



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

Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter

Friday 6th March 2026

Dear Families,

Our pupils have had a great day celebrating World Book Day on 5 March in this 'The National Year of Reading'. The campaign slogan for 2026 is "Go All In," encouraging reading for pleasure which is in line with Brighton & Hove's Reading Charter pledge: to developing a culture of reading in our city that celebrates our children and their enjoyment of reading, so they become life-long readers. We've signed up to the LA 'Reading Charter' and our photos across the federation capture the joy and love of reading across our schools.

We read for all sorts of reasons - to learn, to laugh, to understand and connect. But did you also know reading is seriously good for your health? Recent long term research using EEG brain scans shows what happens when we get lost in a book. The results are just striking! Just 5 minutes of reading reduces stress by 20%. Your focus and concentration improves by up to 11%. Reading is shown to boost connection and build empathy.

Reading is the best gift you can give your children - reading to them, along side them and showing your family the pleasures of reading for pleasure.

Happy Reading!

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.

HLF Governor Update

We would like to share an update on some recent changes to our Governing Board and highlight an opportunity to become involved.

We are very pleased to welcome Tom Edwards and Dr. Amir Khodavirdipour to the Governing Board.

Tom joins us as our new Local Authority Governor and brings a wealth of experience in SEND and Inclusion. We are delighted to have his expertise supporting the work of the board and the school.

We are also pleased to welcome Amir as our new Parent Governor, following Ollie Tunmer's decision to step back from the role due to work commitments. Amir received strong support in last term's parent governor election and we are delighted that he will now be joining the board. Amir has a medical background and brings valuable experience including SEND, Inclusion and mental health

We would like to extend our thanks to Ollie for his contribution as a governor and for his continued, invaluable support of music and arts across our schools. We would also like to thank Alex Scott who is stepping down, but remains an active and valued member of our parent community.

Can you help us find our next Finance Link Governor?

We are currently looking to appoint a Co-opted Governor with financial expertise to support the board's strategic oversight of finance. If you have relevant skills, or know someone who might be interested, we would love to hear from you.

Please visit the Governor section of the website for full details:

WHIS - <https://www.westhoveinfants.co.uk/governors-2/governor-vacancies/>

HJS - <https://www.hovejuniorschool.co.uk/governorvacancies>

World book day 2026



World book day class potatoes



School Road New Play Equipment



In Reception this year we are having a focus on Physical Development and how this links to Health and Wellbeing, Social skills, problem solving and Writing skills. You may have spotted the wonderful new equipment in our Reception Area that has been bought to support these areas. The equipment includes a climbing A-frame, monkey bars, ramps for the bikes and the climbing barrels. Thank you to our amazing FOWHIs for investing in such exciting equipment that supports all of our children's learning in so many ways.

Portland Road's new team members-



Mrs Watson



Mrs Barnard

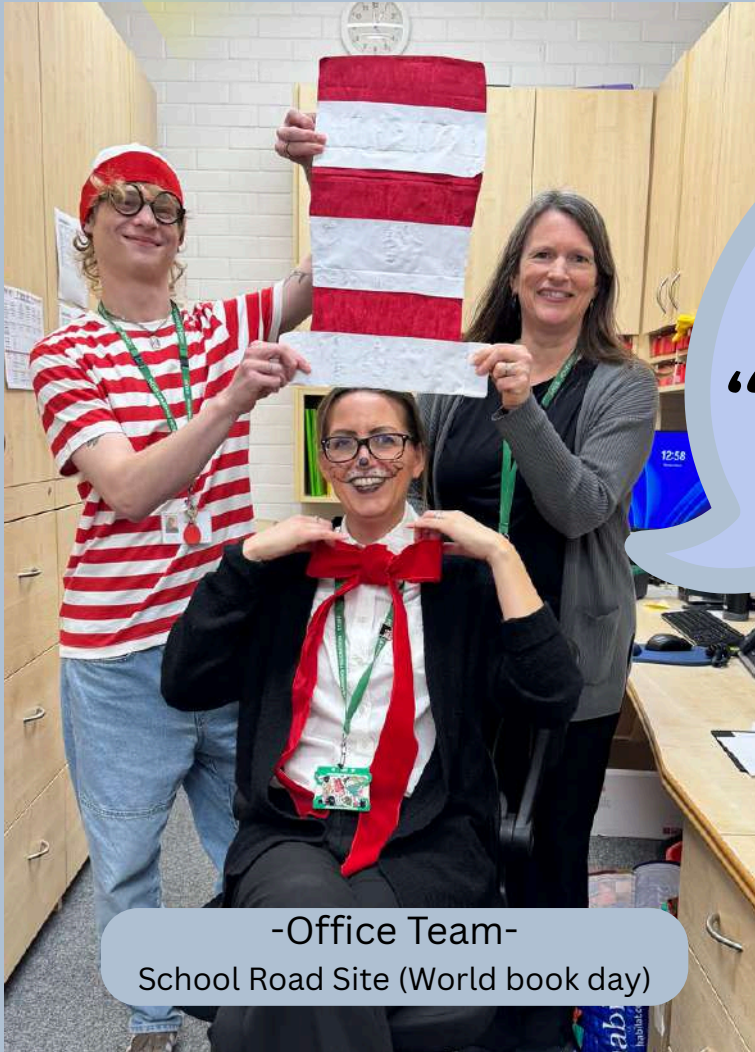
I am delighted to have joined a wonderful team, here at Hove Juniors, working within the Office Admin team. I have spent the last 20 years as a public servant, working within Policing in many different roles, bringing a wealth of knowledge with me and hoping, to make a difference to this fantastic school

