



Issue 529

Fearnfile

Headteacher's Message

Autumn Sunshine



▲ We have been enjoying the continued fine weather here at Fearnhill over the past two weeks and the students have been making the most of the outdoor areas. It has been very busy with a particular focus on **Open Evening, last Thursday 20th September**, and the **Open Mornings** that finish today, Friday 28th. The Evening was very busy and there was a great deal of positive feedback from our many visitors; it was also an opportunity for our students to welcome guests and show them around their school. They performed superbly and received many compliments for their politeness, enthusiasm and commitment. They are a credit to themselves and the school and I am very proud of them! The school is looking smart with our ongoing improvements in place and there continues to be a very positive feel about the place as autumn begins to set in.

▲ This edition of Fearnfile has a report on this week's **European Day of Languages Bake Off** event. There were some amazing entries that both looked and tasted great, and the event was judged by our very own food technology experts, Mrs Fullard and Mrs Trodden. You can also read about the **celebration ceremony** for the installation of the **artwork in the library**; this work was done by students and has been a long time in the making, but it is well worth it. It has made the library an even more inviting place to

spend time. The **Extra Curricular Fayre** was held for the first time last week. Every student is expected to join at least one extracurricular club or activity at Fearnhill and the fayre was a great way to tell students what was on and get signed up. You can see the pictures and read the report inside.

▲ As always we continue to reinforce our high expectations of students in terms of **uniform, punctuality and homework**. Please do ensure your child arrives promptly to school and completes homework when it is set. **Homework** is a key part of school life and success. The **'Show My Homework'** tab on the school website, as well as the app that can be downloaded free to your phone, are designed to ensure that both you and your child know exactly what work has been set. There is a homework club on every day and the library is available before and after school, as well as during break and lunchtime, for students to use the computers and access information or help. Please get in touch if your child is struggling to cope with their learning; we are always happy to help.

With many thanks as always for your ongoing support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Liz Ellis'.

Liz Ellis
Headteacher

Careers Corner

Year 11 16+ Options Presentation



The Year 11 students have already started thinking about their option choices for after Year 11. They kicked off their PSHCE programme with their 16+ Options talk explaining all the qualification routes available to them next year. It is important that they now go away and research further possible pathways taking into consideration their learning styles, predicted grades, strengths and weaknesses and future aspirations.



An excellent website to assist students with these choices is www.ychertfordshire.org. Students should click on the 'JOBS & CAREERS' tab and select the relevant sections and follow the online instructions.

More information about this website will be covered in future editions of Fearnfile, there is so much on there for young people!



'Help Me Miss B'

Any student who wants help and advice on what to do after Year 11 or just to have a chat about what is suitable for them, can sign up on the help sheet on the Careers Office door (upstairs in the Business area).



If this is you then please fill in your details below & I will arrange a meeting with you!

Name	Form

Ms Balchin
Head of Careers & Work Related Learning

Year 10 Expectations Evening

On Thursday 27th September we had the Year 10 Expectations Evening here at Fearnhill. Parents/carers were invited along with their son/daughter to provide them with information about our expectations of the students as they work towards their GCSEs and how they can be supported at home during this crucial period in their education.

The evening started with a short presentation from Ms Ellis and myself followed by the faculty leaders of English, maths and science who gave specialist information on their subjects' content, assessment and support materials.

By attending the evening, we hope parents/carers are well equipped with lots of useful information to help guide and support their son/daughter through this very important stage of their lives.

Mr Wakeling
Head of KS4

European Day of Languages

The Modern Foreign Languages Department likes to celebrate **The European Day of Languages** every year on 26th September. Now in its seventeenth year, the European Day of Languages was first officially celebrated in 2002 following the success of the European Year of Languages in 2001. The day is organised jointly by the European Union and the Council of Europe. Europe is lucky to enjoy a rich diversity of language and cultures with 200 European languages, 24 Official EU languages and it is estimated around 60 regional or minority languages.



This year the Department organised a 'Great European Bake Off'. Each student was allocated a country to base their cake on. It was decided to broaden the competition to include other countries in the world where European languages are spoken. We were absolutely delighted to see such a wonderful array of cakes being brought in. Not only did we have themed cakes but we had some traditional ones brought in too. The standard of all the cakes was very high.

The cakes were displayed in the hall at lunchtime and pupils paid 50p to come in and watch the judging and then help with the tasting after! The hall was very full and many staff joined in as well. Mrs Fullard and Mrs Trodden from Food Technology had the terrible task of choosing the winning cake! After much deliberating they eventually came to a decision. In third place was Jude from Year 7 for his Indian themed cake, in second place was Niah and Erin from Year 8 with their Antartican themed cake and in first place was Holly from Year 9 with her Hawaiian themed cake.

