



# FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile Issue 641 25th November 2024

## IN THIS ISSUE

Hot Chocolate with the Head	1	Cross Country Running	7
Social Media	1	Books & Biscuits Club	8
Mrs Nunneley's Update	2	Advent Reading Challenge	8
Rotary Competition	3	Library	9
Criminology	4	Music Lessons	10
Year 8 Geography	4	Homework	10
Broadway Gallery	5	Dates For Your Diary	11
Mosque Trip	6	Contact Details	11
Football & Basketball	7	External Information	12

## HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

Ryan E (11G) and Charlie S (12JWY) were chosen to meet with Mr Spencer for a hot chocolate and a chat last week. A small number of students are selected for this each week based on their exemplary behaviour in school. Congratulations to you both!



## SOCIAL MEDIA

Please follow us on social media for more frequent information, updates and news!



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



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



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

# MRS NUNNELEY'S UPDATE

## THE RESPECT AGENDA: ENSURING A SAFE AND RESPECTFUL COMMUNITY FOR ALL

As always, it's been a busy week at Fearnhill. Year 11s entered their final week of mock exams and Mrs Martin and I have been impressed with the determination and resilience they have shown. Teachers will now be busily marking papers and giving the students feedback before their results assembly on 17th December. Meanwhile, the rest of the school has been focused on building a safe and respectful community for all. Following last week's 'Respect' assemblies, students were given the opportunity to write their own Respect Agenda in an extended form time with their form group.



Students were surveyed to ask if they have experienced disrespect at school and asked to reflect on how it made them feel. The results of this survey will be shared with students next week in assembly and parents and carers can see the results, along with the finalised Respect Agenda, in the next edition of Fearnfile.

During last Tuesday's extended form time, students discussed the different types of conduct that can be disrespectful and explored ways of 'respectfully disagreeing'. Our Sixth Form students did us proud by supporting form tutors in leading this session and proving themselves to be the perfect role models for our younger students. It was a pleasure to see students actively engaging in the resources and discussions with teachers and 6th formers and being honest about their own experiences.

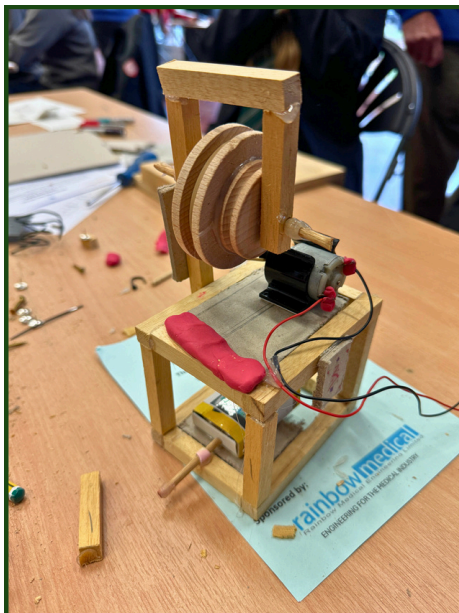
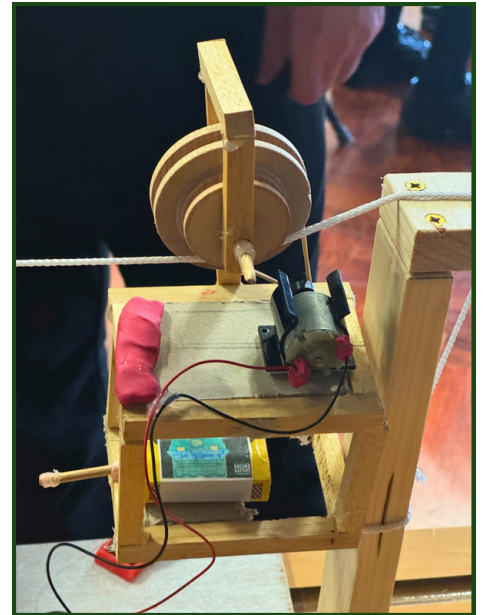
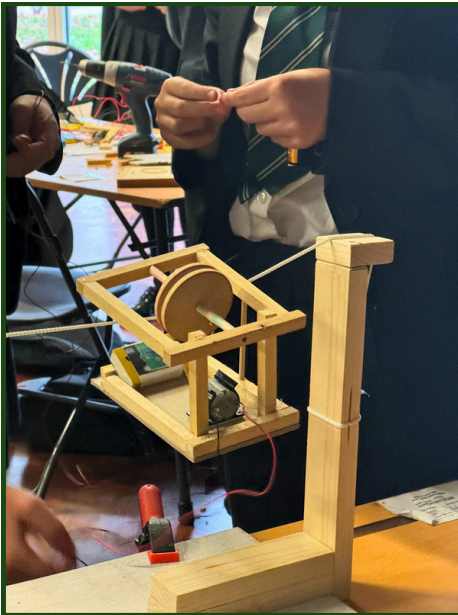
At the end of the session, each form group wrote their own Respect Agenda and I am now collating all of this into one Fearnhill Respect Agenda. Common themes included respecting the learning environment, respectful interactions with each other and respecting the school site and resources. The finalised Respect Agenda will be shared with students during next week's assemblies.

