



HARTBEAT

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

22 September 2023

Issue Number 3

GREETING FROM THE HEAD

This week we welcomed parents into school for our first face-to-face meetings. Wednesday was a great occasion where Year 7 parents met with their children's form tutors and Key Stage 4 parents heard from leaders of maths, science, English and vocational qualifications alongside our Deputy Head, Mr Thompson. The theme for Year 7 was 'settling in' and the theme for Key Stage 4 was 'what your child will learn and when', plus very importantly 'how to revise'. Our thanks to all parents who attended these events. It was brilliant to share the evenings with you and, as I know from your feedback, you valued the communication; we look forward to welcoming more parents into school as the year progresses.

Our uniform shop was also up and running on Wednesday evening and will be, again, at [Open Evening](#) next Thursday. This starts at 5pm and finishes at 8pm. We welcome all prospective parents as we look forward to opening our doors and sharing with them all the brilliance about our school and our students. Whilst mentioning dates, a reminder to all parents that [we have an INSET day next Friday](#) (29 September) where our staff will be focusing on key strategic priorities of reading, developing the curriculum and our structures and systems.

A few parents have asked for clarification of the holiday dates for the rest of this term. Unfortunately, our half term sits outside of the Cheshire West and Chester pattern. Our students will be expected to be in school on 4 of the 5 days of the Cheshire West half term, with our school being closed the week after. This was planned nearly a year ago and was done so that it would coincide with the opening of our new humanities building. Unfortunately, this will now not be the case as the building work has been delayed. We recognise the impact that this different holiday pattern may have on families and I completely understand any frustration you may feel if you have children in different schools. Whilst we cannot change a published holiday pattern, if you have any concerns about October half term and how it will impact you, please contact school. It is worth parents being aware that there is a similar pattern at Christmas where some schools finish on 15 December but many, like us, are working much nearer to Christmas, finishing on 22 December.



STUDENT SUCCESS!

Oliver Kinder, Year 10, recently played two hockey matches for the Hockey Mentors, against Repton School and St George's College, Weybridge. The competitions programme at Hockey Mentors is to provide an extra development opportunity for talented hockey players, where they compete against some of the best hockey schools in the country.



What's more, after a series of trials over the last couple of months, Oliver has been offered a place in this year's cohort to the England Hockey Talent Academy for our region for the 23-24 season! Oliver has worked really hard and is rightly very pleased to have been given this opportunity.

Huge congratulations and the very best of luck to Oliver for this hockey season!

'Props' (pardon the pun!) also go to Eloise Davies in Year 7, who competed in her first rugby match last Sunday for Winnington Rugby Club.

Eloise scored an impressive 10 tries to help Winnington beat Trafford Rugby Club with a final score of 15-10. Well done to Eloise and the team!

Y11 PREFECTS



We would like to extend a huge congratulations to our new team of Year 11 prefects!

Prefects were selected following application letters being submitted last half term. They have only met once so far this year but have already demonstrated their maturity and sense of responsibility. We are lucky to have them representing the school.

Further to the initial prefect selection, a number of students were invited to interview for the position of senior prefect. Everyone performed brilliantly at interview and we hope it has prepared them well for college interviews further down the line! We now have a team of 10 senior prefects, including specific roles of library prefect and charity prefect.

The prefects' first role is to support at next week's Open Evening (Thursday 28 September), and they are looking forward to seeing everyone there!

100 TALKS FOR CHANGE

This week, Year 11 students and handful of talented pianists from Years 9 and 10 were extremely fortunate to receive a motivational speech from mental health speaker and star of Channel 4's 'The Piano', Danny Wilsher, as part of his current campaign: 100 Talks for Change.



Danny told students the story of how he overcame his childhood trauma and learned to talk about his mental health, leaving students with the lasting message to find five ways they can keep their sense of hope. He ended his speech with a moving rendition of the song he performed on The Piano. It's well worth following the 100 Talks for Change campaign on social media for some uplifting content - just search '100 Talks for Change' on X, Facebook or Instagram!

MFL



Miss Boyd, Curriculum Lead in MFL writes: Over the past week, the MFL department has launched a new online learning platform called Languagenut (<https://www.languagenut.com/en-gb/>). Students have been set homework tasks via this online platform, and as a department we have been **HAPPY** with the levels of engagement so far. Students have their own username and password and many have been **READY** to gain points by:

1. Completing the assignments set by their class teacher
2. Logging into the site to practise their language skills independently through the many practice tasks online

As a school, we are working **TOGETHER!** This is a global website and Hartford are currently 213 in the world ranking. Our top 3 students **ACHIEVING** are Macey Hughes (Year 9), Lauren Westland (Year 8) and Cerys Marklove (Year 7). The top class **ACHIEVING** is Miss Boyd's class (Year 10). A big **WELL DONE** to everyone! We really are demonstrating our **HART values** in languages!

Finally, I would like to say a huge well done to Leo Ebbs in Year 7. Leo has been using the Duolingo App to learn Spanish for the last 1204 days. What an amazing effort and achievement!

**For students who need support logging into Languagenut they can speak to their class teacher for their username and password. When using a mobile phone or tablet to access Languagenut, firstly, download the languagenut app then complete your assignments via the app. Merci/Gracias!*

Y7 ACHIEVEMENTS

Tutors have chosen the following Year 7s as their Hart student of the fortnight. Congratulations to these students for displaying our values:

7H - Jean Nortje

7A - Grace Smith

7R - Eloise Davies

7T - Mia Ball

7F - Ella Mai
Shepherd

7D - George Audley

7S - Seth Lee

7C - Cameron
Bryning

LIBRARY (LRC)

Mrs Lea, Librarian, writes: New to the library this year is our [dyslexia friendly](#) section. These books use tinted heavyweight paper and font that is spaced to make reading easier.

We would like to give a shout-out to all our new Year 7 classes who have settled beautifully into their reading lessons so far, however a special mention goes to 8F who have been exceptional!

[HOMEWORK CLUB](#) – available to all students in the library any night of the week until 4:00pm.



THE POD



Our new lunch destination, the POD, opened on Monday this week, and is open to all students every lunchtime in the yard near Veritas Sports Hall. The POD has proven to be very popular with our students so far, despite the unpredictable weather!

AND FINALLY...

Sadly we said goodbye to another member of staff today, Megan Jones.

Miss Jones has been an integral part of the pastoral team over the past year and she has helped many students in Year 9 (now 10) and beyond! Students and the pastoral team will miss Megan but we know that, after today, she goes on to begin a career in a field that she is passionate about.

Thank you Megan for your contribution to Hartford Church of England High School, we all wish you well for the future.

Wishing everyone a happy and relaxing weekend.

Rachel Pickerill