



FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile

Issue 607

10 February 2023



Students in the lead...

Student leadership has been a focus for various events over the last week or so.

It was a great pleasure to welcome the new student leadership team to our weekly senior team meeting on Monday, giving them a chance to articulate their vision for ways to improve Fearnhill further and their ideas to make this happen. They are clear, confident and a credit to themselves and their community. There are exciting times ahead!

Students also had the opportunity to meet with Sir Oliver Heald MP when he visited the school. He had a tour, followed by a meeting with a panel of students from all year groups who questioned him on issues of the day as well as his own experience and journey as an MP.

Staff have also been leading each other; you can read all about our art teacher, Ms Bossley, leading a session for the design and technology faculty on watercolour techniques. Pictures of their work are inside.

The library is busy with preparations for World Book Day, including an invitation to parents and carers to visit and enjoy what the space has to offer. We also have our first two 'Word Millionaires' in Year 7.

Students' confidence is growing as we come closer to the production of 'The Addams Family' on 21st, 22nd and 23rd February. Make sure you get your tickets!

Other exciting moments this week have been the visit by 'The Piano Man' for our GCSE musicians, where we welcomed students from six other schools to explore a piece from Beethoven's Pathétique Symphony in depth. Meanwhile, lower down the school in science, Year 7 have been using the bunsen burners to great effect.

Thank you as always for your support and I wish you a safe and restful half term break.

Liz Ellis Headteacher

**Half Term Monday 13th – Friday 17th February
Return to school Monday 20th February**

Week beginning 20/2 - week 1

Week beginning 27/2 - week 2

Student Awards

w/e 27 January

Student of the Week	Logan 7Q	26 points
Form of the Week	7Q	313 points
House of the Week	Pearsall	843 points
Teacher of the Week	Mrs Cross MFL	411 points

w/e 3 February

Student of the Week	Michaela 7Q	23 points
Form of the Week	7Q	254 points
House of the Week	Howard	682 points
Teacher of the Week	Mrs Cross MFL	308 points

Have you got what it takes to be Student of the Week? Try your best in all lessons and extra-curricular activities and you could find yourself nominated and crowned!

Student of the Month

Daniel	KS5	excellent commitment to EPQ.
Ikenna	KS5	a real change has been made to commitment to A Level study. He works so hard all the time.
Abigail 8H	PE	Fantastic ATL, improvement & progress in Sport Studies
Finian 11R	PE	Superb contribution to netball club in terms of kindness. Positive attitude and performance.
Lilah 8H	Art	Always has a smile on her face and tries her best in every lesson, she is always willing to help other people out
Chloe 10G	Art	Completing all her work on time and produces great work
Ellis 7T	Drama	Outstanding work in lessons, takes criticism applies it to work with ease. Fantastic student!
Amy 10P	Drama	Excellent ATL in every lesson & extra curricular commitment.
Kionte 9H	Music	Completely engrossed with learning & exploring Garage Band this half term. Incredibly keen & worked hard to make improvements.
Sonny11R	Music	Excellent commitment to composition.



Come and join our team!
We're looking for teachers to join our English and Geography teams from September.
See our website for details.
www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

 **FEARNHILL SCHOOL**



Fearnhill welcomed North East Herts MP Oliver Heald when he visited to meet with students, senior staff and governors at the school.

Sir Oliver was keen to see some of the work going on in lessons, as well as talking to the senior team and governors about the successes at the school and the challenges faced by all schools regarding funding and teacher recruitment.

He then met with a panel of students who posed questions about issues of the day as well as his own personal journey and career in parliament. Among other subjects, they asked about his response to the challenge of climate change, the cost of living crisis, LGBT rights, charitable status for private schools and education funding.

Headteacher Ms Ellis commented: "It is very important for young people to have the chance to hold elected representatives to account and to understand the way our democracy works.