Finally, I noticed this week that the government has brought 'respect orders' back into the news; maybe they heard about the work our students had been doing!

*Mrs Sonja Nunneley, Deputy Headteacher*

# ROTARY COMPETITION

The annual Rotary Competition took place on 7th November at The Priory School against The Priory, Hitchin Boys, Hitchin Girls and Knights Templar. The challenge was to build a motorised transporter which would attach to a suspended cable, travel along and deposit a package, then return and we are delighted that our our Key Stage 4 team (Beau B, Harry L, Tilly-Rose P and Zachary C) came first, making this the third year in a row that Fearnhill have won! Congratulations to everyone who took part!



*Mr T Rayner, 2nd in Design & Technology*

## CRIMINOLOGY

Sergeant Mark Kendall from the Metropolitan Police generously gave three hours of his day off to talk to our year 12 and 13 criminology students. Sergeant Kendall has 27 years of experience to share and has had a broad range of roles within the police, which made him a fascinating and informative speaker.

Students heard about finger printing processes, policing protests, working during the period of the Stephen Lawrence case and the issue of institutional racism within the met, and how it is being tackled, the Sarah

Everard case, policing the London riot in 2011, life as police officer and how this is impacted by media and the public, as well as facing PTSD and coping with compassion fatigue.



The talk brought lived experience from a long and varied career in policing into our criminology classroom bringing to life so much of what the students learn about across their four units of study. I very much look forward to inviting Sergeant Kendall back next year!

*Mx Bettinson, Teacher Psychology & Criminology*

## YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY

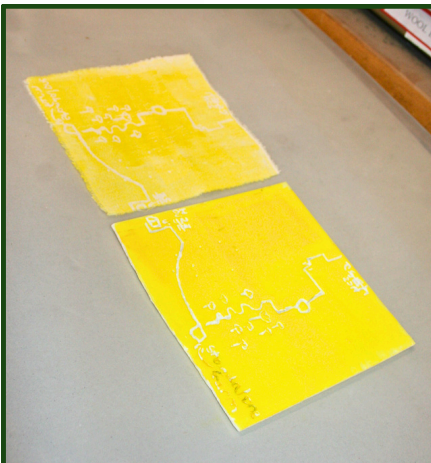
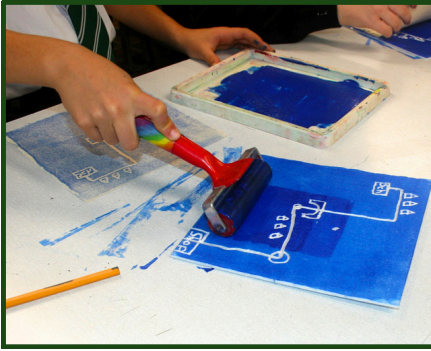


