



# Holywell Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Coert van Straaten MA, Ed, Dip Edu, NPQH



**We are a learning community with the spirit to succeed**

21<sup>st</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Since the start of COVID, each term feels like it has been the most challenging. Well, with the outbreak we had over the past few months, and staff shortage we experienced, it certainly has been the most challenging one so far. A huge thank you to parents your support during this time. We are looking forward to restarting in January, teaching and learning with new vigour.

### Mayor Visit

This week we had a special visitor, the Mayor of Watford, Peter Taylor. During his visit he listened to the Year 6 Pupil Leadership team, they told him about the work they are doing toward gaining 'Gold Right Respecting School' status.

In addition, the Mayor presented prizes for entrants in the art competition, ran by his office "Designing Watford town centre for the future".

Congratulations to

- Year 2: Oliver**
- Year 4: Ritesh, Lorena, Samantha**
- Year 5: Maddison**
- Year 6: Liam, Nicola, Parneet, Keke, Hannah**



### Christmas Carols



A huge thank you to all the parents of pupils in the Early Years, Key stage 1 and Year 3 who brought their children along for the Carol singing last Thursday. We had a really impressive turn out and we really appreciate parents' efforts.

### **Return to School – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

When we return to school on Thursday 6th January 2022 we will continue to operate in our COVID bubbles for at least 2 weeks, until we are happy that it is safe for pupils to mix around school again.



### **Clubs**

Letters inviting you to sign your child up for the Spring term clubs have recently gone out, copies are available on the school website. Parents are required to pay online via the School Money system. We have provided additional clubs at the request of parents. Club numbers are capped so we advise parents to sign up as quickly as possible to avoid disappointment.



### **Staffing**

We have two members of the office team who are leaving us at the end of the term. Mrs Jowers and Mrs Norton-Child. Both these long standing members of the office team have been a big part of the school staff.

I would like wish them both well in their future endeavours and thank them for their hard work and commitment to the pupils and staff at Holywell Primary School. I would like to especially thank Mrs Norton-Child, for the work she has done as Office Manager.

### **Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children**

Thank you to all those who supported Christmas Jumper Day. We are delighted to advise you we have raised £157.00 for this worthy cause.



### **Reception – September 2022**

The on-line application system to apply for a place for Reception class in September 2022 is now open. We would like to remind parents who have children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 that they must apply for a place in Reception class, they do not automatically transfer from Nursery to Reception.

**[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions)**

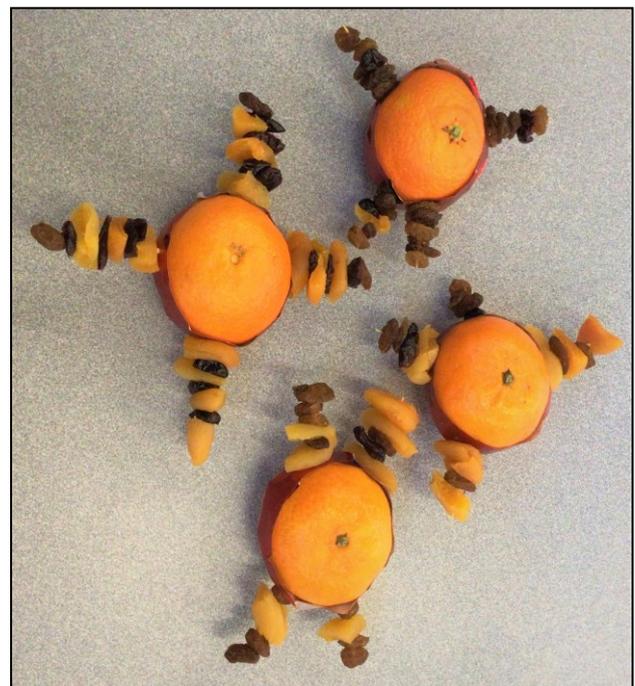
Alternatively, if you are unable to access the website, a paper copy of the application form from Hertfordshire can be obtained by calling the Customer Service Centre on 0300 123 4043.

### **Nursery – September 2022**

Application forms to apply for a place in Nursery, for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 are available from Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022. They will be available from the school website or school office. We plan to hold an Open Day On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 11:15am.

### **Year 2 – St Mary’s Church, Christingle**

Year 2 were visited by St Mary’s Church on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December to support our learning in RE. We built on our learning of Christianity and the religion’s symbols and created these fantastic Christingles using an orange (to represent the Earth), red tape (representing Jesus’ blood), four toothpicks (each showing a season), dried fruit (the things that we are provided with), foil (us) and the candle (to show the light). The children did a great job!



