



FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile Issue 636 10th September 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Spencer's Update	1	Citizen's Advice	5
Welcome New Students	3	Library	6
Welcome New Staff	3	Music Lessons	7
Student of the Week	3	Homework	7
University Event for Year 13 Students	4	Dates For Your Diary	8
Job Vacancy	4	Contact Details	8
Congratulations (First Aid)	5	External Information	9

MR SPENCER'S UPDATE

I hope you and your family had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday. It has been great to be able to welcome so many students - both new and returning - to Fearnhill in the last week. Students have made a positive and purposeful start to the new school year.

Over the summer holidays we have invested £100,000 in improving school facilities. These improvements allow us to keep children safer and improve the learning experience.

Digital displays in classrooms

The quality of the image displayed at the front of the class has an impact on how well students can learn. We have invested in 75" Samsung touch screens for most classrooms. This represents a significant improvement in the learning experience for students and helps teachers to plan more effective learning opportunities for students. Samsung will return to film lessons; they want to use Fearnhill as a showcase school for these state-of-the-art devices.



Continued...

MR SPENCER'S UPDATE (...continued)

Fences

We have also installed security gates at the front of the school. This is not about keeping children in, but making it hard for intruders to get in. Sadly, we know that schools do occasionally experience unwanted intruders. We have therefore taken steps to make the school more secure.



Toilets

As mundane as it seems, we know that good toilet facilities matter for children to feel safe in school. We have demolished and rebuilt the main toilets which allows for better supervision. I am very grateful to our site manager, Paul Rainbow, who has overseen this project.

Students in lessons, working hard

Our key message to students at the start of the year is that we want them to take responsibility. It is our job to help students, but for each student to become the person they want to be, they must take responsibility. To do this they need to be in lessons and working hard. Good school attendance is essential for academic and social flourishing. Students who make an effort to produce their best work each day leave school with more opportunities and higher self-esteem.

Your help

We want each student to feel safe and enjoy school. We want them to learn and feel well supported by the adults working in the school. We know that your help is vital in making this happen. As a staff body we look forward to working with you this year to help every child thrive.

Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS

A very warm welcome to the Fearnhill Family to our new students in Year 7, Year 12 and across the school. We want to share a few words from some of our Head of Key Stage 3 and our Head of Sixth Form.

“It’s been lovely seeing the students we met in year 6 joining us in year 7 and settling in so well. We look forward to supporting you through your Fearnhill Journey.” **Mr Turner, Head of Key Stage 3**

“Year 12 is an exciting year to push yourself academically and to grow as a person. I can’t wait to guide you all through it.” **Mr Marlow, Director of Post 16 Study**

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF

We are pleased to offer a big Fearnhill welcome to the following staff members, who have now joined our teaching team:

Mrs E Busolini - Maths Teacher

Ms K Burr - Head of English

Ms D Carroll - 2nd in Science

Mr T Jenkins - Head of Year 7 & Teacher of History

Miss J Mills - Spanish Teacher

Mr J Woosey - Head of Science

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

4-6 September

Student of the Week	Iyla C, 8P	13 points
Form of the Week	7P	186 points
House of the Week	Pearsall	386 points
Teacher of the Week	Miss Cheeseman, Geography Teacher	260 points

UNIVERSITY EVENT FOR YEAR 13 STUDENTS

Unifrog are kicking off this academic year with a virtual fair to inspire and motivate students who are considering the university route!



Students can meet up to 40 universities in two hours - including University of Bristol, Bangor University, University of Exeter, University of Durham, and University of Aberdeen.

This is a great opportunity to motivate students who are starting to write their Personal Statements. We'll have live sessions and admissions experts on hand to give them practical tips on how to stand out. For those who aren't sure where or what to study, the sessions and interactive booths could inspire them to start exploring and put their minds at ease if they have any concerns about university life.

Teachers, advisors, parents, and caregivers are all welcome to join in:
> [Sign up and share the fair](#) (16 Oct, 4-6:30pm)

STAFF VACANCIES

Inclusion Leader and Cover Supervisor

Would you like to join our friendly team and make a real difference in young people's lives?

We are currently recruiting for an Inclusion Leader and a Cover Supervisor. For more information and to apply, please [visit our website](#).

The closing dates for applicants are 12.00pm on Friday 13th September 2024 (Inclusion Leader) and Wednesday 18th September (Cover Supervisor).

Are you looking to make a real difference to young people's lives? Fearnhill is the place for you. We have the following staff vacancies:

Inclusion Leader
Cover Supervisor

Visit our website for details:
fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/staff-vacancies



CONGRATULATIONS (FIRST AID)

Big congratulations to Ryan E and Clara M in year 11 for passing their first aid at work course over the summer holidays. This is a recognised qualification and the start of their UCAS point journey.