"Fearnhill students are very engaged with issues of the day and took the opportunity to ask Sir Oliver some key questions, as well as to learn about his own career and the challenges he has faced."

Sir Oliver added: "It was a very good visit. I thought it was excellent to hear of the progress being made and to hear of so many new students joining the Fearnhill community.

"I was delighted to hear of the strong OFSTED report the school recently received and see evidence of the continued growth and expansion of the school. Congratulations to all concerned."



Music

Renowned concert pianist Simon Callaghan visited Fearnhill this week to deliver a lecture on one of the GCSE music study pieces, Beethoven's *Pathétique Sonata*.

Our year 10 and 11 musicians were joined by fellow GCSE students from Highfield, KTS, Hitchin Boys, Hitchin Girls School, Etonbury and the Priory.

Simon talked in depth about the history of the piano, the development of Romantic music and Beethoven's key role in this and then about the sonata itself and its structure and features. Simon then finished the lecture by playing the first movement of the sonata from memory and taking questions from the students.



Music teacher Mrs Landsman said: "It was great to see so many GCSE music students engaged and asking interesting and insightful questions.

"The whole event allowed them to gain a much deeper understanding of the piece that will come up in their exam and many were inspired by Simon's playing of the piece and enthusiasm for the piano and Beethoven's work."

Addams Family

With less than two weeks to go until our annual musical, excitement is running high throughout the school.

This year the show is 'The Addams Family' which takes everyone's favourite kooky family to the stage in a spectacular musical comedy from the writers of multi award-winning hit musical 'Jersey Boys'.

Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, is all grown up and has a shocking secret that only Gomez knows. She's fallen in love with a sweet young man from a respectable family. With his cherished Morticia in the dark will Gomez manage to keep his daughter's secret until the two families meet for a fateful dinner with hilarious consequences?

Join them, plus Uncle Fester, Lurch, Pugsley and more for a heart-warming story of love, family and friendship... with a twist! Featuring a live orchestra and extraordinary original score The Addams Family is sure to entertain whether you are 12 or 312!

The shows will take place on Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd Feb (first week back after half term). The doors will open at 6:45pm for a 7pm start and there will be refreshments for sale during the interval.



The cost of the tickets are Adult £7 and Child/Concession £5. Tickets are available to purchase via Schoolgateway. Please pay for the number of tickets you require and ensure you book for the correct night. Tickets will not be issued, a list of names of those who have purchased online will be on the door and changes cannot be made on the night. Tickets will NOT be available at the door on any of the evenings so be sure to purchase your tickets in advance so as not to miss out.



FEARNHILL SCHOOL PRESENTS....

The ADDAMS Family

THE MUSICAL COMEDY

New Dates!

