



# FEARNHILL SCHOOL



## Fearnfile

Issue 608

03 March 2023

## A cultural feast!

**Fearnhill has been buzzing for the past couple of weeks with some great cultural highlights.**

Last week we had the amazing spectacle of our long-awaited show, 'The Addams Family' which was a huge sell-out success, and this week we have been celebrating Book Week across the school, in all kinds of ways!

There are full reports and pictures inside, but to give a taster here we had staff dressed as literary characters, 'shelfies', where students guessed which bookshelf matched which member of staff, a treasure hunt and a story that unfolded across the school day, with different lessons including the next section and suspense mounting... It was a great way to remind all of us of the power of the written word and the importance of reading (page 5).

It is hard to find enough positive adjectives to describe the success of 'The Addams Family'. It was an ambitious

production with complex music, choreography, acting and set design (pages 6-9). Fearnhill students were amazing and rose to the challenge. The quality was very high and the audience really enjoyed every moment. There were some very tired faces on Friday, the day after the last night! It was a great and memorable experience for everyone and thanks must go to the team of staff who pulled it all together.

Beyond the school gates we have been scoring successes and making our mark as well. You can read about our sporting triumphs in football and athletics (pages 12&13), as well as the trips to Cambridge by Year 10 to the Babraham Institute for Science Day, and by Year 12 to Fitzwilliam College to learn about the university experience and how to write successful applications to Russell Group universities (page 3).

Thank you as always for your support.

*Liz Ellis, Headteacher*



**Week beginning 06/03 - week 1      Week beginning 13/03- week 2**

# Student Awards

## w/e 17 February

Student of the Week	Kacey 11U	20 points
Form of the Week	8H	187 points
House of the Week	Howard	581 points
Teacher of the Week	Miss Bossley, Art	205 points

## w/e 24 February

Student of the Week	Maria 8N	16 points
Form of the Week	7S	165 points
House of the Week	Howard	521 points
Teacher of the Week	Miss Cotter, Science	195 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!**

# School News

## Wildlife Watch

A beautiful pair of blue tits were spotted flitting around the science quad earlier this week, keep your eyes peeled for more wildlife venturing out after winter.



**As most people are aware, it's very difficult to get hold of eggs in the supermarkets at the moment. You can't buy them online and are limited to 3 packs at a time in the shop (if they have any). This has been challenging in the Fearnhill Food Department because on average we need about 180 per week for our recipes across all year groups.**

I decided to reach out to my local farm "The Egg Shed" in Weston. I spoke to the lovely Ben and Ella who run the farm and agreed a price to buy in bulk from them. When I collected our first lot of eggs, Ben arrived straight from the chickens with 6 trays of freshly laid eggs.

One of the problems that farmers are having is the cost of the feed as well as the Avian flu outbreak. But Ben and Ella grow all of their own feed (corn) for their chickens. The yolks are so golden and the quality is amazing and they are all farm assured.

The Egg Shed is a little wooden shed with vending machines where you can buy 6, 12 or 30 eggs. I would really recommend giving them a visit. You can pay by cash or card.

<https://www.facebook.com/theeggsheds>

Miss Bennett (Art/Food Technician)





# School News

**A group of Year 12 Fearnhill students visited the prestigious Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, as preparation for their forthcoming university applications.**

The trip gave an excellent insight into university life, an introduction into the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford as well as an opportunity to learn more about Russell Group universities and personal statements. The students also enjoyed a tour of Cambridge.

Year 12 student Franek reports: "When we went to Fitzwilliam College we got to see what it was like to be a student not only studying but also living at one of the top rated universities - it was really useful to experience university life and see what made Cambridge (and Oxford) so special.

"It was interesting to see the distinct atmospheres of the Fitzwilliam campus and the older, more traditional Magdalene College and the history behind them as well as the students' lifestyles.

"We gained a better understanding of the unique application process for Oxbridge and what we can do from now on to strengthen our applications. We were also surprised to learn about the variety of career paths that open up after doing a degree.

"Many of us are considering going to university and by the end of the trip some of us are now confident in applying to either Cambridge or Oxford.

"After the college tours, we got a tour of Cambridge's city centre where we saw some of the city's most iconic landmarks and oldest colleges such as King's College and Trinity College where Isaac Newton studied."



