



FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile

Issue 647 18th March 2025

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MR SPENCER'S UPDATE

It has been an especially busy month in the life of the school. School is more than just lessons and exams and that has been particularly true recently.

Oliver Success

I was blown away by the standard of performance and production in the school show. It was amazing to see so many students showing enthusiasm, commitment and talent throughout the three nights the show ran.

Year 8 & 9 Residential Trips

Most students in Year 8 & 9 have been away for three days to Gilwell Park in London for a residential trip. I joined one of the Year 8 trips; it was a privilege to see students having fun and trying new things. Personally, I was a fan of axe throwing even if I was not especially accurate!

Continued...

MR SPENCER'S UPDATE ...CONTINUED

Working with the Poet Laureate

Students in Y10 have been involved in print-making workshops and a group of students went to Letchworth Library to meet Simon Armitage, the Poet Laureate. Many of the students' poems were selected as examples of outstanding work and students were also praised for their enthusiasm and engagement with the activities.

Alumni Return

On 7th March we welcomed back approximately 60 ex-students to talk to students about their career journeys. It was lovely for me to see many familiar faces from the past and I was inspired to see how well their career paths are progressing. I know the alumni were very impressed with our current students and enjoyed sharing their advice and experiences with them.

All these events are a reminder of our ongoing commitment to helping each student to develop their talents and grow their character. Education at Fearnhill is broad; it is focussed on supporting each individual student to flourish, whether that is building confidence through a performance, gaining resilience on a residential trip or developing self-awareness via career opportunities. We want Fearnhill to be a vibrant and dynamic community that meets the needs of all students and I think these recent events have provided the scope for more students to thrive in their day to day schooling.

Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



2. Establishing Good Habits for the Future

School attendance is not just about learning academic subjects — it's also about forming habits that will serve students in the future. Regular attendance encourages punctuality, time management, and accountability, all of which are essential in professional and personal life. Developing these habits early sets students up for success beyond school.

Note to parents/guardians: Expected attendance is 97%, meaning students who miss more than a day per half term are likely to underachieve and be at a significant disadvantage to their peers. Please support your child in attending school.

Mr M Phillips, Assistant Headteacher

YEAR 8 & 9 RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

Year 8 and 9 students had an amazing opportunity to go to Gilwell park for a few nights where they experienced multiple challenging activities which pushed them out of their comfort zone! From going on the 3G swing (my personal favourite) to Tomahawk throwing, students had a real good go at them all. They all made it out alive! I am really proud of all the students that attended this trip as they represented the school really well!

Miss R Bossley, Teacher Art



YEAR 8 & 9 RESIDENTIAL TRIPS



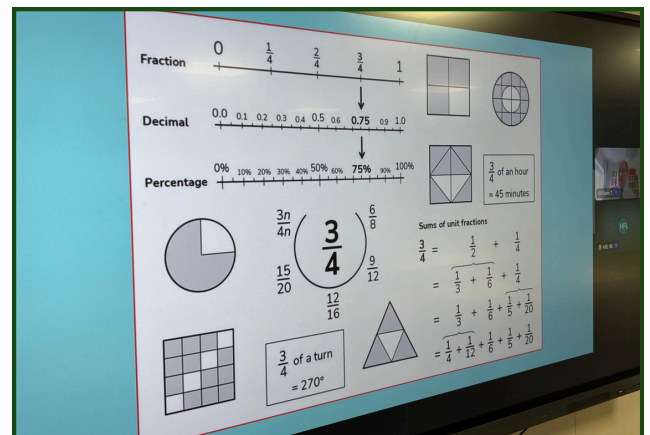
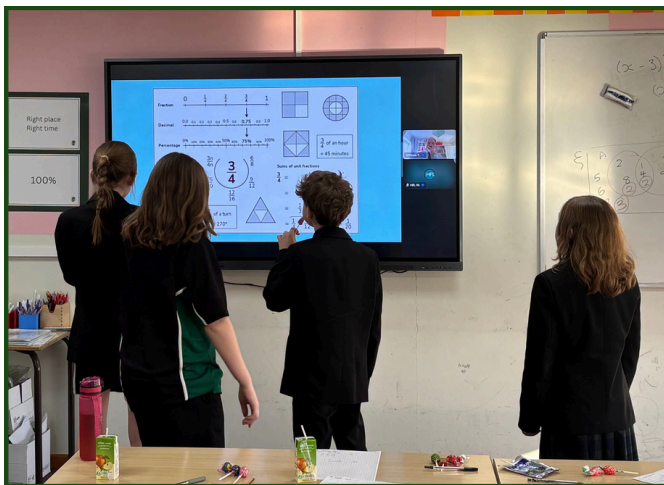
HERTS FOR LEARNING Y7 MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE 2025