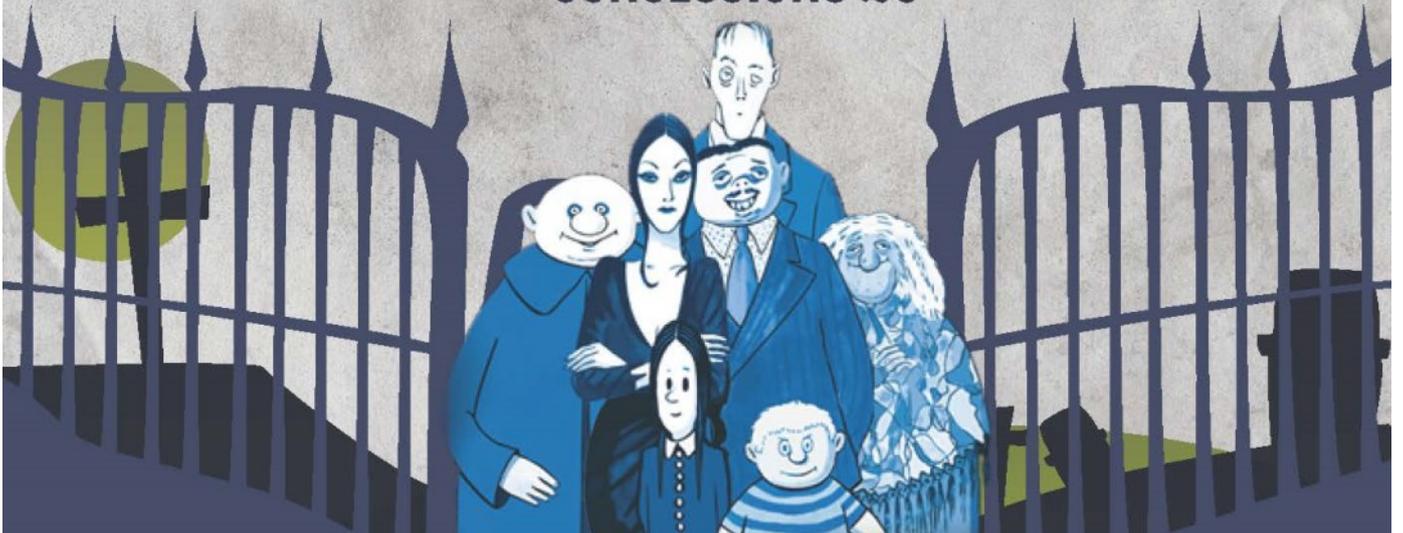
TUES 21ST FEB, WED 22ND FEB, THURS 23RD FEB

7PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON SCHOOL GATEWAY

ADULTS £7

CONCESSIONS £5

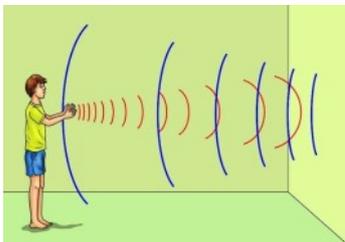


Art



Art teacher Ms Bossley turned the tables on her colleagues by giving them an art lesson! During faculty training, staff tried different techniques using watercolour, inspired by artist Agnes Cecile. Thank you to Miss Bossley, Mr Rayner, Mr Dewar, Mr Spencer, Mrs Armstrong, Miss Cotter, Miss Jennings, Mrs Taffe and Miss Sinclair for sharing their work.

Word of the Week



Reverberated when a loud noise repeats several times as an echo.



Superfluous unnecessary, more than enough

Science

Year 7 have conquered their fears of Bunsen burners and continue to impress us with their practical skills.

They have been studying separating mixtures in science and felt ambitious enough to take on a GCSE-required practical experiment.

7S expertly handled and set up all of the scientific equipment left behind by their year 10 counterparts.

The year 7s skilfully and safely distilled seawater to produce pure water. Moreover, as modelled by Jake, they did it in style!



Student Expectations

Please support your child by helping ensure the '7 a day' shown below are in place.

All students will be asked to show that they have the following every morning. *Sanctions will apply immediately where these are missing.*

1. Pen
2. Pencil
3. Ruler
4. Calculator
5. Reading book
6. Uniform

Students are expected to comply fully with our uniform policy for daily uniform and PE kit. There are no exceptions. Students with unnatural hair colour, nose piercings, leggings, non-school shoes, false eyelashes, fake nails and other items not complying with the school requirements will be sanctioned and in some cases may be sent home to resolve those issues. If you have concerns about getting hold of the correct uniform or have any questions about our policy, please do get in touch so that we can help you.

7. Positive attitude

Fearnhill Students are Kind, Confident, Self-aware and Resilient.

Part of being resilient is turning up, on time, every day. Students with below 96% attendance will be subject to our strict attendance procedures. We know that students who don't turn up don't make progress.

All students are expected to follow instructions from members of staff without question, in a polite manner.

All students are expected to be kind to and about others at all times, including online.

Knowledge Organisers

At Fearnhill, we believe in the power of knowledge. Teachers in every subject have put together a Knowledge Organiser which has all the key knowledge students need to learn to understand that topic.

