

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Dear Parents

With only two weeks until, the Winter break, the list of events taking place at the school seems almost endless. From National Day celebrations, to numerous sporting events, from council elections to Governors Meetings, from concerts to pantomimes, these final days will certainly be busy. In addition to all of these, normal teaching and learning continues through the corridors and this week's news of upcoming inspection, simply adds to the momentum that is Hartland life.

Last week, in a letter of brief updates, I wrote to you on the issue of our revised Rewards System. During this week, the awarding of House Points and Merits has been explained to the students and already, there is a sense of excitement. You may have seen our new feature in the main reception area: four containers mounted for the collection of house points for each of the four Houses.

The aims of the policy are simple: to promote the Hartland Values, reinforce positive behaviour at every opportunity and ensure that students understand that they are a valued part of the school community and society generally. Though this may seem like a rather lofty statement, the philosophy and practice are of course explained to the children in a manner befitting their age and stage.

Good behaviour and high standards of work are expected at all times at Hartland. However, it is important to celebrate excellence. Therefore, House Points will be awarded for:

- Excellent work
- Outstanding effort
- Outstanding contribution to school life
- Outstanding contribution to society outside school
- Significant demonstration of Hartland Values

A House Point will be given in the shape of a coloured token for each House which students should place in the House Points collection container. Class teachers and form tutors will also keep a tally record for each student of points awarded which will go towards individual rewards of certificates of recognition:

Certificates will be issued as follows in relation to House Points:

Class Teacher / Form Tutor	20
Head of Key Stage	30
Head of House / House Captain	40
Vice Principal / SLT	50
Principal	60

As the work at Key Stage 3 leading to GCSE becomes more demanding, 1 Merit (equivalent to 5 House Points) will be awarded for an outstanding piece of coursework or an outstanding contribution to school or community life.

The coloured tokens are already filling the case of the containers and I am sure that we will see the numbers rise quickly. We are also discussing how we can engage our Foundation Stage children in this system, for at present, they have not been divided into Houses. Ms Nazarian will update you on their inclusion in the weeks ahead.

School reports will be issued also during the last week of term and I will write to you again before the holiday period. In the meantime, I hope that you enjoy this week's newsletter and hope to see you at one of the school events over the next nine days.

**Mrs F Cottam**

Principal

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Dear Parents**

It has been brought to my attention that there is a circulating report on social media of a serious incident that occurred near a school in Dubai, location unknown. Thankfully, reports indicate that everyone is safe, but such alleged incidents naturally cause worry. Please accept this message as a reassurance that the safety and security of our site is of paramount importance to us. Indeed, being slightly isolated, helps in some situations as no cars come near our school unless there is a direct need. Security have been asked to be additionally vigilant and all bus drop offs and collections already occur within our enclosed boundary. Should you have any further concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with myself or a member of my team.

Kind regards

**Mrs F Cottam**  
Principal

# UAE NATIONAL AGENDA FOR PARENTS

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, launched a seven year UAE National Agenda in 2014 leading to the UAE Vision 2021 which also coincides with the UAE's 50th National Day.



The UAE National Agenda, which was developed by over 300 officials from 90 federal and local government entities, includes a set of national indicators in the sectors of education, healthcare, economy, police and security, housing, infrastructure and government services.

These indicators are long-term, measure performance outcomes in each of the national priorities, and generally compare the UAE against global benchmarks. The national indicators are periodically monitored by Government leadership to ensure their targets are achieved by 2021.

As we approach inspection it is important that parents of our community are aware of the National Agenda items pertaining to education as parents will be asked in the survey or in interview if they are aware of these priorities.

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is a test given every 3 years to students aged 15 years old. Students are selected randomly by the Government to sit the test that will evaluate education systems worldwide by testing their skills and knowledge of 15-year-old students. The next PISA is in 2018.

The Trends in International Mathematics and Science (TIMSS) is a series of international assessments of the mathematics and science knowledge of students around the world. Students in Year 5 and Year 9 undertake these assessments. TIMSS are generally administered every four years. The next TIMSS will be in 2019.

