



FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile

Issue 650 12th May 2025

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MR SPENCER'S UPDATE

Should schools have silent corridors?

Some secondary schools insist that students move in silence between lessons during the school day. I understand why headteachers might make this decision, but it is not a strategy that I would want to employ.

I do not believe that it is the job of schools to control childrens' behaviour to this extent. Silent corridors work on the assumption that children will automatically be unkind and unruly if they are allowed to speak during lesson changeover. This is not my experience. It is also no preparation for the real world. Where else would a large number of humans in the same place be expected to move from A to B in absolute silence?

Continued...

MR SPENCER'S UPDATE ...CONTINUED

Corridor conduct

However, conduct around school is very important. We make clear our expectations to students regarding moving between classrooms and prioritise teaching respect. Last week was Respect Week (more details to follow) and it remains an ongoing priority to instil in all students an instinct to show respect to others in all situations. Sadly this has been lost in much of society. As a school we believe that we can change society rather than be changed by it.



Fire and lockdown drills

There are times when silence across the school is essential. During fire drills and lockdown drills we make no apology for insisting that all students are silent throughout. We had a first practice of a lockdown drill last week and the students' response was excellent. Naturally we hope that we never need to respond to an emergency, but it is reassuring to know that students respond so well to the drills.

Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



5. Reducing the Risk of Falling Behind

When students miss school, they risk falling behind in their studies. Each lesson builds upon the last, and missing school can make it difficult to catch up. Frequent absences can lead to gaps in knowledge that may affect a student's overall performance. Regular attendance ensures that students stay current with lessons and maintain a steady academic pace.

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

GOOD LUCK YEAR 13!

It has been an absolute pleasure seeing our Year 13 students through their Sixth Form journey! They are a small year group but absolutely mighty as young adults entering their next stage of life after Fearnhill! Mrs Mackrell and I wish you all the very best for your exams and look forward to celebrating with you on results day!



Mr T Marlow, Director of Post 16 Studies & Associate Assistant Head

GOOD LUCK YEAR 11!

Year 11 have now reached the final hurdle of the year, Exams! It's been a long time waiting for these exams to get underway and now the time is upon us. If you've put the hard work in then feel reassured that you have done all you can. Now it's about staying calm, focused and well rested before each and every exam. It's been a pleasure to take you all on this journey and I wish you all the very best of luck with your GCSE examinations. Myself and Ms Brown are so proud of you and will be standing by your side until the very last exam. We look forward to celebrating all together at Leavers Assembly on the 26th June and at Prom on the 27th June. All the very best, Mrs Martin (Head of Key Stage 4)

Mrs J Martin, Head of Key Stage 4

YEAR 8 TEAM MATHS CHALLENGE

On Monday 28 April 2025 eight of our Year 8 students took part in Heat 1 of the HFL Year 8 Challenge Mathematics Challenge against 12 other schools. There are four heats in total.

Fearnhill entered two teams, Team A and Team B. Students in our Team A were James L, Laura S, Eliana N and Damla E. Students in our Team B were Dash J, Ruben W, Tommy B and Cohen O.

Our students worked hard together to solve the challenging questions and finished 10th and 11th respectively.

The Year 8 Maths Challenge is a county-wide mathematics competition run by Herts for Learning Education. It is designed as 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:

Round 1: General maths questions

Round 2: Memory round

Round 3: Estimation round

Round 4: More general Maths questions

Congratulations are in order to all of these students 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

ITV FILMING - WORKSHOP WITH CHARITY DIGNIFY

On Wednesday 30th April we were very excited to welcome a film crew from ITV and national charity Dignify into school. A group of our students took part in a workshop with Dignify, whose vision is for children to thrive in healthy relationships. They covered important topics such as misogyny, stereotypes, social norms and harmful content online and students participated in various activities, after which some were interviewed about their experiences. The piece was aired on Good Morning Britain on Thursday 1st May and our students did us proud, speaking eloquently about these difficult subjects.



Mr M Phillips, Assistant Headteacher

LIFE COURSE



We are delighted that one of our Students, Josh B, completed the LIFE course at Baldock Fire Station on 1st May. He was one of only 12 students to attend the four day course which aims to instil resilience and respect into young people's lives through a disciplined and focused environment. Josh took part in a series of specially designed challenges which involved ladder climbing, search and rescue whilst blindfolded, hose running, learning about the breathing apparatus and shelter building. They also had the opportunity to have a session run by the Hertfordshire Police on gangs and knives.

The four day course ended with a spectacular 'Passing Out' parade where the students re-enacted various scenes showing off what they had learnt and were then presented with certificates by the Commander of the Fire Service. A big thank you to the Baldock Fire Service who have been running these interventions and for giving this opportunity to our students.

