



**WEST HOVE  
INFANT SCHOOL**  
.....  
**A family of friends**



# Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter

Friday 15 September 2023

Dear Families,

We are delighted to welcome you back to school, and it has been great to see so many families at our meet the teacher events across all 3 sites. We are proud to offer an exciting, creative and well planned curriculum across both schools that enriches the children's learning experiences. During our inset days this September we have spent further time reviewing our curriculum offer and are committed to helping every learner develop as a whole person, fulfil his or her potential and help shape a shared learning journey built on the well being of our pupils and school community.

Your child's year group learning journey, topic teasers and core knowledge files will be shared with you via Google Classroom or SchoolPing and are also available on the school websites. If you have been unable to meet the teacher but do need to communicate with them, please contact the school office or use our enquiries emails below and we will be in touch.

## **Our key priorities for this school year are:**

**1. Leadership and Management:** To diminish the difference in attainment and progress for our educationally disadvantaged and the lower 20% of all pupils.

**2. Quality of Education:** To continue to refine our curriculum based on the most recent and relevant research to ensure that it meets and challenges the diverse needs of all pupils in the Federation and the school communities.

Together as a federation we want to ensure that we provide high-quality education to all pupils. This is realised through strong, shared values, policies and exceptional, inclusive practice.

We are a Family of Friends who LEARN together.



## Support for Your Child's Mental Health and Wellbeing

At Hove Learning Federation, we promote positive mental health and wellbeing for our whole school community. We believe that everyone has the right to express how they feel and seek support for their mental health, without judgement. Our Mental Health Lead for WHIS and HJS (Naomi Miller) has sent you all our online referral system QR code to access, enabling parents and carers to request mental health and wellbeing support for their child. If you are concerned about your child's mental health and wellbeing you can complete the online form and our senior mental health lead will contact you to discuss support available. Please see the poster later in this newsletter for more information and the link to access our online referral form.

### Parent and Carer Working Party: Anti Bullying Policy Wednesday 4th October 9.10am

If you would like to be part of our parent/carers group it would be great to hear from you. We want to ensure that we have feedback to review this policy and ensure our provision is shaped by our school community. To do this we'd like to share our plans for behaviour and the anti-bullying policy at Hove Learning Federation, and hear from you about the support and provision that you would find most beneficial. If you are interested in joining the working party please email [katecusack@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:katecusack@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk).

Please continue to keep in contact with us – should you have any questions or concerns, contact us via the following:

West Hove Infant School  
[admin@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk)  
01273 733386

Hove Junior School  
[portlandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:portlandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)  
01273 916609

Hove Junior School Inclusion Team  
[inclusionteam@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:inclusionteam@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)  
01273 916609

Best wishes,  
Maddie Southern and Ben Massey

## Diary Dates

**25th September** - Individual Photos SR  
**27th September** - Phonics Workshop for Reception parents and carers  
**29th September** - Individual Photos PR  
**4th October** - Maths parent workshops – calculation strategies 9am and 3.30pm  
**20th October** - Last Day of School  
**23rd - 27th October** - Half Term  
**30th October** - INSET Day  
**31st October** - First day back for pupils  
**7th & 9th November** - Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings



# Year 5 - Brighton Rocks!

On Friday 8th September, Year 5 had a fantastic day of learning that introduced them to their "Brighton Rocks" topic. The children used their creativity and ingenuity to make prototypes of fairground games. In the afternoon they had a chance to explore all of the amazing designs and even made ice cream in class - what a brilliant day!





## FOR INFANTS

### Embark on a Journey of Thought: Family Philosophy Quest!

Dear Families of West Hove Infants,

We're excited to introduce a thought-provoking home-learning activity based on the principles of Philosophy for Children (P4C): "Family Philosophy Quest" designed to enrich family discussions. The aim is to foster active listening, critical and creative thinking, and a chance to bond as a family discussing some big ideas!

By completing the quests, you will move beyond the "What did you do today?" conversations and instead be inspired to have thought-provoking talks that stimulate curiosity and creativity.

#### **\*\*Why Philosophy for Children?\*\***

Through simple yet profound questions, children can learn to think critically, express their thoughts, and engage in meaningful conversations with no right answer!

#### **\*\*The Activity: Family Philosophy Quest\*\***

You will receive two new missions each half term to complete as a family.

**\*\*Step 1:\*\* Choose a time** when the family can sit down together without distractions. This could be during dinner, before bedtime, or on a weekend morning.

**\*\*Step 2:\*\* Check Ping for your missions.** During each half term, two new philosophical topics for discussion will be sent out via Ping with a stimulus to get your thoughts going, and some prompt questions or 'Thinking Moves' to help develop your thinking. The big questions are intentionally open-ended to encourage a variety of perspectives and interpretations.

**\*\*Step 3:\*\* Take turns:** As a family, take turns answering the question. Encourage everyone, including the youngest members, to share their thoughts. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers—what matters is the process of thinking and discussing.

**\*\*Step 4:\*\* Practice active listening.** After each family member has shared their thoughts, take a moment to reflect on what was said. Ask follow-up questions to understand each other's viewpoints better.

**\*\*Step 5:\*\* Explore related ideas.** Don't hesitate to dive deeper into the topic or share personal stories that relate to the question. This is a chance for your family to connect over shared experiences and values.

**\*\*Step 6:\*\* Enjoy the conversation!** The goal is not to reach a definitive conclusion but to engage in meaningful dialogue.

We hope that "Family Philosophy Quest" becomes a fun and fascinating focus in your family—a time to connect, learn, and grow together. Stay tuned for our first philosophical mission on Ping!