## UAE National Agenda



**PISA:** To be among the 20 highest performing countries in PISA



**Completion of high school education:** To ensure that 90% of Emirati students complete their high school education.



**High skills in Arabic language:** To ensure that 90% of Grade 9 students develop high skills in Arabic language in the UAE NAP assessment



**Highly-effective school leadership:** To ensure that 100% of public schools have highly-effective school leadership



**TIMSS:** To be among the 15 highest performing countries in TIMSS



**Attending pre-primary:** To ensure that 95% of children in the UAE attend pre-primary education.



**Highly-quality teachers:** To ensure that 100% of schools have high-quality teachers.



**University foundation programme:** To ensure that no students need to join the university foundation programme.

# UAE NATIONAL AGENDA FOR PARENTS

The National Agenda also includes the implementation of the UAE Moral Education Programme in its school timetable as well as a mapping of the new UAE Social Studies curriculum just published. At Hartland School the UAE Moral Education curriculum built on 4 pillars is delivered in stand alone one hour lessons weekly in Years 1-8.



Inclusivity and the importance of education for all children is also a big feature of the National Agenda focus and all inspection visits. The level and quality of provision to enable all students to be included in regular schooling is paramount.

If you have any questions or require further detail on any of the National Agenda priorities I direct you to:

<https://www.vision2021.ae/en/national-priority-areas>

**We will all play a role in fulfilling Sheikh Mohammed's vision 2021.**

**Mrs Y Dannaway**  
Assistant Principal

# PANTOMIME UPDATE

We would just like to remind you that on Monday 11 December, we have our school Pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk".

The production team, children and teachers have been working hard to ensure that it is a performance to remember. Of course, our brilliant parent helpers have made an extraordinary set for the production and we are ever so grateful for their hard work also.

We would be delighted if you would join us on 11 December, with a choice of two times for performance. The first performance will be at 3.30pm and the evening performance at 7.00pm.

From Monday 4 December, tickets will be available from reception. These tickets can be requested for the matinee (3.30pm) and the evening performance (7.00pm). Once all tickets are gone however, they are gone, so to ensure a prime seat, please do collect some tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Please note children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult to either one or both performances.

Enrichment for Primary students will continue as per normal until 3.15pm but secondary enrichments on this day will be cancelled, giving an opportunity for families to attend either performance at 3.30pm or 7.00pm.

## BUS CHILDREN

- Foundation stage children will still finish the day at 1.30pm, and their bus will leave as normal at 1.45pm. If you are a parent of a FS child that normally gets the early bus, and you wish to watch the pantomime with them, please can you inform the bus conductor/nanny that your child will not require the bus on this day as you are collecting them yourself at 1.30pm.
- Buses for the primary and secondary pupils will run at the usual times. If you planning on attending the matinee with your children, please can you inform the bus conductor/nanny that your child will not require the bus on this day as you are collecting them at 3.15pm.
- Secondary bus students who are not watching the matinee with their parents will be assisting backstage and will be dismissed to take the 4.30pm bus as usual.

We look forward to welcoming you.

**Mrs J Butterworth**

Vice Principal- Head of Primary



# PANTOMIME UPDATE

## A note from the Director Ms. McKiernan

We are now in the final stages of rehearsals where all the scenes are being connected together to complete full runs. The scenes have a great energy and we have focusing on staging and how important voice projection is for our audience to hear us. There is a great buzz of excitement with the release of the beautiful poster, designed by Nandini Nambiar in Year 8.

The tickets are available from reception, so make sure you come and secure your space for the show of the season!

## Cast Profile: Niamh Dunne - Year 3

### How would you describe your character?

I would describe my character as a bit of a bully towards Jack and his friends. He is someone who likes to make fun of Jack and brag about how his life is so much better than Jack's and his friends.

### Who are you playing?

I am playing a character called Catherine. She is one of Jack's friends. She is a helping friend to Jack. She always tells him the right things to do instead of the wrong things.

### What do you enjoy about this Pantomime?

I enjoy having a lot of friends and how much fun we have. We can dance, act and sing! It is so much fun.

### Why would should people come and watch?

People should watch the Pantomime because we have a good cast of performers. This is a new twist on Jack and the Beanstalk. It makes it fun and exciting. Nobody knows what will happen next!

### What three words sum up this experience?

Fun, exciting and amazing!



# PANTOMIME UPDATE

## A note from the Musical Director

With tickets soon available for our wonderful end of term performance, the excitement is certainly building here in Hartland! Jack and the Beanstalk features a wide range of musical numbers, from 'Tale as old as time', to Katy Perry to the musical 'Wicked'! These melodies and plenty more can be heard all around the school grounds, accompanied by our musically talented Year 8 students.

