



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

# Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter

Friday 28th November 2025

## **Dear Families,**

HLF is such a special place to learn and thrive. From school discos to themed workshops and community events, our aim is always to provide opportunities that go above and beyond - helping children build happy memories and a strong sense of belonging. We are especially pleased this term that more children than ever are taking part in clubs and sports across the federation, which continue to be a vital part of our outstanding personal development offer.

## **IQM Award!**

In a world that can feel uncertain, we have continued to prioritise diversity, inclusion and mental health support, ensuring these values are lived out across our school community. As part of this work, we are delighted and proud to announce that we have once again received the IQM (Inclusion Quality Mark) Centre of Excellence Award receiving 'flagship school status' for the fourth-year running! A huge thankyou to our inclusion team and staff who put these values and ethos into every part of your children's school experience. We can't wait to share our inspection report with you all very soon.

## **Improving Communication**

### **Reducing number of emails to P/C**

Many of our families have asked us to reduce the number of emails being sent out to P/C each week and we are in the process of trialling a weekly communication digest for the rest of the autumn term with the school office. This will have both whole school and year group information going out on a one pager in an email every Thursday. We will then ask for your feedback ready for the spring term. Hopefully this will reduce the amount of emails and allow P/C to search for all the key information in one weekly email.



## **Instagram**

Hove Learning Federation will be launching its own official Instagram account in January, created to celebrate the amazing things happening across our school community every week. We will use it to showcase the vibrancy, creativity and diversity of our schools – capturing everything from classroom learning and outdoor adventures to special events, performances and whole school moments. It will give families a richer window into daily school life and we will be creating year-group highlight reels that share key moments, celebrate achievements and shine a light on the fantastic work of our children and staff.

As we launch this exciting new way to connect with our community, we want to reassure families our approach to children’s digital safety remains unchanged and firmly at the heart of everything we do.

You will already be aware of our updated policy on smartwatches and smartphones, introduced to support children’s well-being, reduce distraction, and help cultivate a positive, pressure-free school environment and those rules remain fully in place.

Reflective of this, our Federation Instagram is managed exclusively by staff, and children will not have access to the account. Any images or videos shared will follow our existing safeguarding and photo-permissions policy. The aim is simply to provide parents with a safe, positive and engaging window into school life and not to encourage children’s use of social media or devices.

We hope this new channel strengthens our sense of community and helps you feel even more connected to the wonderful experiences your children have at school.

## **Volunteers Welcome!**

We are always grateful for the generous support of our school community and are currently looking for volunteers to help with a variety of activities. Parents, carers and grandparents are all warmly invited to get involved.

There are many ways you could help, such as supporting saplings in EYFS, hearing pupils read, assisting with DIY projects like our fabulous outdoor classroom at HR site, or helping out with a school trip.

Whether you can offer regular help or just an occasional hand, your time and skills make a real difference to our pupils and the wider school community. If you would like to volunteer or find out more, please contact your child's school site office.



## **Attendance at Hove Learning Federation**

Hove Learning Federation believes that in order to facilitate teaching and learning, good attendance is essential. Pupils cannot achieve their full potential if they do not regularly attend school. This means that your child should attend school every day unless they are unable to do so for reasons of genuine illness or have been given leave from the school. We monitor the attendance of all children at the school and where concerns about a child's attendance arise, we will contact you to discuss further and to see if there is anything we can do to support you and your child. On occasion we will have to write to you about your child's attendance if it continues to reduce. If you have any queries or if there are any ways that you feel the school can support you and your family in ensuring that your child attends regularly please do contact us.

## **Parents Evenings**

We would like to say thank you to everyone who attended their child's parents' evening appointments. They are valuable opportunities for teachers to feedback on how children have settled into the new school year and the progress they are making. If you were unable to book or attend an appointment, please speak to our school offices or your child's class teacher about arranging an alternative time to meet.

## **Uniform**

Please see information on our uniform policy on our websites:  
<https://www.westhoveinfants.co.uk/parents/school-uniform/> and  
<https://www.hovejuniorschool.co.uk/uniform>

## **Parking**

We have been really proud of just how much improvement there has been regarding parking illegally outside the school over the last term. Thankyou for parking safely and respectfully for all our pupils and school community.

## **Independent Infants!**

It has been fantastic to see our reception children navigating their way into their classrooms each morning. As their grownups wave goodbye at the door, they are independently hanging up coats, placing book bags in trays remembering their water bottles!