On Tuesday 25 February 2025 eight of our Year 7 students took part in Heat 1 of the HFL Year 7 Mathematics Challenge against 24 other schools. There are four heats in total. This is a county-wide mathematics competition run by Herts for Learning Education. It is an informal, friendly inter-school competition, designed to challenge young mathematicians who require excellent communication, problem-solving and team-working skills, as well as mathematical skill and insight.

Each challenge is divided into four equally weighted rounds: General Maths Questions, Memory, Estimation, and More General Maths Questions.

Fearnhill entered two teams and we are very pleased to announce that one of our teams achieved a superb 4th place! This means they have been invited to the Final of the Year 7 Maths Challenge which will take place at the end of April.

Congratulations are in order to Chloe C, Amelie B, Evelyn J, Evie M, William B, Rex D-E, Alfons B and Finn B, who represented our school brilliantly and who demonstrated excellent collaborative-working skills along with superb mathematical thinking. Well done to all!



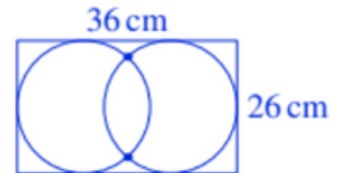
Mrs J Lee, Teacher Maths

UKMT INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE 2025

On Wednesday 29 January 2025 many of our Year 9, 10 and 11 students took part in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematics Challenge, which is a national mathematics competition run by the United Kingdom Mathematical Trust.

The Challenge comprised of students independently answering 25 challenging mathematics problems. An example of which is:

Two circles each touch three sides of a rectangle measuring $36\text{ cm} \times 26\text{ cm}$, as is shown in the diagram, which is not drawn to scale. What is the distance between the two points where the circles intersect?



Congratulations are in order to our students who performed really well in this competition; with a very special mention to Max S in Year 10 who received a Gold Certificate for his superb achievement. Further special mention must be made to Rosie T in Year 11 and Osama K-A for the brilliant Silver Certificates they both achieved.

And finally, we list the students who achieved an excellent Bronze Certificate in this competition:

Year 9: Thomas B, Adam B, Mason H, Skye S and Joel S;

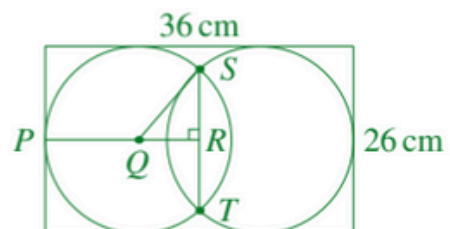
Year 10: Defne E, Lucas H, Hadhik S;

Year 11: Niamh A, Testimony A, Jenson H, Nuqi J, Lucy J, Michelle K, William K, Juhi K, Taylor-Jane R, Mason T, Lucy T.

Very well done to all our students who took part.

And for those of you keen to know if you are correct when having a go at the question above, please see solution below.

Let the length of ST be $2h$ cm. Note that the radius of each circle is $(26 \div 2)\text{ cm} = 13\text{ cm}$. So $PQ = QS = 13\text{ cm}$. From the symmetry of the diagram we can deduce that PR is half the length of the rectangle, that is 18 cm . Therefore $QR = PR - PQ = (18 - 13)\text{ cm} = 5\text{ cm}$.



By Pythagoras' Theorem, $QS^2 = QR^2 + SR^2$. Hence $13^2 = 5^2 + h^2$. So $h^2 = 169 - 25 = 144$. Therefore $h = 12$.

So the distance between the two points where the circles intersect is $2 \times 12\text{ cm}$, that is 24 cm .