Saif Al Wasiti is our drummer in this year's panto, with Seongmin Chun on keys. This is both Saif's and Seongmin's first pop ensemble debut here in Hartland and they both have worked very hard in learning the music. Our humanities teacher Mr. Buse, is also making his debut, putting the globe to one side and picking up the electric guitar!

With the wonderful work of the Jack and the Beanstalk on stage and off stage cast, this show is definitely not to be missed.

Be sure to get your tickets and I look forward to seeing you all on December 11.

## Winter Concert

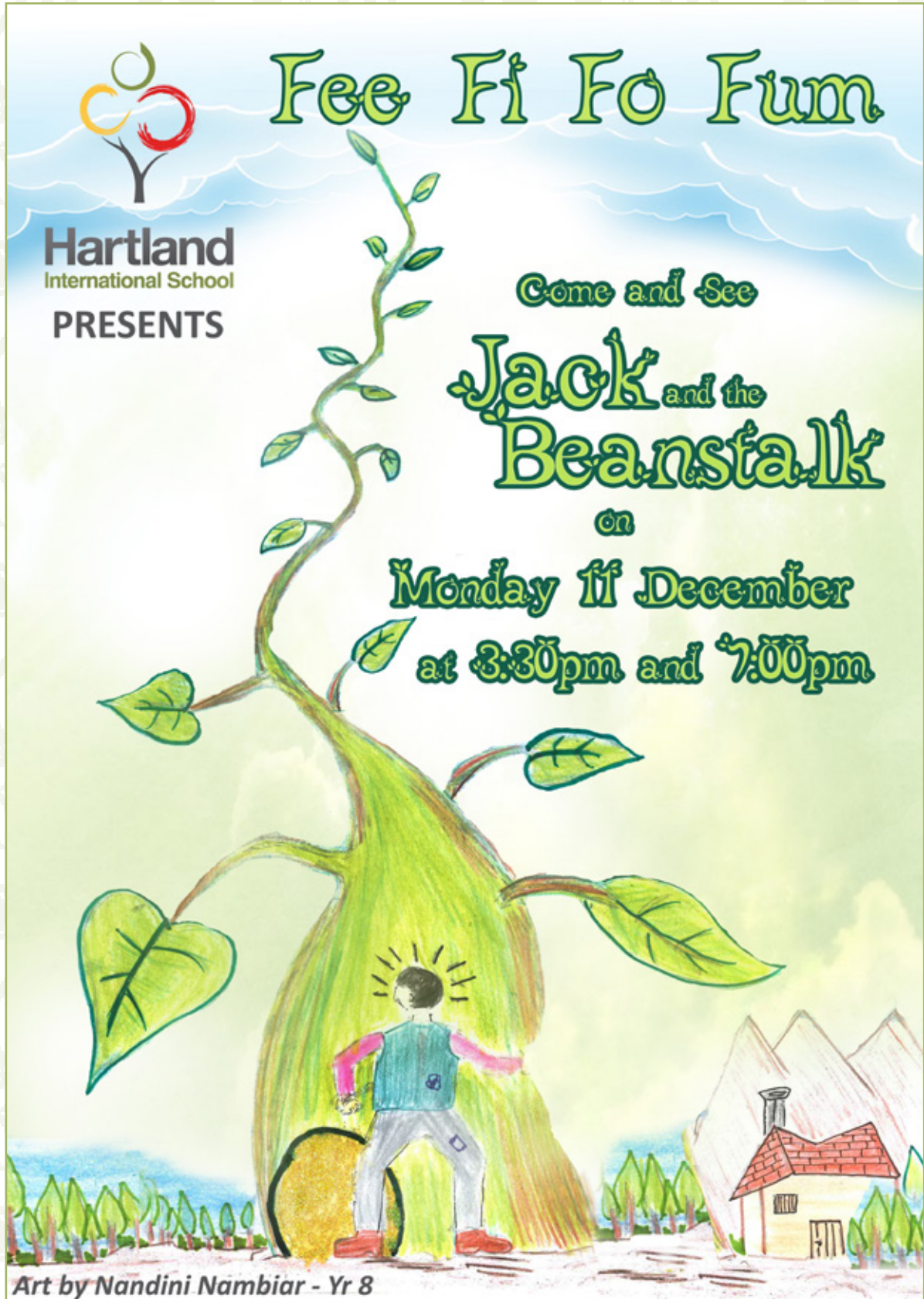
On Wednesday, December 13 our end of term Winter Concert is being held in our auditorium. All year groups will be sporting their festive jumpers and performing on stage with their respective year groups. Our start time is 6:30pm, with some homemade mince pies and fruit punch from 6pm onwards.