As an infant school we try hard to nurture independent skills and we would like to remind Year 1 and 2 families that grown-ups should not enter the school buildings at drop off and pick up times. All children should come into the school building independently ready for the start of the school day at 9:00am unless a specific arrangement has been made.



# Cross country '25 and Athletic opportunities

On Wednesday 12th November, Miss Anglada and Mr Adesina took a group of 40 year 5 and 6 children to the Primary Cross Country. The event took place at Waterhall Playing fields, the children had to run 2000m (2km) across a challenging course that took them up some pretty big hills! The sun shone all afternoon and the energy and atmosphere was electric! Seeing more than a THOUSAND children taking part from 40 primary schools from across the city was pretty amazing!

We were so impressed with all the children who took part- you were all fantastic and represented the school brilliantly, running hand by hand. Some of our best runners qualified and these children will go through to finals in March!!  
We are all very proud!

The top 20 finishers in each event were given a letter at the finish. This gave them and their parent / carer information about the Sussex School Games Cross Country event on Thursday 26 March 2026 at Crawley Rugby Club. The parent/carer will need to speak with the school to make sure they are happy for them to attend on this date. Any questions about this please do get in touch with Miss A.

If any of your students would like to get involved with more running or athletics in B&H please do point them in the direction of the FREE junior parkruns that are in Brighton and Hove:

## **Parkrun Primary**

[parkrunprimary initiative](#) | [parkrun UK Blog](#)

**Preston Park** [home](#) | [Preston Park junior parkrun, Brighton](#) | [Preston Park junior parkrun, Brighton](#)

**Hove Park** [home](#) | [Hove Park junior parkrun](#) | [Hove Park junior parkrun](#)

**Queens Park** [home](#) | [Queen's Park junior parkrun, Brighton](#) | [Queen's Park junior parkrun, Brighton](#)

There are also 2 junior clubs in the city:

## **Brighton Phoenix**

**Club news — Brighton & Hove Athletic Club Brighton & Hove Athletic Club**  
([brightonandhoveac.com](#))

They do have waiting lists for their junior sections.

Freedom Leisure also run Junior drop in Athletics sessions at Withdean [Withdean Athletics Academy](#) ([briefyourmarket.com](#))

## **Junior Events:**

**Brighton Half Marathon Junior Event Saturday 28 February 2026** More Information can be found here: [Brighton Half Marathon Youth Race 2026](#)

**Brighton Marathon** - Brighton Marathon Miles will take place again on Saturday 11 April 2026 in Preston Park. [Brighton miles](#) | [London Marathon Events](#)

Finally, thank you also to all the parents who helped support and get children to the event. Special mention to Ash for leading a fitness/warm up session for the runners and Simon for helping at the finish line.

It was great having you all cheering the children on.

Here are some of our best results and highlights of the afternoon!

Well done everyone!

Congratulations to the Year 6 boys team as they finished 4th place and Year 6 girls in 9th place across the city!!

Name	Position	Name	Position
Oscar W	2- Wow!	Martha	67 65
Donny	12 18 42	Cordy	60 71
Izaak	35 41 75	Arlo	58 77
Caleb	85	Roman	48 54
Evie		Dexter	63
Maja		Finn E	
Clara		Seth	
Bibi		Cillian	
		Emily	



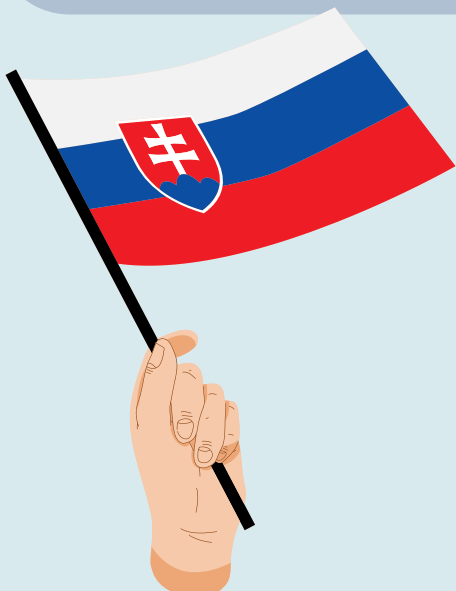
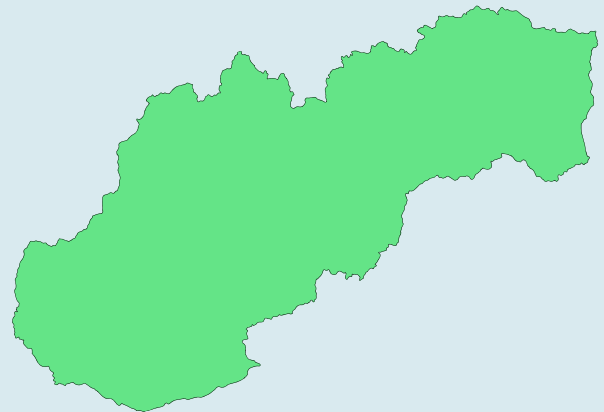


