



FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile - Issue 629 22nd April 2024

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Social Media

For more frequent information, updates and news, please follow us on social media. Please note our Instagram page has recently changed. Links to our three social channels are below:



[@FearnhillSch](https://www.facebook.com/@FearnhillSch)



[@Fearnhill_School](https://www.instagram.com/@Fearnhill_School)



[@FearnhillSchool](https://www.x.com/@FearnhillSchool)

REPRESENTING FEARNHILL

Students in most year groups are taking part in trips and careers events over the next couple of weeks. Year 9 head to Duxford Imperial War Museum today. Geography students in years 11, 12 & 13 are out of school completing field work later this week. Another group of students are visiting the University of Warwick and year 7 and year 10 take part in careers events in the next fortnight.

It is important to us that we give students a breadth of experience as part of their education that goes beyond classroom learning. Students benefit from trips and meeting people who work outside of education to find out what the world of work is really like. We are continuing to work on options for residential trips as well, since we know these add real value to students' experience of school.

Modelling good behaviour

It is also extremely important to me that students represent the school well when out of school. I am very proud of the way that students conduct themselves when we go on trips. I have attended several trips to London with various year groups in the last 18 months. I have been consistently pleased with how students have behaved on public transport, when interacting with the public and as they engage with the activities that are part of the trip.

When students are outside the school they also represent Fearnhill and the impression they give to others matters. This is because members of the public will make judgements about Fearnhill based on what they see of students outside of school. Sometimes students do not realise that the school's behaviour policy applies whenever students are representing the school and that includes as they come to and from school in their uniforms. Occasionally I receive messages regarding poor conduct of students in their uniform after the end of the school day. When this happens, we do issue sanctions and the incident is logged on students' behaviour records.

Parent Forum

Finally, a reminder that I will be presenting the data from the parent survey, sharing updates on school improvement priorities at the Parent Forum on Wednesday at 4.30pm. You can sign up [here](#). There will also be time to hear your questions and comments. As always, we value your support and want to work alongside you to ensure every student is receiving a great education. I hope to see you there.

Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher

School Easter Quiz

Lots of fun was had by students and staff at our school quiz on the last day of term before Easter! Congratulations to 10G who won a mountain of Easter eggs!

Would you know who the most streamed artist on Spotify is, which member of staff has trained to do a 100kg dead lift, or which animal is hiding in the sentence 'Take soap and a towel'?



Staff vs Students Football Match

The students vs teachers football match was a roaring success despite the downpour! Big congratulations to the students who celebrated an impressive 4-0 win! A great crowd was there to cheer them all on! Well done everyone!



Year 10 GCSE Music Trip

On the 25th March, the Year 10 GCSE Music class caught the train to Stevenage to attend a seminar on the set works for the GCSE music exam held at the Gordon Craig Theatre.

We joined with many other schools from Hertfordshire to watch a live chamber orchestra led by renowned conductor and educator Patrick Bailey. They performed some of the pieces we are studying including Defying Gravity and the Brandenburg Concerto and Patrick gave us some useful insights into detailed features of the music of these pieces which will greatly help students when it comes to their exam.

It was fantastic to see a harpsichord being played as many of our students have not seen one before and hear its unique sound played live. It was also lovely to see a young student perform Defying Gravity with the orchestra and our students were impressed with how confident she was to get up on stage in front of a big audience!

A highlight of the event was when Patrick talked to us about film music and had the orchestra play the music from an excerpt of a wildlife documentary whilst we watched the action on screen, demonstrating how important the music is in creating a specific atmosphere and mood. This is really important for our students as they have to compose music to fit a specific brief in year 11.

The students were extremely well behaved and did Fearnhill Proud. They enjoyed the experience immensely, with many witnessing live orchestral music for the first time. A big thank you to Hertfordshire Music Service for putting on the event for our students.



