

WELCOME T

Reaching for the stars...

The last two weeks at Fearnhill have been packed with action.

Our extracurricular programme is now fully up and running, with a wide range of clubs and activities on offer and students all expected to join at least two. From the boys' choir to debating, football and crochet – there is something for everyone. You can see the full list inside on page 8.

Auditions have been running for our next school production, 'The Addams Family', so rehearsals are beginning in earnest.

The biggest thrill for many of us last week was the visit to Fearnhill by the first British astronaut, Helen Sharman. Science staff were fully starstruck and students wasted no time in asking probing questions about the experience of space travel. Helen took a tour of the school after talking to

different year groups and commented on the positive atmosphere (see what I did there?) and buzz around the classrooms and open spaces. See page 3.

In other news, we are gearing up for the Year 7 trip to London on Friday 21st October. There will be a special assembly next week to talk through the day with the year group; it is an exciting programme!

Our students have also been out and about locally, too, with Year 11 visiting St Thomas's Church as part of their PRE studies (page 4), as well as the year group trip to Milton Keynes to see a performance of their English Literature set text, 'An Inspector Calls'. There is a review inside on page 6.

Reading is, as always, a top priority for us. There is plenty of action coming up with the Halloween Reading Challenge, plus an update inside on new books in the library and important information about the Accelerated Reader scheme (page 5). Fearnhill Reads is another great



FEARNHILL

way for students to get all the benefits of reading; to relax, to experience other worlds and challenge imaginations... full details inside on page 6.

Many people are feeling anxious about the cost of living and bills coming in as winter arrives. Inside there is a selection of information on where to get help and advice. We will do everything we can to support your children to succeed in school, so if you have any concerns around uniform, costs of trips etc, do not hesitate to contact us in confidence.

Thank you as always for your support.

Liz Ellis, Headteacher

Struggling to think of cheap and healthy family meals? This online event is just for you: Feeding Your Family on a Budget www.eventbrite.com/e/404711562177

Week beginning 10/10 - week 2 Week beginning 17/10 - week 1

Thought of the Month



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." – Nelson Mandela

Vacancies

Come and join our team!

We have an opportunity for a 3d Design/ Design Technology specialist to join our expanding, exciting and dedicated ADT department in January.

See our website for details. www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/ news-events/staff-vacancies,

Wall of Fame

We know we have some pretty amazing students who get up to all sorts of different endeavours out of school – and we'd like to hear about them!

Do you know of any Fearnhill students who have won an award out of school for their endeavours? It could be baking the best cake, being awarded a medal for bravery, first in a ballroom dancing competition, performing in a show or achieving a top grade in a music exam. We would like to celebrate our students by having a Wall of Fame to give recognition to pupils who go that extra mile to embrace excellence out of hours. The ideal Fearnhill Student.

We are not looking for students who get lots of recognition IN school ... although being exceptional in school obviously doesn't preclude them getting recognition for what they do out of school.

If you'd like to nominate anyone, please send their name and brief details to our media administrator Ann Lynn and she'll take it from there. *Ann.lynn10@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk*

FEARNHILL

SCHOOL

Astronaut Visit

Fearnhill students were given first-hand insights into life in Space when former astronaut Helen Sharman visited the school.

Helen, an Outreach Ambassador for Imperial College London, spoke to students about her experiences as the first British astronaut when she joined the Soviet Soyuz TM-12 mission in 1991.

Answering student questions about eating, sleeping and, of course, going to the toilet in Space enabled Helen to discuss the serious side of Space exploration and how, for example, simple plant experiments let to the improvement in treatment for diabetes.

Despite being a passionate advocate for Space travel, when quizzed, Helen said she wouldn't like to be a member of a permanent community on Mars. Although she enjoyed the excitement of being in Space, she would always want to return to life on Earth.

Leading on from her experiences 400km above Earth, Helen spoke to students about life choices ahead of them and urged them to consider studying STEMM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Medicine) at university.

She said: "It was a delight to talk to the students about STEM careers and university. The students kept me on my toes with some great questions and I enjoyed touring the School with two of the Y12s. There was a friendly and engaged buzz everywhere I went. Thank you to the Science Team for arranging the day!"

Head teacher Liz Ellis commented: "Helen's visit caused major excitement at Fearnhill. For the students to be able to speak directly to an astronaut was a real privilege.

"We hope it will inspire more Fearnhill students to believe they can 'reach for the stars' – maybe even literally! Careers information and guidance is really important and this visit has helped students see the wide range of possibilities open to them across many industries.