After the judging the cakes were shared out amongst the audience. Everyone agreed that they all tasted absolutely delicious and that we should do the same again next year!



*Ms M Davies
Subject Leader Modern Foreign Languages*

Read to Succeed

Awesome Artwork

Last year we set our students a challenge: to come up with some artwork to give our Library space the WOW factor.

Our talented art students rose to this challenge, liaising with me to come up with 9 foot paintings of iconic book covers. These are books which the students felt everyone has either read, or really should read.

The students decided upon:

- Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone - the cover with chess scene, reflecting the popularity of chess at Fearnhill.
- War Horse – a modern classic.
- Noughts and Crosses – combining teenage dystopia and diversity.

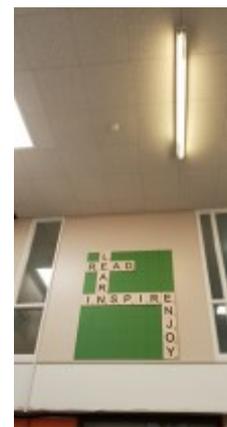
Over the course of a year, our students gave up their lunchtimes to work on these, and this week, scaffolding was erected and the art work was installed on the Library's high walls. On Wednesday we held an unveiling party, with students treated to elderflower and cupcakes. The completed scrabble wall art which we featured in last week's Fearnfile, is also in situ too.

Headteacher Ms Ellis thanked the students for following this project through to fruition, and for leaving their mark on the school in such a creative way.

The students involved are:

- Harry Potter: Ben G, Connor Y, Arthur M, Thomas A
- War Horse: Isshika, Rio, Tamzie
- Noughts and Crosses: Emily W, Riya M, Hannah B, Holly W
- Scrabble wall art: Kavin, Jack W, Sean N

We have had amazing feedback from students, staff and visitors who have seen the artwork, and we hope that you will have chance to see the work for yourselves during open mornings, parent evenings and other events at Fearnhill.



Chess Table

Many thanks to Fearnhill's Community Governor Mary Penny who very kindly donated this chess table, in Fearnhill green, to the Library. It is in a bright spot by the courtyard window. Y7 Harrison, Y10 George and Y11 Luke were the first students to take advantage of the glass-topped table.



Chess Club Sign Up

Well done to Y11 Luke and Y9 Josh who ran a freshers' fayre style stall and signed up an impressive 32 students to Library chess club. We look forward to seeing you all practising during the week in anticipation of the Friday Fearnhill Simul.



Please follow us on Twitter [@FearnhillLib](https://twitter.com/FearnhillLib)



Email us at library@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Hunt
Librarian & Learning Resources Manager

Sixth Form Department News

Year 12 Attend a Road Safety Presentation

On Tuesday, 25th September, Year 12 visited the Gordon Craig Theatre in Stevenage to watch the National Road Safety Campaign Presentation, Learn2Live.



Working in partnership, representatives from Local Authority Road Safety Teams, Fire & Rescue Service, Police, Paramedics, Family Liaison Officers, Consultants, as well as family speakers delivered a hard hitting, but honest presentation on **"a moment's madness really can lead to a lifetime of sadness"** caused by young people becoming distracted or simply inexperienced when driving.

Learn 2 Live targeted young people as they are statistically one of the most at risk groups when it comes to road traffic collisions. The presentation enabled our students to understand specific risks and consider the consequences of their actions.

The speakers shared intense, emotional stories; directly from those who had been affected by car related tragedies. Their stories ranged from Police Officers and Fire Fighters speaking of their first hand encounters with young people in accidents, to the grieving parents who had lost their children due to reckless driving.

The students were then given advice and encouraged to make small changes to their behaviours and think about making sensible safe choices with regard to their safety when travelling on the roads.

Although it was a highly moving presentation, it was one that we hope will stay in the minds of our young people and keep them safe.



Mrs Tant
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator KS5

Performing & Expressive Arts

Students of the Month 🙌

Marli 8Q



Excellent focus & development of still life painting & artist study

Ciara 10N



Worked very hard & diligently on portfolio unit, shown excellent commitment to studies

Lisa 8R



Consistently high performing assessments

Charlotte 10N



Participation in extra-curricular groups & great start to GCSE music

Sarah 7Q



Great commitment to extra-curricular activities & consistently solid performance in Rounders

Charlie 10U



Superb first year of GCSE PE. Effort is always above & beyond

PE Department News

The boys listed below all played football for the school on Monday 24th September.