**A group of Year 10 students also visited Cambridge University this week for a combined STEM and careers trip. Our students attended the Cambridge Schools' Science Day at the Babraham Institute with Miss Cotter and Ms Balchin.**

Students were given an introduction to the three key research areas at the institute before heading off to work on a bona fide lab project themselves.

Our students selected a range of projects; the impact of vitamins on metabolism, the role of protein tyrosine phosphatase enzymes, histone proteins as regulators of gene expression and a bioinformatics project analysing blood samples.

The Y10s had an amazing time getting to experience what techniques are used in biological research laboratories and were positively vibrating as they entered the careers lecture given by a current PhD student at the institute.

Lots of fun was had by all and the students came away considering their future career plans and what work experience could help them to achieve their aspirations.



# School News

## National Careers Week - 6th-11th March

**National Careers Week (NCW) is a celebration of careers guidance and free resources in education across the UK. The aim is to provide a focus for careers guidance activity at an important stage in the academic calendar to help support young people leaving education. [www.nationalcareersweek.com](http://www.nationalcareersweek.com)**

To celebrate National Careers Week, Fearnhill staff and students will be involved in activities based on the world of work. All year groups will be taking part in activities during Tutor time and students will be encouraged to think about the subjects they are studying and their relevance in the work place. Year 10 students will be kicking off the week starting their virtual Work Experience. Year 9 students will be finalizing their options choices in preparation for the deadline. Students will receive a wealth of information to help them make their options choices. They should be thinking further ahead about their future career aspirations and will be having individual options guidance interviews in March.

Look out for next week's Careerfile for a full report.

## Exam stress workshop

**We would like to offer an exam stress workshop for parents/carers. This is to enable you to help your child/children to understand and manage the stresses that may appear around preparing for and taking their exams.**

The workshop is online and will be run by Jennie Walton who is our Mental Health School Support team Educator.

Proposed date and time:

Friday 10th March 4-5pm

If you are interested in attending (virtually) please email [admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk) We will then be in touch with login details etc.

## Red Nose Day – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Fearnhill will again be supporting Red Nose Day in support of Comic Relief. For the price of £1, students may come into school wearing their own clothes. Where possible, students should wear something red. There will be a variety of lunchtime activities requiring participants to donate money towards Red Nose Day in order to raise additional funds.**

Since its launch in 1988, Red Nose Day has become something of a British institution. It's the day, every year, when people get together and do something at home, school and work to raise money to help people live free from poverty, violence and discrimination. This year this includes funding organisations that are supporting people right now in the Ukraine, and those fleeing from the conflict. Here at Fearnhill we encourage our students to consider others less well off than themselves and Red Nose Day is a great opportunity to do this.

As it will still be a working day, students must be dressed appropriately and please ensure that appropriate footwear is worn.

£1 donations can be made via Schoolgateway, or students may bring £1 and hand it to their tutor in registration. If students wish to participate or view the events, they will need to bring additional money to donate.

# Word of the Week



**Nefarious** *an action that is wicked or criminal*



**Affable** *friendly, good-natured or easy to talk to.*



# World Book Week

Fearnhill has been celebrating all things bookish this week as part of World Book Day with special events organised each day throughout the school.

Students were able to enjoy a dedicated livestream reading in the Library each lunchtime , one chapter each day of *The Girl in the Lewandowski Top*, and a whole-school sharing of the Roald Dahl short story *The Way Up To Heaven* with each class starting each period throughout the day with a section of the story.

Tutor time saw a Book Quiz and Guess the Shelfie competition where students had to guess staff members from photographs of their book shelves which was surprisingly difficult!

The Library was a hub of activity all week with an ongoing Book Jar quiz - Library & Literacy Assistant Mrs Thurlby working her creative magic to produce jars of objects giving clues to famous books. Thursday saw parents of Years 7&8 invited to visit the Library after school which was a great success.

Mrs Thurlby said: "It was lovely to welcome parents into the Library and the feedback was that they enjoyed seeing where their sons and daughters liked to hang out in school. This will definitely be a regular event for the Library!"

Of course students were also able to take advantage of the National Book Token scheme with the special tokens able to be redeemed for a selection of specially-issued World Book Day books.

One of the highlights of the week was the Staff Dress-Up Treasure Hunt. A number of staff dressed up as literary characters (below) and students had to guess who they were.