This is a great opportunity for all students to showcase their performance skills. Working as a group, taking responsibility and being committed are all key elements of the Hartland Way, and our students have certainly worked very hard to achieve this. This performance will feature a number of festive songs, so be sure to have your own vocal chords warmed up!

Looking forward to seeing you on December 13.

**Ms. E Egan**

## PANTOMIME UPDATE





# KNOWLEDGE SUMMIT 2017

On November 21, 2017, eleven Hartland students were invited to attend the 4th Knowledge Summit at the World Trade Centre. This summit organised by one of our parents – Mrs Shamsa Al Blooshi, Director of Partnerships for the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation, aims to bring the smartest minds from around the world to share ideas and discuss the future. The fourth edition of the event focused on the history of the industrial revolution and the role in which innovators play in reshaping and improving people's lives. The Summit also brings together foremost thinkers, creators and inventors to discuss trends in today's world, in economy, education, infrastructure and sustainable development.

We were honoured to attend and especially have an audience with Sheikh Mohammed himself who came to open the Summit on the first day.



## In their own words the students' highlight their visit:

It was such a privilege to see my mum at work and get to meet Sheikh Mohammed. I also loved talking to Sofia the Robot. I asked her many questions that she could answer.

**Ghalia Al Hama Yr 3**

I was chosen to go on this trip to the Knowledge Summit where I got to meet and stand next to Sheikh Mohammed. There were so many cameras taking photos of him it was amazing. We also got to walk through this very large hall and see a robot. I had fun and I loved being chosen to go on this trip.

**Saif Al Amoosh Yr 5**

I was one of the students chosen to go on this trip to the 4th knowledge summit. It was amazing to see all the robots and some trophies also. There were two robots that I should mention: one that was minding its own business wheeling all over the place and another one named Sofia that looked so real and we could ask her questions. The best part of the visit however was getting to take a picture with Sheikh Mohammed and we were in every news feature and newspaper for the next 24 hours.

**Nicola Parsons Yr 5**



# KNOWLEDGE SUMMIT 2017

I was fascinated with the robot Sofia! Her face was so lifelike when she spoke and she could answer many of the questions we asked her. I remember asking her about Dubai and it was like opening the internet with all the facts she could repeat...

**Amy Butt Yr 7**

I had the rare experience of standing near to Sheikh Mohammed when this photo was taken. He even asked my name which I couldn't believe! Then he gave me a hug and this was immortalised in every newspaper and TV channel. I know this rare opportunity may never happen to me again. It was simply amazing.

**Dario Pous Yr 7**

The knowledge Summit was an interesting experience for me. I got to speak to an artificial intelligence Robot named Sofia and I had the privilege of standing near to Sheikh Mohammed, the Ruler of Dubai.

**Kristian Yr 8**

I can't believe that we were the only school that were invited to meet with Sheikh Mohammed and interact with him as he opened the 4th knowledge summit. This was a rare privilege. The Summit really made me think what will lie in store in this world as I grow up.

**Fatima Rizvi Yr 7**



# MATHEMATICS

## Primary Maths Challenge - November 2017

On Thursday 16 November Hartland International School hosted the Primary Maths Challenge 2017 where a selection of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils across 5 Dubai schools were given the opportunity to solve a range of problems in small groups and on an individual basis.

All pupils who took part in the challenge received a participation certificate alongside a bronze, silver or gold award. The pupils representing Hartland performed extremely well however, a particular mention should be given to Ariana Zambarakji (Year 6) who received one of the gold awards.

Schools that took part in the event were: Hartland International School, North London Collegiate Dubai, Safa Community School, Jebel Ali School and GEMS Metropole School.



## Mathletics November Numeracy Challenge

Well done to all the pupils across Year 1 – 6 who took part in last weeks 'Mathletics November Numeracy Challenge'. We wait in anticipation to find out if the school has earned enough points to be in the Mathletics 'Hall of Fame' and receive a prize.

**Mrs McDonough**  
Primary Maths Lead



## THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK



On November 22, students in Years 4, 5, and 6 had the opportunity to attend an E-safety workshop run by Kaspersky. 'Think before you Click' was the key message of the workshop. Students had to think about the repercussions of their online activity-will it hurt others, could it potentially hurt me, or those who I care about the most?

