



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

Hove Learning Federation

School/Portland Road

Newsletter

Friday 24th April 2026

Dear Families,

It's been a memorable start to the summer term with some inspiring workshops and stunning starts to bring the new topics to life. It's been a real privilege spending time watching the children learn so much and sharing their experiences.

We wanted to say thank you again to our PSHE team and families who inspired the successful 'My Hair, My Heritage' photography and celebration at the end of the Easter term. These joint community projects across the Federation take a huge amount of time and commitment and we greatly appreciate everyone's support.

We are looking forward to the Brighton Festival Parade and welcoming families to watch us in the parade on Saturday 2nd May.

School Streets PR/SR

From September Brighton & Hove City Council will be enforcing the school streets scheme around West Hove Infants/Hove Junior schools using ANPR and CCTV. This is aimed to help keep children safer on the walk to school.

The aim of School Streets is to help reduce congestion and dangerous or illegal parking but also creates more space for children and families to walk, cycle or scoot.

Exemptions:

The following vehicles are exempt from the restrictions but will need to be added to an exemption list:

- driving a vehicle registered to an address within the restricted area (including those of businesses and residents)
- a Blue Badge Holder who needs to access a property within the street
- a Professional Carer or a Carer for vulnerable residents who live on the street
- An emergency services vehicle on an emergency call



- a utility provider on an emergency call
- an employee, or working with, a business or service operating within the street
- driving a contracted school transport vehicle

Those wishing to apply for an exemption will be able to do so via the council website. This will be available well in advance of enforcement starting in September.

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:



Eco commitee spring plant swap

Thank you to everyone who attended the Eco commitee's plant swap to mark the official beginning of Spring! It was so lovely to see so many people come along and give new loving homes to these plants.

-Eco Commitee-



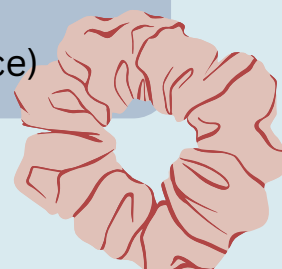
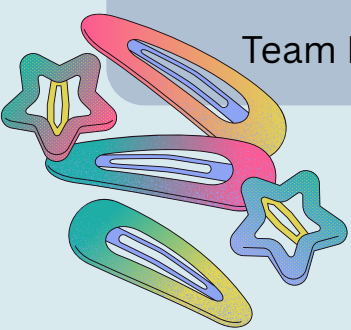
My Hair My Heritage



Thank you so much to everyone who came to our My Hair, My Heritage event. A special thank you to the Photography Project, Dan Stanley at PEG Hair, Katie Erdwin for her fabulous braiding workshop and our wonderful parent volunteers for their support.

Such a fantastic atmosphere, celebrating and admiring all the amazing hairstyles. Raffle prize winners to be announced soon - stay tuned!

Team PSHE (Miss Kemp-Harris, Mrs Dawson and Mrs Pearce)



Year 3 visited the Rampion Wind Farm Visitor Centre.

As the Fabulous finish to our Spring Term 'Trash to Treasure' topic, Year 3 visited the Rampion Wind Farm Visitor Centre.

The children had an opportunity to experiment with the optimum number of blades required on a model wind turbine. They also got to explore the Windfarm Visitor Centre, which involved interactive activities like a Virtual Reality tour of the windfarm itself! The children had a wonderful time and represented the school beautifully. We even tidied up the beach nearby with a bit of litter picking!

Thank you to all the parent/carers who came along with us on the day. We are very grateful for your support.



Sussex Primary Schools Cross Country Finals:



On Thursday 26th March, The Brighton and Hove team won a well-earned 3rd place at the CrossCountry Finals. This was a contributed effort and we would like to congratulate Oscar, Donny and Izaak in Year 6 on such a fantastic achievement. Well done – we are all very proud of you!

Fizzpop science workshop



Our YR, Y1 and Y2 pupils had a fantastic time taking part in Science Week 2026, which focused on the theme of curiosity and asking questions. Throughout the week, the children embraced their inner scientists by exploring, predicting, and investigating the world around them.

A highlight of the week was a special visit from Fizz Pop Science, where the children had the exciting opportunity to make and launch their very own rockets! There were lots of smiles, gasps, and cheers as the rockets blasted into the air.

Back in the classroom, pupils carried out their own experiments linked to floating and sinking. They designed and built their own boats and rafts, then carried out fair tests to find out whether their creations would sink or float. The children were incredibly excited to test their ideas and think carefully about how to improve their designs.

We would like to say a big thank you to FOWHIS for funding the Fizz Pop Science workshop and helping to make this memorable experience possible for our pupils.

