

FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile

Issue 610

31 March 2023

Happy Easter!

Welcome to the last Fearnfile of the term. It is a packed edition with so many activities going on around school that I can only give you a taster here!

Last week we enjoyed the Comic Relief staff vs Year 11 football match. There was high drama and you can see photos and read the report inside (below and page 11); most importantly we raised more money for those who need it. We are currently in the season of Ramadan and you will find a report inside about why it is important and how Muslim students at Fearnhill are observing this festival (page 5). Edible Easter Gardens have been made by GCSE PRE students, enjoy the pictures on page 8!

We had visitors from the Holocaust Education Trust in school this week, talking to Year 9 and helping to broaden their understanding of how key historical events need to be understood, especially in the times we his post in September. This is great news for the whole are now living (page 7). Younger visitors from Wilbury School also spent time with us learning about electricity thanks to the science department for that (page 9)! We started the 'Get Playing' music scheme, with free taster woodwind and brass lessons (page 7), and on the subject of expressive arts, make sure you get to the Letchworth Schools art exhibition in town; Fearnhill students' work is Headteacher

well represented (page4). Year 7 and 8 art work can also be seen inside, with wood and acrylic among some of the materials used to create colourful blockbots and fish (page 4).

Looking outwards, Year 9 enjoyed a trip to the Natural History Museum, taking advantage of the easy train connections and looking around some key London sites while they were there (page 3). The House Dodgeball tournament has also been going all week at lunchtime, bringing students together to enjoy the game and each others' company (page 12).

Finally, I am delighted to announce that, following a tough two days of the selection process, our deputy head Tim Spencer has been appointed by the governors to be the next headteacher at Fearnhill. Tim will take up school community!

I wish you a peaceful and happy Easter break and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 17th April.

Liz Ellis



Week beginning 17/04 - week 1 Week beginning 24/04- week 2

Student Awards

w/e 17 March

Student of the Week Lilly 8G 42 points

Form of the Week 8G 283 points

House of the Week Pearsall 689 points

Teacher of the Week Mrs Landsman (music) 656 points

w/e 24 March

Student of the Week Toby 8H 21 points
Form of the Week 8H 296 points
House of the Week Howard 653 points
Teacher of the Week Mrs Cross (MFL) 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!

Awards Assemblies took place over the last week of term - a full run-down of winners will appear in the next issue of Fearnfile.



Students in Year 8 with the best Attitude to Learning (ATL) scores over the Spring term enjoyed a special celebration organised by Mr Turner.

On a (thankfully) sunny Friday they enjoyed an afternoon off timetable followed by hot chocolate, biscuits and outdoor games.

House Day



1st Pearsall 898

2nd Neville 767

3rd Howard 649

4th Gorst 395

Students across all years enjoyed the traditional House Day activities on the last morning of term, competing against each other in activities such as Psychological Cluedo, indoor Orienteering, Maths Relay and an Engineering Challenge.

Congratulations to winning house Pearsall.







Humanities

Year 9 Natural History Museum Trip

Almost 100 Year 9 students enjoyed a capital adventure to celebrate the end of their Key Stage Three work.

We congregated at Letchworth train station at 9 o'clock in the morning and caught the 9.31 train out of Letchworth and disembarked at Finsbury Park Station at 10.10 to continue our journey on the London Underground, Piccadilly Line. Everyone arrived safe and sound at the Natural History Museum at 10.45, worksheets were handed out and the students had time before lunch to visit the various zones of the museum.

The students behaviour was exemplary and a credit to Fearnhill school. They enjoyed visiting the Earth sciences section and experiencing the Japanese earthquake simulator. The massive dinosaur exhibition in the Blue Zone was also a popular destination as was the creepy crawlies exhibit in the Green Zone.

After lunch we walked to Parliament Square. The students were in groups of 12 and we walked up through Knightsbridge, past Harrods superstore. Many of the students enjoyed spotting supercars and spending time in an area of London that is home to the rich and famous. After Knightsbridge we walked through Wellington Arch where the late Queen Elizabeth II was transferred from her gun carriage to her hearse during the state funeral. We then walked past Buckingham Palace, where sadly there was no Royal Standard flying and on down the Mall. We cut through Horse Guards and past Downing Street before meeting up again in the shadow of Big Ben and the House of parliament at Parliament Square.

After a quick head count next to the statue of Winston Churchill, everyone jumped back on the London Underground travelling 3 stops on the District Line to Blackfriars Station. A weary Year 9 and teachers embarked on the 3.22 out of Blackfriars and arrived back in Letchworth for 4.20pm.