At Hartland, we have regular 'e-safety' activities to remind children of the importance of keeping themselves safe online.

At home, children may be given unsupervised access to the Internet. This, potentially, allows them to access all kinds of society (both good and bad) and bring them virtually into their homes.

**Here are some tips and useful links to help you to keep your children safe online:**

### Ground Rules

Discuss as a family, how the internet will be used in your home. Consider what should be kept private online (personal information and photos) and decide rules for making and meeting online friends. Make sure you know what your child is doing online much like you would offline.

### Online Safety

Install antivirus software, secure your internet connection and use Parental Control functions for computers, mobile phones and games consoles to block unsuitable content or contact. Remember that parental control tools are not always 100% effective and sometimes unsuitable content can get past them, so do not rely on them alone to protect your child.

### Location

Locate your computer, tablets, phones and their use, in a supervised family area. Always supervise the use of webcams and applications which allow voice or video chat. Consider your child's use of other devices that allow internet access such as mobile phones and games consoles.

Dialogue Talk to your child and ask them to show or even teach you how they use the Internet, learn which websites or tools they like to use and why. Learning together can often open opportunities to discuss safe behaviour with your child. Always ensure your child knows how to block or report people online who send nasty or inappropriate messages or content. Encourage your child not to retaliate or reply. Make sure your child knows to tell an adult they trust if they see something online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable. It is essential to be realistic, banning the internet or technology will not work and it often makes a child less likely to report a problem. Education around safe use is essential.

### Websites for more information:

[www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com) – Visit the 'Know It All' Section for an interactive guide about online safety

[www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org) – Free up-to-date Security advice

[www.bbc.co.uk/online/safety](http://www.bbc.co.uk/online/safety)

**Mrs J Naidoo - Van Den Peereboom**

Computing Teacher



## RADIO ADVERT

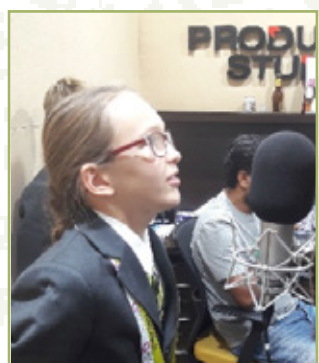


On Thursday November 23, Charlotte Sutherland in Year 7 and Joe Hulme in Year 8 had the privilege of being the voice of Hartland when they went to record the radio advert promoting our school. This is what they had to say about the experience:



This was the second time I have been to a recording studio, the first was for recording my book review on talking books for Dubai Eye. That was a great experience but this was better. We arrived at the ARN studios in studio city and were asked to go into a production room where there was a big microphone. This completely soundproof room felt weird as there was no echo and it was so silent. There was equipment everywhere and possibly the biggest computer screen I have ever seen. We recorded the advert and after a couple of takes and a few playbacks were confident we had it just right. Thank you Hartland for this opportunity it was a fun way to spend a Thursday afternoon away from class!

**Joe Hulme Year 8**



Recording my voice for a Hartland advert was an amazing experience. We were driven to the studios in Media City where we entered the CNN building and were shown to a studio on the 4th floor. Then we were asked to enter a room that seemed to be padded everywhere and was incredibly silent. I stood in front of a very large microphone and delivered the message and when it was played back I was surprised how crisp and clear it was. It was a fantastic opportunity and I am very thankful to my teachers who chose me and for Hartland School to have given me this chance to be the voice of our community.

**Charlotte Sutherland Year 7**

# HOUR OF CODE



During the week of December 3-7, Hartland pupils will be celebrating Computer Science week.

Here at Hartland, our students will be joining millions of other children around the globe to take part in the Hour of Code challenge. Throughout the week, all classes will have the opportunity to complete a fun, and engaging Hour of Code activity during their Computer Science lesson. We encourage and urge you as parents to support this campaign by consider taking part in one of the Hour of Code challenge yourself.

#### TRY THIS CHALLENGE:

<https://code.org/starwars>

Learn to program droids, and create your own Star Wars game in a galaxy far, far away.

Go ahead and write your first program!

See <http://hourofcode.com/us> for more coding challenges and help spread the word.