# Srdečne ďakujem to Henry's mum for coming in!



On Friday 17th October, we were very lucky in 3 Blue as Henry's mum, who is from Slovakia, came into class to teach us all some Slovak.

All of us enjoyed learning some new vocabulary and we are very grateful to Henry and his mum for teaching us.



# A Special Visit from Amber Anning



We were thrilled to welcome former Hove Junior pupil and world champion sprinter Amber Anning back to school for a special assembly this week. Amber spoke to Years 3 and 4, then to Years 5 and 6, sharing her inspiring journey from the Hove Juniors playground to the top of the athletics world - including her recent gold medal win at the World Indoor Championships!

She taught the children valuable life lessons about resilience, confidence, and following your passions, and even brought in one of her Olympic medals to show them. Her visit was full of energy, positivity and encouragement, and she answered some fantastic questions from our pupils.

Amber's visit left everyone feeling inspired and proud. Thank you, Amber - we were so grateful to have you visit us!





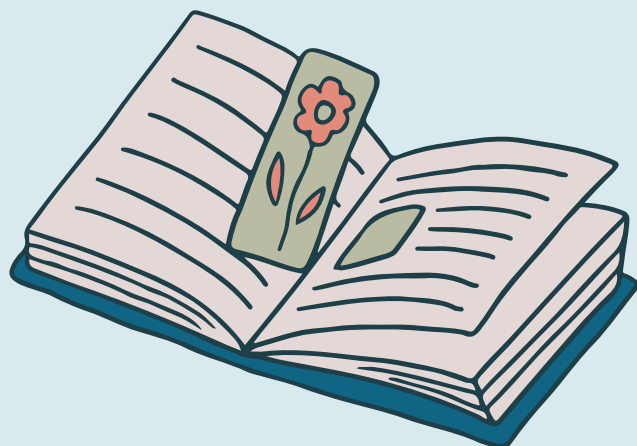
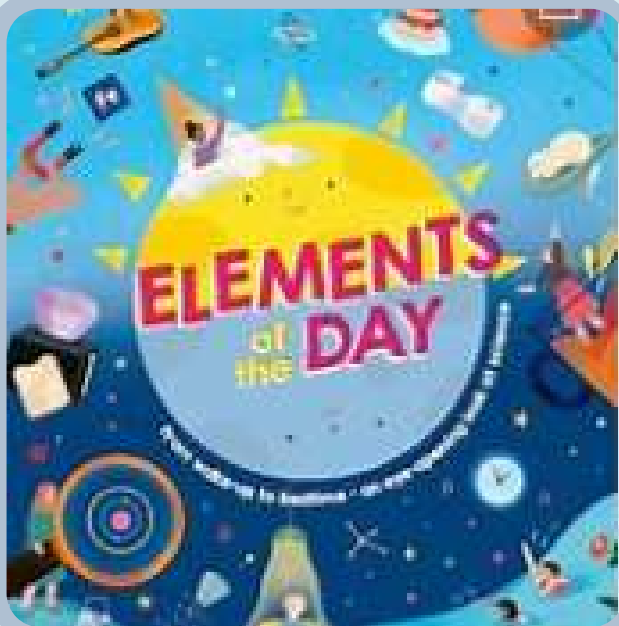
# Junior Choir



We are so proud of our Junior Choir who have been working so hard learning their songs for their top stage performance at The Dome next Wednesday. We are looking forward to sharing their music with the whole school over the coming weeks.



# Author Visit: Samantha Lewis



We were ‘in our element’ when author, and ex-West Hove Junior School pupil, Samantha Lewis came in to talk about her non-fiction book, Elements of the Day.