8P were learning about the working conditions for many children in sweatshops, and how they can be forced to do work at such a young age. So, to imagine how it would feel, students were given the option of completing a task on the floor. They commented on how it was difficult to work in these conditions, and how it must be tricky for people to do this at work. For their next lesson, students were given the option of completing the entire lesson in these conditions, which many

students were keen to experience! They were quick to comment how they couldn't work like this for more than an hour, and were able to sympathise with those children who are forced to work in these conditions every day.

*Miss Cheeseman, Teacher Geography*

# BROADWAY GALLERY

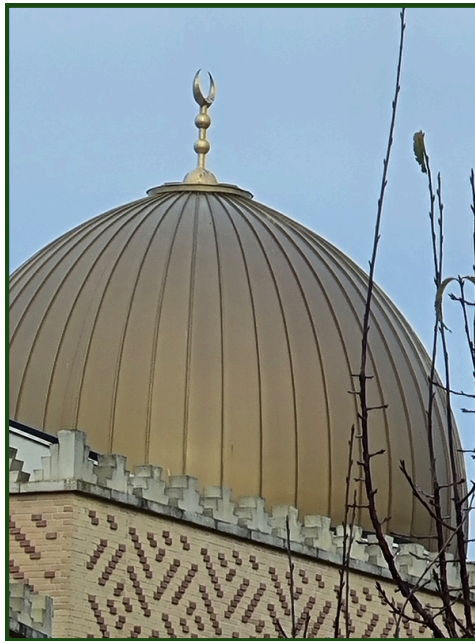


Our year 7s spent time over the last few weeks working on a joint initiative between Art and Geography, working in partnership with Letchworth's Broadway Gallery. Students walked their route to school, taking time to notice their surroundings, take photos, collect interesting objects and reflect on the emotions and memories that the walk evoked. They drew a basic map of their route, which they then transferred to a polystyrene board and printed onto fabric. The students' artwork will be displayed in the Broadway Gallery on Tuesday 26th November.

*Art & Geography Teams & The Broadway Gallery*

# MOSQUE TRIP

On the 12th and 15th November Miss Chilton and Mr Fowler took two groups of year 10 PRE students to Cambridge Central Mosque. Both groups of students showed excellent behaviour, respect and interest in the tour they received. The tour ties in with their GCSE studies and gives them the chance to explore a religious building first hand. Our tour guide took time to explain the different elements of the mosque and how it ties in with the Islamic religion. We were also told about the experiences they had completing Hajj (pilgrimage) to Mecca and how that influenced their faith. We were incredibly impressed with the students and how they engaged with the trip.



*Miss L Chilton. Subject Lead PRE*

## FOOTBALL & BASKETBALL



Lots of sporting fixtures against local schools over the last few weeks, including year 7 basketball against Hitchin Boys (special mentions to Lucas S-E for really determined good play throughout and Evie M for great rebounding and shooting), year 7 football against Highfield (Man of the Match was Riley S, with special mentions to Harry P who was tremendous in goal and Charlie S who was a warrior in defense), senior basketball against St Chris (special mentions to Kiontae H who was great with the steals and Kenzie G and William T who shot well), and year 7 football against Hitchin Boys (Man of the Match was Archie F, with special mentions to Charlie S, Caleb C, Finn B, Riley S and Ronnie G).

## CROSS COUNTRY

On Thursday 7th of November, Fearnhill students attended the Annual Cross Country Race at Fairland Valley in Stevenage. The conditions for the race were tough, the temperature was low and the ground was incredibly muddy. Students had to think tactically to keep a consistent pace and finish with a sprint. Collectively, the group ran the best we have seen in the past few years with multiple students finishing before the 20th position. Standout performances include Louie G (11P), Finley R (11N), Thomas B (9P), Joel S (9N), and Tiannah F (10N).