Ms P Flora, Student Support Co-Ordinator

PROUD TABLE

Students continue to come to the Proud Table each week with work they are proud of. Proud Table runs every Friday lunchtime from 1.30-1.50 in the maths block (or outside if it's sunny). We draw one student each week to win £10, and next week will also be our half termly £50 draw!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH CELEBRATION BREAKFAST

On Friday 2nd May, Duke of Edinburgh students past and present gathered together to award and celebrate the first ever DofE Bronze Awards being given out at Fearnhill School.

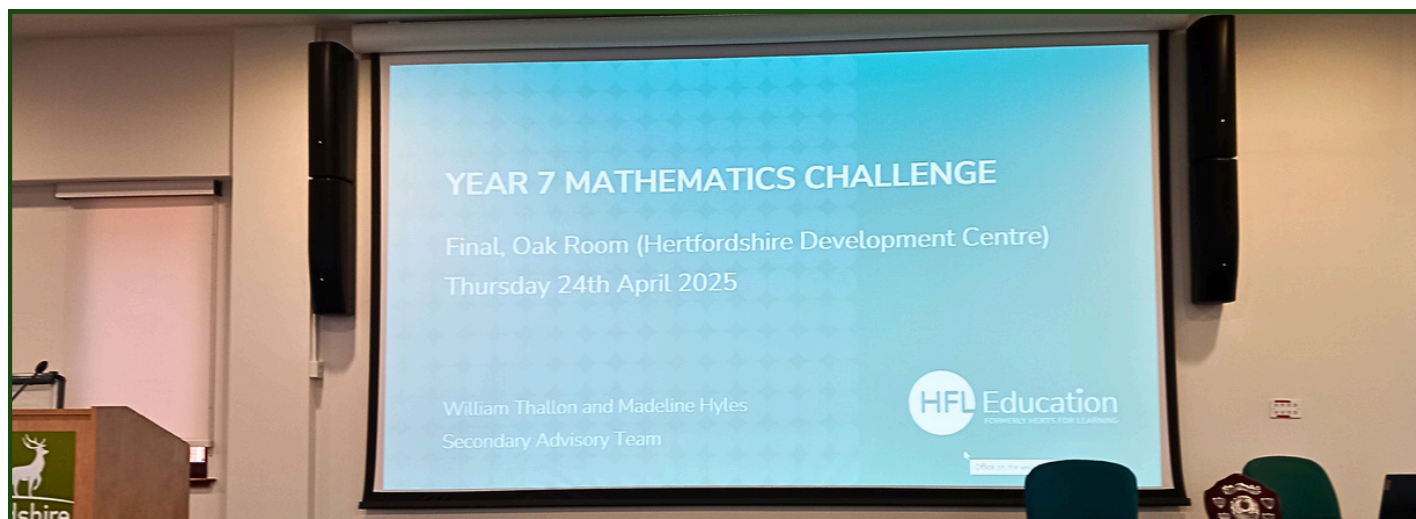
The 16 Fearnhill students who have successfully completed the Bronze Award and their parents/guardians were met with a breakfast cooked for them by staff, and had a chance to share their wisdom and experiences with the students currently undertaking the Bronze Award.

Mr Spencer and Mr Fox handed out the Bronze Award certificates and badges to the students who worked tirelessly over the last year to complete this internationally recognised qualification, which celebrates the resilience and ingenuity of our students, and demonstrates to the students currently taking part what they need to do to succeed.



Mr B Fox, 2nd in English

YEAR 7 MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE - TEAM FINAL 2025



On Thursday 24th April our Team A finalists, comprising of Chloe C, Amelie B, Evelyn J and Evie M, went to Hertfordshire Development Centre in Stevenage to take part in the Year 7 Maths Challenge Final.

The Year 7 Maths Challenge is a county-wide mathematics competition run by Herts for Learning Education. It is designed as 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.

Over one hundred teams took part across the county, with 21 teams making the final. Our students worked really hard and competitively and finish 13 th on the day.

Congratulations are in order to all of these students 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

CRICKET

Year 7-9 boys played cricket against Thomas Alleyne last week. They chased down 105 to win by 4 wickets.

Joint Player of the Match to Thomas and Joel. Both scored runs, took wickets and catches. Great all round performances from them both. Tom retired not out and Joel was on 20 not out when we made it to victory.

Great contributions for whole team. Special mention for Charlie and Nihaan for stepping up last minute.



Our year 9 mixed cricket team played against John Henry Newman last week. It was a close game, with our opponents narrowly beating us.