Dennis

Charlie

Harry F

Raqim

Dom

Tae

Paul

Philippe

Michal

Silvio

Dylan E

Lyrick



They won 8-0 vs Meridian.

Excellent performance from the boys with standout performances from Dom, Harry, Paul and Raqim.

Well done Year 10.

Mr Wakeling
PE Dept/Head of KS4

Extra Curricular Activities at Fearnhill

This year to promote all of the extra-curricular activities on offer to our students across the whole school, Fearnhill hosted its first extra-curricular fayre.

On Monday 17th September key stage 3 had the opportunity to mingle amongst the various stalls advertising all of the clubs on offer this term. Each extra-curricular activity was being showcased in the sports hall by either the staff member running the club, students who have previously attended, or a combination of the two. It was the turn of key stage 4 on Wednesday 19th September and on both days it was great to see so many of the students fully engage with the event and truly excited to show their interest in a variety of clubs through the sign-up sheets.

We aim to offer a broad range of clubs for the students to get involved in, this is in a bid to ensure all students can find something they have a real interest in. The clubs range from golf, the school drama production, debating club, computing club and even crochet! With such an array on show at the fayre hopefully each student was captured by at least one club as the aim at Fearnhill is for every student to attend at least one extra-curricular club.

Overall it was a really successful event and there was a real positive atmosphere in the sports hall. We hope to see as many students as possible at the clubs and look forward to advertising what is on offer next term!



Mr Marsh
Head of Performing & Expressive Arts

Where is Mrs Thorn now?

At the end of last term we said 'farewell and good luck' to Mrs Thorn who had taught English at Fearnhill for the last two years. Mrs Thorn was ready for a new challenge and following is her report about her new role at North Herts Centre for Voluntary Service. Mrs Thorn is very keen that some of our students at Fearnhill benefit from what the North Herts CVS supplies to young people.



At the beginning of September, I began working as Breakaway Manager for North Herts CVS. One of the things that struck me was how few people would know what that meant. Especially when there are many students at Fearnhill who could benefit from such a wonderful project!

Full details about the project I manage can be found at <http://nhcvsbreakaway.org.uk>, but in a nutshell, we run Saturday clubs and holiday playschemes for children with disabilities and/or special educational needs in North Hertfordshire. To access our service, you need to register with the Hertfordshire Short Breaks Local Offer (details can be easily found through Google). Once this application has been processed, we will send out the relevant paperwork to identify specific care needs. This will usually be accompanied by a home visit to ensure we provide every young person with the correct care throughout their hours with us.

A day at one of our playschemes, which always run from 10am to 3pm might involve any or all of the following:

- Bouncy castle and/ or inflatable obstacle courses
- Zumba
- Drum sessions
- Video games
- DVDs
- Arts and Crafts
- Outdoor sports/ games
- Visits from exotic animals
- Baking
- Karaoke
- Parachute games
- Sensory activities
- Trips to local areas of interest



We offer an environment where young people from 5 – 19 can interact with others facing the same issues as themselves and participate in fun activities, while their parents get a much-needed break!

If you think you might be interested in Breakaway and want to know more, please don't hesitate to send me an email at kathrynthorn@nhcvs.org.uk or call me on 01462 689406. We are also always looking for volunteers (aged 17 or over) to help the staff out at Playschemes, so please also get in touch if you have some time to spare!

Mrs Thorn



It's time to chill!!
 Free activities for Young Carers.
 If you are looking after someone in your family this project is for you.
 Come in and make new friends, join in the activities or just relax.

The project runs every Wednesday between 4.30pm – 7pm.
 at Bowes Lyon Centre.

The Bowes Lyon Centre for Young People is fully wheelchair accessible.

Bowes Lyon Centre, St. George's Way, Stevenage, SG1 1XY
 Jacqui Byfield 01438 740147

YC Hertfordshire provides youth work projects and programmes, information, advice, guidance, work related learning, outdoor education and support for young people aged 13-19 (to 24 for young people with learning disabilities). For young people leaving care, support is provided to the age of 21.

www.ychertfordshire.org
 01992 555432
 yc@hertfordshire.gov.uk

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Projects and Programmes for Young People in Stevenage

February / March 2018



Youth work projects and programmes to enable young people to learn new skills, increase their knowledge, and develop confidence, self-esteem and resilience.