*Miss S Straughn, Head of PE*

## BOOKS & BISCUITS

Last half term, Books & Biscuits Club enjoyed meeting to discuss 'The Hunger Games', culminating in some Katniss Everdeen-inspired archery. The book (and film!) was liked by everyone. The group took Blackman's 'Hacker' to read over half term, and found it too dated and not believable enough, which sparked some interesting discussion when we got back.

This half term, we are reading either Golding's 'Lord of the Flies' or Boyne's 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas', and eating a lot of Miss Greenwood's home baking. Everyone is welcome to drop in to pick up a copy of a book and chat about what they have been reading.

**Books and biscuits' club meets every Thursday  
breaktime in E3.**



## ADVENT READING CHALLENGE

Fearnhill School Library  
Advent Reading Challenge

Join Google classroom 5t7capz



Starting 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Read or listen to the first  
chapter of a Christmas book  
everyday until Christmas.  
(all books are available to borrow from the library)  
Print out and complete the  
question sheet to win a prize in  
January!



# 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*



## 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



# 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

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## Autumn Term 2024

Monday 25th November	Year 7, 8 & 9 Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 26th November	Year 10 & 11 Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 27th November	Year 10 Reports Issued
Wednesday 27th November	Sixth Form Opening Evening
Friday 29th November	Occasional Day (school closed)
Monday 2nd December	Disaggregated (school closed)
Wednesday 11th December	Historic England Visit (Y12&13 History Students + History Club)
Thursday 12th December	Year 13 Parents' Evening (Times TBC)
Tuesday 17th December	Year 11 Mock Results and Reports Issued
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 7th January	Year 13 Mock Exams Start
Tuesday 21st January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Monday 27th January	Year 9 Assessment Week Starts
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	Half term
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	Term ends

# 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>

A poster for "Pitch Up and Play Rugby". The background is a green field with a rugby ball in the foreground. The ball has "GET INTO RUGBY" written on it. In the top right corner is the Letchworth Garden City Rugby Union Football Club logo, which is a circular emblem with a stag's head and the text "LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY EST 1924 RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB". A black speech bubble contains the text: "Join us! Meet new friends, have fun and learn new skills, no experience necessary and all abilities welcome." Below the field, a yellow banner contains the following text: "OPEN TO SCHOOL YEAR 10", "WHEN: WEDNESDAY'S 6.30-7.30PM", "WHERE: LETCWORTH RUGBY CLUB, LEGENDS LANE, BALDOCK ROAD SG6 2EN". At the bottom, another yellow banner reads "INTERESTED?" followed by "New or experienced players welcome, just turn up or for any questions or further information email us on [letchworthrugby@hotmail.com](mailto:letchworthrugby@hotmail.com) or Admin on 07741276516".



# 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](#).

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.minder.co.uk/hertfordshire>

Then scroll to the Cogs offer!

[www.thetoolbox.minder.co.uk/hertfordshire](https://www.thetoolbox.minder.co.uk/hertfordshire)



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

**Families In Focus CIC**  
LOOKING FORWARD TOGETHER

**Hertfordshire**  
Funded by HCC  
Targeted Parenting Fund

**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)

## 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)




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)




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



## YPHWS Young People's Health & Wellbeing Survey




In November Hertfordshire County Council and partners are running a **20 minute anonymous online** survey across secondary school aged pupils in the county to help us plan services and support for young people. This is the fifth year of running the survey with more than 16,000 responses recorded last year.

The link to the survey can be found below. The survey will go 'live' at 9am Monday 4th November, and close on Friday 20th December. A reminder will be sent to schools.

For more information please contact [yphws@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:yphws@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

wellbeing  
lifestyle  
mental health  
safety  
education









[www.hertshealthevidence.org/vphws](http://www.hertshealthevidence.org/vphws)