Samantha’s book talks about how elements contribute to our everyday lives. It is an engaging and fascinating insight into how elements are “the building blocks of everything we see, touch and taste.”

The children were fascinated and it was fantastic to hear everyone talking about science after the event.

We are so grateful to Samantha for taking the time to visit our school and we hope she will return, once her next book is finished!

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

Dear Families,  
Following our recent P/C appointments a feedback survey was completed.

Our results show that:

- 96% of pupils feel safe at school.
- 97% of P/C say that their child is happy at school.
- 90% of P/C feel that the school lets them know how their child is doing.
- 92% of P/C said that the school makes them aware of what their child will learn during the academic term.
- 94% of P/C feel that their child's teacher knows them well.
- 84% of P/C feel that there is a good range of subjects available to their child.
- 93% of P/C found the children's target forms sent out prior to the consultation evening useful and informative.
- 89% of P/C feel that their child can take part in clubs and activities.

Thankyou for taking the time to complete the survey and feedback.



Maddie Southern  
Executive Headteacher



Lorna Cummings  
Co-Executive Headteacher



Niamh O'Shea  
Head of School, School Road



Rachel Jeffers  
Head of School, Portland Road

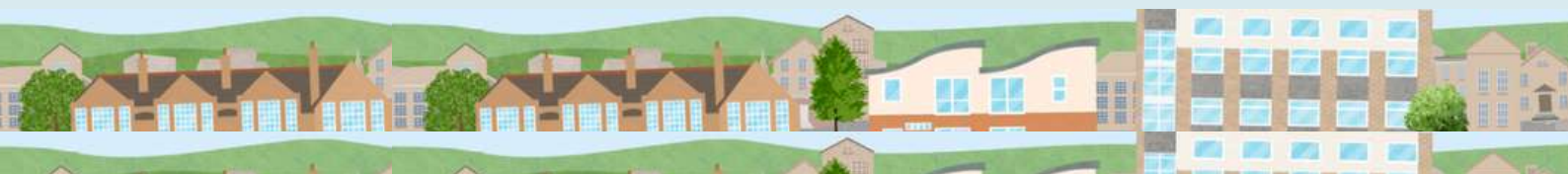
## Prospective parent visits

### School Road Reception visits:

**Monday 12th January - 9.30**

## Diary Dates

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec** - Yr 3 Brighton Museum trip (Blue & Red)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Yr 3 Brighton Museum trip (Green & Yellow)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Christmas diner
- 11<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR Christmas concert 9:30 (Seahorses & Dolphins class)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR Christmas concert 10:40 (Caterpillars & Grasshoppers class)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR Christmas concert 9:30 (Turtles & Sealions class)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR Christmas concert 10:40 (Bumblebees & Dragonflies class)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Dec** - YR 3 Fab Finishes (both sites) - 2pm in hall
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec** - YR 4 Fab Finishes (both sites) - 2pm in hall
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR Christmas concert 9:15 (Lizards & Marmosets class)
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR Christmas concert 10:40 (Toucans & Treefrogs class)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Dec** - YR 5 Fab Finishes (both sites) 2pm in hall
- 18<sup>th</sup> Dec** - YR 6 Fab Finishes (both sites) - 2pm in hall
- 19<sup>th</sup> Dec** - All, Last day of term/Dress down day
- 17<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR YR R - Christmas party
- 18<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR - YR R Teddy Bear's Picnic
- 18<sup>th</sup> Dec** - SR - Magician for YR1 & YR2, 1pm, also YR 1 & 2 Christmas Parties



# CHECK FOR HEADLICE



PLEASE CHECK YOUR  
CHILD'S HEAD

**BBC**  
**CHILDREN**  
**IN NEED**

# THANK YOU

## Hove Learning Federation

for raising

# £713

THE MONEY YOU HAVE RAISED WILL HELP TO  
MAKE LIFE LIGHTER FOR CHILDREN





# CATERLINK FEEDBACK FORM

Caterlink really values feedback from all its stakeholders to help us develop and/or improve the service we provide to your school and your pupils.

This term we have committed to seek feedback from your Parent/Guardians.

With this in mind, please can you send the survey link below for parents/guardians to complete before the closing date which is 31st December 2026.

**click here for  
form!**

[Feedback form](#)





It's here!

# BOWLS OF BELONGING

Our community cookbook  
Book Launch!