# UNICEF UNCRC Article 14- Freedom of Thought, Belief and Religion.

Every child grows up with their own thoughts and beliefs about the world.

**Who or what do you think influences children and young people's thoughts and beliefs about how they want to live?**

- Parents and family
- Friends
- School
- Places of worship
- Where you live
- Holy books or faith stories
- Religious leaders or teachers
- Social media
- Governments
- Events in the news
- Personal experiences
- The welfare of the planet

**What others did you think of?**



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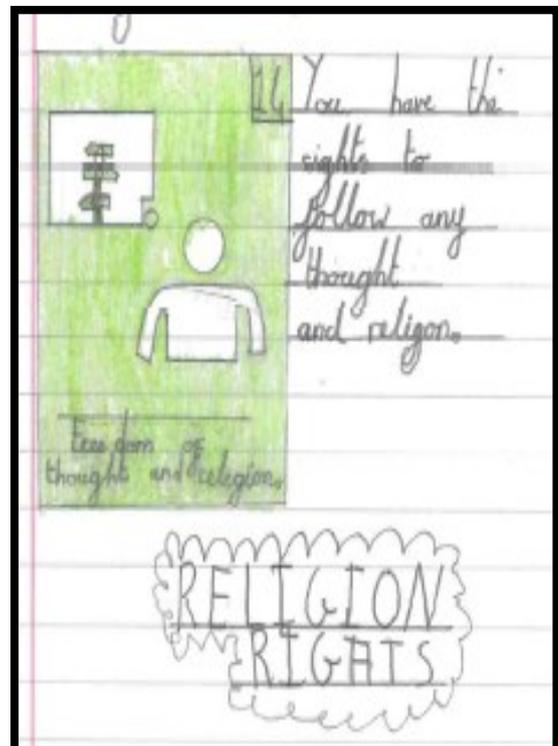
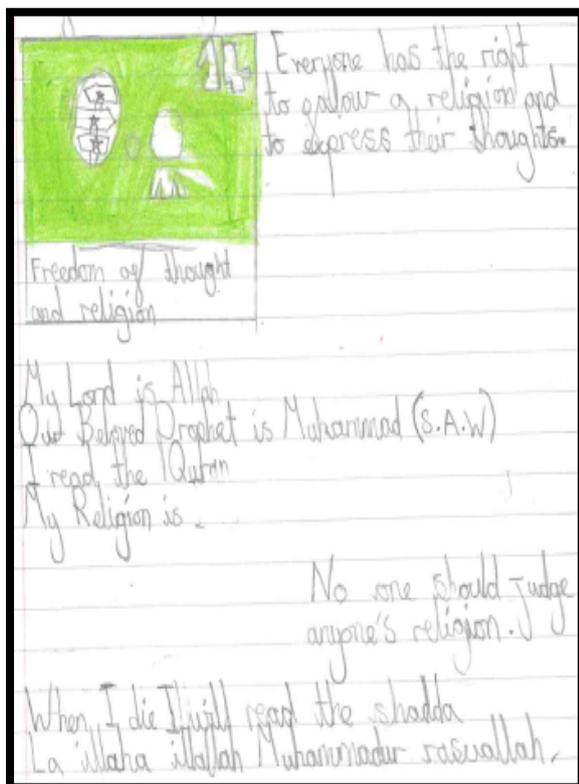
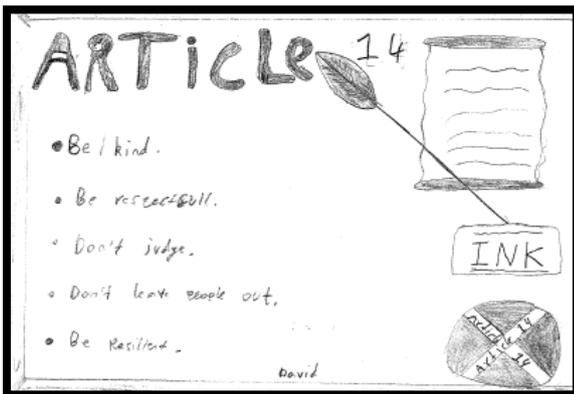
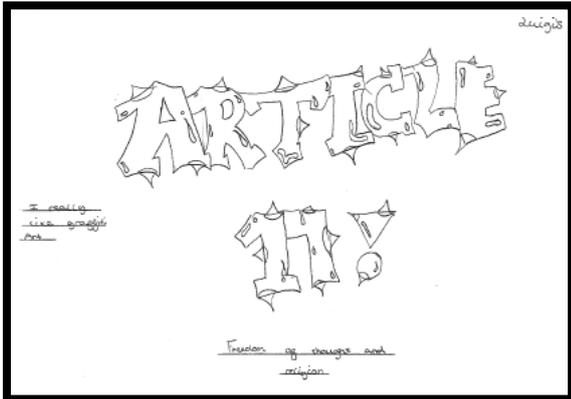