CITIZEN'S ADVICE

We have received the following update from Citizen's Advice that may be of interest to families:

Kate Beed has recently joined Citizen's Advice leading on project to help families in Letchworth manage their money better. She says 'since the Cost of Living crisis we are all having to watch the pennies and be more careful about the choices we make on a day to day basis. This can be really difficult if you're feeding a growing family; especially when the cold weather hits'.

Kate has lots of tips that can help- from making sure that you're getting all the benefits that you're entitled to, to sharing ways to save energy. By following @citizensadvicenorthherts on Facebook, Instagram or their website you can keep up to date with vital information that might make a difference to your weekly budget. Kate is also happy to give presentations about budgeting, the cost of living, energy tips and scams to groups.

Last year Citizens Advice North Herts assisted 6,717 individuals across North Herts with nearly 15000 issues; ranging from specialist debt support to housing and benefits.

If you're looking for support or advice then you can email Kate on letchworthfinancialhealth@nhdc.org.uk.

Citizens Advice North Herts Letchworth is on Station Road, Letchworth and is open for drop-in Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 – 4pm and on a Wednesday from 9.30am – 12noon. You can also contact them on 01462 689801.



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



READ A BOOK YOU WOULD RECOMMEND?

HELP THE LIBRARY BY CREATING A MINI DISPLAY TO ADVERTISE IT TO OTHER STUDENTS

SPEAK TO MRS THURLBY FOR MORE INFORMATION



THE BIG BOOK RETURN CHALLENGE



PARENTS WE NEED YOUR HELP!

PLEASE HAVE A LOOK AROUND AT HOME FOR MISSING LIBRARY BOOKS



MUSIC LESSONS

Please see the below information regarding music lessons that are provided by Hertfordshire Music Service at Fearnhill. Visit their website at www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk for more information.



Hertfordshire Music Service

Start your musical journey today →

Making Music Improving Lives



Registration now open for music lessons

Instrumental and vocal lessons

- ▶ Music lessons are available during the school day at hundreds of schools in Hertfordshire.
- ▶ We also provide lessons in the afternoon, evening and on the weekends at our 12 music centres across the county.
- ▶ We offer various lesson types and durations. Please visit our website for more information.
- ▶ Financial support is available to pupils receiving certain benefits, to help with the cost of lessons.
- ▶ As your child progresses on their musical journey, they will be invited to join ensembles or music groups that perform regularly.



Scan me

01438 844851
hertsmusicservice.org.uk

Follow @hertsmusic



HOMEWORK CLUB



Homework CLUB IN I3

MONDAY - FRIDAY LUNCHTIMES

1.25 - 1.55PM

MONDAY - THURSDAY AFTERSCHOOL

3.00 - 4.00PM

Homework club is a supportive and inclusion space for students to complete their homework. It is open to all students every lunch time Monday-Friday 1.25-1.55pm and after school Monday-Thursday 3.00-4.00pm in room I3.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Autumn Term 2024

Thursday 12th September	Open evening for prospective parents 6.00-8.30pm
Wednesday 25th September	Year 8 HPV Immunisations
Monday 30th September	Years 7, 8 & 9 Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 1st October	Years 10 & 11 Flu Vaccinations
Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November	Half term
Friday 29th November	Occasional Day (school closed)
Monday 2nd December	Disaggregated (school closed)
Friday 20th December	Term ends

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January	INSET DAY - School closed to students
Tuesday 7th January	Term starts for students
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	Half term
Friday 4th April	Term ends

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.**

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.twitter.com/@FearnhillSchool)

EXTERNAL INFORMATION



DSPL (Delivering Special Provision Locally)

DSPL offer a range of useful tools for parents and carers, including:

- The Toolbox - courses for young people - understanding my Autism and/or ADHD (ages 7-16)
- Wellbeing Support for Parent Carers
- Coping with school when you are autistic

More information can be found here:

<https://nhdspl.org.uk/262-north-herts-dspl-1-weekly-a-roundup-of-training-information-and-events-in-our-area-15.html>

cogs Hertfordshire **NHS** Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board

Learn about ADHD and autism on your phone!

If you are 14 or above, live in Hertfordshire and:

- Have ADHD (or think you do)
- Are autistic (or think you are)
- Or both

You can now access the Cogs app for free!

The app helps you understand more about ADHD and autism and how to manage them to your advantage.

To find out more and get your free access, search:

<https://thetoolbox.mindler.co.uk/hertfordshire>

Then scroll to the Cogs offer!

FYP FOREVER YOUNG PEOPLE

LETCHWORTH youth HUB

STARTING THURSDAY 18TH JULY!

FREE
THURSDAY 6-8PM
12-18YRS OLD

GAMES | MULTI-SPORTS |
ARTS | TEAMBUILDING

JACKMANS CREAMERY
LETCHWORTH
SG6 2SB

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
ADAM.NNOCHIRI@AITC.ORG.UK

AITC THE NATIONAL LOTTERY