



FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile Issue 637 23rd September 2024

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STUDENT OF THE WEEK

9-13 September

Student of the Week	Harriet A 9H	22 points
Form of the Week	7P	281 points
House of the Week	Pearsall	921 points
Teacher of the Week	Miss Mills, Spanish Teacher	336 points

16-20 September

Student of the Week	Iyla C 8P	33 points
Form of the Week	9P	422 points
House of the Week	Pearsall	1311 points
Teacher of the Week	Miss Cheeseman, Geography Teacher	381 points

MR SPENCER'S UPDATE

IMPROVING TEACHING

I am very proud to work alongside my colleagues at Fearnhill. I have huge admiration for their commitment, professionalism and care for all the students. We share an ambition for all students to achieve well regardless of the challenges they face.

Why improve?

I believe that excellence in any activity requires a constant desire to improve. Teaching is no different. One reason that teachers at Fearnhill are so good is because they are reflective and engaged with professional development. Dylan Wiliam, Professor of Education at University College London has put it like this, "Every teacher needs to improve, not because they are not good enough, but because they can be even better."

Lesson visits

My focus in the coming weeks will be on visiting lessons and providing feedback to teachers. I always find it inspiring to visit colleagues' lessons, share best practice and discuss how lessons could be better. It is not just me who does this. We encourage all staff to engage in visiting each others' lessons when they get the opportunity. As a result I know that teaching is consistently good and consistently improving.

Responsibility

Just because a student has a good teacher does not mean they will do well. Students need to develop a good attitude. Each student has responsibility for their own effort and attitude. Students need to have very good attendance and work hard in and out of lessons. This is a message we reinforce to students: they are responsible for their own success.

Disruption

In all schools some lessons are disrupted by unwanted behaviour. This is not fair for teachers or for the vast majority of students who want to do their best. It is imperative to me that disruption is not a feature of lessons at Fearnhill. Where students are disrupting lessons they will be held to account. Of course, we will offer support to help these students, but ultimately they must change their behaviour or accept that they will not attend lessons.

Open Evening and Mornings

We were very grateful to the many students who helped showcase the school at Open Evening and Open Mornings over the last 10 days. Students have been fantastic ambassadors for the school and represented Fearnhill so well. We had a large number of visitors at these events and hope to be oversubscribed again in 2025.

Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher

CATERING

Practical sessions have started in full force for the KS4 students. With Yr11 getting ready for their NEA with fish finger sandwiches and mini apple crumble tarts and Yr10 practicing multitasking skills with flat bread and nut free pesto pasta. All students have made really great progress.



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



This summer we challenged students and staff to read for a total of 10,000 minutes. 27 students collectively achieved 15,130 minutes, but were beaten by staff, who achieved 21,190 minutes.

Congratulations to Amelia B, Elizabeth P, Hope C, Evie M, Madison M, Jacob Q, Reggie H, Rex D-E, Lauren P, Oliver B, Sophia L, Reuben M, Chloe C, Olivia K, Frances C, Jodie-Elise G, Lily W, Aiden G, Kaci R, Lucas S-E, Eve R, Rogan H, Alex J, Eden V, Alfred H, Noah S and Olivia P for taking part!

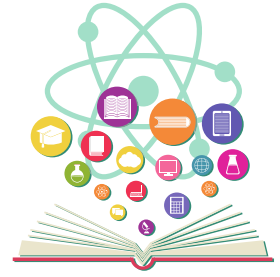
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

We are looking forward to celebrating black history month in October, we've lots of exciting lessons planned for students, which we'll be sharing with you in our next newsletter and on our socials.



YEAR 11 STUDY SKILLS

On Monday 30th September, year 11 will have an extended form time from 8.30 to 9.15 as part of their study skills programme. They will learn evidence-informed revision strategies ahead of their November mocks.



OPEN EVENING AND MORNINGS



We were pleased to welcome so many families to our open mornings and evening over the last two weeks, thank you to everyone who came to visit us. And a big thank you to all our sixth formers who lead the tours around the school, as well as to staff and students across all year groups for all their help in making our open evenings and mornings such as success!