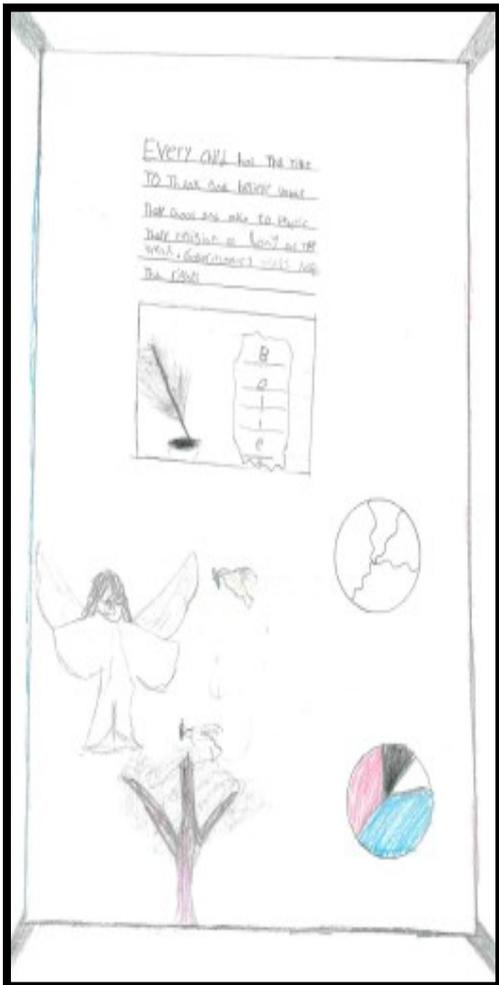
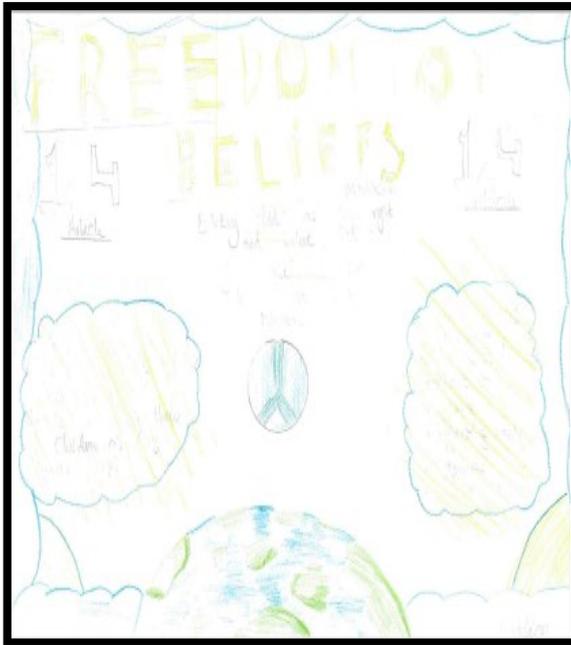
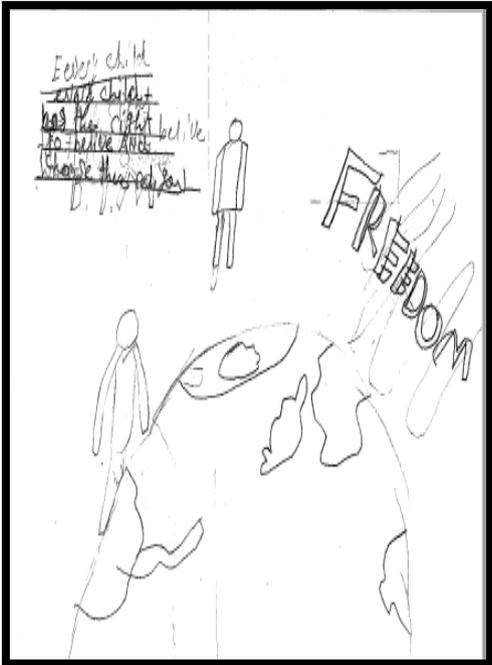
Photo by Monarka, Pexels