Year 7 students joined 650 schools across the country who linked up to a live-streamed interview with former Children's Laureate Michael Morpurgo.

Mrs Bennett, head of Faculty, said "It's has been delightful to see our Fearnhill family respond so enthusiastically to this year's World Book Week events.

"Our students have responded with positivity and passion; the library in particular has been a buzzing place all week!"

"We hope that this week creates fun memories for the children, and their engagement and interest in reading and storytelling, goes from strength to strength during their time here."





# Addams Family





# Addams Family

**Congratulations to everyone involved with The Addams Family - front and back stage - who made the production an outstanding success.**

Featuring a live orchestra and extraordinary original score, The Addams Family was an instant hit from the moment Thing pulled back the curtain.

Special congratulations must go to:

Principals - Nuqi, Kelis, Harry, Elise, Poppy, Ryan, Zach, Samuel, Ray, Lola-Rose and Antosz.

Ancestors - Demi, Ella, Gabriella, Ellie-May, Lillith, Derya, Bruna, Erin, Michelle, Serenity, Nahlya, Charlie, Riley, Chara, Tilly-Rose, Sammy, Amy, Ben, Oscar, Skye, Maddison.

Band - Mrs Landsman, Mr Marlow, Mrs Butterworth, Connor, Harriet, Dan.

Creatives - Mr Sheridan, Mrs Moran, Mrs Martin, Miss Christie, Miss Bennett, Mr Rainbow, Miss Bossley, Mr Page, Mr Reed, Mrs Lynn, Samantha, William, Camelia.





# Addams Family





# Addams Family





# Library

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*



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 IN 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:  
kels.mphok@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

AGED BETWEEN 5 - 18?  
COME AND BE PART OF...

FR Registered with  
FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR



# The Story of Alice's Merry Unbirthday



...with Herts Inclusive Theatre and their  
Stevenage Theatre Groups!

REHEARSALS EVERY THURSDAY EVENING  
AT LONSDALE SCHOOL, STEVENAGE

GET IN TOUCH & BOOK YOUR PLACE!

ADMIN@HIT-THEATRE.ORG.UK

01923216951

FREE  
TASTER  
SESSIONS!

HIT is a registered charity 1180955





Hertfordshire  
Music Service



FEARNHILL  
SCHOOL

GROWING EXCELLENCE EVERY DAY

## Get Playing

Fearnhill School

The Get Playing project has the ambition to enable and inspire 2,000 young people in Hertfordshire to start instrumental music lessons and we would like to offer students at **Fearnhill School** half a term of FREE group lessons for those who don't already learn these instruments.

### During the sessions you'll learn:

- the basics for playing the instrument
- how to hold it
- make a sound
- change notes
- read from notation

You'll be playing as part of a group, for half a term, developing your musical skills from day one.

We will provide the instruments during your taster sessions, and for the next term if you choose to carry on.



### Instruments Offered:

Trumpet  
Trombone  
Baritone

Flute  
Clarinet  
Saxophone  
Guitar

To sign up please scan the QR  
code or visit [Registration -](#)

[Hertfordshire Music Service](#)

[\(speedadmin.dk\)](http://speedadmin.dk)

**OPEN TO YEARS 7 AND 8**



For more up-to-date information and to find out about more events follow us on Twitter and Facebook - [@hertsmusic](#)

Follow @HertsMusic



Hertfordshire Music Service

[hertsmusicservice.org.uk](http://hertsmusicservice.org.uk)



Hertfordshire



# Sport - Football

**Year 9 continued their footballing prowess again with another victory, this time against King James Academy, Royston.**

After a dubious penalty decision for KJA, Taylor H saved the penalty but conceded the rebound. Fearnhill were unperturbed by the slow start and continued to play consistent dangerous passes into the KJA half. Not long after this Ronnie L scored his 4th goal in the last 2 games to equalise. Fearnhill then began to dominate possession and chances and goals from Ronnie and Luke B made the score 3-1 at half time.

In an end-to-end second half there were no goals (albeit a disallowed goal for George J after great work from Charlie Mslaloming between three players) meaning Fearnhill came out winners again.

Player of the Match was Arvin for exceptional defensive interceptions and passing out from the back.

Ronnie L was captain and was even willing to play in defence at the end to make sure we got the victory.

Special mentions to Charlie C, Louis G, George J and Fin R for exceptional work rate throughout the game.

