



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

## Hove Learning Federation Holland Road Newsletter

Friday 13th February 2026

Dear families,

It has been a fantastic half-term and as you can see our Year 6 pupils have been busy visiting 'Take Shelter' at Downs Junior and the children got to chance to step back in time to discover a unique part of Brighton's wartime history with one of our local air raid shelter tours. During the war, every school would have had its own air raid shelter, now 'Take Shelter' is one of the only surviving examples in the UK under the playground at Downs Junior School.

The Year 6 team have also invited in local veterans into speak with the classes, learning about life in the war and building up their empathy and understanding of their WW2 topic.

Our PSHE team have been working on a project called 'Building Voice' as part of our work on Anti-Racism and sharing their experiences and we are all looking forward to World Book Day which will be taking place after half term on Thursday 5th March. There will be lots of activities taking place across the federation to celebrate the school's love of reading.

<https://www.hovelearningfederation.co.uk/>

We hope you all have a restful half term holiday and look forward to welcoming you all back to school on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.**



## **Attendance at Hove Learning Federation**

### **Attendance and Punctuality:**

Good punctuality is an important life skill and arriving at school on time each day makes a real difference to children's learning.

Research consistently shows that good punctuality supports both academic success and overall wellbeing and that arriving at school on time each day makes a real difference to children's learning.

Our school gates are open from 8:40-8:50 at PR and HR (8.45-8.55 at SR) but bringing children for 8:40 (8:45 at SR) gives the best start to the day.

Those first ten minutes are designed to help pupils settle calmly, greet their friends, organise their belongings, and take part in important morning routines such as registration and early-start tasks.

When children arrive late, even by 5-10 minutes, they can miss the calm, structured start, and key explanations that help them feel settled and confident.

Over a year, arriving just 10 minutes late each day can add up to more than 30 hours of lost learning time. By arriving promptly at 8:40 (8:45 SR), children begin the day feeling ready, organised, and fully prepared to make the most of every learning and social opportunity.

In summary: good timekeeping isn't just about being "on time" – it helps children grow into confident, capable learners and sets them up for success in school and beyond.

By working together to support punctuality, we give every child the best possible start to their day.

Thank you for your co-operation and support.

### **Lateness**

Arriving late to school is very unsettling for children, and frustrating for teachers who have to repeat instructions and help children to catch up. In terms of time in school lost it can have a considerable impact over the whole school year:

5 minutes late every day = 3 days of school lost a year

10 minutes late every day = 6.5 days of school lost a year

15 minutes late every day = 10 days of school lost a year

20 minutes late every day = 13 days of school lost a year

### **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.



# Take Shelter!



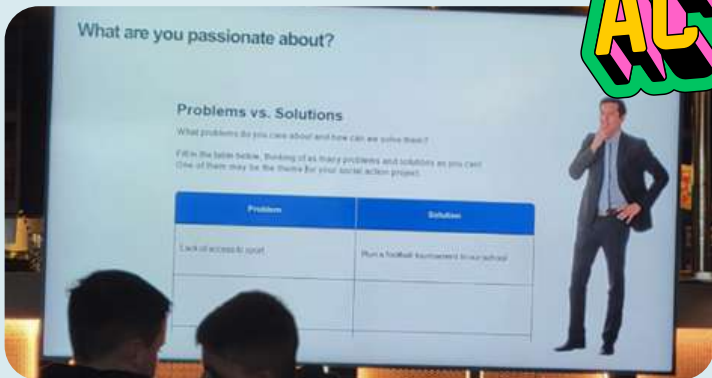
On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, Year 6 visited the local air raid shelter open to the public in England. During our visit, Year 6 had the opportunity to climb into the air raid shelter below the playground and see first hand how hundreds of children would sit in the narrow corridors whilst bombing took place overhead. They walked around the figure of 8 design whilst listening to various interactive elements including videos, speeches and an air raid simulation.

Year 6 also had the opportunity to listen to different veterans who were all children during World War II as they explained about their experiences of war including evacuation, rationing, the Blitz, gas masks and how Brighton was bombed. Year 6 also had the opportunity to dress in various military clothing for photos which will be added to the Year Book.

# 2026 Year 5 & 6 American Express Social Action Day



**TAKE  
ACTION**



On Thursday 22nd January, Miss Allum and Mr Shaughnessy took a group of year 5 and 6's to Brighton and Hove Albion's, American Express Football stadium for a Social Action challenge day. Students attending had the opportunity to take part in a series of fun, interactive, team building challenges. Following this, they got down to work learning all about social action and how to work together to make positive changes in the community. Our teams were then given the challenge of coming up with ways to improve Brighton and Hove Albion's sustainability. The children worked hard, had a great time and showed wonderful team work and enthusiasm. They have now been given a project to work on over the next couple of months which they will then present to the group during another event day at The American Express Stadium in April!