In school, they are used in lessons to support learning as a reference and as a way of checking answers. Knowledge Organisers are also an excellent homework tool for self-quizzing and revising.

knowledge organisers have been updated on our website for this half term and can be accessed by clicking on the QR codes below:



Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10



Year 11



Year 12



Year 13

Library

We have our first Year 7 word millionaires!

Congratulations to Samuel in 7R and Harriet also in 7R.

Being a word millionaire means that they have read over a million words and can wear a special badge on their blazer.



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

WORLD BOOK DAY
1 MARCH 2023

The Girl in the Lewandowski Top
by Tom Palmer
Come along and listen
lunchtimes in the Library
Monday 27th Feb to Friday 3rd March

Fearnhill Library World Book Day Open Afternoon

For the families of year 7 and 8 students
Thursday 2nd March 2023
3 - 4pm

Have a cup of tea and explore our library

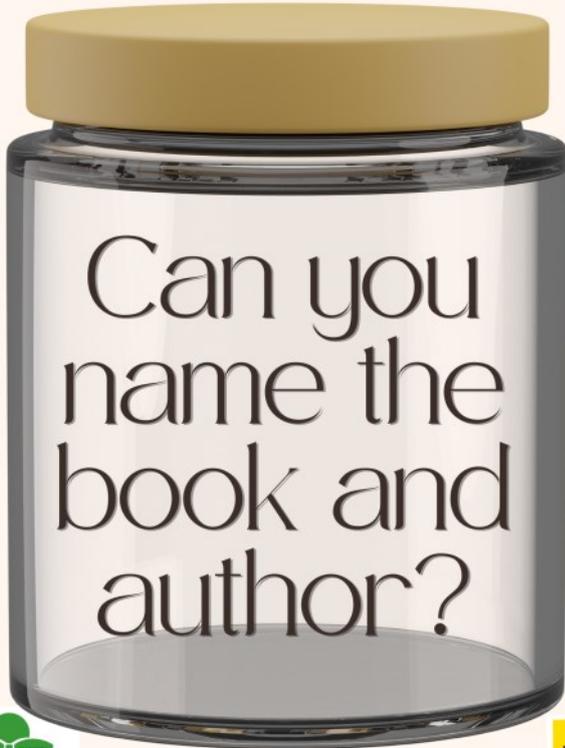
Share our World Book Day Activities

Find out how you can support your child's reading

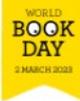
Extracurricular Activities

Library Book Jars

27th Feb to 3rd March



Collect an answer sheet from the front desk.



Design a National Book Token with the theme 'Choosing to read'



You could win a £100 book token

Collect an entry from the desk and return your completed design by 24th March 2023

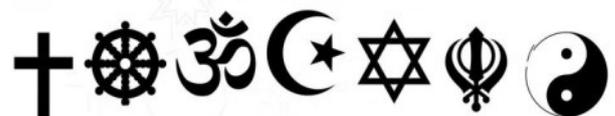


needed for
Dungeons & Dragons
Club

afterschool Mondays

Can you help?

Diversity

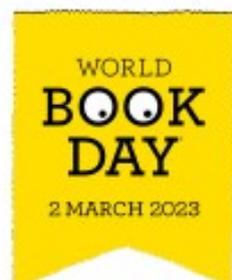


IT'S OKAY TO BE DIFFERENT AT FEARNHILL

DIVERSITY RUNS EVERY WEEK 1 WEDNESDAY LUNCH 1N 11
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

We aim to provide a safe place to talk about our differences,
learn about each other and to discuss how diversity can be celebrated at Fearnhill

For further information or questions contact:
keli.mphokog@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk



£1 Book Token

Secondary Schools (UK)

World Book Day® changes lives through a love of books and reading. Our mission is to promote reading for pleasure, offering every child and young person the chance to choose and have a book of their own. We hope you will join us in celebrating the joy of reading. Visit worldbookday.com for reading tips, videos, activities and brilliant recommendations from your favourite authors. Your **£1 book token** is available below.