A massive thanks must go to all the teachers involved, this includes those on the trip but also those that stayed behind covering lessons and running staff and lunches down and up to the station. Lastly well done Year 9 a great trip enjoyed by all, you were a credit to Fearnhill - we are very proud of you, here's to a brilliant Key Stage Four.

Mr Fowler



Art

This term Years 7 & 8 have been working extremely hard with Mr Rayner during their practical lessons which has produced excellent outcomes. Year7 have manufactured a variety of fun blockbots and accessories and Year 8 have painstakingly shaped and constructed a wide variety of fish.

Well done to all involved this term and I look forward to the next rotation. Mr Rayner







Visions

A celebration of artists

from Letchworth

Garden City's collective

Sixth Form classes.

Year 12: The Highfield School, Fearnhill School, St Christopher School and St. Francis' College. 6th - 16th April 2023

Ramadan

As we enter the main religious festivals of Easter, Passover and Ramadan, as a school we feel that it is important to embrace all beliefs and religions with open discussion, mutual respect and facilitating religious practices with support such as private prayer spaces. Ahmed has written this short piece to explain what happens during Ramadan

Ramadan is a holy month for Muslims around the world.

Over a billion people abstain from food and drink for 10-19 hours from Fajr (morning prayer) to sunset.

It is not only about fasting but lowering your gaze, increasing Quran recitation, almsgiving (charity) and improving your behaviour.

It is reported that in Ramadan, Muslims in the UK alone have donated over £100 million.

Why is it so important?

This was when the Holy Quran was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him).

Muslims are also urged to read the Quran and perform prayers in a mosque regularly due to deeds being multiplied.

We place such a big importance to this month as it is a time for spiritual development and deepening relationships with Allah.

We also celebrate the end of Ramadan with Eid-ul-Fitr where we gather, exchange gifts and mark the end of this month. **Ahmed H.**





Staff Farewell



We wished a fond Fearnhill farewell to one of our lovely HCL Catering canteen ladies at the end of term.
Wishing you all the best in the future Louise!

Word of the Week



Insular - meaning ignorant or uninterested in cultures, ideas, or peoples outside one's own area of experience.



Despot - a person who wields total and excessive power.

School News

Year 9 Key Stage 4 1:1 Options Interviews

In order to help Year 9 students with their GCSE option choices, they will all have a 1:1 interview with a senior member of staff to discuss their future. These will take place straight after the Easter holidays. Students will be informed of their time slot during registration on the day of their interview.

It is important that students attend their interview in order to be clear on the options available to them and to discuss any queries or concerns before submitting their options form. These choices are key to the next 2 years of their learning journey.

The deadline for the options forms to be completed and handed in has been extended to Wednesday 19th April. This is so students can make any final changes needed following their interview. *Mrs Martin*

Year 11 exam support

Congratulations to the Year 11s who have completed their final round of mocks.

GCSE exams begin on Monday 15th May. Year 11 are working hard towards their exams and we thank them for their hard work and commitment. Students should familiarise themselves with the following support pages on the school website:

https://fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/students-2/coping-with-exams/

https://fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/exam-info-2022/

https://fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Subject-support-sheet-exam-boards-etc-2023-1.pdf https://fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2023-Exam-Guidance-for-Students-and-Parents.pdf

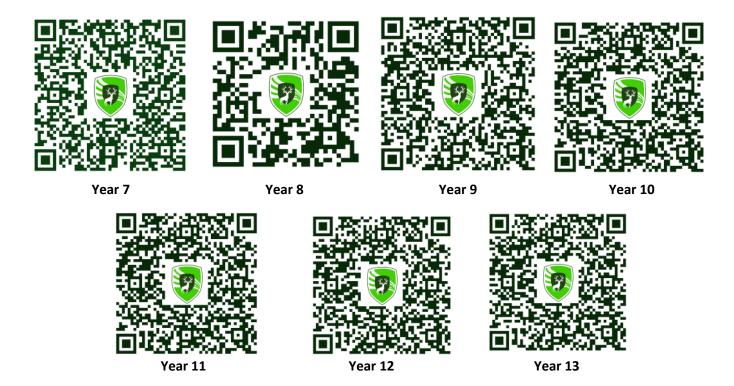
Mrs Martin

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 (KO's) are also an excellent homework tool for self-quizzing and revising.

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



Music

Music Making at Fearnhill!