"It was a pleasure to welcome Helen and we hope she will visit us again in the future."



www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Church Visit

Year 11 PRE students were invited to visit our local church, St. Thomas'.

Accompanied by myself and Ms. Flett, the students met the Rev Jess and looked round the building. They discovered various elements of the church and discussed what they already knew about Christianity. Rev. Jess allowed us to ask questions about both the church and religious beliefs which led to an interesting discussion on the role of women in the Bible.

The students were brilliantly behaved and we look forward to returning to the Church over the rest of the year. Mrs. Moran PRE teacher



Creative Writing

During the Summer term students from Year 9 completed a short story project in their English lessons with their work then being submitted to a Young Writers short story competition.

The Young Writers' Annual Showcase is a prestigious creative writing competition for school children of all ages. The winning writers then have their stories published in an annual book alongside other budding writers from across the UK.

51 of our students have been chosen to have their work published!

Certificates and bookmarks were handed out in assembly and a copy of the book will soon be available in the Fearnhill library.

Hadeel Bennett, Head of Faculty, said: "We are exceptionally proud that so many of our students can now call themselves a published author! It is a great achievement and we are really looking forward to placing a copy of the book in our school library for future students to be inspired by."

Word of the Week



Crestfallen - disappointed or sad.



Incessant - endless or non-stop.

Library

All students in Year 7 and 8 are enrolled on Accelerated Reader (AR) a software package that allows teachers to get a better understanding of your child's reading ability.

AR also sets each student a reading level and choosing books from the library within this level will provide the best support for your child's reading development.

Every student should have a reading book and once they have finished this they should complete a quiz either in the library or by scanning this QR code with your mobile phone.

By passing quizzes each student will be building up a quiz and word count and we will recognise the students who pass the most quizzes or read the most words in their class each term; teachers will also choose a star reader whose efforts deserve recognition each half term. Your child will also be helping their class compete against the other classes in their year to pass the most quizzes or read the most words this academic year.



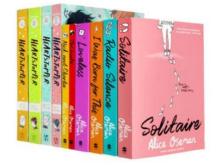
If your child reads any other fiction at home they can check for a quiz and, if available, complete it which will help boost their total!



Congratulations to Elphie (left) who has produced a bee in our after school crochet & knitting club!

Thank you to everyone who has donated equipment for the club—if you have any unused hooks, needles or wool in your loft we would really appreciate them. Please hand into the Library or School Office. Thank you!

Mrs Thurlby, Library & Literacy Assistant





The library now has the Heartstopper and Solitaire books available to borrow.

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The Library is open before school from 8am and after school until 4pm.

You can also visit the library during break and lunch times to read a book, do some homework on the computer or play a card or board game (sorry, no computer games!)

Mrs Thurlby, Library & Literacy Assistant

Theatre Visit - *student report*

I found being part of the Year Eleven trip to see An Inspector Calls incredibly enjoyable.

I'm really glad I went, both for the way it's aided the beginning of my Inspector Calls GCSE revision by reminding me of the play in a much more engaging, memorable and easy when than going straight to rereading the text, and also because of the social aspect of the evening and the familial atmosphere that was encouraged during the trip.

The coach journeys there and back were just under an hour, and I know many of my peers were grateful that we were allowed to eat and wear headphones if we liked, and several students on the coach met up online to play together and pass the time. I am - along with my friends - grateful for how relaxing the experience was.

On the way back the teachers discussed with some of us our likes and dislikes surrounding the performance and it's accuracy compared to the original script, which was also helpful for my revision and I'm sure will aid the whole of Year 11's critical thinking skills in our essay writing.

I enjoyed the play as a whole, although I agree with my English teacher that one particular character had a much less rewarding character arch in this adaption. When leaving the theatre I discussed with a classmate that I thought another character was given far fewer redeeming qualities than in the original, and we reflected on how that might've been influenced by the differing societal attitudes of a modern-day audience.

This was my first time watching a play in the theatre - excluding pantomimes and musicals - so I was exceptionally grateful to be able to share the experience with my friends and teachers. Throughout I felt deeply proud to be representing the Fearnhill community.



Amelie

English



THE PERFECT TIME OF YEAR

Welcome to our first Fearnhill Reads article. We all know reading is important, right? For our children's success, for relaxing and our mental health. What do you like to read? How much interest do you tak in your child's reading? Not sure where to start? Well, now is the perfect time of year.

