



HARTFORD
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
HIGH SCHOOL

HARTBEAT

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

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HARTFEST 2026

Mr Marklove, THRIVE Co-ordinator and DofE Lead, writes: What an incredible start to our very first Year 7 HARTFest! A fantastic 131 students and 15 members of staff came together for an evening bursting with energy, teamwork, laughter and belonging. From the Big Tent Build and Nature Walk to Family challenges, it was wonderful to see students supporting one another, stepping outside their comfort zones and embracing everything HARTFest represents: Happy, Achieving, Ready and Together.



The excitement continued with a delicious pizza evening and an unforgettable Silent Disco, filling the sports hall with dancing and laughter! A huge thank you to our amazing staff team for making the event such a success. HARTFest has created lasting memories for our newest Hartford family members and shown the power of belonging. This is just the beginning – we can't wait to make next year even bigger and better!



HART VALUES

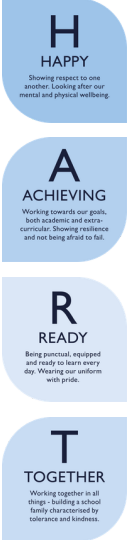
Our Heads of Year have highlighted this week's students who have proudly displayed our HART values. Well done to:

Mr Hardwick's Year 7s: Thomas Farmer, Leo Jackson, Edward Dugard, Erin Kirby, Ted Richardson and Zuriel Ezegwu!

Miss Hallmark's Year 8s: Thomas Liney, Lola Ball, Addison Alldridge, Hattie Owen, Leila Maas, Charlie Thomas, Grace Fisher and James White!

Mr Farrall's Year 9s: Matthew Silker, Adam Hill, Emily Pye, Harry Gardner, Dexter Eddie, Karensa Buckley, Sophie Deakin and Owen Miller!

Mr Merryweather's Year 10s: Alice Slinger, Isabella Williams, Hannah Birtwistle, Zdenka Swanepoel, Annabelle Hibbert, Sofia Toma and Owen Stephens!



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Miss Haughton, Head of Performing Arts, writes: Lily Fitzgerald attended the NATD National Scholarship Finals at the weekend and placed second in Ballet, beating 23 other finalists from across the country! What an amazing achievement, Lily, we are all so proud!



WEAR IT GREEN



Miss Thorpe, Head of Hollies, writes: It's been brilliant to see so many students and staff wearing something green to support World Mental Health Day. It's fantastic watching our school community come together to raise awareness of mental health and show support for such an important cause. The Heads of Family would like to extend a huge 'thank you' to all our students and staff for getting involved and helping spread the message that mental health matters!

PERFORMING ARTS



Miss Haughton also writes: Well done to my students of the week in Performing Arts! This week for Dance is Mia Kent, for Music is Henrik Hollands and Poppy Selby, and for Drama is Cameron Marsden!

GEOGRAPHY

Miss Thorpe also writes: On Thursday we celebrated World Vexillology Day, and during lunchtime, students visited the computer room, to take part in our fun flag-guessing challenge. There was lots of excitement and friendly competition as students worked their way through the different flags and tried to identify as many as possible. A big well done to everyone who took part and showed off their knowledge of flags from around the world! Family points have now been issued:

Whitehall - 23 points	Hollies - 18 points	Riddings - 16 points	Beeches - 12 points
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PE

Mr Dench, PE teacher, writes: Well done to our Year 8 boys' football team who travelled to Bishop's Blue Coat in Chester on Monday. There were plenty of goals on display as they came away with a 5-2 victory in the Cheshire Cup! A fantastic achievement!



Miss Thorpe, PE teacher, writes: On Tuesday evening, our Year 10, Year 9 and Year 8 netball teams took on St Nick's in the Mid Cheshire League, and what a fantastic evening of netball it was! All three teams worked brilliantly together, showing great teamwork, determination and skill across the age groups, securing some brilliant wins for Hartford!

Match Results:

- **Year 10:** Hartford 21–12 St Nick's
- **Year 9:** Hartford 20–15 St Nick's
- **Year 8:** Hartford 12–6 St Nick's



A huge well done to all the girls for their fantastic performances and for representing Hartford so brilliantly! A special mention to Holly P, Abbie I and Salma A, who were each awarded Player of the Match for their outstanding performances. Well deserved, girls! Well done to everyone involved.



Miss Thorpe, also writes: Our Year 7 and Year 8 girls' football team played against Fallibroome on Monday in a closely-contested match, finishing with a 3-0 loss. Despite the result, the girls showed fantastic effort, determination and teamwork throughout the game, battling hard until the final whistle.

Their commitment and positive attitude was clear to see, and they should be proud of their performance. Well done to all the girls for their hard work and resilience!

ROMEO & JULIET

Mr Mason, Drama teacher and Head of KS4, writes: On Wednesday 1st October, Year 9 students, plus Year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama students enjoyed a live performance of Romeo & Juliet at the Grange Theatre in Hartford.

The striking, modern urban set, colourful costumes and dynamic staging brought a fresh edge to Shakespeare's classic tragedy. The talented cast delivered energetic, intense performances, combining Shakespeare's original language with clever multi-rolling, sharp stage combat and gripping drama that kept our students captivated right through to the tragic finale.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such fantastic theatrical opportunities in our local community and are hugely grateful to The Grange Theatre for this wonderful experience, which our students thoroughly enjoyed!



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Mr Hepworth, School Chaplain, writes: This October marks twenty-five years since the Vicar of Hartford, Rev. Mike Smith, took his first assembly at Hartford Church of England High School. To mark the occasion, Mike performed the same assembly this week as he did in 2001 on Psalm 34:8: "taste and see that the Lord is good." I and a few student volunteers did taste and see... from a tin of cat food!

Fortunately, what looked like cat food was actually Angel Delight! Mike spoke on how we can similarly have many preconceptions about who Jesus is, encouraging us to "taste and see" if our preconceptions about Jesus might be wrong.

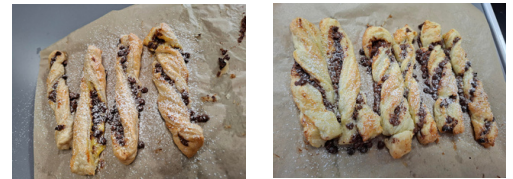
COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Ms Philippou, Assistant Headteacher, writes: Yesterday we went to Lostock Gralam Church of England Primary School where our students, alongside Mr Hepworth, led collective worship, looking at 1 Corinthians:12. It was a privilege to share the message that for Christians, we are made one in Jesus, and that every one of us are made uniquely with different gifts to be valued by our school community.



BAKING CLUB

Mrs Jones, Baking Club Lead, writes: This week at Baking Club, our very talented Year 7s made chocolate twists. They looked and smelled delicious!



PARENT CARER FORUM

Are you a parent or carer of children and young people with SEND? If so, come along to the CWAC Parent Carer Forum on Thursday 15 October here at school from 3:15pm to 4:30pm. This is a great opportunity to have a chat, share experiences and connect with others who understand the challenges and joys of supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities.

AND FINALLY

As part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Prevent Breast Cancer Charity provided the opportunity for students and staff to visit the Nightingale Centre in Manchester where breast cancer screening is carried out. Gracie Winnington, Annabelle Hibbert, Ella Shepherd, Neve Foster and Olivia Fallows represented our school brilliantly and really appreciated the message shared by the charity, including that men can get breast cancer too. Students and staff were inspired to raise further awareness - watch this space for further information over the next couple of weeks!

Finally, Year 11 have been brilliant throughout the mock exams this week - well done to everyone for their amazing conduct in the exam venues.

Rachel Pickerill