If you'd like to have a look at our school prospectus for 2025 admissions, it's [on our website here](#).

STAFF VACANCIES

Teacher of Maths

Would you like to join our friendly teaching team here at Fearnhill? We are currently looking for a Maths Teacher to start in January 2025. For more details or to apply, please [visit our website](#).

The closing date for applicants is 12.00pm on Monday 30th September .

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:

Teacher of Maths

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

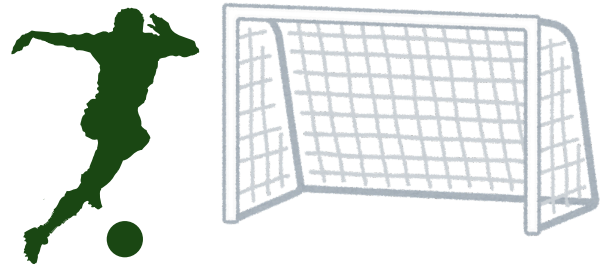
SIXTH FORM FIRST AID TRAINING



We're really excited to be welcoming The Red Cross into school next week to provide training to our sixth formers. All students in years 12 and 13 will receive this potentially life saving training. This will take place on Thursday 26th September periods 4 and 5 in the sixth form common room students will have been allocated a time and will know which session to attend. No lessons will be missed as we have arranged this to take place during study periods.

PE DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP

The PE department would like to ask if any parents or carers would like to sponsor our Key Stage 3 football teams. It's a great opportunity to support youth sport and your company logo would feature on the kit! If you are interested, please contact Simone Straughn, Head of PE on simone.straughn10@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk



AN UPDATE ON E-SCOOTERS FROM HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE

CAN E-SCOOTERS BE USED LEGALLY?

While E-scooters are legal to own in the UK, there are restrictions on where they can be used.

While privately-owned E-scooters may be used on **private** land **with** landowners permission, they are **not** legal for use on public roads, pavements, footpaths or cycle lanes.

Privately owned E-scooters used on the road require a policy of insurance, however, only policies covering use on private land with the landowners permission are currently available.

There is currently no legal age restriction on riding private E-scooters.

Sightings of E-scooters will warrant a stop from police and will be dealt with via a Traffic Offence Report, which can potentially include points and a fine.

ABSENCES

Parents and carers of all students are requested to report any absence via Edulink or admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk.

We kindly request that use Edulink or the admin email above, rather than phone in, wherever possible. Please do not email individual staff as these emails may not reach all of the relevant staff in time. Please note that without notification from a parent or carer, we are unable to authorise any absence.

CAREERS EVENTS

There are lots of exciting careers events and information coming up over the coming weeks and months, below are some that may be of interest to students.

Medical and Dental Virtual Work Experience (Y10, 11, 12 & 13)

Various dates from Saturday 28th September

[For medical sign up here](#)

[For dental sign up here](#)



Lloyds Banking Group & UCAS Virtual Event (Y11, 12 & 13)

Tuesday, 1st October 5:00pm - 6:00pm

[Sign up here](#)

Linklaters - Solicitor Apprenticeship & Work Experience Event (Y11, 12 & 13)

Wednesday 2nd October 5.00pm - 6:30pm

[Sign up here](#)



Construction Management Taster Day (Y12 & 13)

Monday 28th October 2024, 9.00am - 3.00pm

[Sign up here](#)

Herts Parents and Carers Apprenticeships and T levels FREE online Event

Wednesday 29th January 5.30pm - 7.00pm

[Sign up here](#)

Amazing Apprenticeships - Choices Magazine

[Read it here](#)



HERTFORDSHIRE NURSING TEAM UPDATE

Please find below an update from the Hertfordshire School Nursing Services. HCT School Nursing is part of the Public Health Nursing service which is commissioned by Hertfordshire County Council to deliver the Healthy Child Programme is are run centrally, independent of schools. More information can be found on their website here <https://www.hct.nhs.uk/service-details/service/school-nursing-56>.

