and the voucher can be collected at 3:00pm from the Student Office. You've got to be in it (school!) to win it!

SOLAR PANELS



Mrs Walton, Head of Finance, writes: Our solar panels were installed on the Veritas roof in March 2023 and have been producing power for the school ever since, even when the days have been cloudy or dull. Since March we have produced 86.1MWh, reducing our energy bills.



Further to this, the environmental benefits are great...the 16,703.2 CO2 emissions saved is equivalent to planting 1011 trees!



AND FINALLY...

We were delighted to hear that Mrs Leybourn, teacher of Science, has given birth to a healthy baby girl this week! Mum and baby are doing week and we wish them and all their family the very best for the future.

We wish all our readers a happy and restful weekend,

Rachel Pickerill