This week has seen the start of the Get Playing scheme at Fearnhill, whereby we have received funding from Herts Music Service for taster woodwind and brass lessons.

The idea is to give students a free taster of what music lessons are like and learn the basics of their instrument with the view to them signing up for further lessons and continuing their musical playing career.

Music is such an enriching experience for students as they get to learn discipline, rhythm, timing, perseverance and resilience as well as making many new friends and exploring many opportunities to play and perform. We are really keen to get more students playing instruments at Fearnhill.

The Get Playing free taster scheme deadline has passed now but we hope that there will be further opportunities next year to offer a similar scheme. However, if your student would like to learn to play an instrument, they can still sign up for paid peripatetic lessons (and heavy subsidy is available for low income and FSM students via Herts Music Service).

Please follow the link attached or contact us if you need help signing up.

<u>https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/music-lessons-in-hertfordshire/music-lessons.aspx</u>

Mrs Landsman & Mr Marlow





Humanities



Year 9 students were spellbound by the presentation given to them by Peter and Moira Hart, son and daughter in law of the famous holocaust educator and suvivor Kitty Hart-Moxon, OBE. They gave a talk about Kitty's experience through the Holocaust and spent time answering student questions afterwards. Kitty, a Polish-British Holocaust survivor, was sent to the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp in 1943 at age 16, where she survived for two years, and was also imprisoned at other camps. Shortly after her liberation, she moved to England with her mother, where she married and has dedicated her life to raising awareness of the Holocaust.

Library

Congratulations to Samuel in 7R who has become a word multi-millionaire.

Students use a reading initiative called Accelerated Reader, which involves completing a book quiz after they've read a book. If they pass they are credited with having read the number of words in the book.

Word Millionaires have read over a million words - Samuel has read more than two million. *Mrs Thurlby*

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!)



Humanities

This term in year 10 and 11 as part of the Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE) GCSE course we have been looking at Christian festivals and their significance to different parts of the world.

To this end, we thought it would be a good idea to make edible Easter gardens to remind us of what happened to Jesus on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Using muffins, matchmakers, rice and iced gems we depicted the hill on which Jesus was crucified and his empty tomb. The students had great fun making these and then eating them!

Ms Moran







Student Support

Year 10 student Mya attended the LIFE course at Stevenage Fire Station.

LiFE is a 5 day intensive course delivered by specially trained firefighters at fire stations across Hertfordshire.

The young people work on improving their team skills, discipline and confidence.

LiFE has been run by Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service since 2006 and aims to instil discipline and respect into young people's lives through a disciplined and focused environment.

Mya's impression of the week was: "It was scary climbing the ladders, we were not strapped up so if we fell we fell.

"I had to do press ups for yawning, talking and not having my top button done up but overall I enjoyed being with a group of other young people learning new skills"



Science

10Her have been learning about electricity over the past few weeks.

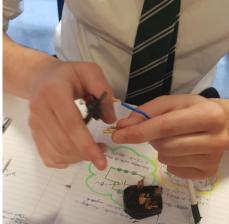
We have spent lots of lesson time learning how to build circuits and understanding the differences between voltage, charge, current and resistance. This week they have learnt how to wire a plug! Most of them were very successful and there are some definite budding electricians within the group.

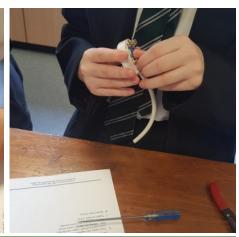
We enjoyed learning about the 3 wires (earth, live and neutral) and looking at the inside working of a plug. We will continue further next lesson to understand where the power comes from - The National grid.

Great work 10Her!

Mrs Castle







Primary Liaison

Year 5 pupils from Wilbury Junior School also enjoyed an electrifying morning with us, getting some hands-on experience of electricity from the Fearnhill Science teachers and sixthformers.











Congratulations to Tabitha, Leo, Sarah and Scarlett who have joined the Student Prefects as House Captains.







HEAD STUDENT

HEAD STUDENT



DEPUTY HEAD STUDENT STUDENT VOICE



DEPUTY HEAD STUDENT WELLBEING



DEPUTY HEAD STUDENT OPERATIONAL



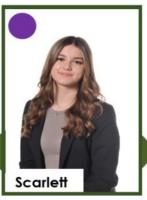
HOUSE CAPTAIN



HOUSE CAPTAIN



HOUSE CAPTAIN



HOUSE CAPTAIN

Sport - Comic Relief Football

Fearnhill staff and 6th form avenged the agony of their defeat on penalties last year to secure their first Comic Relief win against year 11.