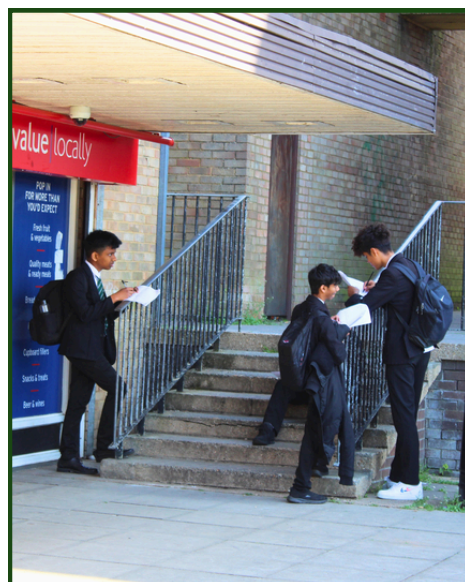
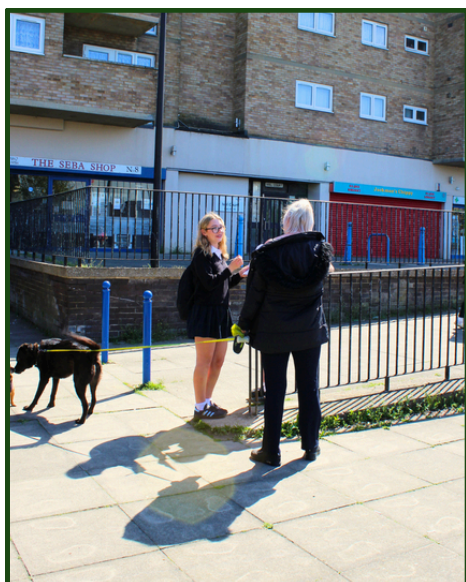
The team was led very well by Thomas. Player of the Match to Joel for fantastic all round performance with runs and a wicket.

Other wickets were taken by Josh, Tilly and Thomas with great batting performances from James, Jayden, Conor and Mia.

Mr M Turner, PE Teacher & Head of Key Stage 3

YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

On Tuesday 29th April our Year 11 Geographers went on a field trip to investigate the extent to which demographic variations contribute to differences in quality of life. Students visited the Broadway and Jackmans areas of Letchworth, making observations, interviewing local residents and completing an environmental quality survey. They did an excellent job and have collected lots of data to use for writing up their reports.



Mr N Fowler, Head of Humanites & Associate Assistant Head

SCHOOL CANTEEN - VE DAY

Our school canteen baked some fabulous cookies and cakes for VE day on Thursday 8th May.



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



ICE CREAMS & LOLLIES

ICE LOLLY SALE

**THIS WEDNESDAY &
FRIDAY LUNCHTIME
ON THE FIELD**

**Ice Lollies - 50p
Ice Creams - £1**

CASH ONLY

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

Summer Term 2025

Ongoing	GCSE & A Level exams
Monday 26th – Friday 30th May	Half term
Monday 2nd June	Year 12 Mock exams start
Monday 2nd June	Year 8 Assessment week starts
Thursday 5th June	Year 12 University of Hertfordshire Taster Day
Monday 9th June	Year 7 Assessment week starts
Tuesday 17th & 24th June	Year 12 Volunteering Day
Monday 23rd June	Year 10 Mock exams start
Wednesday 25th June	Year 8 Reports issued
Wednesday 25th June	Year 9 Reports issued
Wednesday 2nd July	Year 7 Reports issued
Friday 4th July	INSET DAY - School closed to students
Wednesday 9th July	Sixth Form Induction Day
Thursday 10 th July	Year 12 Activity Day Trip
Wednesday 16th July	Year 10 Reports issued
Wednesday 16th July	Year 12 Reports issued
Wednesday 23rd July	Term ends
Thursday 14 th August	A Level results day
Thursday 21 st August	GCSE results day

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)

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




YOUTH FOOTBALL ACADEMY

Our motto - Personal Growth

Structured and fun football sessions to improve your child's skills and confidence delivered by experienced and FA qualified coaches with DBS ✓




2013-2025
12 years with you, and your thoughts:

- ✓ Great environment
- ✓ Quality Training
- ✓ Community Feel
- ✓ Patience & Support
- ✓ Enjoyable Sessions

Saturday Morning Academy

- Ages 5-8 years old; Time 9.25am – 10.25am
- Ages 8-14 years old; Time 10.30am – 12pm

Courses run throughout the year

FREE* trial sessions on Saturdays at 'Our Lady School' (*with advance booking)



For enquiries or booking: Call on 0740 290 1966
Email: info@youthfa.com or go online: www.youthfa.com

Hitchin Town LGBTQ+ SUPPORTERS CLUB



Diversity, Inclusivity, Equality

Katiespride3@gmail.com

CRICKET

AGES 8-15

**THROW LIKE A GIRL
BOWL LIKE A GIRL
BAT LIKE A GIRL**





**JOIN US FOR
A SUMMER OF FUN!**

LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY CRICKET CLUB
letchworth.play-cricket.com lgccjuniors@gmail.com



WANT TO TRY WATERPOLO?