Mrs J Lee, Teacher Maths

YEAR 8 ART

Students spent the last half term learning how to paint in the style of Claude Monet, they were successful in recreating sections of the school using Monet's visual style which focuses on creating an impression of the original landscape using texture of layering acrylic and watercolour paint. Fabulous outcomes!

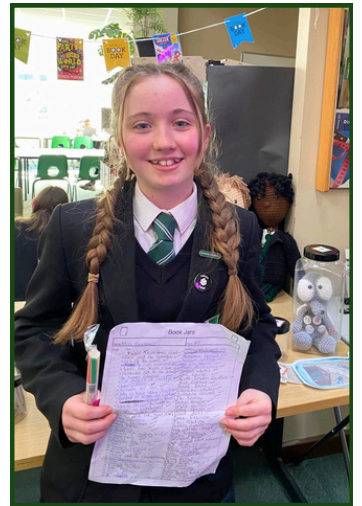


Miss R Bossley, Teacher Art

WORLD BOOK DAY - LIBRARY COMPETITION

For World Book Day, our lovely library team created some competitions for students.

1. 40 jars with clues inside were displayed in the library, each representing the name of a book. Students worked out the clues and then researched the author's name. Those who got all 40 got a book mark, a stick of rock, 2 stamp nominations to the proud table and will be entered into a World Book Day draw.
2. Members of staff took on the role of a book character and classrooms were renamed for the day with the settings these characters live in. Students had a list of characters to find and a list of the classrooms which had been renamed. To complete the challenge students had to discover the characters and places and then match up which character came from which place.
3. Students were also asked to design a book token and entries need to be returned to the library by the 21st of March so that these can be sent off to National Book Tokens for judging, fingers crossed we have a winner!



Mrs R Thurlby, Library & Literacy Support Assistant

DUKE OF EDINBURGH CHAPELFOOT WALK

On Saturday 8th February, Mr Fox, Mr Fowler, Miss Mills, Miss Jennings and Mr Turner took out our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards students on our inaugural 9.27 mile walk just outside Letchworth, starting at the historic Rusty Gun/Chapelfoot public house. The students walked, marched, and fell over in the mud for five hours, but no complaints were heard, and the students acted well within their teams, demonstrating excellent communication skills, and superb map reading abilities.

With the second walk being planned out, with nicer weather being hoped for, the students are gaining invaluable experiences and knowledge by completing their Bronze awards walks, and participating in the DofE experience.



Mr B Fox, 2nd in English

DUKE OF EDINBURGH DO IT FOR YOUTH

Working hard to beat Mr Fox, Miss Jennings has been out running before school in the mornings. She is currently averaging just under 7 miles a day which is currently beating Mr Fox's 5 miles! Can she keep it up for the whole of March and do more than 200 miles? Miss Jennings, Mr Fox, Mr Fowler and Miss Mills are aiming to walk/run/cycle 120 miles each in March to raise money for the Duke of Edinburgh scheme. More information can be found here <https://www.dofe.org/events/do-it-4-youth/>



Miss E Jennings, Teacher Science

PRIMARY ATHLETICS

On Wednesday 26th of February we hosted the Primary School Athletics Final for the following schools to compete in: Pixmore, St Mary's, Whitehill, St Francis, Samuel Lucas, St Andrews, with Pixmore School winning the event overall.

Our Sports Leaders had various jobs such as timing, measuring and recording. The events of the competition were as following; hurdle obstacle and tunnel obstacle, relays, sprints, triple jump, chest throw, javelin, speed bounce, long jump and vertical jump.



All leaders showed exceptional maturity throughout the afternoon. They were confident, organised and efficient. Primary school teachers were very complimentary about all leaders.

Miss S Straughn, Head of PE

LETCWORTH COMIC CON 2025



Letchworth Comic Con will be coming to town on **27th & 28th June 2025!** We've teamed up with a host of local organisations to bring you a convention PACKED with unmissable events, including:

- Cinema Screenings
- VR Games
- Cosplay Extravaganza
- Flight Simulator
- Character Creation Workshops
- Artist Workshops & Alley
- Merch Market

For more information, visit [Letchworth Comic Con](#) on Facebook.