	VALID FROM 16 FEBRUARY – 26 MARCH 2023		<p>YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES: Participating retailers undertake to redeem this token as described, subject to the terms and conditions: worldbookday.com/terms-conditions</p> <p>Find your nearest participating bookseller at worldbookday.com/participating-retailers</p> <p>RETAILERS: Retailer's full terms and conditions: worldbookday.com/resources/booktokens</p> <p>PROMOTER: World Book Day is co-ordinated by World Book Day Ltd, registered charity 1879257 (England and Wales), registered company 03782695 (UK).</p>
	<h1>THIS IS YOUR</h1>		
<h1>£1 BOOK TOKEN</h1>			
<p>Changing lives through a love of books and reading</p>			<p>#WORLDBOOKDAY</p>

For the full list of £1 books, visit worldbookday.com/books, for full terms visit worldbookday.com/terms-conditions

The World Book Day £1 books are a gift from booksellers, who fully fund the cost of the £1 book token redemptions. Check with your local bookseller what plans they have in place for World Book Day. Please note:

- Only **ONE TOKEN** can be used per transaction.
- Token is for young person's individual use.
- Offer valid **16 February 2023 – 26 March 2023** inclusive.
- The book token barcode can either be scanned from your phone/tablet screen or printed out and shown in-store. Please check with your local bookseller before visiting if they can accept the barcode on mobile devices.
- The digital £1 book token cannot be redeemed online.

Visit our FAQ page to answer all your questions: worldbookday.com/about-us/frequently-asked-questions
To contact the World Book Day team, email wbd@education.co.uk

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR
DRAGON
20 YEARS

WIN A FIERY FAMILY ADVENTURE!

Celebrate 20 years of Cressida Cowell's magical series with a chance to win a trip to Heide Park in Germany, the theme park that is home to an entire *How to Train Your Dragon* land. PLUS lots of extra goodies to be won.

To enter and for full terms and conditions visit worldbookday.com/HowToTrainYourDragon

Sport

Well done to our Year 8 Netball team who played well this week in two matches - racking up their first win of the season!

Fearnhill v Barclay 11-3

Fearnhill v St Chris 4-11

Team:

Chloe, Sasha, Jeorjana, Summer, Imogen, Abigail, Defne, Em, Derya, Tilly-Rose.

Players of the Match:

Summer, Imogen & Sasha



PE SPORTS CLUBS/PRACTICES Spring Term 2023

	Netball	Basketball	Rugby	Football	Badminton/ Table Tennis	Other
Mon	Yr 7 SSN Yr 10-13 LBN				All Yrs 1:25-1:55pm SSN	Yr 11 Sport Elevate in I3 1:25-1:55pm LBN
Tues			Key Stage 3 GMD			Yr 11 GCSE Elevate in B2 1:25-1:55pm SSN
Weds		Yr 8&9 OSD				All Yrs Dance JMN All Yrs Gymnastics SSN
Thurs	Yr 8&9 LBN			Yr 8&9 Boys AWS Yr 7 MTR	All Yrs 1:25-1:55pm OSD	
Fri		Yr 7 MTR				Yr 11 GCSE Practical Elevate in Sports Hall 1:25-1:55pm SSN/OSD

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 Support

Students can find Mrs Tollervey & Ms Brown and their teams upstairs next to Homework Club.



We are proud to offer the National School Breakfast Programme - offering all students a free, healthy breakfast.

Breakfast Club is in the Canteen every morning from 8am or you can collect your free bagel from the SSC



Hertfordshire
Family Centre
Service



Want to know more about the Public Health School Nursing team in Hertfordshire?

