



# FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile Issue 638 7th October 2024

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## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

### 23-27 September

Student of the Week	Dash J 8G	67 points
Form of the Week	9P	700 points
House of the Week	Pearsall	2494 points
Teacher of the Week	Miss Straughn, Head of PE	351 points

### 30 September - 4 October

Student of the Week	Lucy T 11G	46 points
Form of the Week	7G	399 points
House of the Week	Gorst	1288 points
Teacher of the Week	Mrs Lee, Maths Teacher	280 points

## SOCIAL MEDIA

For more frequent information, updates and news, please follow us on social media.



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



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



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

## REVIEWING BEHAVIOUR

### **A sign of the times**

It is a sign of our times that whenever you go for a medical appointment, or get on public transport, or go into a shop, or speak on the phone to someone in a call centre, there is the obligatory reminder that abuse towards staff will not be tolerated. Somewhere along the line being abusive towards those trying to help us has become normalised.

### **The majority**

Last week, I reviewed behaviour points issued so far this term. I was pleased to see that nearly 70% of Fearnhill students have not had a single behaviour point this term. Behaviour points can be issued for relatively minor concerns, such as having a shirt untucked on the corridor. Detentions are only issued to students who get 3 or more points on the same day. It is clearly the case that the large majority of students consistently demonstrate exemplary conduct.

### **The minority**

Unfortunately, there are a small number of students who do disrupt learning and show disrespect towards teachers and peers. I am determined that no student should get away with this. Disrupting learning robs other students of opportunity and can be demoralising for staff. Demonstrating disrespect harms the school community and causes harm in wider society.

### **No disruption, no disrespect**

Over the coming months we shall be reviewing our behaviour systems. The emphasis shall be on how we effectively hold students to account who disrupt learning and disrespect others. This is because I want to defend the rights of the large majority of students who make Fearnhill the vibrant, inclusive and inspiring community that it is.

Disruption and disrespect are a blight on our society and I certainly will do all I can to eradicate it from Fearnhill. If you have thoughts on how we can improve our behaviour policy I would be interested to hear your thoughts.

*Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher*

# NETBALL



Our year 8 girls netball team played against Hitchin Girls School last Tuesday. Although we didn't get the win this time, it was a brilliant performance by both teams: a great display of skills, communication and positive attitudes. Well done to everyone who took part, with special congratulations to Eliana N, who was named Player of the Match. Thank you to Imogen F and Summer B in year 10, who coached our team superbly.

*Miss S Straughn, Head of PE*

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

We are celebrating Black History Month here at Fearnhill. This year's theme, "Reclaiming Narratives," marks a shift towards recognising and correcting the narratives of Black history and culture. By emphasising this theme, we share our commitment to correcting historical inaccuracies and showcasing the untold success stories and the full complexity of Black heritage. Teachers have been showcasing ideas in an assembly this morning, and students will enjoy a variety of lessons throughout the month on this important topic.



## YEAR 11 STUDY SKILLS

Year 11 attended a study skills session last Monday morning run by Mr Spencer, Mrs Nunneley and Mrs Martin. This was one of a series of events designed to share the best methods of revision and promote good study skills to help students approach their first set of mocks exams in November with confidence. This session saw them learning practical revision skills that are scientifically proven methods of how to study effectively.



## HOT CHOCOLATE FRIDAY



Congratulations to Dash J (8G), Maison C (9P), Jeorjana A (10H) Abigail M (10H), Lily W (7G), Alfred H (8G), Farrah K-E (11N) and Jenson H (11N) who were selected to meet with Mr Spencer for a hot chocolate and a chat. Students are chosen for this as a reward for their exemplary behaviour each week.

## ATTENDANCE

Students are, by law, required to be in school during term time. Attendance in school is crucial for so many reasons, not least because regular attendance ensures that students receive a consistent education. This is vital for understanding and retaining the information and skills being taught: each lesson builds on the previous one, missing classes can lead to gaps in knowledge that can significantly hinder students' academic progress. We consistently see those students with strong attendance achieving higher grades in their exams. Good attendance goes further than academic achievements. Attending school regularly helps students develop important life skills such as punctuality, responsibility, and time management, which are essential for success in both higher education and at work. Regular attendance is also important for young people's wellbeing: being present in school allows students to develop their social and interpersonal skills as well as forming friendships and support networks with their peers, and allowing them the opportunity to participate in one (or more) of our excellent extra curricular clubs and activities. At Fearnhill we have high ambitions for our students, both academically and as well rounded individuals; with excellent attendance we can support you and your child in achieving these and getting the best out of life.

