



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

Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter Friday 17th January 2025

Dear Families,

Our pupils have really enjoyed a host of workshops and trips this week with science events hosted for year 5 at Brighton and Hove Girls School, WW2 evacuation day for year 6 and Year 4's Viking workshop. It has been inspiring to see how much memorable learning and enjoyment these activities have brought. Thank you to all your support with these events from helping the children to dress up and volunteering to help. It is greatly appreciated by the staff and pupils alike.

Our IQM report came out this week and is available [here](#). Just like the recent Ofsted report, it is an inspiring read and we are incredibly proud of our inclusive school community. We thank Mrs Charlotte Wallace, our Inclusion Manager, and Mrs Naomi Miller who have led on our flagship project and our fabulous inclusion teams across all three sites. Their dedication and passion for our pupils has created a very special culture.

The final consultation report has now been shared with all stakeholders and the school will be working with the LA to formulate a strategic plan from their offer. The LA and school will update families and wider stakeholders in a public meeting at Hove Town Hall about their work with the Federation after Easter. Date to be agreed and shared.

We will be looking to fill an available governor vacancy during this term and information will be available soon on the website.



Currently, we do not have any parent vacancies, but a co-opted governor position can be taken by a parent. The vacancy would need to be advertised across the wider stakeholder community and can be for a specific skill set required by the board.

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

01273 916707

Hove Junior School

hollandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk

01273 916707

Hove Junior School Inclusion Team

inclusionteam@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk

01273 916609

Best wishes,
Maddie Southern

Diary Dates

22nd & 23rd January - Y6 Take Shelter trips to Downs Junior School

23rd & 24th January - Book Nook Book Fair at Portland Road

5th February - Author Book Stall in SR playground

14th February - Non-uniform day, donations to school fund

17th - 21st February - Half Term

24th February - First day back at school



Year 3 Stunning Start

Year 3 had a fantastic day for the Stunning Start to their 'Trash to Treasure' topic. They recycled and reused coffee filters, scraps of packaging and rubbish, leftover wrapping paper and old bottle tops, and turned them into beautiful art projects! Thank you to all families who donated their rubbish! 😊



Year 4 Viking Day

This week in Year 4, we were visited by Portals to the Past and had the opportunity to experience what life was like as a Viking.

Throughout the day, we heard Viking tales, played Viking games, took part in a Viking quiz, and looked closely at some Viking artefacts. Later in the day, we experienced Viking battle tactics when we had our very own battle in the hall; we were lucky to make it home that day!

We felt like true Vikings and had a day full of fun, excitement and adventure. Take a look at these pictures of our day...



Year 4 Viking Day



YEAR 5 SPACE TRIP

Our Year 5 children rocketed over the Brighton Girls School this week for some fun-filled Space activities. The school hosted us for a brilliant coding session where pupils used their Scratch knowledge to code a moon buggy. The children were tasked to programme space buggy crumble kits to travel around moon rocks safely. We also experienced the Wonderdome, a interactive planetarium, and saw first hand what it would be like to be on the surface of all of our neighboring planets and the moon! What a fantastic day out!



Year 6 - World at War: Evacuee Day

Our Year 6 'Evacuee Day' this week was a real success and the children have not stopped talking about it! As part of the day, we dressed up as evacuees and enjoyed a range of activities: we played WW2 games such as Battleships, talked about what we'd take with us if we had to be evacuated, compared boy and girl evacuee suitcases (museum artefacts), practised what to do in the event of an air raid, sang the national anthem, made blackout poems and did some fitness training.



We also enjoyed hearing from a local resident, Rita Fowler, who lived in Hove during the outbreak of war. Rita described what it was like living in Hove in the 1940s and what it was like for her and her family taking in two evacuees during the six year period of war. We are loving our new topic and cannot wait to find out more!





Saplings

We're delighted to share that we have been awarded a Bupa Foundation Green Community Grant to help us develop the Saplings space for the benefit of all the infants.

Huge thanks to Gary from Little Garden Facelift who designed and built the new planters during the school holidays.

In line with the school ethos on learning and Forest School Principles, we are so excited that this expanded growing garden will enable children to learn hands-on about cyclical planting, growing and harvesting through the seasons.

Saplings sessions are child-centred. Children are given time and space to explore, learn and play in a structured and nurturing environment. Children connect with nature through a range of activities such as sowing and nurturing seeds, learning to identify trees of the area and how to be mindful among plants and animals.

We couldn't do this development or many of our other projects without the support of our fantastic parent community, and special thanks go to those involved in the grant application and developing the Saplings area.

How can you get involved?