# Staff Spotlight



“Empathy”

This newsletter **Miss O'Shea's** value is **Empathy!** But what is empathy? Empathy is about trying to understand how others feel. When we know how they are feeling, we can take steps to help them. So how can we show empathy?

# “Empathy”- Reflection points

Here are some engaging reflection points that can encourage and inspire our children to show empathy:

- **Listening** - Listening is one of the most effective ways to show empathy. Give your friends and peers your full attention and look them straight in the eye.
- **Building Trust** - Being a good listener and building trust with a friend will help them to open up. Always try to put yourself in their place and act in a way that you want to be treated.
- **Helping Others** - Helping others is a great way of showing empathy because it shows you are willing to take time out of your day to do something for someone else without asking for anything in return. Offering help can be as simple as holding the door for someone or letting a friend borrow something that is yours.
- **Volunteering** - volunteering to be a play leader or eco council to help others and raise awareness. Empathy is a really important life skill for all of us and trying to understand how others feel is a kind and compassionate thing to do.

## Here are some ways we can model empathy at home:

1. **Model Empathy Everyday** - Children are emotional mirrors, when you comfort a friend who is upset, show respect to each other, you are giving them a lesson in compassion and empathy.
2. **Encourage Perspective-Taking** - Encouraging perspective-taking gets your children to understand that everyone sees the world differently. In various situations ask your child “how do you think that made them feel” this could be to another child, parent or even a character in a movie or book!
3. **Praise Acts of Kindness** - When children act with empathy, it is important to notice and name it. This will make your child feel proud of their acts of kindness and encourage them to seek more opportunities to behave empathetically.
4. **Talk About Emotions Openly** - Empathy starts with self-awareness, children will not recognise emotions in others if they do not understand their own. You can use an emotions wheel or feelings chart to help your child name their emotion.

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 916707

Hove Junior School  
[hollandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:hollandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk)  
01273 916707

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

Best wishes,  
Maddie Southern

## Follow HLF on Facebook and Instagram-



Search on Facebook-  
hovelearningfederation



Search on Instagram-  
hovelearningfederation



Maddie Southern  
Executive Headteacher



Lorna Cummings  
Co-Executive Headteacher



Sam Ledger  
Head of School

### Diary Dates

- 13<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Last day of term
- 16<sup>th</sup> Feb - 20<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Half Term Break
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb** - First day of term
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar** - Parents evening
- 5<sup>th</sup> Mar** - World Book Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Parents evening
- 17<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Lets Dance at the Brighton Dome
- 18<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Red Nose Day Comic Relief
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Drusilla's Zoo trip

### Reminder:

As a way of reducing the number of e-mails which were sent out, our school bulletin is now sent out to all parents/carers every Thursday afternoon. It's a great way to keep up to date with what's happening in school, both during the current week and in the weeks ahead. You'll find reminders about events, information on clubs, school trips, and lots more.





# **Easter Holiday Netball Camp** **Tuesday 7th-10th April '26** **10am-3pm @ Cardinal Newman**

## **BUILDING CONFIDENCE & IMPROVING PERFORMANCE:**

- Engaging & fun drills that enhance an understanding of the rules of netball
    - Lots of game play to put learnt skills and techniques into practice
- Led by Tracy Lewis (Hove Juniors netball coach & PE Teacher)**  
**Meet and form new friendships with other netball enthusiasts!**

- School Years 4-6
- Mixed Gender/Mixed Ability
- £30 per day - 4 day discount available



**Book now to secure your place!!**  
**[www.sportlearning.co.uk](http://www.sportlearning.co.uk)**  
**or use the QR code on the back of the flyer**

Additional camp information & policies found  
when booking at [www.sportlearning.co.uk](http://www.sportlearning.co.uk)

Email:  
[tracy@sportlearning.co.uk](mailto:tracy@sportlearning.co.uk)

# BRIGHTON AND HOVE READING NEWSLETTER



EDITION 1

## World Book Day Events

From **Monday 2nd March to Friday 6th March**, Scholastic Book Club Live is hosting **17 exciting virtual events** designed to spark a love of reading in every child. Children can enjoy a brilliant mix of activities, including live draw-alongs, Q&As with authors, sneak peeks at new books, and even behind-the-scenes looks at how books are created.

Here are just a few highlights on offer:



*Become a Wild Apprentice with conservation expert Sarah Roberts (7+)*

Wednesday 4th March 10am



*The Velveteen Rabbit with David Litchfield*

*Storytime and draw-along (2+)*

Friday 6th March 11am



*How Books are Made: How your favourite stories reach your shelves (8+)*

Thursday 5th March 12pm

## New Releases



*Meanwhile  
Back on Earth*

Oliver Jeffers  
Age 3+

*The Lost  
Dragon of Roar*  
Jenny McLachlan  
Age 8+



*Nadia Islam, On  
the Record*

Abida Jaigirdar  
Age 9-14

authorfy.

FREE



For the National Year  
of Reading 2026!



authorfy.com



GO ALL IN.

