



# FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile

Issue 653 9th July 2025

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## MR SPENCER'S UPDATE

We were delighted to recently receive the School of Sanctuary Award. This means we have been recognised for fostering a culture of welcome, belonging and solidarity for those seeking safety from conflict or persecution. Fearnhill is the first school in Hertfordshire to be recognised for this award. As a School of Sanctuary we join a network of 600 schools nationally - including 200 secondary schools.

The Award followed a lengthy assessment process requiring a broad range of evidence and a visit from four external assessors who reviewed our provision for all students. The feedback included the following comments:



Continued...

## MR SPENCER'S UPDATE ...CONTINUED

*"Becoming a School of Sanctuary is not an easy task, requiring a whole school effort and going above and beyond statutory requirements - and Fearnhill School is a truly exceptional example of what being a School of Sanctuary is all about. You should all be very proud."*

*"It is a joy to award Fearnhill School as our latest School of Sanctuary – and the first in Hertfordshire. A sincere congratulations! Learners and parents overwhelmingly stressed how safe and supported they feel from the school."*

*"We left your school feeling incredibly moved and inspired: through your efforts and those of your colleagues and learners, we truly do believe that we can bring about a kinder, more connected and compassionate future."*

I am very proud that Fearnhill has been recognised in this way by experts who have spent time in our school community, with students. We want students to feel happy and safe at school, and we want them to be kind to each other. We are so pleased to become a School of Sanctuary as it reflects everything that we want to be as a school. Congratulations to all the students for representing the school in such a positive light.

*Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher*

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



### 8. Enhancing Engagement and Participation

Students who attend school consistently are more likely to engage in class activities, ask questions, and actively participate. This engagement increases their understanding of the material and fosters a deeper interest in their studies. By being present, students are more likely to take ownership of their learning and thrive in their academic pursuits.

**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 7 LONDON TRIP

Last Wednesday we took our Year 7s to London for the day. We walked all around looking at the sights, saw St Paul's Cathedral, the Old Bailey, the London Stock Exchange, the Bank of England, Monument, the Tower of London, Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, St James Park, Buckingham Palace, Horse Guards Parade and the South Bank. We went on two trains and a boat and crossed the River Thames twice. Well done everyone, you all did us proud!





# PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

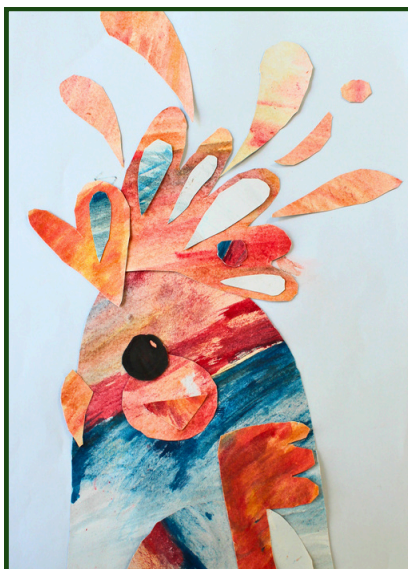
Last week we welcomed The Mighty Creatives to the school, who ran a photography project with a small group of students. The group are tasked with capturing what Letchworth means to them by means of photography, using methods such as symbolism, juxtaposition and observational photography, and went out and about in and around Letchworth gathering images for the project. On Thursday they exhibited their photos to staff, friends, family and members of the community and what a success it was! Well done Brooke H, Erin J, Jenson H, Mia C, Mia E, Mitchell M, Nuqi J, Oscar O and Oscar R, your photos are amazing!





## YEAR 7 ART - PETE CROMER DREAM BIRDS

Our Year 7s have been making dream birds in art, based on their interpretations of artist Pete Cromer's techniques. We love how colourful and vibrant they are!





## YEAR 11 LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY

Our Year 11s came back into school on 26<sup>th</sup> June for their leaver's assembly. They spent time signing each other's shirts and saying their goodbyes, before going into their assembly. They heard speeches from form tutors, Mrs Martin and Mr Spencer and journeyed back through wonderful memories, looking at photos over the last five years. We look forward to seeing them for GCSE results day on 21st August and many of them back for Sixth Form in September.



## YEAR 5 WILBURY VISIT

We invited some year 5 students from Wilbury Junior School into Fearnhill for a taster session last week. They had a languages lesson, learnt about bunsen burners and lab safety in science and finished their visit with a music session. We were impressed with how well they all did and we enjoyed their excellent answers to teachers' questions.





## YEAR 8 HAORI JACKETS

Year 8 have made some Haori jackets, which are on display in the library, where students can visit and vote for their favourites.



*Ms A Holloway, Student Teacher*

## ITALIAN STUDENTS VISITING

This week and last week we have 14 Italian students and 2 teachers visiting Fearnhill for 2 weeks all the way from sunny Milan. These students are here as part of an exchange for them to learn some English and gain a 'snapshot' of British life. The Italian students have been 'buddied' with Year 8 and 9 students. We are enjoying having them here and reciprocally gaining cultural enrichment.