Please reach out to FOWHIS@gmail.com if you:

- Have a volunteer day through your work which you could use to help develop the Saplings area or get involved in other projects
- Can mobilise a team of volunteers through your work for such community initiatives
- Know about other grant opportunities we could apply for

Thank you!



Winter Clothes Swap

We held another successful eco event at the end of last term - our Winter clothes swap. Thank you to everyone who donated and also FOWHIS and the Juniors PTA who donated coats and uniform. We had a fair few left over, so will be holding another event on Wed 22nd January after school in the Green Room - come along and help yourselves!





Update from the Smartphone Free Childhood Working Group:

Playdates and devices

Some families might be at the stage where your children's friends arrive for a playdate with a smartphone or tablet in their pocket or bag. Here are a few tips for navigating this:

- Think about your boundaries. Would you rather no devices for the whole playdate? Or just at certain times? Do you have a certain place where devices must be kept when they are not being used? Are devices banned from bedrooms? Work out what you feel comfortable with and stick to it.
- Talk to your child about your rules and clearly explain why you have them.
- Get into the habit of telling your children's friends' parents your expectations before they come for a playdate. If you feel uncomfortable doing this, you could frame it as: "We're trying to cut down on screen time... we're happy to chat about it if you have concerns." This puts the ball in their court if there are any issues and keeps it very general. It can feel strange approaching this topic with other parents at first, but most people will be very receptive, and it will get easier the more you do it.
- Get into the habit of double checking with your child's friends when they arrive at your house. Ask them directly: "Have you brought a phone or tablet with you today?"
- Ask your child to let you know if they find out someone has brought a device along.
- Have a few fun activities up your sleeve. Maybe you and your child can think some up together, to combat the pressure to allow devices.
- The younger your child is when you start applying house rules around devices, the more normal it will be for your child and the easier they will find it.
- The same advice applies if your child is heading off to another family's home for a playdate. Get in the habit of letting other parents know what your child is and isn't allowed to do. It is totally acceptable to say: "Charlotte is not allowed online on any devices." It might feel awkward at first, but if you come up against any push back, it gives you the chance to consider saving that playdate for the future.

We hope this helps! We have heard countless stories of 'when play dates go wrong' - when parents have been unaware of devices being brought into their homes and children have accessed harmful content. Our advice is not to shy away from tricky conversations with your child and with their friends' parents. The more we all talk about this stuff, the safer our kids are, and the easier all this becomes.

If you have any useful tips to add, please contact us on our Whatsapp group (links below) and let us all know what has worked for you.

Sign the Smartphone Free Childhood Parent Pact [here](#)

Regular links

As always, find more info on our page on the school websites:

- [West Hove Infants](#)
- [Hove Juniors](#)

For friendly, informal discussion, support, and a space to ask questions about all things smartphone, please join our WhatsApp groups:

Portland Road site: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/EHAccChfegl6OUUCkC7MMM>

Holland Road site: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CmBDzMPJH0X4MTRtmH3wde>

Wishing everyone a great weekend!

All the best, the West Hove Infant and Hove Junior SFC Working Group



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.

Hove Learning Federation After School Club

We offer wraparound care for your child at our **HLF** Afterschool Club. The children attend straight from school until 6pm. During this time your child can immerse themselves in Lego play, fancy dress, arts and crafts as well as play in one of our playgrounds - there's something for everyone. It gives the children a safe space to unwind after a busy day of learning with their friends, under the care of our fabulous school club team led by Eddie

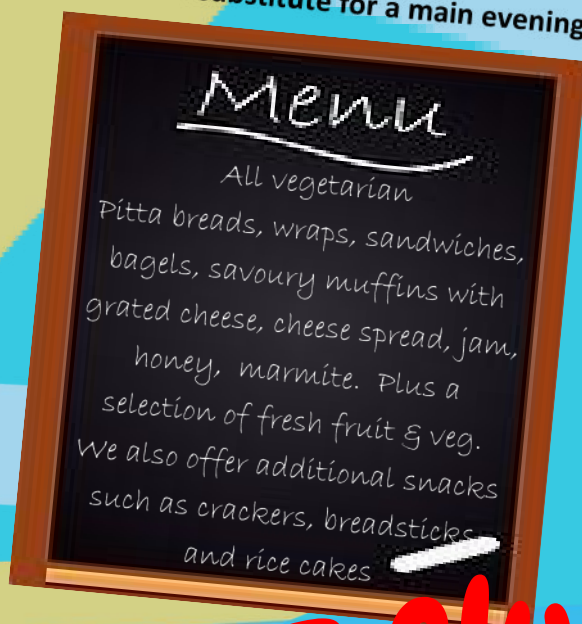
Enquiries: hlf.afterschoolclub@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk

£15 per session with 10% discount for additional siblings when attending the same session.

