

Garden Fields J.M.I School

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Growing Hearts and Minds

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School Update: 14th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a fairly quiet week – our first full one since the Christmas holidays and very much ‘back to business!’

Reading scheme update

We have had another visit from the Herts for Learning English advisory team to further assist with the re-banding our reading books into the correct colour bands.

Our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 English subject leads, Mrs Soans and Miss Palmer, are now ordering additional reading books – part funded by a very generous £5,000 contribution from the PTA.

Now the books are rebranded, children will start bringing reading books home again over the latter part of next week. These will be our existing books in the correct colours – but as we move through the term you will begin to see some of the new books coming through as well.

World Book Day – advance notice!

We will be having a ‘dress up day’ for those who wish to participate on Thursday 3rd March 2022. It is not compulsory of course, but if any children wish to participate by dressing up as their favourite book character then they are more than welcome!

HCC Launch of Plan for Children and Young People 2021-26

Hertfordshire County Council’s Children’s Services is pleased to announce the publication of ‘Our Way Forward - Plan for Children and Young People 2021-26’. It sets out the ambitions to improve outcomes for children, young people and families within Hertfordshire to support them to get their lives back on track following the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is supported by the Strategic Priorities, which will be updated annually, and will contribute to the achievement of the ambitions outlined within the plan. To view the Plan, Strategic Priorities and an animation of the ambitions visit [here](#). Many of the strategies contained within this Plan and other key Children’s Services strategies are publicly available at [here](#).



New Hertfordshire SEND Strategy: *SEND is everybody's business*

The Hertfordshire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Team have a new 3-year strategy entitled 'SEND is everybody's business' which they would like us to share with families.

This is what they say:

"SEND is everybody's business" – *being ambitious about support for pupils with SEND Happy New Year! Wishing you a great start to the new school term. At Hertfordshire County Council we excitedly enter 2022 with a set of new year's resolutions about how we will support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and their families.*

1 in 5 people have a special educational need or disability, and we will all come across someone in our lives who can benefit from our support and understanding. That's why the tagline to our Strategy is 'SEND is everybody's business'. We have 5 ambitions, which cover the support provided by education, health and social care, that underpin our new SEND Strategy 2022 – 2025. Take a look at our ambitions and what they'll mean for you as a professional on our dedicated special educational needs website, the Local Offer.

Please do also share this news with the families you support, we would like as many people in Hertfordshire as possible to know how we plan to support them.

The details can be found at:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SENDstrategy

Herts E-Safety newsletter

Periodically, Herts for Learning produce an E-Safety newsletter. These are very helpful in terms of tips and advice on how to keep our children safe online. As you know, the world of technology and the Internet is ever-changing and this newsletter is a useful way to keep up to date with such changes. Please find attached with this email.

Have a good weekend everyone.

Mr Farrugia