Healthy Lifestyle Advice

The school nursing team works alongside Beezee families which is the commissioned service within Hertfordshire that provide free local support for children, young people, families, with weight and healthy lifestyle choices. Award Winning Weight Loss Programmes | Behaviour change for good (beezeebodies.com) If you have any further concerns you can either contact the Duty school nurse or complete an online school nurse referral with parent/carer consent. www.beezeebodies.com.

One to One Support

The service accepts referrals for children and young people requiring support for mild mental health, emotional and wellbeing concerns including anxiety, low mood, behaviour, self-esteem, stress, and sleep issues. The service will also accept referrals for a range of other health issues such as healthy eating, substance misuse, sexual health, and toileting issues. Referrals can be made by professionals, families or by young people themselves. Referrals can be made online through the following link:

<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing>

Chathealth Texting Service – 07480 635050

This service is available for young people aged 11 to 19. Texts are responded to by a School Nurse between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday. This service is available for young people aged 11 to 19. Children and young people can use this service to text a school nurse directly to ask questions about their health and wellbeing or to request school nurse support.

Chathealth Parent-line Service - 07312 263002

These services can be used to request advice and support from the school nurse. Texts are responded to by a School Nurse between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday for both the young person's service and the parent/carer line service.

Duty School Nurse Telephone Contact - 0300 123 7572

There is a School Nurse on duty every weekday between 09:00-17:00. The duty school nurse can answer queries about a child's/children's health and wellbeing. They can be contacted on: 0300 123 7572

You can also access further information from our websites:

- Hertfordshire Family Centre Service – www.hertsfamilycentres.org
- Health for Kids (Primary) – <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/hertfordshire/>
- Health for Teens (Secondary) - <https://www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire>

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.



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 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

Wednesday 25th September	Year 8 HPV Immunisations
Thursday 26th September	Sixth Form Youth First Aid Workshop
Thursday 26th September	First DofE Session for Year 9 Students
Monday 30th September	Year 11 Study Skills Session - 8.30am
Monday 30th September	Years 7, 8 & 9 Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 1st October	Years 10 & 11 Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 8th October	6th Form Trip to Apprenticeship & Education Exhibition
Mon 28th October – Fri 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

LETCWORTH youth HUB

STARTING THURSDAY 18TH JULY!

FREE THURSDAY 6-8PM 12-18YRS OLD

GAMES | MULTI-SPORTS | ARTS | TEAMBUILDING

JACKMANS CREAMERY LETCWORTH SG6 2SB

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


AITC THE NATIONAL LOTTERY



For information on how the Uniform Bank can support you with second hand uniform, and for news of their forthcoming events, please visit their [Facebook page](#).

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

1 DAY CHAMPION COURSE FOR PARENTS & CARERS OF 8 TO 18-YEAR-OLDS FREE TRAINING 09:30AM - 16:00PM




WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- AN UNDERSTANDING OF COMMON MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND HOW THEY CAN AFFECT YOUNG PEOPLE
- ABILITY TO SPOT SIGNS OF MENTAL ILL HEALTH IN YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUIDE THEM TO A PLACE OF SUPPORT
- KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE TO ADVOCATE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS
- SKILLS TO SUPPORT POSITIVE WELLBEING

COURSE STRUCTURE

SESSION 1- ABOUT, WHAT IS MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL ILL HEALTH, STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION, DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE.
 SESSION 2 MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS: ANXIETY, SELF-HARM, EATING DISORDERS, PSYCHOSIS, RECOVERY, RESILIENCE

For further information please contact:
hweicbhv.schoolsmh@nhs.net





Herts Mental Health, Learning Disability & Autism Health and Care Partnership's monthly newsletter is [available here](#).



Mental Health First Aid Training Dates:

- 2nd October 2024 (Dacorum) - [Book here](#)
- 22nd January 2025 (Dacorum) - [Book here](#)
- 26th February 2025 (Bushey) - [Book here](#)