FIND A SPACE. FIND A TIME

Where is best to read in your home? In bed? On the sofa? A quiet space is best, so turn off the television. Make a time for it; maybe everyone reads for 20 minutes after dinner? Make it a habit.

TALK ABOUT READING

Remember, reading can be anything. Books yes. But also, non-fiction, websites, news apps Engage your family by talking about things you have read, and take an interest in their reading too.

THE LIBRARY

Have you been to Letchworth's library recently? On Saturday they are open 10am-5pm. Why not pop in? Make sure your children have a library card. Make it a month visit perhaps?





This month's Fearnhill Reads recommendation is..

RAZOR-SHARP, PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER SET IN A SNOWY ARCTIC WILDERNESS.

"THEY SAY THAT DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES, BUT THEY' RE WRONG. EVEN THE DEAD TELL STORIES.

IT'S 1910. IN A CABIN NORTH OF THE ARCTIC CIRCLE, IN A PLACE MURDEROUSLY COLD AND DESOLATE, SIG ANDERSSON IS ALONE EXCEPT FOR THE CORPSE OF HIS FATHER, FROZEN TO DEATH THAT MORNING WHEN HE FELL THROUGH THE ICE ON THE LAKE.

THE CABIN IS SILENT, SO SILENT, AND THEN THERE'S A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. IT'S A STRANGER, AND AS HIS EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF GOLD DUST AND GOLD LUST UNWINDS. SIG'S THOUGHTS TURN MORE AND MORE TO HIS FATHER'S PRIZED POSSESSION, A COLT REVOLVER, HIDDEN IN THE STOREROOM

A REVOLVER JUST WAITING TO BE USED ... BUT SHOULD SIG USE IT.









PE SPORTS CLUBS/PRACTICES Autumn Term 2022

	Netball	Basketball	Rugby	Football	Badminton/ Table Tennis	Other
Mon	Yr 10-13 LBN	Yr 8&9 OSD	Yr 7 mtr	-	All Yrs 1:25-1:55pm SSN	Yr 11 Sport Intervention - I3 1:25-1:55pm LBN
Tues			Key Stage 3 GMD			Yr 11 GCSE Intervention - B2 1:25-1:55pm SSN
Weds	Yr 8&9 LBN	Yr 10-13 1:25-1:55pm OSD		Yr 7 Girls _{SSN}		All Yrs Dance JMN
Thurs	Yr 7 ssn	Yr 10-13 OSD		Yr 8&9 Boys _{AWS} Yr 7 Boys _{MTR}	All Yrs 1:25-1:55pm LBN	
Fri		Yr 7 Mtr				6th Form Activities 1:25-1:55pm SSN

SSN = Ms Straughn LBN = Ms Balchin OSD = Mr Shepherd MTR = Mr Turner JMN = Mrs Martin AWS = Mr Williams GMD = Mr McLeod

All Clubs/Practices will take place after school, unless stated otherwise, from 3:00-3:45pm



Student Clubs

X)	FEARNHILL school			ricular Ac n Term 20	
Day	Club	Year Group	When	Where	
M on da y	Badminton/Table Tennis	7-13	Lunch	PE	
	Basketball	8&9	After school	PE	
	Dungeons & Dragons	7-13	After school	Lib 👎	
	Fearnhill Boys Choir (FBC)	7-11	Lunch	MU1	-
	History	7-11	Lunch	H2	
	Homework	7-11	Lunch & after school	Inclusion	
	Netball	10-13	After school	PE	
	Rugby	7	After school	PE	No US
	Sport Studies Intervention	11	Lunch	PE	
т	Craft	7-11	After school	Lib	- 1
u	Gardening	10-13	After school	Library	
e s	Homework	7-11	After school	Inclusion	
d a	School Production	7-13	Lunch	Hall	
У	GCSE PE Intervention	11	Lunch	PE	SIP S
	Rugby	7	After school	PE	
	Science	7-9	Lunch	S3	
	Colonic	1.2		0.0	TR
w	Architectural modelling	7-9	After school	17	ATA
e d	Basketball	11-13	Lunch	PE	
n	Dance	7-11	After school	PE	
e s	Football	7	After school	PE	6 A)
d a	Homework	7-11	Lunch & after school	Inclusion 🚜	All Martin
У	Netbail	8&9	After school	PE	5
ĵ	Photography	8&9	After school	T5	~
	Reading	7-11	After school	Lib	Y AL
Î	School Production	7-13	After school	Hall	
	Sustainable Society	7-13	Lunch	H1	
-	Ukulele Jam	7-13	Lunch	MU2	00
Day	Club	Voor Course	Jack	Man	
1000		Year Group		Where	\sim
T u r d a y	Badminton/Table Tennis Basketball	7-13	After school	PE <	J.
	Debating Society	7-13	Lunch	English 1	in 1
	Fearnhill Voices	7-13	Lunch	MU1	
	Football	7-9	After school	PE	
	Homework	7-11	After school	Inclusion	
	Jigsaw Puzzle/Lego	7-11	Lunch	Inclusion	ò.
	Netball	7	After school	PE	Y
	School Production	7-13	After school	Hall	Y
F	Basketball	7	After school	PE	1
r i	Chess	7-13	Lunch	M4	Via
da	Christian Union	All	Lunch	H4	
y	Homework	7-11	Lunch & after school	Inclusion	