On a lunchtime far sunnier than the MET office predicted, Year 11 faced off against the staff in an 11-a-side football game which really can be defined as a 'game of two halves'. The first half didn't see any goals for the first 15 minutes despite an appeal from the staff that Mr Williams' strike that ricocheted off the underside of the bar has crossed the line. Down the other end, Year 11 took the lead with a well worked goal down the left wing finished calmly by Tyler Faulkner. Tyler was then gifted another opportunity soon after which he slotted home giving Year 11 a seemingly comfortable lead at half time of 2-0.

The game very much swung towards the staff in the second half with several chances before Ikenna Nwosu was brought down in the box giving the staff a penalty. Mr Williams tucked it away leaving the score at 2-1. 5 minutes later some lovely interplay gave Mr Ogedengbe a chance out wide on the left. He slalomed round one defender before crossing the ball to the determined Mr Turner whose header found its way between the keepers legs to make it 2-2. The game ebbed and flowed after this and the prospect of penalties loomed over the game. Late into the second half however Abhi Singh cut in and slotted a smart finish for the staff and sixth former team to make it 3-2. Year 11 then piled on the pressure with a series of corners and free kicks before the staff team counter attacked and Ikenna Nwosu finished off the game making it 4-2.

Overall it was a great afternoon with hundreds of pupils watching on the bank and even more money raised for Comic Relief. *Mr Williams*









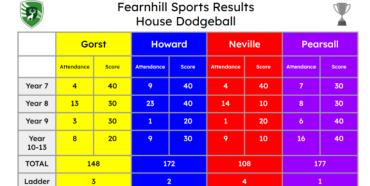








Sport - Dodgeball









Extracurricular Activities



Student Support

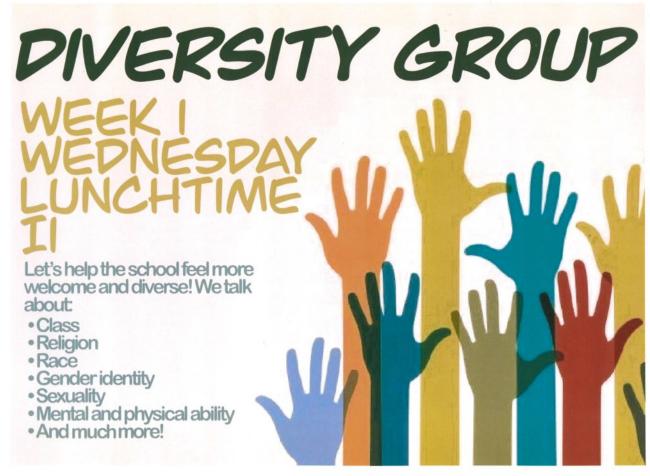
Students can find Mrs Tollervey & Ms Brown and their teams upstairs next to Homework Club.



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





Student Support

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH April 2023



"You can win big battles by winning small victories at a time"





External Opportunities

Community wellbeing days

from the North Herts Healthy Hub
INCLUDING FREE REFRESHMENTS

Hitchin at 9.30am



Christchurch, Bedford Road, Hitchin, SG5 1HF

28 April - Fun with food for under 5s with the Creative Chefs

30 June - Fun with food for under 5s with the Creative Chefs

26 May - Fun with food for under 5s with the Creative Chefs



Letchworth

at 9,30am

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall

Norton Way South, Letchworth Garden City SG6 1NX

4 April - Creative crafts with the Creation Station (suitable for children aged 10 and under)

18 April - Dance and movement workshop for under 5s with BEEE Creative

2 May - Pottery painting for adults with Glazed Creations

16 May - Managing anxiety and building courage with Mind in Mid Herts for adults

30 May - Creative crafts with the Creation Station (suitable for children aged 10 and under)

13 June - Beginner's adult yoga taster session

27 June - Dance and movement workshop for under 5s with BEEE Creative



Market Hill Rooms

Fish Hill, Royston SG8 9DW

5 April - Creative crafts with the Art in Martins (suitable for children aged 10 and under)

19 April - Low impact exercise for adults

3 May - Fun with food for under 5s with the Creative Chefs

17 May - Flower arranging taster session for adults with Bloom

7 June - Dance and movement workshop for under 5s with BEEE Creative

21 June - Pottery painting for adults with Glazed Creations



www.healthyhubnorthherts.co.uk

Numbers are limited so must be pre-booked by emailing healthyhub@north-herts.gov.uk or calling 01462 474111







External Opportunities



Does your child enjoy MAKING FILMS?