Book your child's space via Magic Booking ensuring to include additional information such as medical needs and allergies within the profile section.

If your child is attending another club beforehand or is being picked up by someone else, please contact Eddie and Finance team on the above email.

A high tea is also offered during this session - this is not intended as a substitute for a main evening meal.



School and Portland Road Afterschool Club is based within the School Canteen - accessed via the Infants pedestrian gate.

HLF club



easyfundraising

Shop online with your favourite retailers and you'll raise donations for FOWHIS

By simply downloading the easyfundraising app
and signing up you raise £1 for FOWHIS

Use the QR code to link to our fundraising page



Shop with 8,000+ retailers, including

 **JUST EAT**

M&S

moonpig

TESCO

¹⁴ Level 1 & Level 2

CYCLE



TRAINING

at Preston Park
and Hove Park



Level 1 is where you will learn to control your bike.

Level 2 is where you start with real traffic, but sticking to quiet roads.

**Monday 17 – Thursday 20
February**

10am – 12.30pm each day

Ages 9 – 15

Levels 1 & 2 together is £45 per person.

Places are limited and on a first-come first-served basis.

Level 1 – Riders must be able to ride independently with confidence and without stabilisers.

Progression to Level 2 training is depended on meeting all level 1 modules to National Standards Level.

To book your place visit:

<https://cycling.envelope.host/courses/>

or contact Emily Tester on 01273 293847

or email: east.central@brighton-hove.gov.uk



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Level 3

CYCLE



TRAINING

at Preston Park
and Hove Park



Monday 17 – Wednesday 19
February

1.15pm – 3.15pm each day

Ages 11 – 15

All children must have attended a Level 2 course and allow 3 months practice between levels.

All trainees will be assessed on Level 2 outcomes before progressing further.

Level 3 is where you learn to cycle safely on busy roads within the city.

Training includes roundabouts, traffic lights and filtering. You must have completed Levels 1 and 2.

Places are limited and on a first-come first-served basis.

Level 3 training costs £50 per person.

To book your place visit:


<https://cycling.envelope.host/courses/>

or contact Emily Tester on 01273 293847
or email: east.central@brighton-hove.gov.uk




Brighton & Hove
City Council

FRED THE SHED



Fred the Shed is a school community non profit sharing shed that can help with non perishing items to those who are finding it especially hard in the current climate.




Our aim is to help as many families in our school community as possible and it is run by volunteering parents and carers, the sharing shed completely relies on donations of non perishable items which can be dropped into either school reception areas.



OPEN every Friday
after school


along with Fred's free bakery
which comes from generous
volunteers from Olio

Fred the Shed is located in the juniors front playground just next to the main gates




If you don't feel comfortable with approaching the sharing shed, please email our anonymous email address fredshedschoolroad@gmail.com

and items can be requested and left in the school reception area.



If you'd like to support Fred the Shed with your time, contact fowhis@gmail.com
To keep Fred stocked, there are collection bins in both school receptions.



WANT TO FEEL CONFIDENT IN YOUR YEAR 6 SATS?

Limited spots available in my:

 RYAN FAERS
TUITION

Year 6 Maths Group

Tuesdays (5.00-6.00pm) weekly

- Arithmetic & Reasoning papers
- Interactive quizzes
- Modelled examples

One
space
left!

First
lesson
free!

Current
teacher
and school
leader

This half term in Maths:

- 07/01 - Multiplying decimals by integers
- 14/01 - Dividing decimals by integers
- 28/01 - Understand percentages
- 04/02 - FDP equivalents
- 11/02 - Percentages of an amount - 1 step
- 18/02 - Percentages of an amount - 2 step

Year 6 English Group

Mondays (5.30-6.30pm) weekly

- Reading and Grammar papers
- Comprehension skills
- SPaG applied in writing tasks

Two
spaces
left!

This half term in English:

- 06/01 - Punctuating boundaries
- 13/01 - Non-Fiction comprehension skills
- 27/01 - Word classes
- 03/02 - Poetry comprehension strategies
- 10/02 - Punctuating sentences
- 17/02 - Fiction comprehension skills



 **Call Today**
07848699164

- Online Group Tuition
- Maximum Group Size of 4
- £25 per hour
- Maths Topic Checklist/Syllabus
- Marked Homework Task



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ryanfaersmathstutor](https://www.facebook.com/ryanfaersmathstutor)

 ryanfaers@gmail.com

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



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vaughan

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 obligation valuations.

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20% discount.



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Jimmy Atkins
01273 22 11 02



Lettings

Jenna Miles
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