*Mr M Phillips, Assistant Head*

# ART

Our year 10 students have been looking at the colour blue for their art theme. They are in the process of experimentation and exploration with different mediums, techniques and processes which include chalk, oil pastel, spray paint, painting and photography. These pictures are from their art books, which they use to explore the unlimited possibilities of creativity.



*Miss R Bossley, Teacher Art & Design*

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

Follow @hertsmusic  
Instagram, Facebook, YouTube

Hertfordshire Music Service

# HOMEWORK CLUB



Homework CLUB IN 13

MONDAY- FRIDAY LUNCHTIMES

1.25- 1.55PM

MONDAY- THURSDAY AFTERSCHOOL

3.00- 4.00PM



SPARX Homework

SCIENCE DUE TUESDAY

ENGLISH DUE WEDNESDAY

MATHS DUE THURSDAY

## Wrong dates?

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## Autumn Term 2024

Tuesday 8th October	6th Form Trip to Apprenticeship & Education Exhibition
Thursday 10th October	Year 7 Pastoral Evening 5.00-6.15pm
Tuesday 22nd October	Year 9 Parents' Evening (details to follow)
Mon 28th October – Fri 1st November	Half term
Monday 11th November	Year 11 Mock Exams Start
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
Tuesday 21st January	Year 11 Parents' Evening (Times TBC)
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	Half term
Wednesday 26th February	Year 9 DTPM Immunisations
Friday 4th April	Term ends

## Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April	Terms starts
Monday 26th – Friday 30th May	Half term
Friday 4th July	INSET DAY - School closed to students
Wednesday 23rd July	End of Term

# CONTACT US

**Phone:** 01462 621200

**Email:** [admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk)

**Website:** [www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk](http://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.**



# 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**

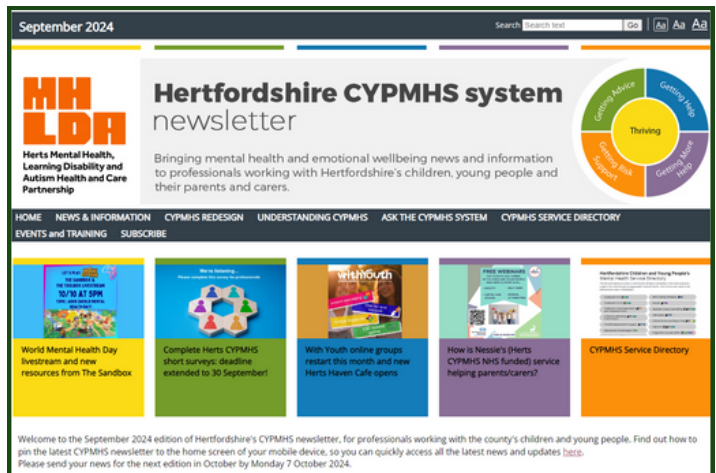
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT: [ADAM.NNOCHIRI@AITC.ORG.UK](mailto:ADAM.NNOCHIRI@AITC.ORG.UK)

**AITC** THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

# EXTERNAL INFORMATION




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](#).



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

## 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](mailto:hweicbhv.schoolsmh@nhs.net)



**Mental Health First Aid Training Dates:**  
22nd January 2025 (Dacorum) - [Book here](#)  
26th February 2025 (Bushey) - [Book here](#)




### A complete guide to parenting children with Autism & ADHD

FREE, award-winning course is for parents living in Hertfordshire and parenting children with Autism or ADHD (inclusive of those with a diagnosis or awaiting assessment) aged two to 11 years.

**Facilitated by founders, Lesley and Francine, our course will help parents:**

- Meet other parents living in similar families and share experiences
- Gain a greater understanding of, 'Why does my child do that?'
- Learn a range of strategies to better manage behaviours that challenge
- Understand children's sensory world
- Increase understanding of children's common sleep issues
- Learn how to support siblings living with a neurodiverse sister/brother
- Communicate effectively to increase children's emotional regulation
- Learn techniques to manage stress, conflict and so much more....

**Tuesday mornings 9.30am to 11.30am**  
or  
**Tuesday evenings 6.30pm to 8.30pm**  
**January 7th 14th 21st 28th &**  
**February 4th 11th 25th &**  
**March 4th 11th**



Email us: [bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk](mailto:bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk) or visit our website to see all course information: [www.familiesinfocus.co.uk](http://www.familiesinfocus.co.uk)

[www.familiesinfocus.co.uk](http://www.familiesinfocus.co.uk)