Mrs Watson

Hi 🙌 I'm Elise!
I am a new member of the Administration team at Portland Road.
I am so excited to be joining the office squad and look forward to getting to know you all!

Mrs Barnard

Staff Spotlight



-Office Team-
School Road Site (World book day)

“Team work”

This newsletter **School Road Office Teams** value is **Teamwork!** But what is Teamwork? Teamwork is the combined action of a group, especially when effective and efficient. The Office wouldn't run without teamwork! So how can we show teamwork?

“Teamwork”- Reflection points

Here are some engaging reflection points that can encourage and inspire our children to be team players:

- **Did I listen to everyone's ideas?** - When working in a team it is important to value different ideas equally and to acknowledge different perspectives to create the best outcome. Ensure that you really listen to others idea’s to make them feel heard.
- **Did I share my own ideas kindly?** - Reflect on whether you shared your own ideas in a respectful way that helps the group.
- **Did I help someone when they needed it?** - Consider if you offered help or support to a team mate who may be struggling to understand a task.
- **Did I let everyone have a turn?** - Ensure that you make space for others input and allow them to take part equally.
- **Did I celebrate our success?** - When working in a team it is important to celebrate the successes of our teamwork, for example saying “well done” to another member of your team.

Here are some ways we can model teamwork at home:

1. **Daily routines** - Include chores or activities that require teamwork in your daily routines, for example having your child help you cook or clean, this will help teach your child the value of cooperation.
2. **Positive reinforcement** - Praise children for their collaborative efforts, this will reinforce the value of working together in a team.
3. **Playful learning** - Engage children in cooperative play through activities that require teamwork, such as board games.

By modelling teamwork in everyday life, parents can help their children develop the skills they need to work well with others in various aspects of life.

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 733386

Hove Junior School
portlandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk
01273 916609

Hove Junior School Inclusion Team
inclusionteam@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk
01273 916609

Best wishes,
Maddie Southern

Follow HLF on Facebook and Instagram-



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[hovelearningfederation](#)



Search on Instagram-
[hovelearningfederation](#)



Maddie Southern
Executive Headteacher

Lorna Cummings
Co-Executive Headteacher

Niamh O'Shea
Head of School, School Road

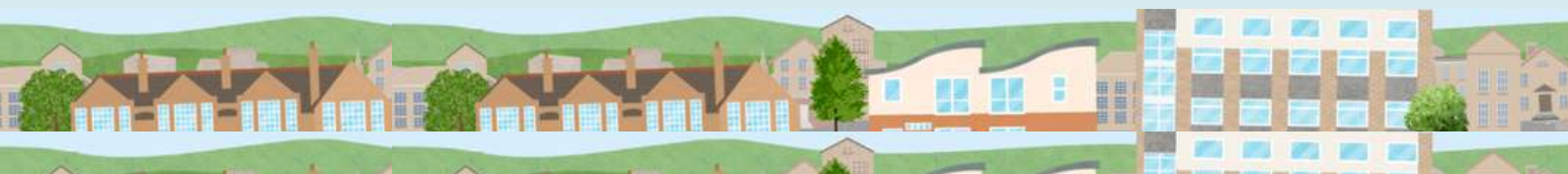
Rachel Jeffers
Head of School, Portland Road