Student of the Week

15-19 April

Student of the Week	Eliana N, 7H, Valery C, 7H	17 points each
Form of the Week	7H	246 points
House of the Week	Howard	607 points
Teacher of the Week	Mrs Armstrong, 2nd in Science	134 points

25-28 March

Student of the Week	James L, 7P	8 points
Form of the Week	7P	99 points
House of the Week	Pearsall	259 points
Teacher of the Week	Mr Williams, History Teacher	121 points

18-22 March

Student of the Week	Eliana N, 7H	21 points
Form of the Week	7P	260 points
House of the Week	Gorst	640 points
Teacher of the Week	Miss Bossley, Art Teacher	318 points

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 can be accessed by scanning the QR codes, or by clicking on the wording beneath.



[Year 7](#)



[Year 8](#)



[Year 9](#)



[Year 10](#)



[Year 11](#)

Duke of Edinburgh Walk

Well done again to our students who completed a 15km walk before Easter for their Duke of Edinburgh award! Students used their map reading and navigation skills to find their way around the local countryside.



School Canteen Celebrates Eid al-Fitr

Our fabulous school catering team cooked up a feast in the canteen last week in celebration of the previous week's Eid al-Fitr (which took place during the school holidays).



Head Students

Interviews with 12 students for prefect positions took place before Easter with Mr Marlow and Mr Spencer. We are pleased to announce the following appointments:

Head Student - Lily G

Deputy Head Student - Harry F (Student Voice)

Deputy Head Student - Rebekah L (Wellbeing, Diversity & Inclusion)

Senior Prefect - Tia S (Events - House System)

Senior Prefect - Neave B (Events - Charity)

Senior Prefect - Gabriel P (Events - Logistics)



Congratulations to them all for this achievement.



Hockey Achievement

We are very proud of Cerys G in 7P, who was recently awarded the Parents' Players Award at Letchworth Hockey Club. Cerys plays left defence at the hockey club, where she has been a member of the club for two seasons. Congratulations on your achievement Cerys!



Rugby Win

A big well done to students Brandon H, Riley M, Callum P and Charlie S in year 11, who played in the final of the under 16s Herts County Youth Shield for Letchworth Rugby Club on Sunday. They won the shield with an impressive 29-12 victory. Congratulations all!



Punctuality

"If you're on time, you're late"

Years ago I worked in an orchestra and this was a mantra of our boss, the conductor. We soon got the message - those who were absent or late more than a few times were let go.

A friend of mine is the manager at a car garage and the technicians that still work there are those that are persistently present and persistently punctual.

Another friend runs a plumbing business. He gives apprentices three chances before they have to find a new placement.

Punctuality - being on time - is a life habit that is so important. I've been in education for over 20 years have witnessed those developed good habits of attendance and punctuality going on to be incredibly successful, with those that didn't learning the hard way.

The reason Fearnhill challenges poor attendance and punctuality is not to do with government targets - it's because we care about our students.

A famous producer once said, "Decisions are made by those who show up. Don't ever forget that you're a citizen of this world."

Students of Fearnhill - let's adapt this and say "Success is achieved by those who show up, are persistently present and persistently punctual. Don't ever forget that you are a valued member of our Fearnhill community."

Mr Phillips, Assistant Headteacher

Staff Changes

We give a warm welcome to **Mrs Phillips**, who has joined the English department this term.

We said goodbye to **Mr Shepherd** at the end of last term. We wish him all the best in his new role.



Reading for Pleasure

With Mrs Bremner

Do you consider yourself a reader?

Yes!

Did you enjoy reading as a child? Did you have any favourite books?

I loved reading, it was an escape. I loved the Hobbit, The Lion the witch and the wardrobe, Judy bloom books, and the Lemony Snicket books, amongst others



Do you read for pleasure now? What do you like to read? Do you have a favourite genre/author?

Yes, although I have less time. I like thrillers, Murder Mystery & crime, but I also like the shopaholic books, Maeve Binchy etc. I have many favourite authors, Patricia Cornwell, Martina Cole, Karin Slaughter. I also love books like Harry Potter. Stephen King is also a fantastic writer.

How long would you say you spend reading for pleasure each week?

2-3 hours.



Does your current reading include any teen/young adult books?

Yes

If yes, which books do you enjoy and would you recommend them to our students?

Harry Potter!

Is there any thing else you would like to share with us about reading?