Holland Road Site

Thursday 4th

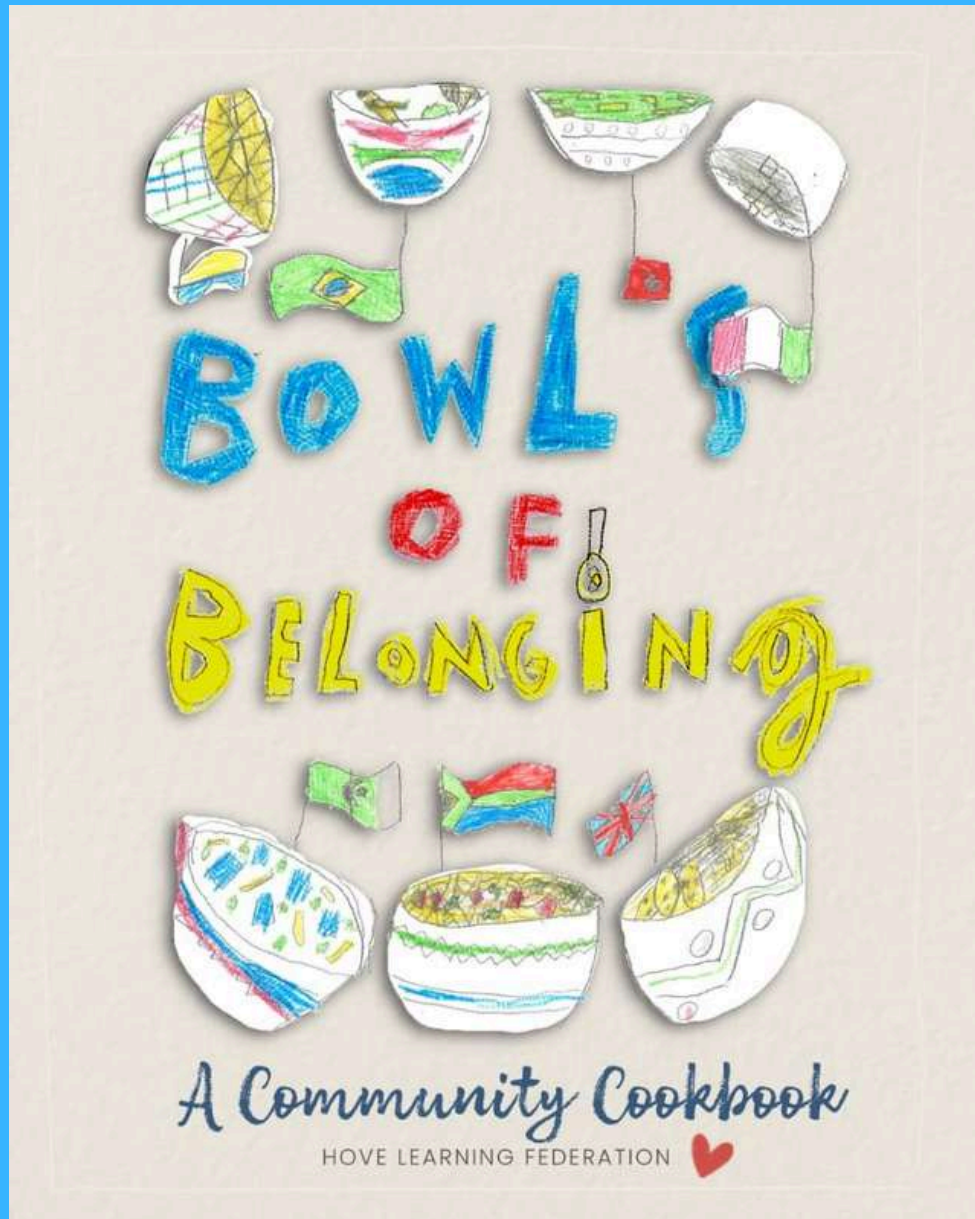
December 4.30-6

Tickets £2.50 via

ParentPay



It's here!  
Our community cookbook



Pre-order your copy now! All  
proceeds fund resources for  
our children





# Are you concerned about a 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 Child Mental Health Lead, Bridget Rennie. Link also available on our school website.*



Bridget Rennie (Mental Health Lead) will contact you via email within 2 weeks of your referral.

NB: If you have an urgent concern about a child's mental health please call 03003040061 during office hours or 03005000101 outside of office hours.