Team Manager, Judith Sutton
 Youth Work Team Leader, Ian Marchant
 01438 843340

yc.stevenage@hertfordshire.gov.uk
 www.ychertfordshire.org

@StevenageTeam

**Stevenage
 Young Carers**

Every Wednesday
 4.30pm – 7pm



Enabling young people to succeed

Young Carers Residential

TUESDAY 30TH OCTOBER 1 PM-THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2PM

Human Table Football
 Air rifles
 Rolling rock & traverse wall
 Dragons Den activity
 Aeroball
 Crate Stacking
 Blind-folded team building

Phasels Wood Activity Centre,
 Rucklers Lane, Kings Langley, Herts, WD4 9NA

Deadline for applications: Friday 21st September

Please note: The deadline for applications has been extended .

Please contact: Carers in Hertfordshire, The Red House, 119 Fore Street, Hertford, SG14 1AX
 Tel: 01992 586969



Letchworth Ark

**Every Thursday
9.30am - 11.30am**

**Community Drop In
providing practical and
emotional support including
hot drinks, food, clothing,
and toiletries**

**Norton Way North
Letchworth Garden City
SG6 1BH
01462 677263**



Registered Charity Number: 214779,
and in Scotland SC009359

WANT TO TRY AMERICAN FOOTBALL?



**FOR AGES 13 - 19
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS**

**JOIN THE
CHEETAH
PRIDE**



**SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2018
3.30 - 6.00PM**

ST ALBANS RFC, OAKLANDS LANE, AL4 0HR

@HERTSCHETAHS /HERTSCHETAHS

WILBURY COMMUNITY CAFE



Join us for FREE:

- Cuppas & cakes
 - Family Play (10-11.45)
 - Gentle Exercises with Yoga (11.45-12.45)
 - Crafts: Collage and knitting
 - Bike surgery with Frank
 - Advice for those moving onto Universal Credit
- Plus Pennies & Pounds stall, School Uniform and 'Best Before' food from Tesco

Bring your neighbours and friends - cake contributions always welcome too!

**Sat 6th October
10.45-12.30**

**Wilbury Hall (opposite Tesco) Bedford rd
wilburycommunity.org.uk**

And our friends at St Thomas' invite you to a free craft event:
same day, 2-4.30pm, with gift stalls, activities and refreshments



County Wind Sinfonia

Autumn Workshop

Connect with musicians from across the county in a hard working yet social setting

Take the next step to develop your playing in a large ensemble

Grade 5+? Age 11-21? No need to audition, just sign up to play

Come join us for a workshop on Wind Band repertoire
Conducted by Royal Northern College of Music professor Mark Heron

Sign up at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/county-wind-sinfonia-autumn-workshop-2018-tickets-50535349591>

Sunday 21st October 2018

Mid Herts Centre for Music & Arts, AL10 0PS

Workshop Fee £25

Ask us about discounts

countymusicenquires@hertfordshire.gov.uk / 01707 292399



The County Wind Sinfonia meets three times a year and is open to players of Wind, Brass and Percussion instruments who are aged 11-21 and play at a grade 5 level or above. Playing with the Wind Sinfonia presents an opportunity to develop on the experience of playing in school bands and orchestras, meeting other passionate and inspired musicians from around the county. The group is conducted by Mark Heron, professor at the Royal Northern College of Music, and takes on exciting repertoire such as Bernstein's *Slava!* and Luis Alarcon's *Duende* under his direction. This year, in addition to this term's workshop, the Wind Sinfonia will collaborate with the band of the Royal Air Force at RAF Northolt, as well as taking part in a joint residential and festival concert with the County Youth Choir, Cantate youth choir and County Youth Brass during the summer holidays.

If you would like to play with CWS at their upcoming workshop day, you can sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/county-wind-sinfonia-autumn-workshop-2018-tickets-50535349591>. The workshop will take place 9.30am-5.30pm at Mid Herts Centre for Music and Arts in Hatfield, AL10 0PS, on Sunday 21st October. The fee for the workshop day is £25; please ask us about bursaries if the cost is of any concern. You can contact us at countymusicenquires@hertfordshire.gov.uk.



Student of the Week

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

W/e Friday 14th September

Student of the Week

 **Evan**
- 16 points

Form of the Week
7U - 141 points

House of the Week
Howard - 135 Points

Staff Member of the Week
Mrs Franklin & Mrs Davies - 125 points
(MFL Dept/ Head of Yr 7 (Head of MFL))

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

W/e Friday 21st September

Student of the Week

 **Ashden**
- 17 points

Form of the Week
9R - 138 points

House of the Week
Neville - 100 Points

Staff Member of the Week
Mrs Moore - 122 points
(2nd in Maths)

Thought of the Month - September