## Have you signed up for free access to Authorfy yet?

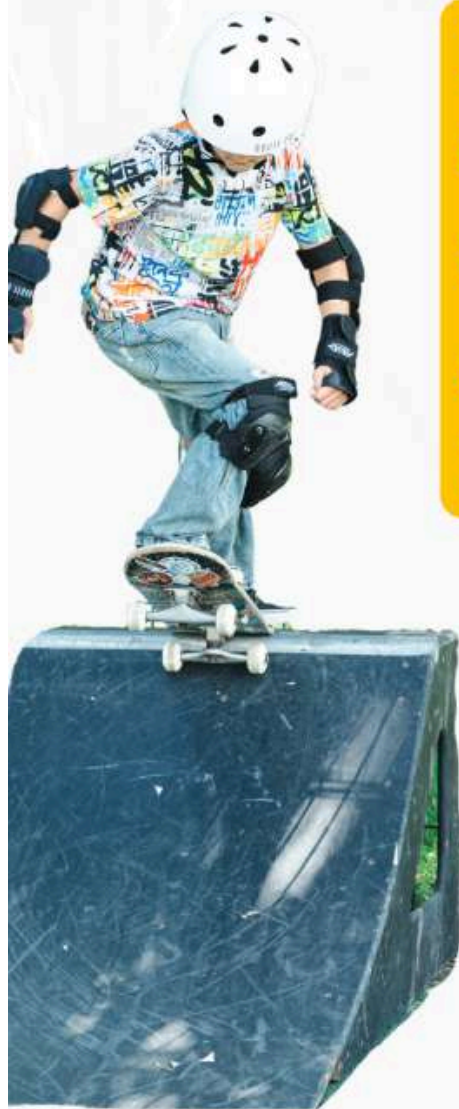
This fantastic online platform brings thousands of videos, book extracts, writing challenges and ready-made schemes of work from some of the UK's best-loved children's authors. To celebrate the National Year of Reading 2026, Authorfy is offering schools completely free access to its full range of resources. Click [here](#) to explore the free resources and get your school involved.





# HOLIDAY SKATE CLUB

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



**FEB 16TH-20TH | 5 DAYS | 9AM-3PM**

**TAX-FREE  
CHILDCARE  
+ VOUCHERS  
ACCEPTED**

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

# 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

YEARGROUPS 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 - SABLINGS PARENT & TODDLER GROUP  
OFSTED REGISTERED & CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED



# 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.

## Does your child struggle to go to school? Regular drop-in sessions for parents and carers

Hosted by the Family Support team, the sessions are a friendly space to access information and support and meet other parents/carers facing the same challenges.

### Online sessions

24 February 7-8.30pm 19

May 7-8.30pm

### Face to face sessions

Modelo Lounge (145 Church Road, Hove BN3 2AE)

17 March 10 -11.30am

Alcampo Lounge (84 London Road, Brighton BN1 4JF)

21 April 10-11.30am

23 June 10-11.30am

To Find out more or book onto the online sessions, please email:

[schoolsmentalhealthservice@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsmentalhealthservice@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or Jo Roeg:  
[jo.roeg@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:jo.roeg@brighton-hove.gov.uk)





Dear Parent/carer,

I'm delighted to let you know that I currently have space in my timetable to take on new guitar pupils. Lessons happen weekly and take place within school hours (on a rotating timetable to avoid too much disruption).

Our lessons follow a nationally recognised syllabus but are tailored to each pupils individual tastes.

If you want to learn to play Foo Fighters, you'll learn Foo Fighters!

If you want to learn to play Ed Sheeran, you'll learn Ed Sheeran!

If you want to learn to play Justin Bieber, you'll learn Metallica!!

Pupils have the choice to learn just for fun or to take graded exams which eventually start counting towards UCAS points. We work in small groups or on an individual basis and as well as lessons we have a whole range of extra curricular activities such as Rock and Pop band projects, guitar orchestras and many more!

For more information on lesson cost and to apply please visit

[www.createmusic.org.uk](http://www.createmusic.org.uk)

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Or feel free to drop me an email on the address below. Please feel free to check out my guitar demo on the YouTube link below as well

[jordan.Cresswell@createmusic.org.uk](mailto:jordan.Cresswell@createmusic.org.uk)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5KkpHWrjDo>

Jordan Cresswell, Guitar Tutor

[Jordan.Cresswell@createmusic.org.uk](mailto:Jordan.Cresswell@createmusic.org.uk)

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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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*



# Have your say on smartphones in Brighton & Hove schools

Please complete this survey to **share your views on smartphone policies** in Brighton & Hove schools.

- It only takes 2-3 minutes, is completely anonymous and no personal data will be stored
- All schools in Brighton & Hove will be asked to share this survey with their parents / carers
- The survey will close on 28th Feb 2026
- Please share with friends and families in Brighton & Hove



<https://sfcbrighton.co.uk/survey>