A dominant 3-1 win for Fearnhill and could have been even more.

Charlie G (9G)

Harry (9G)

Dylan (9H)

Kiontae (9H)

Ronnie (9H)

Alfie (9H)

Charlie C (9N)

Taylor (9N)

George (9N)

Finley (9N)

Luke (9P)

Louie (9P)

Charlie M(9P)

Elvin (9P)

Arvin (9P)



## WELLBEING CAFE

New support for your mental health and wellbeing in Hertfordshire.

Opportunity to win £25 Amazon voucher, give your views on the quick survey attached!

We are looking to name 2 new Wellbeing cafes in Watford and Stevenage and for your input on the layout of the venue!

These spaces are for Children and Young People aged 10-18yrs to go and get support for their mental health and wellbeing.

Either drop-in or via appointment – Mon-Thurs, Sat & Sun.





# Sport - Athletics



Well done to Fearnhill students who took part in the Indoor Athletics competition. Year 7 boys come 3rd overall with each one of the boys winning an event and the girls put an outstanding effort in with Skye beating year 7 and 8 shot put.



**FEARNHILL  
SCHOOL**

## PE SPORTS CLUBS/PRACTICES

### Spring Term 2023



	Netball	Basketball	Rugby	Football	Badminton/ Table Tennis	Other
<b>Mon</b>	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
<b>Tues</b>			Key Stage 3 GMD			Yr 11 GCSE Elevate in B2 1:25-1:55pm SSN
<b>Weds</b>		Yr 8&9 OSD				All Yrs Dance JMN All Yrs Gymnastics SSN
<b>Thurs</b>	Yr 8&9 LBN			Yr 8&9 Boys AWS Yr 7 MTR	All Yrs 1:25-1:55pm OSD	
<b>Fri</b>		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#](https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/info-and-advice/parents-and-mums-to-be/school-nurses.aspx#)  
[www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing](http://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](http://www.healthforkids.co.uk/hertfordshire)**



**[www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire](http://www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire)**



**School nursing duty number**

**0300 123 7572**

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



# External Opportunities

## 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!



**GOSHIN KARATE UK**  
護身空手

## Practical Karate For Kids, Teens & Adults in Hertfordshire

### Benefits Of Karate:

- Develop self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Enhance focus, discipline, and concentration.
- Increase fitness, coordination, flexibility & strength.



### Dedicated Dojo

We offer a unique training experience in our dedicated dojo. Fully equipped with padded floors, we provide a safe environment to enhance your karate training.



### Karate & Fitness

Goshin Karate UK focuses on practical self-defence aspects of karate. We aim to build up fitness and strength, whilst increasing your understanding and knowledge of karate.

01462 510980

[goshinkarateuk.com](http://goshinkarateuk.com)

The Kāru Centre, 607 Works Road, Letchworth, SG6 1NA

## YOUTH COUNCIL



Do you want  
to make an  
impact on  
the  
community?

i'm sure  
you do

**Come and join us!**

**Tuesdays 18:30 - 20:30**  
**Letchworth Town Hall**

**No fee!**

**For ages 11 - 17**

**Take part in debates  
and discuss how to  
improve the North  
Herts area!**



**Taster session will be on:  
Tuesday 7th, 19:00 - 20:00**

Please come we have snacks

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

## Hitchin Children's Book Festival



**Saturday 4th March**  
**10am-4pm**

**@ The British Schools  
Museum**

**Book Tickets:**

[www.bsmevents.yapsody.com](http://www.bsmevents.yapsody.com)



In partnership with Next Page Books, celebrate World Book Day at The British Schools Museum with talks from popular children's authors, crafts, storytelling, and much more!



41/42 Queen Street  
Hitchin  
SG4 9TS  
Registered Charity: 1010345

[enquiries@britishschoolsmuseum.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@britishschoolsmuseum.org.uk)



A morning and afternoon session will take place.  
(Image: Next Page Books)



## Thought of the Month

Sometimes the smallest step in  
the right direction ends up being  
the biggest step of your life.



## Calendar

### Spring Term 2023

Year 10 Parents Evening Tuesday 7th March  
Year 9 Vaccinations Wednesday 8th March  
Year 11 & 13 Mock Exams 13th-24th March  
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](mailto:admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk)

Fearnhill School  
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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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