Relax it's Friday (Colouring & audio)

Sixth Form Activities

7-11

12 & 13

After school

12

Lunch

Library

PE

-

Student Clubs



Student Support and Inclusion have moved!

Our new home is now in the main school building - students can find Mrs Tollervey & Ms Brown and their teams upstairs next to Homework Club.

FEED YOUR FAMILY ON A BUDGE MASTERCLASS!

Food shop costing more each week? Energy bills going up? Worried about rising household costs?

As qualified nutritionists we are here to offer some tips and ideas to help support you in finding ways to make sustainable changes that are cheaper AND healthier.

This workshop covers:

- Challenges to feeding a family on a budget
- Lower cost healthy swaps
- How meal planning can help to keep costs down
- Shopping tips to stick to the list and the budget
- Do cooking methods make a difference?
- Helpful resources
- Q&A opportunity to share your ideas and tips!

TWO DATES TO CHOOSE FROM:

Tuesday 4th October 12:00 - 13:00 Wednesday 26th October 18:00 - 19:00

SIGN UP FOR FREE ON EVENTBRITE!

REGISTER FOR YOUR PLACE



HEY. FAMILIES OF HERTFORDSHIRE! WANT TO LIVE A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE?

JOIN OUR FREE, FUN, FAMILY-FOCUSED COURSES TO HELP YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN MAKE HEALTHY HABITS FOR LIFE!

Br BeeZee Families www.beezeebodies.com/families 01707 248648



NESSie & Angels Free Parent Online Workshops Autumn 2022 Supporting Children with ASD / ADHD

These free workshops are designed for parent/carers of children and young people awaiting assessment or displaying traits of ASD and/or ADHD. They are all delivered online via Zoom.

Workshop	Date and time	
Girls and Women	Tuesday 27 th September 1.00 – 2.30pm	
Emotionally Based School Avoidance	Wednesday 5 th October 7.30 – 9.00pm	
Self Harm	Tuesday 18 th October 1.00 – 2.30pm	
Puberty, Relationships and Staying Safe	Tuesday 8 th November 1.00 - 2.30pm	
Autism, Sexuality and Gender Diversity	Tuesday 22 nd November 1.00 – 2.30pm	
Emotionally Based School Avoidance	Tuesday 6 th December 1.00 – 2.30pm	

These workshops are funded by Hertfordshire County Council and open to parents/carers living in Hertfordshire.

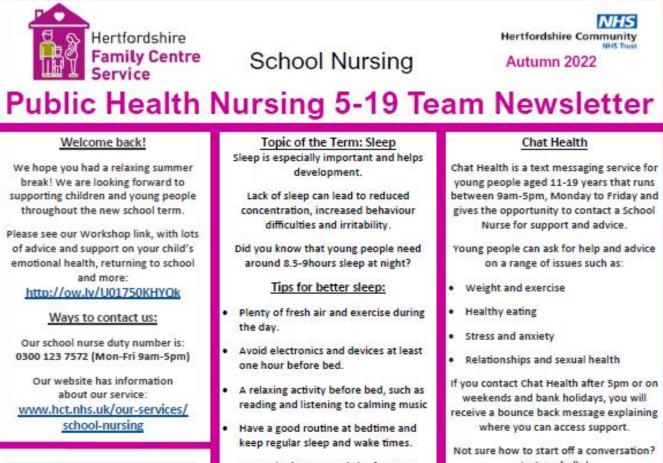
Places must be booked in advance. Please click on the relevant workshop or visit our website: https://nessieined.com/workshops





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Hertfords



HEALTH TEENS

www.healthforteens.co.uk A great website, with information and advice for young people aged 11-19.

