



HARTBEAT

*Hartford's weekly School Newsletter about the community,
for the community, published every Friday*

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GREETING FROM THE HEAD

It has been an incredibly busy and exciting week! I hope you enjoy reading all about it in this week's bumper newsletter!

FAMILY NEWS

Mr Perry, Head of Riddings Family, writes: Students (and staff!) represented their families last Friday in the annual school sports day. Students had designed banners and sat in their families to cheer on the competitors. It was an exciting afternoon with students across all year groups giving their best efforts in all events. Congratulations to all students who participated and well done to all event winners. The results are being kept top secret for the time being...but we can reveal that **Beeches** won the staff relay and **Whitehall** won the staff tug-of-war! A big thank you from the PE team and Heads of Family to all the students (past and present) and staff who helped facilitate the event.



This week, students have been learning about the importance of democracy in tutor time, and we hosted our own general election to select one prefect for each Family from our fantastic Year 10 cohort. All students and staff were able to vote having viewed candidates' manifestos. We are excited to announce that the following students have been elected to the position of Family Prefect for 2024-25:

Maddie Eaves - Riddings, **Maisie Almond - Hollies**, **Tomos Dugard - Beeches** and **Samuel Lewis - Whitehall**

A massive congratulations to those students - the Heads of Family can't wait to work with them to develop our Family system further. All the other candidates were fantastic and will be given positions as Senior Family Reps next year. We are excited to see what each of them can contribute! Thanks to students in all years for their enthusiasm and votes. As always, thanks to the staff who supported, too.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Mr Mason, Head of Year 9, writes: As you can tell by each of our newsletters, we have lots of very gifted and talented students, and true to form, this week we have more fabulous achievements to share!

You may remember from a couple of issues ago, our very own Jack Pickering put on a fundraising concert for The Joshua Tree. We are delighted to report that Jack raised a whopping £1,000, and due to popular demand, played an encore to boot! This is fantastic, we're very proud of you, Jack!

Lily-Belle Antrobus (9D) recently enjoyed a weekend at the Dance World Championships in Blackpool AND placed 2nd in the Freestyle pairs - incredible!



Miss Hatfield, Maths teacher, writes: Isla Harrington (8S) recently competed in the National Association of Dance northern heats in Contemporary, Tap, Modern and Ballet, and has now qualified to compete in the National Finals in Birmingham in Contemporary and Tap - winning the Northern heat for Contemporary!

Isla has worked exceptionally hard over the last 12 months in the build-up towards this event (having missed out in previous years) and we are thrilled to be celebrating her hard work and success! Well done, Isla!

Mr Marklove, Head of Year 10, writes: Mia Heywood, Molly Beschorner and Zara Billington went to Milan with their 4th teammate to compete in the 'Cheer4All International Cheerleading Championships'. The girls have worked very hard, training 12 hours per week, and this all paid off, winning two team gold medals and a solo bronze for Zara. What's more, they were awarded 'Grand Champions' of the whole competition! This is amazing, huge congratulations, girls!



WELL DONE WEDNESDAY!

Mr Mason also writes: Onto my 'Well Done Wednesday' students! Thank you to Leon Preston, Laura Hignett (9A), Poppy Faulkner, Sam Wood, James Edwards, Jack Pickering (9H), Maisie Barlow, Lily-Belle Antrobus (9D), Lucas Wrigley, Archie Barnett, Kole Hatton (9F), Beth Jackson, Alex Dean (9S), Kymani Waring, Gwendolyn Thomas (9T) and Rafida Ali (9R) for displaying our HART values this week!



ENGLISH

Mr Spann, Head of English, writes: We launched our Family poetry competition this week! The closing date for this is not until 12 July, however, some of the early entries have been excellent. This one from Jack Pickering in Year 9 is especially relevant for this weekend. Please read it and hope!

Please, England, Please

A manager who can't manage,
A team who can't play,
The Euros have been carnage,
Nearly over in a day.

Trent has been poor,
Kane looks finished,
Our team don't look bothered,
While our winning chances diminish.

Spain and France look good,
We aren't favourites anymore,
Fingernails being bitten,
Glancing up at the score.

A flick on from Guehi,
The ball falls to Jude,
People out of seats,
The back of the net bulges,
Cheers now erupt.
The feeling of despair,
No longer fills the air.

England off the hook,
Jude sinks to his knees,
Can we beat Switzerland?
Please, England, Please.

SCIENCE

Mr Wootton, Science teacher, writes: As part of Year 8's Space unit we have been looking at the different ways we explore the universe. The students have spent some time designing, building and firing their own bottle rockets! We have some wonderful designs, including our very own 'Three Lions' rocket.

Launch day was a little bit windy but, thanks to some amazingly resilient launch engineers, we managed to get them off the ground and travelling quite some distance, all while impressing our onlooking Year 6 students! Sadly, Mars was out of reach this time but we were only a few hundred thousand miles from the Moon. We have another launch day coming up soon so keep a look out for some more low-flying spacecraft near you!



PERFORMING ARTS

Ms Philippou, Head of Performing Arts, writes: This week members of the student council gave feedback to Hartford Parish Council about potential events which would engage our students and other teenagers in the village. The Parish Council have taken all these ideas on board and will take it back to other councillors.

Our drum concert on Tuesday showcased our fantastic drummers, under the guidance of Mr Hugh Lawrence, our drum teacher. Allegra Iskandarani (7C) wowed audiences after having just 5 lessons. Well done! It was a pleasure to see how all our drummers have progressed over the years. You rock!



Miss Owens our piano teacher had a very important job on Tuesday as she recorded our piano players through graded examinations. They all sounded brilliant and we cannot wait to get the results.

If you are interested in instrumental lessons, vocal lessons or speech and drama lessons for your child please follow this link: <https://forms.gle/1ZxwKRDErBKRAZ3B9>

BAKING CLUB



Mrs Jones, Baking Club lead, writes: This week we swapped sweet for savoury and made some cheese, tomato and bacon wraps. They turned out amazingly well; I'm certain the students and their families enjoyed eating them! Well done, everyone!

AND FINALLY...

29 students joined Mr Perry, Miss Boyd and Mr Ingham on this year's Spanish Trip to Andalucía. Their Spanish adventure included (but was not limited to) a cable car ride in Benalmadena, time relaxing and swimming at the beach, a visit to Seville where they enjoyed a stroll around the Plaza de España and a tour of the stunning cathedral. They also took a traditional flamenco dance lesson (Miss Boyd showed real talent here!) and travelled to Málaga where they took part in a fantastic cooking class and prepared a delicious paella to share. Students and staff were sad to leave after an excellent trip together, with many new friendships and memories made.

Well done to the students for their great attitude in all activities and for representing our school so well throughout the trip. Thanks also to the staff involved in running the trip, the team who travelled to Spain and the support staff who help make this trip possible each year! Roll on 2025, 2026 and beyond!



Have a happy and relaxing weekend!

Rachel Pickerill