## YEAR 12 UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE VISIT

On Monday 23rd June, year 12 Geographers visited the University of Hertfordshire's Bayfordbury Campus in Hertford to complete fieldwork activities based on their learning thus far.

Students were guided by both Dr. Oliver Bartlett and Hannah Fastenbauer; both fantastic Geography lecturers at the university, through both theory and practical. They began by exploring the water cycle around the on-site lake Sailor's Grove, hypothesising possible realities based on their own understanding of the topic and observations, then introduced them to complex fieldwork equipment that they were to use to collect data to either support or reject their hypotheses.

When out in the field, students worked diligently to test their hypotheses, exploring the impact water temperature, electrical conductivity, sediments in the water, local weather conditions, as well as surrounding vegetation and land use would have on the localised water cycle. Students measured these things at three different locations around the lake, and even got to go on the boat to test samples from the middle of the lake! They worked efficiently in their groups to collect their data, and produced some interesting data that they enjoyed discussing with the teaching staff in the laboratory - it was definitely a highlight of ours!

In the afternoon, students ventured out further into the 100-acre estate to Hook's Grove to explore the impact of carbon storage and sequestration on the localised carbon cycle. Students worked hard to identify their study quadrants, and worked diligently to collect their comprehensive data sets, using an inclinometer to measure the dimensions of the trees, alongside measuring the circumference them too, and finally using species identification kits to further investigate the extent to which the woodland was successful or not in carbon storage. To complement this, Dr. Oliver Bartlett showed students the possibilities of using drones to measure carbon sequestration across the site, and watched the drone fly over 100m into the air, using its thermal imagery to explore these hypotheses!

Back at the lab, students made sure to have their maths caps on, working through some complex statistical analyses to determine whether they could accept or reject their hypotheses.

University staff were keen to acknowledge the students' impressive knowledge and application to reality and, most importantly, their enthusiasm for the subject, all of which were skills they have developed throughout their A-Level - they really did Fearnhill proud. The university looks forward to welcoming us back, and we look forward to returning!

*Miss J Cheeseman, Teacher Geography*



# CALYPSO CRICKET



We had a great day out with Year 7 at Calypso Cricket on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Excellent performances from lots of the squad. The 2 Fearnhill teams faced off in the quarter finals after good group stage performances from both teams. It was a great game with a stunning batting performance from Harry P which turned the tide after he hit 4 6s in a row. Unfortunately that team lost in a close game in the semi finals. Well done everyone who took part!

Year 8 played 4 games on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July in a highly competitive group. They came out with two commendable wins and could have been 3 but were just pipped in a superover by Barnwell. Unfortunately the 2 wins was not enough to see them through to the final stages. Great camaraderie and strong performances by all especially Thomas H.

***Mr M Turner and Mr S Manley,  
PE Teachers***





## Sixth Formers: We Are Hiring

### **Are you a reliable and hardworking student looking to earn extra money?**

We are looking for enthusiastic and dependable students to join our team as Cleaners and General Site Helpers on a casual basis. This is a fantastic opportunity to gain work experience and contribute to the running of our school.

#### **What you'll be doing:**

- A positive, can-do attitude
- Willingness to follow instructions and work independently or as part of a team
- Punctual, responsible, and trustworthy individuals
- Physically able to carry out light manual tasks
- Current 6th form students at Fearnhill School only

#### **What we offer:**

- Flexible hours to suit your school timetable
- Supportive on-the-job training
- A friendly and welcoming working environment

#### **What we're looking for:**

- Cleaning classrooms, corridors, and shared spaces
- Assisting with furniture moves and general site tasks
- Helping to prepare and clear up after school events
- Light outdoor duties such as sweeping and litter picking
- Supporting the site team with day-to-day operations
- Assisting with minor maintenance or site tasks

### **Apply Now**

Email Mrs Warren at:  
[nikki.warren10@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk](mailto:nikki.warren10@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk)



# LIBRARY BOOK RETURNS

The Library currently has around 400 overdue books out on loan to students. As you can imagine, it is important that receive these back so that we have books available for other students to borrow.

With this in mind we will be having termly book return deadlines for these to be returned or renewed. Any books still overdue after this date will be considered lost and parents will be asked to contribute towards their replacement. The first of these return days was Monday 30th June. Please encourage your student to have a hunt around and return any books to the library as soon as possible.