**Mrs J Naidoo - Van Den Peereboom**

Computing Teacher

## GIFTED & TALENTED UPDATE

As the term is rapidly drawing to a close, I would like to congratulate all students who have been involved in so many competitions over this term. From drama to dance, maths to music and coding to creating posters, skills and talents have been very evident in all these events. We celebrate and applaud your involvement. I would also like to draw your attention to some of our internal competitions, open to the wider Hartland community. The new Flash Fiction competition is a great way for enthusiastic and able writers to showcase their writing and potentially earn house points as well as a certificate. Entries are still open for the Save our Seas essay however you need to be quick as both of these competitions will close on Tuesday 5 December.

Please also take a moment to look at the information about the Monologue slam, in this newsletter, which Hartland are hosting in January. Schools from across Dubai will be meeting in the auditorium at Hartland and budding performers will be bringing their favourite Roald Dahl character to life. If you are keen to be part of this, please contact Mrs McKiernan for further details. Auditions will be held when we return to school in January so practise over the holidays, in preparation for what promises to be a super event.

**Mrs H Green**

Gifted and Talented Coordinator



**When: Wednesday 10 January**  
**Where: Auditorium at Lunchtime**

Are you ready to be **Matilda**?  
Are you ready to be the **Twittiest Mr Twit**?  
Are you ready to be **Charlie** finding the **Golden Ticket**?

**Come and audition for the Roald Dahl Monologue Slam!**

We will be selecting 2 pupils from each year group (Year 3-6).

You must learn a one minute speech from a Roald Dahl book.  
It needs to be a character talking, not the Narrator telling the story.



## P.E. UPDATE

We hope you are all looking forward to the National Day celebrations this weekend and as a PE Department we are excited about the climax to the first terms sports season. The football finals will be held at Rashid School for Boys on the 4 and 6 December for the Under 9 and Under 11 teams respectively. The Under 8 and 9 development team will play their finals this week at Kings Nad Al Sheba School.

The Under 9 Team have enjoyed a great end to the season with victories versus Kent College and North London School.  
Under 9 Results:

Hartland 6-1 Kent College  
Hartland 5-0 North London

The Under 11 team completed their season this week with a three way fixture at North London School where they played both the hosts and Sheffield Private School. The results were:

Hartland 0-2 North London  
Hartland 3-0 Sheffield Private School

The Secondary school has had a very active term and last week recorded an 8-2 victory for the boys' football team at Next Generation School. There will be another fixture for both the girls and boys teams on 6 December here at Hartland International. The boys and girls also competed very well at the first cross country meet at Rashid School for Boys.

In curriculum time, the Primary students had the Exiles Cricket Academy come in to deliver a lesson and the Secondary students have experienced what it is like to be a ball boy and ball girl in a session delivered by Clarke Francis Tennis Academy.

We are very much looking forward to the Rugby, Basketball and Netball Season which will begin after the break. The Cross Country Season will also continue to run through the second term. On a separate note, Mr Conception will be attending his bi-annual training on 4-7 December so we will have a temporary lifeguard during this week. Thank you for your continuing support this term.

Thank you for your continuing support this term.

**Mr L Britten**  
Head of PE



Secondary Boys Football versus Next Generation W 8-2





# LIBRARY



Dear Parents

Apologies for the long silence; I have been squirrelled away in the library unpacking boxes, and reordering all the books onto our new shelves. It has been a herculean task, and I am incredibly grateful for your patience while our service has been disrupted. There is still quite a bit to do, but for all intents and purposes, the library is back in action, and open for borrowing. Please come and drop in and see for yourself; we have so many wonderful books here, and anyone is welcome to browse and borrow; it is not just for the children! We are a reading school, and the very best way to promote reading to our children is to read ourselves, so please come and borrow a book. The library is open for parents from Monday to Wednesday mornings and afternoons (7.30-7.45am and 3.15-3.30pm), and for FS parents after school on Sunday afternoon (1.30-2.00pm).

The next phase of our library development can now get underway, so watch out for more displays, tables and tech in here, and for 2,500 new books for the Secondary library which will be delivered in January. These are exciting times! And nothing says exciting times like a Twitter account... we are now broadcasting around the world from @HISchoolLibrary. Please follow us to stay up to date with all our latest news, views and reviews.

We have just reserved tickets for the Education Days of the Emirates Airline Festival of Literature in the first week of March 2018; we have some amazing sessions booked, and I am really excited that we will be taking some of our children to meet Ali Sparkes, SF Said and Tom Moorhouse. We have all been voting on our favourite author to visit us in school, and I hope we will be told whether we have been successful in our bid early next term.

