

16th May 2025

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

## Year 12 Volunteering Day 2025 Tuesday 17th June for 12HLR, Tuesday 24th June for 12JWY

We are excited to announce the return of our very successful, Year 12 Volunteering Day. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to engage in meaningful voluntary work at The Best Before Cafe in Letchworth Garden City. As this is a school day, it is compulsory that all students participate in this event and make the most of the opportunity.

Students do not need to register in school that morning and should meet us outside The Best Before Cafe in Garden Square shopping centre, Letchworth town centre at 9.30am. They will be dismissed from the Cafe at 2.30pm to make their own way home.

Students should bring a packed lunch and wear suitable, comfortable clothing. We kindly request that all students in receipt of free school meals complete this form no later than 1st June, to confirm whether or not they would like us to provide a free packed lunch.

The Best Before Cafe is a community-focused initiative dedicated to reducing food waste and promoting sustainability. The cafe operates by collecting surplus food from local supermarkets and other businesses, which is then offered to the community on a 'pay-as-you-feel' basis. This not only helps to prevent food from going to waste but also provides an affordable dining option for everyone, fostering a spirit of inclusivity and support within the community.

Students will have the opportunity to experience various aspects of the cafe's operations, including:

- Kitchen Work: Preparing food items, learning about food safety, and understanding the importance of using surplus food creatively.
- Shop Floor Activities: Assisting with customer service, handling and distributing food, and maintaining a welcoming environment for all visitors.
- Outdoor Tasks: Helping with any necessary outdoor activities, such as setting up areas for outdoor dining or managing food collections.

Volunteering offers numerous benefits, especially for young people. It provides a platform to develop essential life skills such as teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. By working together in a real-world environment, students will develop empathy and social responsibility, gain practical experience and boost their confidence. We believe that this experience will be incredibly rewarding for our students and contribute positively to their personal development.

As you have previously completed a global consent form for school trips and other off-site activities for your child, you will have already given your permission for your child to participate in this trip. Please inform the School office if any of your contact details have changed.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on sixthform@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing our students come together to support this wonderful cause.

Yours faithfully,

Mr T Marlow Head of Sixth Form

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