Check out our platforms:



<https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/info-and-advice/parents-and-mums-to-be/school-nurses.aspx#>
www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing



07480 635 050

Confidential text message service ran by the school nursing team for 11-19 year olds. Text in any health and wellbeing concerns



@hct_schoolnursing
@teenhealth.hct



@HCT_SchoolNurse



🔍 Hct SchoolNursing



www.healthforkids.co.uk/hertfordshire



www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire



School nursing duty number

0300 123 7572
9am – 5pm Monday to Friday
(excluding bank holidays)

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about **DIGITAL LIVES**

The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people, far more so than for previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the internet, games and apps, and limit the benefit of their positive aspects. At the same time, we do have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex – and often sensitive – subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.

Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life ...

MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR

Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you're keen to learn about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy educating adults and will happily chat about what they use the internet for, or what games and apps they're into and how these work. Asking to see their favourite games and apps in action could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention – such as chat functions which might require a settings adjustment to limit contact with strangers. Keep listening even if your child pauses for a long time: they could be considering how to phrase something specific, or they may be gauging your reaction.

BE OPEN AND HONEST, APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE

At various stages, children and young people become curious about puberty and how their body changes; about relationships; about how babies are made; and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they tend to be less likely to go looking online for answers – which can often provide them with misleading information and, in some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content. Don't worry if you don't immediately know the answers to their questions – just find out for yourself and go back to them once you have the facts.

REMIND YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU

In my role I work with many children and young people who admit being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content they've viewed online, in case it leads to having their devices confiscated. Emphasise to your child that you're always there to listen and help; reassure them that if they do view harmful content, then they are not to blame – but talking about it openly will help. Children shouldn't be expected to be resilient against abuse or feel that it's their job to prevent it.

KEEP TALKING!

The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. You could try using everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.

DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL

Here, you could give examples from your own digital life of the online world versus reality – for example, those Instagram posts which show the perfect house; spotlessly clean, never messy and immaculately decorated. Explain to your child that there are many other aspects of the online world which are also deliberately presented in an unrealistic way for effect – such as someone's relationship, their body, having perfect skin and so on.

TRY TO REMAIN CALM

As much as possible, try to stay calm even if your child tells you about an online experience that makes you feel angry or fearful. Our immediate emotions frequently influence the way we talk, so it's possible that your initial reaction as a parent or carer could deter a child from speaking openly about what they've seen. Give yourself time to consider the right approach, and perhaps speak with other family members or school staff while you are considering your next steps.

CREATE A 'FAMILY AGREEMENT'

Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about device use can be immensely beneficial. You could discuss when (and for how long) it's OK to use phones, tablets, consoles and so on at home; what parental controls are for and why they're important; and why it's good to talk to each other about things we've seen or experienced online (both good and bad). Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that, as trusted adults, we want to make sure they are well informed and kept safe. Allowing children to have their say when coming up with your family agreement also makes them far more likely to stick to it in the long term.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings of RAISE (Raising Awareness in Sex Education) has almost 20 years' experience delivering relationships and sex education and training to schools, colleges and other education providers. A published author on the subject, she also advises the Department of Education on the staff-training element of the RSHE curriculum.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

External Opportunities



What's on



The BFG in Pictures

Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration

ADMISSION FREE

11 February – 23 April 2023

Cover artwork for The BFG (Jonathan Cape, 1982) © Roald Dahl Story Company/Quentin Blake. The BFG in Pictures is an exhibition from Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration, curated by Quentin Blake.



The BFG in Pictures

A touring exhibition from Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration.

The 'phizz-whizzing' BFG in Pictures touring exhibition is coming to North Herts Museum with free admission just in time for half-term!

'The BFG in Pictures' is the first exhibition of work by Quentin Blake for Roald Dahl's enduring tale. Blake and Dahl collaborated closely on the final illustrations, and Blake himself selected 40 pieces from his archive for the exhibition, from which reproductions have been made. Enjoy the children's activities, and have a go at drawing the BFG!

Standalone Farm opening soon!