Miss Bye  
West Hove Infants School

# Adventure Trail and Saplings - Thank You!

We would like to say a massive THANK YOU to our wonderful FoWHIS, Mr Scott, Mrs Slot, Craig Kitson, Tom Connolly and everyone involved in the huge tasks of repairing our Adventure Trail and putting up the beautiful new kite poles in the Saplings outdoor classroom. A considerable amount of love and care has gone into both of these projects and we are very lucky to have such a dedicated team of staff and families.







# Are you concerned about your child's mental health?



- Anxiety
- Low mood
- Difficulties regulating emotions
- Self esteem and confidence
- Sleep difficulties
- Fears and phobias
- Separation, loss and bereavement



Scan the QR code below to *refer* your concern to Hove Learning Federation's Mental Health Lead. Link also available on our school website.

<https://www.westhoveinfants.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2023/03/Capture-1.png>



Naomi Miller (Mental Health Lead) will contact you within a week of your referral.

New referrals will be discussed at half termly triage meetings and support allocated.

NB: If you have an urgent concern about a child's mental health please call 0300 304 0061 during office hours or 0300 5000 101 outside of office hours.



# Everybody read!

## Reading together with your child matters!

Sharing books makes a big difference to your child's education.

When you read to your child you are making a positive impact on your child's reading ability and their love of reading.

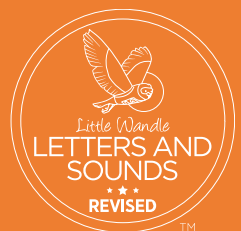
**Reading a book and chatting about it has a positive impact on your child's ability to:**

- understand words and sentences
- use a wide range of vocabulary
- develop listening comprehension skills

Reading books your child has chosen to read for pleasure is one of the best things you can do to help them succeed at school.

A love of reading is the biggest indicator of future academic success!

Parental involvement in the development of children's reading skills:  
A five-year longitudinal study (2002) Senechal, M. and Lefvre, J.





## Does it matter how I read with my child?

- Studies show that it's the enjoyment and chat that matters!
- The more you chat together about the book and things that interest your child the more impact it has.
- You don't even have to read the words on the page, talking about the pictures is just as important.

## Does it matter which language I use?

- Use your home language.
- It is better for your child to hear expert talk from you in your language.
- Many studies tell us it is the back-and-forth talk between adults and children when they are sharing books that makes the difference to children's language and comprehension.
- This impact will translate to better language and comprehension for your child in English.



## Does the type of book matter?

- Let your child be the boss of the books they choose. Enjoyment really matters.
- Comics, information books, magazines, story books, picture books, poems and leaflets are all great for sharing.
- Catalogues are fun to share and talk about too.

## What if they always want to read the same book?

- Repeated reading of books is really beneficial for children. It helps them memorise parts of stories, words and phrases too.
- Knowing a book or poem by heart is fun and powerful for children, they can 'read' the story with you, or join in with words or phrases.
- If you really want to mix it up offer another book alongside the much-loved favourite!







## Midday Supervisor required

Hove Junior School & West Hove Infant School - **Holland Road site**

Monday to Friday 12.00 – 1.00 pm (5 days per week)

Paid weeks per year 43.78

Hourly rate £11.81

We are looking for an MDSA to work with our friendly and supportive team of lunchtime staff and play leaders. You will need to:

- Supervise our children during lunchtimes, both in the playground and in the canteen
- Have a firm and fair approach with children from Reception to Year 6
- Have good inter-personal skills and a calm manner
- Be either first-aid trained or willing to undertake similar training

Closing date 8th September 2023

Interview date 15th September 2023

Start date: TBC

To apply for this job, please complete an application form and return to the school office or email it to:

[pambarry@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:pambarry@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

Employment under the Federated Board includes all locations/sites where both schools operate. Under this contract, you may be asked to work across different locations under the Federated Board, either temporarily or permanently

We are proud that our school is a culturally rich and diverse place of learning, and we are keen to encourage people from diverse ethnic backgrounds to apply and join our staff team. The school has a strong focus on Equality, Diversity & Inclusion for our pupils, staff and governors and we are passionate about creating an environment where every pupil can thrive. We are also very proud that Hove Junior School is an Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) Centre of Excellence.

Hove Junior School and West Hove Infant School are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All new staff will be DBS (Disclosure Barring Service) checked at an advanced level.



## Midday Supervisors required

Hove Junior School – based at **Portland Road site**

Monday to Friday 12.20 – 1.20 pm (5 days per week)

Paid weeks per year 43.78

Hourly rate £11.81

We are looking for MDSAs to work with our friendly and supportive team of lunchtime staff and play leaders. You will need to:

- ☐ Supervise our children during lunchtimes, both in the playground and in the canteen
- ☐ Have a firm and fair approach with children from Year 3 to Year 6
- ☐ Have good inter-personal skills and a calm manner
- ☐ Be either first-aid trained or willing to undertake similar training

Hove Learning Federation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Closing date 19th July 2023

Interview date TBC

Start date 4th September 2023

To apply for this job, contact Kate Newman, Office Manager

Email: [katenewman@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:katenewman@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

# Cost of Living

For useful information on the Cost of Living crisis, please click on this link:

<https://www.which.co.uk/topic/cost-of-living>

**Brand Vaughan**  
are proud to be  
partnered with  
**West Hove Infant  
School and Hove  
Junior School.**

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Sell or let your property with Brand Vaughan and receive  
**20% off** our standard selling or lettings fee.

Each time you sell or let your property through Brand  
Vaughan, West Hove Junior School will receive **10%** of  
the referred selling or letting fee.

Our partnership with West Hove Junior school, not only  
benefits you, but also benefits your children's school.

**Speak to our team today, we offer free, no  
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**20% discount.**



**Sales**

**Jimmy Atkins**  
01273 22 11 02



**Lettings**

**Jenna Miles**  
01273 22 11 01