Ms A Holloway, Student Teacher

ITALIAN EXCHANGE - HOSTS NEEDED

CAN YOU HELP?

Every year Fearnhill entertains about 20-30 Italian students who will be visiting the school 1-11 July 2025.

It's great fun and is always lovely to have families attached to the school hosting as it gives more students the opportunity to be involved.

Host families wanted in Letchworth!

We are looking for host families in Letchworth for a group of Italian secondary students

1ST TO 11TH JULY 2025



GREAT RATES OF PAY!

Contact us on: 07740 076427
office@stneots-ec.com



Can You Help? Every year Fearnhill entertains about 20-30 Italian students who will be visiting the school 1-11 July 2025. It's great fun and is always lovely to have families attached to the school hosting as it gives more students the opportunity to be involved.

Mr N Fowler, Head of Humanities

VACANCY - ENGLISH TEACHER

At Fearnhill we know that great teachers make all the difference. We are committed to creating the best working conditions for our teachers so that they enjoy their work and, as a result, have a positive impact on all our students. As the number of students on roll at Fearnhill continues to rise, we are looking for an ambitious and knowledgeable classroom teacher to teach English. This role involves delivering great lessons for our students and working within the English team to further develop curriculum and assessment in English.

Please see the [vacancies page on our website](#) for more information.

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



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



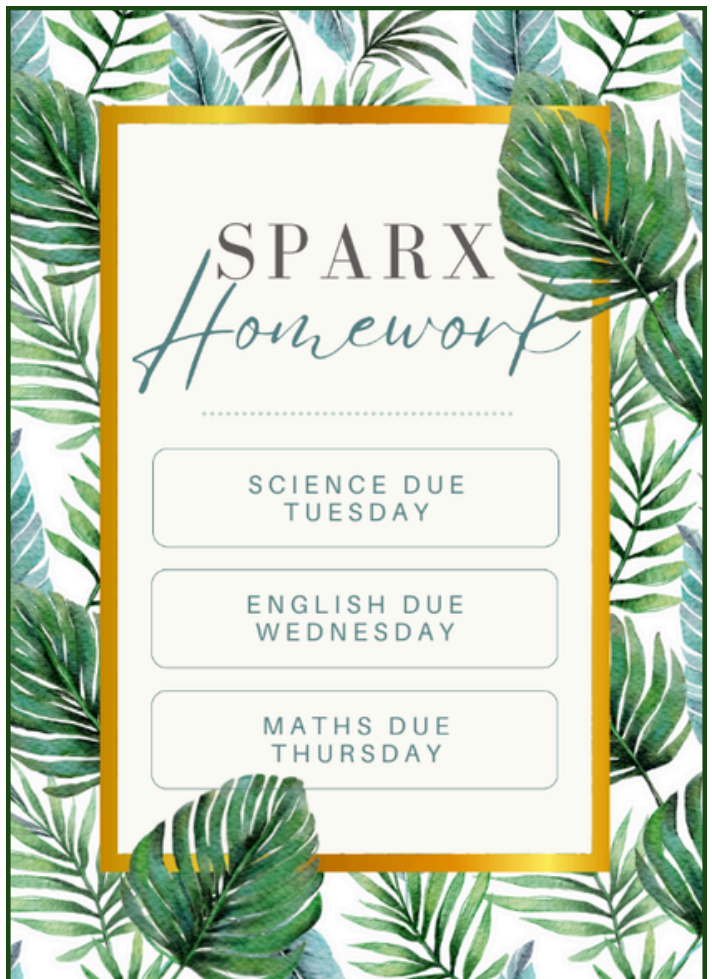
Homework
CLUB
IN 13

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

Spring Term 2025

Tuesday 18th March	Year 10 parents' evening
Tuesday 25th March	Year 12 Trip to UCAS Discovery Exhibition, ExCel London
Tuesday 25th March	Year 7 parents' evening
Thursday 3rd April	Year 11 reports issued
Friday 4th April	Term ends

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April	Terms starts
Monday 5th May	May bank Holiday - School closed
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

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

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)