Photo by RODNAE Productions, Pexels







# ARTICLE 14



Freedom

Rights

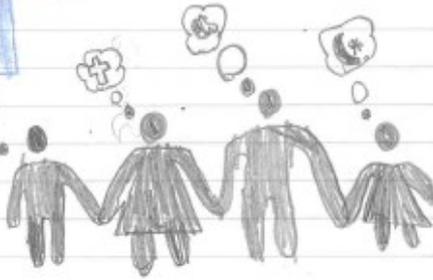
Education

Empathy

Diversity

Online softwares

Media



Love



Article 14 state that people should share their thoughts, belief, freedom and religion. Like in Muslim they pray to God that's my religion. Also you should respect other people with.



FREE  
THOUGHT  
BELIEF  
RELIGION



Article 14 states that every child under the age of 18 has the right to freedom of thought and religion.

There are over 4200 religions in the world here are some.

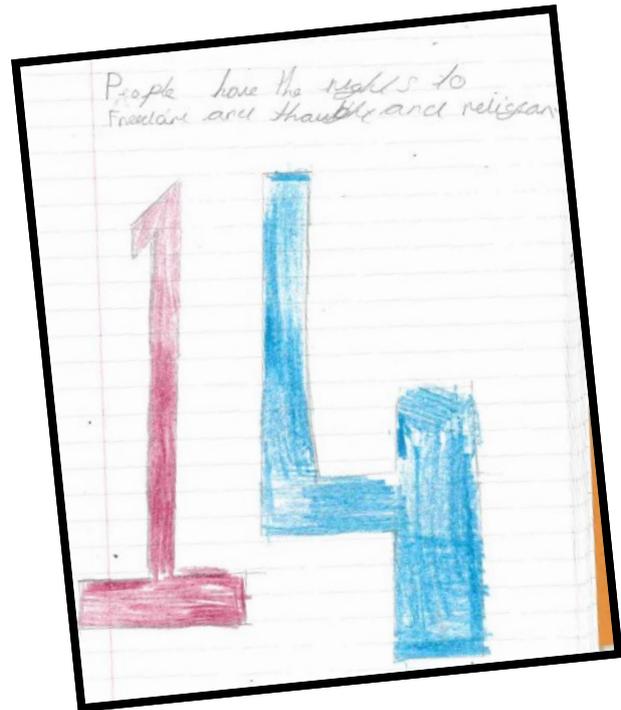
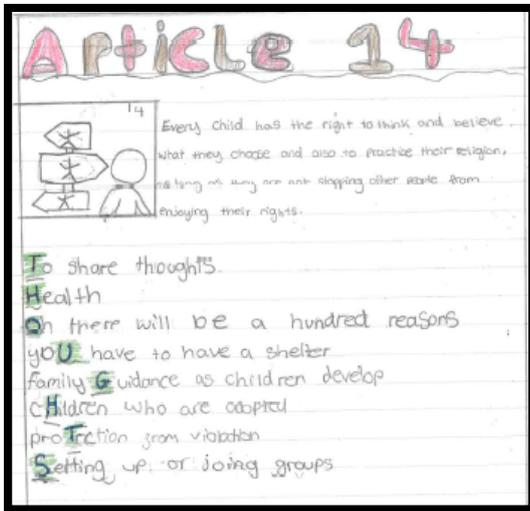


Christianity

Islam

Taoism

I believe in Allah  
I'll accept the Shahada  
La ilaha illallah muhammadur rasulullah.



This week, Watford Mayor Peter Taylor visited us, and our school council team met with him to explain the activities that they were involved in throughout this term in regards to achieving the UNICEF RRSA Gold. The student leadership team introduced themselves and did a presentation regarding: the quiz they conducted on UNICEF articles; a play which they created to increase awareness about REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE concept and talked about the assemblies in which they presented details regarding the 17 sustainability goals. The Mayor was interested to know more about the ideas of the school council team in designing our future Watford town centre. In January 2022, children at Holywell will be coming up with a plan for designing our future Watford Town centre