Referrals

We offer advice and support to children and young people attending Hertfordshire mainstream schools, their parents/carers and schools.

The following areas are suitable topics which we can help with:

- Advice and information for general health issues
- Low level emotional and mental health issues; including self esteem, anxiety, low mood, anger
- Sleep
- Healthy eating and diet management
- Wetting/Soiling & Constipation

For more information please contact our school nurse duty line, or find further professional information on the FCS website with this link: http://ow.lv/AWoG50KHZGg

Have a look at our website for more great advice: www.healthforkids.co.uk www.healthforteens.co.uk



Relaxation Exercise

Try out this 5,4,3,2,1 exercise to help aid relaxation in a difficult situation:

Work through the five senses to calm you in

difficult or stressful situations Look What five things can you see? Say them out loud.

for example, 1 see a phone', 1 can see a pen-Listen 🏷

What four things can you hear? It could be birds 4 Feel

Pay attention your body and think about three things can touch or feel. For example, " (can feel a drink in my water bottle' 10

What two things can you smell? This could be your dinner cooking in the kitchen or freshly cut grass outside

14 Taste



Take a deep breath Notice what is around you right now and how different k is from the difficult or stressful situation Just say hello!

Chat Health



Did you know?

School nursing is also on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter!

We post up to date information, support and advice available for young people and parents.

Follow us!



@hct schoolnursing @teenhealth.hct



@HCT_SchoolNurse



QHct SchoolNursing

COFFEE MORNING

for refugees and asylum seekers

at North Herts Museum & Hitchin Town Hall

WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 10am - 12pm

A fantastic opportunity for ALL refugees in the area to connect with one another and be offered support.

YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

- Speak to groups that will be able to help with needs and concerns e.g. food.
- Be offered advice and information from representatives on local English lessons and other educational courses.
- Gain initial career advice.
- Find out about local support services.
- Learn about Hitchin and any events, groups etc. in the area.





North Herts Museum Café and Hitchin Town Hall, Brand Street, Hitchin SG5 1JE

External Opportunities

AIR CADETS JOIN US - CADET

#REACHINGFORTHESTARS



Elying & Gird

VISIT OR CALL US TO FIND OUT MORE www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets 0345 6006601 AIR FORCE AIR CADETS the next generation

The Royal Air Force Air Cadets is the premier uniformed cadet organisation in the United Kingdom, with over 42,000 cadets and 15,000 highly trained adult staff. Cadets between the ages of 12 - 20 have the opportunity to take part in a bewildering array of fun activities including flying, gliding, target shooting, radio communications, fieldcraft and adventure training at almost zero cost! We accept anyone who is 12 years old and in year 8.

It's a very exciting time for the 248 (Letchworth) Squadron as the organisation recovers from the effects of COVID the opportunities are endless, with some of our cadets visiting an RAF Base and having the opportunity to fly in RAF aircraft. Another of our Cadets has been offered a place on the prestigious Air Cadet Pilot Scheme, where they will train to a solo standard (typically costing between £2800 and £3500), completely free of charge.

We also offer the opportunity of achieving recognised national qualifications, including a variety of BTEC Awards and the opportunity for the Cadets to complete a Level 2 Extended Project Qualification as part of the Qualified Aerospace Instructors Course.

As you can see, the opportunities Air Cadets can provide, both through hard qualifications and through personal development, are too vast to list, although I'd be happy to discuss any questions you have regarding the training we can offer. Please note that although the cadets work closely with the RAF, we are not a recruiting organisation and there is no expectation of cadets to go on and serve in the RAF.

External Opportunities



External Opportunities



Calendar				
10	Week 2			
17	Week 1			
18	Year 9 parents evening			
21	Year 7 London trip			
24 – 28	Half Term			
31	Week 2 / Return to school Monday / Year 13 mocks start			
3 November	Year 11 reports home			
9	Year 8 reports home			
	Post 16 evening @Fearnhill			
10	District Cross Country			
	Post 16 evening @ Highfield			
25	Inset Day			
Monday 28 November	Occasional Day			
21 December	End of Term (early closure)			
Spring term 2023				
6 January	8.30am term starts			
13-17 February	Half term			
31 March	End of term			
Summer Term 2023 17 April	8.30am term starts			

Contact Us

01462 621200

admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Fearnhill School Icknield Way Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4BA

Please ensure that we have your current address, mobile phone number and email address. Any updates can be sent to the Main Office.





twitter.com/fearnhillschool