## Would you like to work or volunteer at our Federation?

Our wonderful Federation of schools, are currently looking for reading volunteers as well as paid exciting opportunities to boost your income. For reading volunteers we are keen to provide a volunteer reader to a year group in your child's school site, so they can get to know the children and provide additional support for fluency if you have a free afternoon or morning each week. Grandparents or other family members are also encouraged.

For our federation job roles these can be flexible and part time if you're wishing to add extra regular income - these might just be for you!

### Vacancies at Holland Road/Portland/School Road

**Breakfast club** - these could be anything from 1-5 mornings a week 7.40am until 8.40am. You would be welcoming and supporting the children with breakfast and a relaxed start to the school day.

**Midday Supervisor (MDSA)** roles - This runs from (12-1pm at Holland Road and 12.20-1.20pm at Portland Road) daily and can be a combination of days that suits your needs. During this time you will be helping guide children to the lunch area and supporting them in play within the playgrounds.

**School run Afterschool club** - The clubs run from 3pm-6pm daily, working on days where the need is higher. During this time the children wind down from a busy day of learning and take part in crafts, play and a snack time. Joining our already strong teams will help maintain a safe and fun environment for our children.

**Please get in touch with Emma Barrell via [emmabarrell@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:emmabarrell@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk) for a full job description and application form.**

**If you wish to volunteer, please send interest to our front office staff at the following addresses:**

**Holland Road - [hollandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:hollandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)**

**School Road - [admin@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk)**

**Portland Road - [portlandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:portlandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)**

# AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

## SPRING TERM 2026



"MY SON HAD SO MUCH FUN. HE WANTS TO GO BACK FOR MORE TOMORROW!"



"MY DAUGHTER WAS FULL OF BEANS AND BURSTING WITH LOVELY STORIES WHEN I COLLECTED HER"

FUN, EXERCISE, FRESH AIR & DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES EVERY WEEK

NEW ACTIVITIES FOR THIS TERM INCLUDE:

YETI DINNER PLATES

CAMPFIRE COOKOUT: MARSHMALLOWS

CUDDLY TOY CATAPULT ASSAULT

MINIBEAST MAYHEM: BUG HUNTING

VIKING RUNESTONES & CODE BREAKING

BUSHCRAFT: FIRELIGHTING TECHNIQUES

BUSHCRAFT: HEAD SHELTER MAKING

FAIRY DOORS & TREE SPIRITS

& AS USUAL: FUN TIMES & ADVENTURE!

WATCHING CHILDREN'S CONFIDENCE GROW & NEW FRIENDSHIPS FORM AT OUR CLUBS IS ONE OF THE MOST REWARDING THINGS WE DO.

HOVE JUNIOR SCHOOL  
& WEST HOVE INFANTS  
EVERY TUESDAY UNTIL 4:20/4:30PM  
YEAR GROUPS 1-6

6TH JANUARY - 24TH MARCH 2026

PRICE: £88 (11 WEEK TERM)

The  
**Outdoors**  
Project

MORE INFO & BOOK: [WWW.THEOUTDOORSPROJECT.CO.UK](http://WWW.THEOUTDOORSPROJECT.CO.UK)

HOLIDAY CLUBS - BIRTHDAY PARTIES - SCHOOL WORKSHOPS - AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - SAPLINGS PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

OFSTED REGISTERED & CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

# 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](mailto: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](mailto:fowhis@gmail.com)  
To keep Fred stocked, there are collection bins in both school receptions.

Book Here: <https://hovejuniorschool.magicbooking.co.uk>

**HOVE LEARNING FEDERATION'S  
SCHOOL HOLIDAY  
CHILDCARE  
FOR 4-11 YEAR OLDS  
8.30AM-4.30PM  
£35 PER DAY**



# HOVE HOLIDAY HUB

**WEST HOVE INFANT SCHOOL  
SCHOOL ROAD SITE**

**Join us this holiday for themed  
arts & crafts, games, food  
tasting, fun experiments,  
outdoor play & so much more!**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> &  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2025**

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

Breakfast & a healthy  
snack included!  
Lunch can be provided  
for an additional charge  
via Magic Booking.

Free HAF Funded  
spaces available for  
children in receipt  
of free school meals

**HAF**  
Holiday  
Activities  
and Food

Drop us an email for more info:  
[clubs@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:clubs@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

# Christmas Cheer Appeal 2025

At Fresh Start we empower families in your local community.