There are tickets on sale now for author sessions, and tickets for five new children's events have just been released. If you want to meet David Walliams, Andy Riley, Tony Ross, Korky Paul, MG Leonard or Kiran Millwood Hargrave, rush over to [www.emirateslitfest.com](http://www.emirateslitfest.com) to buy your tickets.

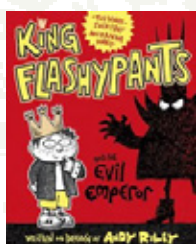
Finally, please don't forget our Book Swap Shop in the Foyer; it is there for you to renew your own library at home – bring your old books, and swap them with anything that you find on the shelves. The stock is always changing, and there are always some great books to swap and borrow.

Happy Reading!

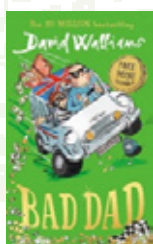
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Twitter: @HISchoolLibrary



Andy Riley



David Walliams



Kiran Millwood  
Hargrave



MG Leonard



Korky Paul



Tony Ross

# CHALLENGING ADVENTURE

Last week (21 -23 November) many of us Year Five pupils were lucky enough to visit a residential camp in Ras Al Kamiah. We participated in various exciting activities!

All of the activities were incredibly fun but one of our favourites was rock climbing! Despite some people having some fears they still enjoyed this experience. Also, all of the students adored the hot spring; it was basically a pool with natural water. It was probably everyone's favourite. Every single child that stayed on the residential participated in every activity.

The fantastic group demonstrated all of the Hartland values. Hartland students' showed these values by never giving up which exhibited resilience. They also empathised with each other by making sure the gang was alright at all times. Resilience was our word of the week, and not only did we show it in our classroom, we also showed it in camp.

Below are some more details of what we got up to at camp!



## Majlis Mountain Hike

We were on our way up the tall, exhausting mountain when we saw some cute, cuddly Billy Goats. That is when the whole of Year 5 started naming all goats Billy! The climb was breath-taking and painful at the same time. My legs were groaning at me saying, "STOP WALKING, WE'RE GOING TO BREAK INTO A MILLION PIECES!!!" Fortunately for me AND my legs we got to have one or two breaks on the way up.

At the top of the mountain there was a relatively big, brick, building. Everyone got to have a much longer 15 minute break to look at the view and rest their aching legs. Once the break was over, we pulled our trainers off our smelly feet so that we could explore the Majlis. It was a true mystery to what was inside I really, had absolutely no idea of what to expect. I was actually quite surprised. It was lined with golden velvet couches and to top it all off in the centre there was one gigantic carpet. The brick building was used for important people having meetings, discussing problems and deciding how to fix problems.

# CHALLENGING ADVENTURE

## The Hot Spring Water Pool

The hot spring water pool was a big favourite of ours because we were able to enjoy free time in the luscious water. It was really comfortable! We swam like fishes and had a huge game of volley ball.

## Biking

We rode our bikes through a soft, sandy surface. Some parts were extremely wet, and others as dry as the desert. At first it was impossible to cycle through the rough terrain. Many of us fell off the bikes because of the bumpy surface; it was quite funny. For some pupils, Jameel and Abdulazim, it was their first time riding a bike and for others their first time on sand. We really enjoyed biking!

## Den Building Task

After we had got into our teams, we used bamboo sticks, palm leaves and rope. When we started we made the outline of our den, but realised it was way too small, so we had to change the whole shape of it. After all that hard building, we had to check if our den was waterproof... we got soaked!

When that was over we learnt how to make fire with flint and steel, only a few of us managed to light it but the rest of us had sparks which was a good first try.

## The Campfire

On the last night, everyone sat close to the fire... it was campfire night. We sang songs like, 'Everyday Bro' and 'Let it Go'... the worst song ever! The last song we sang was called, 'Down in The Jungle'.

Many pupils asked for a horror story but the sensible teachers said, "NO!" Instead they told us a true story about the mountains we were surrounded by. Finally, our instructors gave everyone marshmallows, it was pretty cool! Some people burned their marshmallows a lot and others preferred them uncooked. I really did think to myself, "What a great experience."

## Rock Climbing

We reached great heights rock climbing. Many of us really loved this activity because we were able to climb on a real mountain. It was nerve racking. We did bouldering and weaselling before actually climbing. Many pupils were afraid of getting hurt but we were extremely safe with our instructor. He had actually climbed Mount Everest.

Written by all Year 5 pupils in collaboration with each other.