Diary Dates


- 10th Mar** - PINS Parents coffee morning
- 10th Mar** - Juniors Easter disco Years 3&4 4:15pm-5:30pm, Years 5&6 6:00pm-7:15pm
- 12 Mar** - Parents evening
- 16th Mar** - Drusillas Zoo trip (Lizards & Marmosets)
- 17th Mar** - Lets Dance at the Brighton Dome
- 18th Mar** - Rampion windfarm trip (3 Blue)
- 20th Mar** - Rampion windfarm trip (3 Green)
- 20th Mar** - Red Nose Day for Comic Relief
- 20th Mar** - Drusillas Zoo trip (Treefrogs & Toucans)
- 25th Mar** - Rampion windfarm trip (3 Rad)
- 26th Mar** - Infants Spring Disco
- 27th Mar** - Rampion windfarm trip (3 Yellow)


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.



Volunteers needed for the Reception year Spring Disco!

 Thursday 26th March

 3.45-4.45pm

Calling all spring chickens! 🐔 We're looking for mums, dads, grandparents or carers to help run stalls on the bar, games, entrance, quiet room and more ✨

Tickets will only be released once we have enough volunteers, so please do have a look and sign up if you can help make it an egg-cellent evening for the children! 🐔 ✨

Sign up here:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowhis123/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=112864>


Thank you so much!


FOWHIS 

Volunteers needed for Yr 1 & 2 Spring Disco

Hi everyone 🐔 🧡

Volunteers needed for the Year 1 & 2 joint Spring Disco!

 Thursday 26th March

 5.00-6.30pm

Calling all spring chickens! 🐔 We're looking for mums, dads, grandparents or carers to help run stalls on the bar, games, entrance, quiet room and more ✨

Tickets will only be released once we have enough volunteers, so please do have a look and sign up if you can help make it an egg-cellent evening for the children! 🐔 ✨

Sign up here:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowhis123/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=113547>

Thank you so much!

FOWHIS 

**THURSDAY
26TH MARCH**



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

SPRING DISCO

**RECEPTION:
3.45 - 4.45PM**

**YR 1 & 2:
5.00 - 6.30PM**



**£5 PER
SCHOOL CHILD**

£2.5 PER SIBLING



Please buy tickets & order hotdogs & doughnuts by scanning the QR Code above.
If you are unable to use this system, please email FOWHIS on fowhis@gmail.com

MUSIC, GAMES, CRAFTS, FANCY DRESS COMPETITION

BAR & TUCK SHOP. CASH & CARD

PRE-ORDER HOT DOGS & DOUGHNUTS

A LIMITED NUMBER OF EXTRAS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE NIGHT

**ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A RESPONSIBLE ADULT
A MAXIMUM OF 3 CHILDREN TO 1 ADULT**

EASTER DISCO!

HOVE
JUNIOR
SCHOOL



TUESDAY
MARCH 10TH

BUY
TICKETS
HERE

BUY
TICKETS
HERE

YRS 3-4
4:15 - 5:30pm

TICKETS
£5*

YRS 5-6
6 - 7.15pm

TICKETS ON SALE **FRIDAY 6TH** MARCH A.M & PM

ONLINE TICKET SALES
SHUT 3RD MARCH 4PM

*FREE drink and snack with every ticket. Cakes, sweets, easter egg raffle

You're invited!

**MY HAIR,
MY
HERITAGE**

Launch party! 25th March
3.30-5 @ School Road Site.
Free entry!



You're invited!

MY HAIR,
MY
HERITAGE

Open free to all sites!

Wednesday 25th March
3.30-5 at School Road site

Featuring...

The Photography project
PEG Hair salon owner Dan Stanley
The Book Nook
...and more!



New clothing recycling bin!



Introducing our new clothing recycling bin! Positioned in the Infants driveway entrance, please bring your unwanted clothes, textiles, towels, shoes, even unwearable logo uniform. Good quality uniform for resale should still be taken to the reception