Will you help us bring Christmas Cheer for these families by donating new and unused items of:

- Art & craft materials
- Seasonal food
- Toys
- Books
- Games
- Toiletries
- Clothes

We cater for all age groups including parents & carers.

Along with the gifts and toys, we also provide Christmas food hampers so items:

- Tinned & long life foods
- Christmas Confectionary



## Christmas Cheer Appeal

Fresh Start is a local company dedicated to supporting families in challenging situations. We are delighted to be partnering with them this festive period to help bring comfort and joy to those who need it most. Together, we'll be creating hampers for families, and we'd love your help! Please see the poster below from Fresh Start for details about the types of donations that would be most appreciated.

Donations can be brought to the school office, where they will be stored safely until Fresh Start collects them to make into hampers. To find out further information about Fresh Start and their Christmas Cheer Appeal, please visit their web-site <https://www.freshstartbrighton.org.uk/>

Your generosity will make a real difference to families in our community this holiday season. Thank you for your support!

Parent/carer workshop

# Self Esteem

with Claire Harrington

9AM Thursday 4th December  
Portland Road Site

This workshop is designed to help you understand what low self-esteem may look like in a young person. It will illustrate some techniques used to help young people understand the roots of their self-esteem and some coping strategies. This will help you and your child to challenge self-critical thoughts and focus on their strengths, building resilience and developing a more positive mindset. No need to book, just drop in!



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

brand  
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.**

Use code **WESTHOVEBV20** to claim your  
**20% discount.**



**Sales**  
**Jimmy Atkins**  
01273 22 11 02



**Lettings**  
**Jenna Miles**  
01273 22 11 01

# **SAMA HOVE** **ST. ANDREW'S** **PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**KIDS KARATE 4YRS+**  
**MONDAY 5:20PM - 6:20PM**

**FAMILY KICKBOXING 6YRS+**  
**MONDAY 6:30PM - 7:30PM**  
**FIRST CLASS FREE!**

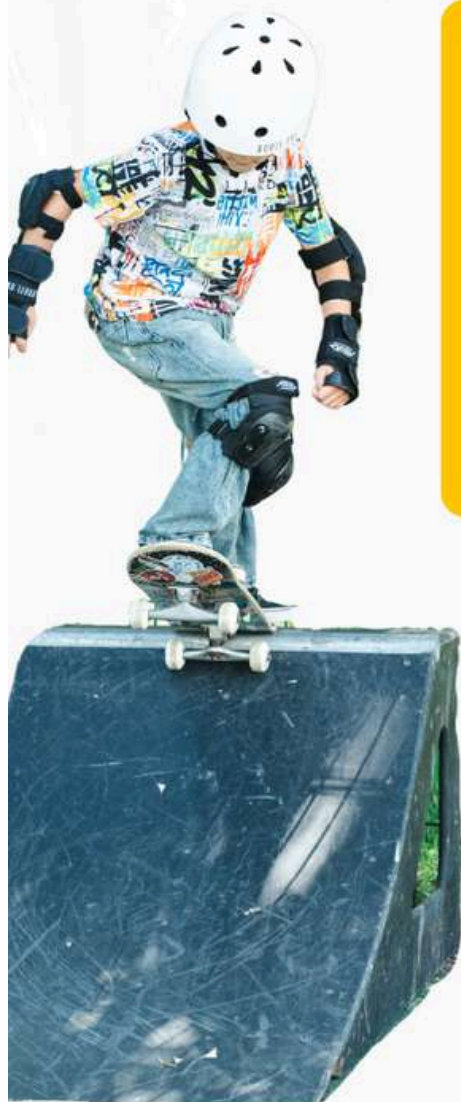
**WWW.SAMAGROUP.CO.UK**

TO BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE PLEASE VISIT OUR SITE & CLICK 'JOIN A CLASS'  
*Please Note; After 2 x trial sessions a SAMA membership/insurance is required*



# HOLIDAY SKATE CLUB

**EQUIPMENT PROVIDED**  
**ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**  
**MOBILE SKATEPARK**  
**ARTS AND CRAFTS**  
**GAMES AND ACTIVITIES**



**W/C MON 29<sup>TH</sup> | 4 DAYS (NOT NYD) | 9AM-3PM**

**TAX-FREE  
CHILDCARE  
+ VOUCHERS  
ACCEPTED**

**BOOK: [THESKATECLUB.COM/HOLIDAYSKATECLUB](https://theskateclub.com/holidayskateclub)**