# SPIRIT TO SUCCEED MEDALS

		Childrens Vote	Staff Vote
<b>Nursery</b>		<b>Hazel</b> - for her kindness to others and helpful ways	<b>Eric</b> - for great thinking and reasoning
<b>Reception</b>		<b>Amelia</b> - for her excellent progress	<b>Lei</b> - for his excellent progress
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Sycamore</b>	<b>Gabriella</b> - for always being a good, helpful friend that has a smile for everyone	<b>Maluchi</b> - for making progress in all areas of learning through effort and hard work. He particularly shines in maths and now is able to apply different strategies to solve additions
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Hawthorn</b>	<b>Oliver</b> - Hawthorn class voted for Oliver for the end of term medal. He has always shown kindness and includes people in his games.	<b>Owen</b> received the teacher's vote. Owen is always respectful to his peers and classmates and is consistent with the effort he puts into his work and responsible for his stationery, his belongings and mindful of the cleanliness of the classroom
	<b>Hazel</b>	<b>Maya</b> received the Pupils Vote Award for always trying her best, trying hard when things are tricky, always working neatly and being a fantastic friend	<b>Julio</b> received the Teacher's Award for his fantastic Responsibility, humour and Resilience. He is incredibly supportive to his peers, a role model to all and a pleasure to teach

<p><b>Year 3</b></p>	<p><b>Rowan</b></p>	<p><b>Naomi</b> - for always being respectful and supportive to her peers and the adults in the school. She is always extremely polite and helpful inside and outside the classroom. Naomi has worked hard this year to develop how she reflects on her work to improve it, and this has enabled her to make some great progress across the curriculum. We can always rely on Naomi to be a positive role model for all as she is an inquisitive learner who shows passion for developing her knowledge</p>	<p><b>Patrick</b> - for always being a responsible role model who we can always rely on to do the right thing. He is a friendly kind child who is always willing to help both his peers and adults in school. Patrick really developed his self-motivation and resilience in his learning this year which has allowed him to make great progresses especially in his writing. He always shows respect by listening to others' opinions, thoughts and beliefs and is generally a lovely boy to have in the classroom</p>
<p><b>Year 4</b></p>	<p><b>Cedar</b></p>	<p><b>Arfa</b> - Arfa is caring and respectful, she is kind and very helpful to all the children in the class. She is nice to everyone. She is fun to be with. She plays with all the children in the class. She also helps children who get stuck with their learning. She listens in class when people talk and she is always sensible in class</p>	<p><b>Robert</b> - Robert is a very kind member of Cedar class. Not only is he a great team worker but he also conducts himself well on the playground by playing co-operatively with others. As well as that, Robert has a fantastic attitude towards learning and he is always eager to produce a great quality of work. In addition to that, Robert is very helpful around the classroom</p>

	<p><b>Mulberry</b></p>	<p><b>Aliyan</b> - For being a responsible school council member as well as an important member of Mulberry class. She is always using her initiative to help others and a positive role model. Aliyah is highly engaged in her learning and enjoys challenging her learning across the curriculum. She is constantly looking for ways to be helpful around the class and school. She often resolves disputes between peers and encourages everyone to work as a team.</p>	<p><b>David</b> - He has made some amazing progression this term in terms of behaviour and academically. He is growing into a responsible member of Mulberry class who always follows the 6R's. David will quite often advise his peers on the best solution for them. David has used his own initiative to target areas of learning he needs to improve and has taken steps to do just that. Well done David, keep up the hard work!</p>
<p><b>Year 5</b></p>	<p><b>Chestnut</b></p>	<p><b>Maddison</b> - for always showing a great amount of kindness when out on the playground. She enjoys taking it in turns to play games with all the children in Chestnut class and ensures that everyone is included in games and is not left out. She is a fantastic role model to others and the children in Chestnut class look up to her when they need cheering up</p>	<p><b>Shayan</b> - for always putting a tremendous amount into his learning. He has shown a responsible and resilient attitude. Shayan listens carefully to feedback and will always welcome the opportunity to develop and enhance his knowledge and skills. If he finds something challenging he never gives up, instead he will persevere and extend his understanding.</p>