EXTERNAL INFORMATION

Hitchin Town LGBTQ+ SUPPORTERS CLUB



Diversity, Inclusivity, Equality

Katiespride3@gmail.com

DSPL1 Delivering Special Provision Locally

INFORMATION EVENT

FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

10am	The Impact of Undiagnosed Mental Health Illness/Disorders 7 Signposting to Tools to Help all Ages	Poets-In
10:30am	Understanding OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder)	SPACE Herts
11:30am	Social Media and Sleep	MHST Mental Health Support Team
12pm	Digital Wellbeing	PHASE
12:15pm	The Neurodiversity Support Hub Advice Line	ADD-Vance
1:15pm	Support Groups	Angels Support Group
1:40pm	Emotionally Based School Avoidance EBSA	NESSie

The Icknield Centre, Letchworth
Thursday, 27 March 2025
9:30am to 3pm
Refreshments provided

DSPL1

nhdsp1.org.uk
Book your place via the website.
PROFESSIONALS WELCOME TO ATTEND

PITCH UP AND PLAY RUGBY




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

OPEN TO SCHOOL YEAR 10
WHEN: WEDNESDAY'S 6.30-7.30PM
WHERE: LETCHWORTH RUGBY CLUB, LEGENDS LANE, BALDOCK ROAD SG6 2EN

INTERESTED?
New or experienced players welcome, just turn up or for any questions or further information email us on letchworthrugby@hotmail.com or Admin on 07741276516



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

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](#).

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



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

www.youthfa.com

TALKING ASD & ADHD WORKSHOP: RESPONDING to ANGER



Workshops are FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire of children aged 2-25yrs with suspected or diagnosed Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.



**Wednesday
2nd April 2025
9.30-11.15am**

We will help you to learn about:

- The difference between healthy & unhealthy anger.
- The pattern that anger takes and how to spot the non-verbal signs early.
- Our own and our children's triggers.
- Techniques that stop angry and aggressive behaviour escalating and when to use them.
- How to respond to our child in meltdown, keeping ourselves, our child and siblings safe.

An online parent workshop delivered to your home via Zoom.

FREE for parents and carers living or with a child in school in Hertfordshire

Booking essential via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-responding-to-anger-714-for-parents-careers-in-herts-registration-1009128039139>



Or contact Supporting Links
QUOTING REFERENCE SL714

01442 300185

info@supportinglinks.co.uk
www.supportinglinks.co.uk



"Tackled some complex areas really well. Helpful visuals, full of information to use in the real world. Can definitely use some of the concepts immediately."

Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

Information for Parents

Did you know that pharmacies can now offer clinical appointments with medication available if required for four clinical conditions particularly relevant to school age children?



- ✓ • Earache (children aged 1-17)
- ✓ • Sore throat (over 5s)
- ✓ • Infected insect bites (over 1s)
- ✓ • Impetigo (over 1s)

Think 'Pharmacy First'

GP practices are busy and it can be difficult to get a same-day GP appointment. When your child is off sick from school with any of the above conditions, by going straight to your local pharmacy you can have a consultation with a trained clinical professional and receive advice and even medication if it is needed, meaning they could be on the road to recovery and back at school as soon as possible.



For more information speak with your local community pharmacy.

To find your nearest pharmacy see:
<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/pharmacy/find-a-pharmacy>
Or scan the QR code:



Are you a family with children and young people aged 0-25 with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities looking for local activities?

The SEND community activities directory promotes a wide range of local activities and support groups, some activities will also include discounts for families registered on our Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database (HAND).

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SENDdirectory

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SENDdirectory

TALKING TEENS



Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm Online Course: ID 708
26th February - 2nd April 2025
6 weekly sessions
Delivered online using Zoom

**Due to popular demand
New course dates added**

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 12-19, covering:

- **The Teen Brain: Recognising the physical and emotional changes taking place during the teenage years and why their behaviour changes.**
- **The link between behaviour and difficult feelings.**
- **Maintaining your relationship with good communication.**
- **Understanding risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.**
- **How to negotiate during a conflict situation.**

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

"Our home is no longer a battlefield. I am less stressed and my teenager speaks to me more. Thank you!"

Booking essential
Please quote the course ID
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

07512 709556

bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

www.supportinglinks.co.uk



Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.