*Ms R Thurlby, Librarian*



# 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*



# 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



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Summer Term 2025

Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Sixth Form Induction Day
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 12 Activity Day Trip
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 10 Reports issued
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 12 Reports issued
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Fearnhill Festival of Sports - details to follow
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Term ends
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	A Level results day
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	GCSE results day

### Autumn Term 2025

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	INSET DAY - School closed to students
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	INSET DAY - School closed to students
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Induction Day Year 7 & 12
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Terms starts for all students
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half Term
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Occasional Day - School closed to students
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Disaggregated Day - School closed to students
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	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.**

## 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)



**PURWELL LIONS RECRUITING**

**JOIN OUR U14 TEAM**  
**SEASON 2025/26**  
 SATURDAY MATCHES • WEDNESDAY TRAINING  
**BASED IN HITCHIN**  
 PLAYERS OF ALL ABILITIES FROM HITCHIN,  
 LETCHWORTH, BALDOCK, STEVENAGE  
 AND SURROUNDING AREAS WELCOME  
**PURWELLIONS@GMAIL.COM**  
**Nick 07949046515**



**YOUTH FOOTBALL ACADEMY**

**August Football Camp**  
*Hitchin Boys' School*

Mon 11<sup>th</sup>, Tues 12<sup>th</sup>, Weds 13<sup>th</sup>, Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> August

**Full day camp: 6 – 11 Yrs old, 9.30am – 3.30pm**

**Pre-season training: 12 - 15 Yrs old, 10am – 12pm**  
 (Technical sessions along with improving game understanding)

**Amazing Offer:**  
 Book 3 days and come to the 4<sup>th</sup> day for **FREE !!**  
 ( Limited spaces for this offer )



Scan to book

For enquiries or booking: Call on **0740 290 1966**  
 Email: [info@youthfa.com](mailto:info@youthfa.com) or go online: [www.youthfa.com](http://www.youthfa.com)



**STEVENAGE AND NORTH HERTS ATHLETIC CLUB**

**RUN, JUMP or THROW**

**Holiday Athletic Programme Summer 2025**  
**8yrs-14years only**  
**Mon 28 – Thur 31 July, Mon 4 – Thur 7 Aug & Mon 18 – Thur 21 Aug**

Hurdles, Sprints (100m, 200m, relays), Endurance (800m, 1500m), High Jump, Long Jump, Shot, Discus, Hammer & Javelin.  
 In addition beginner pole vault for ages 12 – 14 dates tbc

10-3pm (bring your own packed lunch) £26 per session (£23 if five or more sessions booked)  
 or  
 10-12pm or 12:30-3pm £14 per session (£12 if five or more sessions booked)

Booking Link Below  
<https://forms.gle/CT4pXacwmR5XRwLmc2>

Part of the HAPPY Scheme for Children on Free School Meals – book through Playwaze



**CLUB MARK**

Enquiries [holidaysclubenhac@gmail.com](mailto:holidaysclubenhac@gmail.com)

**ENGLAND ATHLETICS**

**INSPIRE HER**  
**GIRLS T1 RUGBY CAMP**

**FREE Summer Rugby camp!**  
 For girls aged 6-12 (school years 2-7).

**WHEN**  
 14th and 28th August  
 11.00am-3pm

**WHERE**  
 Letchworth Garden City RFC,  
 Legends Lane, SG6 2EN

**EMAIL**  
[kirareeves@saracens.net](mailto:kirareeves@saracens.net)  
 for further info

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP**



**SARACENS FOUNDATION**  
 INSPIRE HER

**England Rugby**

**rugby**

**LEITCHWORTH GARDEN CITY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**





**Hertfordshire County Council Services for Young People**  
**POSITIVE PATHWAYS PROJECT**

**Stevenage Young People's Centre**  
 St George's Way SG1 1XY  
 Tuesday to Friday, 29th July to 15th August 2025,  
 5-8pm each day  
 For young people aged 14-17

**Westmill Community Centre**  
 John Barker Place, Hitchin, SG5 2PG  
 Tuesday to Friday, 29th July to 15th August 2025,  
 5-8pm each day  
 For young people aged 11-14

For more information or to join your local project, contact us or scan the QR code below

Tel: 01438843340  
[sfyp.northherts@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sfyp.northherts@hertfordshire.gov.uk)  
[www.servicesforyoungpeople.org](http://www.servicesforyoungpeople.org)  
 @HCCSNYP

**Helping you to stay safe**  
 Positive Pathways is here to help you feel safe, supported, and ready to take on whatever comes your way.

Our Youth Workers are here to:

- Help you build confidence and feel good about yourself
- Support you to make informed choices and learn life skills
- Work with you to set goals and tackle anything that's bothering you
- Develop and learn new skills
- Get you involved in fun, positive activities

**Letchworth Model Railway Society**

**Model Railway Exhibition**  
**SATURDAY 26th July 2025**

10.00am - 4.30pm  
 Admission £5 Accompanied Children under 16 free  
 Over 18 Layouts plus trade support



**The Priory School**  
**Bedford Road**  
**Hitchin SG5 2UR**

[www.letchworthmrs.org.uk](http://www.letchworthmrs.org.uk)

**POKEMON CLUB**



**SQUIRTLE SQUAD**  
**HERTFORDSHIRE POKÉMON CLUB**  
 RIP | TRADE | LEARN | COMPETE

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT CLUB  
 JULY 13<sup>TH</sup> 2025  
 BUNTINGFORD HIGH STREET  
 10AM - 3PM

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/HERTSPOKEMONCLUB](https://tinyurl.com/hertspokemonclub)  

PHONE: 07880162682 EMAIL: SQUIRTLESQUADTC@GMAIL.COM

*Uniform Bank*

 EXTRA MILE

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