	<b>Elder</b>	<p><b>Elif</b> - Elif received the most votes in Elder class due to her consistently following the 6R's. Elif leads by example by acting responsibility around the school, showing resilience by seeking new ways to improve her work, demonstrating resourcefulness when working independently and she treats students and staff with respect. She self reflects after feedback and tries to reason with other students to encourage better behaviour. Well done Elif, you are a joy to have in Elder class</p>	<p><b>Zain</b> - Zain received the Teacher's vote due to his outstanding effort in all subjects, he always has his hand up to contribute to lessons and will offer to help anyone who asks. Zain demonstrates all of the 6R's consistently and urges others to do the same. Popular with his peers, Zain makes an effort to include all students and nothing is ever too much trouble. Well done Zain, you are a kind and positive member of Elder class and a pleasure to teach.</p>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Elm</b>	<p><b>Ilaria</b> - for being a great friend and an excellent role model</p>	<p><b>Franklyn</b> - for always trying his hardest and for being a great friend to everyone in the class</p>
	<b>Birch</b>	<p><b>Lorenzo</b> - Lorenzo is always responsible and includes everyone while playing during break and lunch times. He is a great friend, is kind and always helps out others in the playground. Lorenzo is polite to all teachers and to his peers</p>	<p><b>Tiana</b> - for always being responsible in class and showing a respectful behaviour towards teachers and her classmates. She volunteers to support her classmates when they are in need and reminds them about our class charter and the 6Rs of Holywell</p>

# Week Commencing 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021

<b>Attendance by Class</b>			
Attendance by class:			
Nursery	71%	Mulberry	83%
Reception	87%	Cedar	85%
Sycamore	87%	Chestnut	83%
Hawthorn	91%	Elder	86%
Hazel	80%	Elm	82%
Rowan	89%	Birch	94%

<b>Whole School Attendance from September 2021</b>  <b>92%</b>
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<b>Attendance</b>	
<i>Best classes in the whole school for attendance</i>	
Key Stage 1	Hawthorn
Key Stage 2	Birch

## **STAR & CHARTER CERTIFICATES**

		<b>Star</b>	<b>Charter</b>
<b>Reception</b>	Reception	Amelia	Frankie
<b>Year 1</b>	Sycamore	Salma	Hafiy
<b>Year 2</b>	Hawthorn	Nasir	Anannya
	Hazel	Era	Zayvon
<b>Year 3</b>	Rowan	Aaron	Hannah
<b>Year 4</b>	Cedar	Poppy	Alizah
	Mulberry	Hamithra	Anas
<b>Year 5</b>	Chestnut	Jaida	Kevin
	Elder	Sofia	Husnain
<b>Year 6</b>	Birch	Husnah	Tiana
	Elm	Keke	Franklyn



## ***HAPpy Holidays***

What will your kids be doing this Winter holiday?

Are they in need of action-packed days with the added benefit of a free meal? If so, HAPpy Holiday Camps are taking place across Hertfordshire this Winter and might be just the answer!

It's all thanks to Hertfordshire County Council who have joined forces with the Herts Sports Partnership to organise a huge programme of activity for the school holidays.

Activities will be running in different venues across the county for children and young people aged between 5-16 years, and all include a nutritious meal each day. As an eligible family you can book for free using your unique HAPpy Booking Code. When prompted, please make sure you enter the whole code, which includes the & symbol which is found in the middle of the code.

***Your unique code is: T3&CA9***

You will be able to search for activities using your postcode or child's age – places are limited and strictly on a first come basis so be quick and book online from Monday 6th December at <https://www.sportinherts.org.uk/happy/booking>

If you are having trouble booking, you'll find a step-by-step guide on the booking page explaining what to do. Still need help? Hertfordshire Libraries have computers you can use, and friendly staff who will be able to help.

Additionally, there are a range of fun online Enrichment Activities to look through, with ideas for learning more about arts and crafts, history, music, and theatre, plus ways to keep your family active for 60 minutes each day! View these at

<https://www.sportinherts.org.uk/hafhappy>

Lastly, our information page has links to a variety of organisations and advice you and your family may find useful. Visit this at <https://sportinherts.org.uk/happy/useful-local-services>

## **TERM DATES FOR 2022 - 2023**

### **AUTUMN TERM 2022**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 INSET Day (school closed for pupils)

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 INSET Day (school closed for pupils)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 - first day of term

Half Term - Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022 to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022 - last day of term (school closes at 1:30pm)

### **SPRING TERM 2023**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023 INSET Day (school closed for pupils)

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023 INSET Day (school closed for pupils)

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 - first day of term

Half Term - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 - last day of term (school closes at 1:30pm)

### **SUMMER TERM 2023**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 INSET Day (school closed for pupils)

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - first day of term

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 - Bank Holiday

Half Term - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 - last day of term (school closes at 1:30pm)

1 Occasional Day to be decided