It's less than a week until [Standalone Farm](#) opens for the season on Monday 13 February! That means a February half-term filled with floral fun. Join them for a flower-arranging workshop where a designer will guide you on making your own masterpiece.



They also have an exciting new adventure playground to explore. The play area has been designed to cater for a mixed range of ages and abilities and features rope bridges, tunnels and slides and more.

[Standalone Farm](#)

The Osteoarchaeological Project

[North Hertfordshire Museum](#) is hosting a weekend human remains workshop to understand health in Roman and early Medieval England.



This is an ideal opportunity for anyone (18 or over) that wants to learn more about osteology and gain hands-on experience with human remains. The course is £125 for the whole weekend (both days) and includes tea, coffee and course materials.

Celebrate LGBT+ history and culture through film

February is LGBT+ History Month, giving us a chance to connect and reflect on the past and present of our LGBT+ Community.



This year's theme is 'Behind The Lens' which celebrates LGBT+ peoples' contribution to cinema and film from behind the lens. To mark this month, the Broadway Cinema are hosting a season of film celebrating LGBT+ History Month and LGBTQ+ identity.

[LGBT+ Film Festival](#)

Wine tasting at North Herts Museum

Enjoy a fun and informal wine tasting of 5 weird and wonderful wines. Join Duncan, sommelier and owner of The Wee Vinoteca, as we taste our way through 5 of his favourite wines. This event will be held in the Terrace gallery of the museum and will include a large grazing board of artisan cheeses and charcuterie to accompany your drinks.



The event will be held on 16 February, 7.30 - 9.30pm. Tickets cost £29 per person including 5 wines to taste and a selection of finger food.

Transport Survey

Hertfordshire County Council is consulting on its home-school transport policies. They are seeking feedback from schools, parents and other stakeholders.

The proposals include:

- A policy to clarify the role of passenger assistants on contracted transport
- An amended policy for transport for 19-25 year olds
- Amending the charging structure for 16-18 year olds
- Removing the 16+ railcard

They are also seeking views of:

- Personal Travel Budgets
- Transport for those on Part-Time Timetables
- Spare seats on vehicles to special schools in Hertfordshire

Full details and an online response form are available at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/transportconsultation
The consultation will run between 24 January and 26 March 2023.

External Opportunities



Wilbury Community Cafe

This Saturday join us for free entry & refreshments
Food rescue & Community Larder
Lego table & Kids crafts,
Selling stalls (It's nearly Valentines people)
Pennies & Pounds bric-à-brac & jumble
The raffle, and more!

Saturday 11th Feb
10am - 12:30pm
WILBURY HALL, BEDFORD RD
(Opposite Tesco)



February Football Fun 2023



5-14 YEAR OLD BOYS & GIRLS

BOOK ONLINE!

DBS CHECKED COACHES

14th - 16th Feb 2023
9.30am-3.30pm
£55 per child



Hitchin Town Community FC, The Arena, Norton Rd, Baldock, SG7 5AU
01462 720088 info@htcfc.co.uk
www.northhertsarena.co.uk

Back to the 80s



80's Themed Disco

Fancy Dress Encouraged

Saturday 4th March
8pm onwards

Letchworth Rugby Club,
Baldock Road,
SG6 2EN

Tickets:
£5 each
Under 12's go free!
£8 on the door

email: RUFC.Jo@gmail.com for booking link or scan code



Thought of the Month

FEBRUARY 2023



“You Carry So Much Love In Your Heart, Give Some To Yourself”

Calendar

Spring Term 2023

Half Term Monday 13th – Friday 17th February 2023

Return to school Monday 20th February 2023

End of Term (early closure) Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term 2023

Summer term begins for students Monday 17th April 2023

May Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2023

Half Term Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023

Return to school Monday 5th June 2023

Inset Day Monday 3rd July 2023

End of Term for students Friday 21st July 2023

Term dates for 2022/3 and 2023/4 are available on our website

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.

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