Junior & Senior Sessions
 Juniors: Sat 8am @Letchworth Leisure Centre
 *Sun 6:15-7:15pm @Letchworth Lido
 *Seniors: Sun 7:15-8:30pm @Letchworth Lido
*Summer dates from 1st June - 17th Aug
 Winter dates available on request

Nominated for club of the year!



Seeking new players!

- Team Sport
- Builds Strength, Stamina, & Speed
- D of E Physical & Volunteering Eligible
- 3 Taster sessions available
- No prior experience required (AquaEd level 5 or above)
- Ages 8-65

email: hitchinwaterpolo@gmail.com tel: 07817 614262

SATURDAY PLAYERS WANTED!

UNDER 14'S 25/26 SEASON



NOW RECRUITING FOR OUR 3 CURRENT U13'S SQUADS (SCHOOL YEAR 8)

BEDS YOUTH SATURDAY LEAGUE DIVISIONS 2, 3 & 4

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!
 FRIENDLY TEAM ATMOSPHERE
 WEEKLY TRAINING ON 4G

TRIAL DATES - 7TH 14TH & 21ST MAY

PLEASE CONTACT
JASON : jndpellett@gmail.com
07960 134623



Letchworth Youth Hub

FREE THURSDAY 6-8PM
12-18YRS OLD

JACKMANS COMMUNITY CENTRE
SG6 2NL

FYP FOREVER YOUNG PEOPLE

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

AITC

SAUSAGE & GOBBLER PRODUCTIONS PRESENT...

Todd in the Hole Festival

TODDS GREEN, SG12JE, HERTFORDSHIRE
11th - 13th July 2025
3 DAYS • 6 STAGES • 80+ ACTS

20% DISCOUNT ON FRI / SUN WITH CODE TEACH25

FRIDAY MASSAOKE **SATURDAY DEFINITELY COULD BE OASIS** **SUNDAY FURNACE AND THE FUNDAMENTALS**

RULE THE WORLD • TASHA LEAPER AS MADONNA
 REM BY STIPE • SHAPE OF YOU - THE MUSIC OF ED SHEERAN
 KINGS OF LYON • WRONG JOVI • BLURD
 RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS EXPERIENCE • ABBA LUSH • THE UK STROKES
 THE POLICE ACADEMY • JUST LUTHER BY HARRY CAMBRIDGE
 PIANO FACTOR • DIRTY HALF HUNDRED • THE NASHVILLE NIGHTS • EMERGENCY BREAK BAND
 SCALLYWAGS • EGG & BACON BAND • ALLERGY • MR RAINMAKER
 KIT BOTTOMLEY • MAX RYAN • COMMUNITY CHOIRS • ZEROES • SNUBCAT

AFTERPARTIES IN THE WOODS
FRIDAY ALEX P • SATURDAY CLUB DE FROMAGE

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE TO TRAIN STATION
 DANCE DEN IN THE WOODS • KIDS ARENA HOSTED BY AIDAN O'NEILL
 VINTAGE FUNFAIR • CABARET • VIP AREA

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT www.TODDINTHEHOLE.CO.UK

Uniform Bank

lgcc EXTRA SMILE

For info please visit their [Facebook page](#).

EXTERNAL INFORMATION

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:

September 2024

HM LDA
Herts Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism Health and Care Partnership

Hertfordshire CYPMHS system newsletter

Bringing mental health and emotional wellbeing news and information to professionals working with Hertfordshire's children, young people and their parents and carers.

HOME NEWS & INFORMATION CYPMHS REDESIGN UNDERSTANDING CYPMHS ASK THE CYPMHS SYSTEM CYPMHS SERVICE DIRECTORY

EVENTS and TRAINING SUBSCRIBE

World Mental Health Day
Webinars and new resources from The Sandbox

Complete Herts CYPMHS short survey: deadline extended to 30 September

With Youth online groups restart this month and new Herts Haven Cafe opens

How is Nessie's (Herts CYPMHS NHS funded) service helping parents/carers?

CYPMHS Service Directory

Welcome to the September 2024 edition of Hertfordshire's CYPMHS newsletter, for professionals working with the county's children and young people. Find out how to pin the latest CYPMHS newsletter to the home screen of your mobile device, so you can quickly access all the latest news and updates [here](#). Please send your news for the next edition in October by Monday 7 October 2024.

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

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!

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

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.