For me reading opens your mind to other lives, other countries and other cultures. It's also a chance to relax and escape, broadens your mind and stimulates your imagination. I have learned so much in books over the years, and many things that help with answers in quiz shows when I'm trying to beat my husband!

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

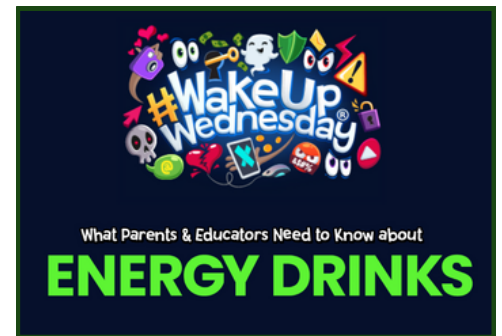


Energy Drinks

Close to a third of children in the UK consume energy drinks at least once every week. While these high-caffeine beverages might be touted as a shortcut to a boost in focus and productivity, even a moderate intake can lead to significant impacts on the heart, sleeping patterns and mental wellbeing.

With celebrity spokespeople, colourful branding and the potential added element of peer pressure, it's unsurprising that young people are sometimes drawn to these products, often unaware of the potential negative impact they might be having on mind and body. The National College provide a useful guide for parents and educators on the health pitfalls of energy drinks and offers expert tips on addressing concerns.

For more information on this important topic, please visit:
<https://nationalcollege.com/guides/energy-drinks>



Homework Club



SENDCO New Email

Our SENDCo team now have a new email address. If you'd like to get hold of them, please email: sendco@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk



Dates For Your Diary

Summer Term 2024

Tuesday 23rd April	Year 11 Geography Field Trip
Wednesday 24th April	Years 11, 12 & 13 reports issued
Wednesday 24th April	Parent Forum - 4.30pm in the school hall
Monday 29th April	GCSE non-written exams start
Wednesday 1st May	Y7 careers event
Monday 6th May	May Bank Holiday - school closed to students
Thursday 9th May	GCSE exams start
Friday 10th May	Year 13 Leavers Assembly
Monday 13th May	A Level exams start
Monday 27th – Friday 31st May	Half Term
Friday 3rd June	Study leave begins for Y11 (lessons optional from this day on)
Tuesday 11th June	Year 9 reports issued
Wednesday 12th June	Year 10 GCSE PE Uni trip
Thursday 13th June	Year 8 HPV immunisations
Thursday 20th	Y11 last day/leavers' assembly
Friday 21st June	Year 11 Prom
Monday 1st July	Inset Day - school closed to students
Wednesday 3rd July	Year 7 reports issued
Friday 5th July	Year 12 Celebration of Achievement - 2-3pm
Friday 5th July	Sixth Form Celebration Evening
Wednesday 10th July	Year 7 Celebration of Achievement - 2-3pm
Thursday 11th July	Year 8 Celebration of Achievement - 2-3pm
Friday 12th July	DofE expedition
Friday 12th July	Sports Day
Friday 12th July	Year 10 Celebration of Achievement - 2-3pm
Tuesday 16th July	Years 10 and 12 reports issued
Tuesday 23rd July	End of Term for students

Contact Us

Phone: 01462 621200

Email: admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Address: 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 school office on the email address above.



You're Invited!

Autism in Schools Coffee Morning in conjunction with

Angels

When?
Wednesday
1st May

Where?
Fearnhill
School

Time?
9am

Parent Carers of autistic children (both diagnosed and undiagnosed) are welcome.
No need to book!

Why not come along and find out more about:

- What Herts Parent Carer Involvement (HPCI) does in the Autism in Schools project.
- What that means for you as a Parent Carer.
- How it will help your child.
- Meet other Parents of autistic children and young people.

If you would like further information, please email lpoulis@hertsparentcarers.org.uk

SPRINGBOARD (SEND) COURSES

For young people aged 16-24 who require additional support before progressing to a vocational course or employment.

A full-time personalised course which provides students with the support, knowledge, skills, and confidence to become more independent, make informed decisions and to progress into a cross college vocational course and work.