Writing SHORT STORIES, being CREATIVE, working with HD CAMERA GREEN SCREENS, CLAPPERBOARD? then this is the workshop for the

FILM MAKERS EASTER WORKSHOP 2023

STARTS Mon 3rd - Fri 7th April 23 (15 Hours) - 10am to 1pm daily. HITCHIN - ST MICHAELS MOUNT COMMUNITY CENTRE.

SNACKS PROVIDED DAILY, LANYARD & WRIST BAND, DAILY CONFIDENCE BOOST PRIZE, CERTIFICATE & TREAT AT THE END OF THE WEEK, 2

SPECIAL AWARDS.

SCAN THE OR CODE TO BOOK - ALL THE DETAILS CAN BE FOUND HERE. £5.90 PER HOUR

WE FOCUS ON BUILDING CONFIDENCE, GROUP WORK, SHARING IDEAS, BEING Creative, Bringing Stories to Life. Learning about editing, Directing, writing scripts, blockbuster films, animation & Much More: Your Child Gets to Star in Their Very Own Film!



Any queries contact us on SIGN UP ONLINE NOW m or 07341305131

GOOGLE NORTH HERTS AND BEDS FILM CLUB SELECT BOOKINGS & FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR

CLUB

SPACES ARE LIMITED

Stevenage and North Herts

Quarterly Schools Newsletter

Cooking Safely for you and your Family

Leaving your cooking unattended is the biggest cause of kitchen fires. You should consider the following advice to stay safe;

- Avoid cooking when under the influence of alcohol.
- · Avoid leaving children in the kitchen alone when cooking on the hob. Keep matches and saucepan handles out of their reach to keep them safe.
- · Make sure saucepan handles don't stick out so they don't get knocked off the stove
- · Take care if you're wearing loose clothing as they can easily catch fire.
- · Keep tea towels and cloths away from the cooker
- . Spark devices are safer than matches or lighters to light gas cookers because they don't have a naked flame.
- · Double check the cooker is off when you've









Quarterly Schools Newsletter

Welcome! Spring 2023

To our Spring edition of the Schools Stay Safe Newsletter. Read on for advice on ways to stay safe for you and your family.

Be Arson Aware!!

Advice to help you reduce the threat to your home and neighbourhood:

- · Reduce access to your property for trespassers and opportunist arsonists.
- · Secure your boundary, repair or block gaps in hedges.
- . If you have gates close and lock them.
- · Secure sheds, garages, and other outbuildings with padlocks or similar.
- Fit external lighting to alert you to intruders.
- . Manage your refuse so there are no fuel sources for opportunists. Clear any rubbish from garden, behind sheds etc.
- · Store wheelie bins securely, away from property and out of sight.
- Put bins out on collection day only and bring them back in asap.
- · Large items like furniture, old vehicles or rubble provide a fuel source, contact your local council for advice on





Stevenage and North Herts

Quarterly Schools Newsletter

Smoking and Vaping are you safe?

In recent years, e-cigarettes have become a very popular stop smoking aid in the UK.

However, using the wrong charger can lead to an increased risk of fire.

We strongly recommend the following:

- Buy products from reputable dealers.
- Never leave a vaping device charging unattended, and never leave them charging overnight – especially next to your bed.
- Never use a vaping device close to medical oxygen, flammable emollient creams or airflow mattresses.
- Do not buy counterfeit goods as batteries and/or chargers are unlikely to have overcurrent protection and could lead to batteries exploding.
- Never use damaged equipment or batteries. Fire is not the only risk posed by vaping products and the liquid they contain can be highly toxic.





External Opportunities





Interested? Send your CV to: info@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk



We are looking for Playworkers to join our team in local Primary Schools in Welwyn Garden City, Stevenage, Hitchin and Biggleswade!

> Breakfast hours: 7.30 – 9.00 After School hours: 3.00 – 6.15



Days and hours you work can be flexible!

Successful candidates will be energetic and enthusiastic about working with children

This is a great opportunity to if you are looking for a career in childcare. May also suit a parent/carer looking for flexible working – your primary aged child can come along for free!

Or may suit a student looking for a job outside school hours!

Rates of pay dependent on age and experience.

All staff will need to complete an Enhanced DBS check (paid for by us).









Breakfast Clubs, After School Clubs, Holiday Courses

> Head Office: 7 Weston Barns, Hitchin Road, Weston SG4 7AX



Interested? Send your CV to: info@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk



Calendar

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

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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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