North Hertfordshire College is pleased to announce our open afternoon at Springboard Letchworth on: Thursday 25th April 2.30pm – 5.30pm at Letchworth Town Hall

If you would like to attend please RSVP to Mickaela Windsor mwindsor@nhc.ac.uk or Rebecca Lewis rebecca.lewis@nhc.ac.uk or call 07943526089.

Students need to meet our assessment criteria in order to access the provision but individual needs are always considered



External Information

Address: Shefford Sports Club, Hitchin Road, Shefford, SG17 5JD

Free Mondays only sessions, until 15th July



**SESSIONS START
MONDAY 15TH APRIL
5-6PM**



**Head coach
Hayden Gruby**

**Managed by
07866616574 - Michelle
www.ebattprojects.co.uk**

Age group 8-17 yrs

PARTNERSHIP WITH:



To book your space follow the link below

<https://gymcatch.com/app/provider/7374/events/5008975>

**PITCH UP
AND PLAY RUGBY**



**Join us! Meet new friends,
have fun and learn new skills,
no experience necessary and
all abilities welcome.**

**IF YOU WILL BE AGED 16 OR 17 ON THE 1ST SEPTEMBER
2024 AND ARE LOOKING TO BE A PART OF A FANTASTIC
GROUP OF PLAYERS, WITH GREAT COACHES, THEN
COME AND TRYOUT AT LETCHWORTH RUGBY ACADEMY.**

**WHERE: LETCHWORTH RUGBY CLUB, LEGENDS LANE,
BALDOCK ROAD SG6 2EN**

INTERESTED?

New or experienced players welcome, for any questions or further information email us on lgcrugbycolts@googlegroups.com



Parent Information Event

Thursday, 25 April 2024

from 9:15am to 2:45pm (lunch provided)

DSPL 1—Delivering Special Provision Locally

North Herts—Baldock, Hitchin, Letchworth, Royston

Our Guest Speakers *(subject to change)*

Morning Guest Speakers: 1st half *(from 9:30am)*

SPACE Herts—Autism & Girls

With Youth—Digital Mental Health Support

GRIT—How to grow resilience in young people

Morning Guest Speakers: 2nd half *(from 11:30am)*

NESSie—Anxiety & EBSA (Emotionally Based School Avoidance)

Mental Health in Schools Team

Autism and ADHD Transformation Programme

Afternoon Guest Speakers *(from 1:15pm)*

Phase

SEND SAS—Herts Autism Training Offer

James Aston— Expert by Experience; Transforming Care Team

On the day

The event is taking place in one main area at the venue. We are requesting you book a place for the event to help us with numbers for catering.

We appreciate that attending a whole day may not be possible, you are welcome to attend all day, half day or pop along at the breaks to visit and chat to our stall holders.

Break Times: 11am to 11:30am & 12:30pm to 1:15pm

Thursday, 25 April 2024 9:15am to 2:45pm

(refreshments & lunch provided)

The Icknield Centre, Letchworth Garden City SG6 1EF

There is some parking at venue. You can park for **FREE** at the pay and display car parks (Outdoor Pool & Bowling Club) as agreed with NHDC—both a short walk to the venue.

Full details and Booking: [All Training, Workshops & Events - Parent Information Event \(nhdspl.org.uk\)](https://www.nhdspl.org.uk)

Enquiries: dspl1admin@wransom.herts.sch.uk or call/text: 07527 828477



**Delivering Special
Provision Locally**

So much support and advice in one place, we are pleased to welcome the following organisations

Angels Support Group

ADD-Vance

SPACE

SEND Implementation

Support Officers

SEND SAS/SLCA Team

Herts Inclusive Theatre

Imagination Dance CIC

Family Centre

NESSie

Breakaway Play Schemes

GRIT

Phase

Services for Young People

Mental Health in Schools

Team

With Youth Digital

Citizens Advice

Hertfordshire Dyslexia

Association

Up on Downs

Springboard (NHC)

Next Page Books Tracks-

Autism

Families in Focus

Young Carers

Sandbox

Herts Mind Network

Inclusive United

PoetsIn

Child Wellbeing

Practitioners

Family Support Workers