Year 5 Stunning start The Ancient Greeks



Year 5 had an exciting Ancient Greek Stunning Start filled with fun and learning. We dressed up as gods, goddesses, and other Ancient Greeks, and took part in quizzes to test our knowledge. We also enjoyed drama and storytelling, acting out and listening to famous myths. It was a great day that brought history to life!

Year 3 Stunning start The Roamin' Romans



Year 3 had a fun time kicking off their Roamin' Romans topic. They enjoyed dressing up as Romans for the day. They learned about Roman numerals, made their own laurel leaf wreaths, and made Roman soldier "selfies".

Don't we make a fantastic legion of soldiers?



Staff Spotlight



Mrs Cummings
(Co-executive head)

COURAGE



Mr Ledger
(Head of Holland road site)

This newsletter value is **Courage!** But what is courage? Courage is being brave enough to take on challenge or trying new things— this builds resilience and character. School is an environment where tiny, daily acts of courage build the confidence they will carry throughout their lives.

“Courage”- Reflection points

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

- **Academic Courage:** Asking for help, answering a question, admitting a mistake, or presenting to the class.
- **Social Bravery:** Approaching someone lonely, standing up for a friend, or saying "no" to peer pressure.
- **Personal Growth:** Joining a new club, trying a new sport, or making a new friend.

COURAGE

How courage can be taught and nurtured-

- **Celebrating Mistakes:** Encouraging children to see failure as a necessary, brave step towards learning.
- **Role Models:** Reading stories or discussing figures like Rosa Parks or Malala Yousafzai to define moral courage.
- **Discussions & Reflection:** Encouraging children to identify their fears and discuss times they felt "small but did something big".
- **Building Resilience:** Acknowledging that fear is normal and that courage involves moving forward despite feeling nervous.

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-



Search on Facebook-
hovelearningfederation



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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

21st Apr - Yr 2 Children's parade
workshop 3:30 - 4:30
29th Apr, 6th, 19th & 20th May -
Reception height/weight/hearing
screening
2nd may - Children's parade
4th May - Bank holiday
12th May - Paradise park trip (RS & RD)
13th May -Paradise park trip (RSL & RT)
18th May - Fishbourne trip
21st May - Last day of term (dress
down day)
22nd May - Inset day
1st Jun - First day of term

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.



Summer Fete

Save the date!

Saturday
20th June!



We are excited to confirm that this year's joint school Summer Fete will take place on Saturday 20 June. The Fete will be a fun-filled day for our whole school community with food, drinks, games, music, and performances. More details will follow, but in the meantime, please pencil the date in your calendar as we would love to see you there!

DO YOU HAVE SPARE BOARD GAMES?

THE AFTERSCHOOL CLUB WOULD GREATLY
APPRECIATE ANY DONATIONS OF BOARD GAMES
FOR PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN!



PLEASE BRING
DONATIONS TO THE
SCHOOL OFFICE



HOVE PARK SUMMER SCHOOL 2026



**NOW
RECRUITING
YEAR 5 PUPILS**

**28TH JULY - 27TH
- 31ST JULY**

Get to know the school
Get to know some of the
teachers
Have fun and meet new
friends



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!

May Half Term Netball Camp

Wednesday 27th May '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



Book now to secure your place!!

www.sportlearning.co.uk under 'Holiday Camps'

Additional camp information & policies found
when booking at www.sportlearning.co.uk

Email:
tracy@sportlearning.co.uk

Brighton and Hove Parent Carers' Council (PaCC)


'a voice for parent carers living in Brighton & Hove'



<https://paccbrighton.org.uk/>



Resources and services available in Brighton & Hove for families of neurodivergent children

1. Information and support


Amaze			Amaze is a charity that gives information, advice and support to families with children and young people 0 to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities in Brighton & Hove and East Sussex. Contact SENDIASS sendiass@amazesussex.org.uk or 01273 772289
https://amazesussex.org.uk/			info@amazesussex.org.uk 01273 234020

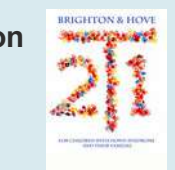

Brighton & Hove Local Offer			TheLocalOffer is support for children who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and their families.
https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities			

2. Parentcarers support groups and befriending

Amaze			Amaze runs regular, support groups in Brighton & Hove for parents of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Some groups are in person, some are WhatsApp groups. Amaze also offer one-to-one befriending for those parents who need more individual support.
https://amazesussex.org.uk/parent-groups-and-befriending/brighton-hove/			info@amazesussex.org.uk

Brighton Pebbles			Brighton Pebbles provide support and groups for SEND families who live in Brighton & Hove, especially for families who find difficult to access mainstream activities because of their child's special needs.
http://www.brightonpebbles.org.uk/		brightonpebbles1@gmail.com	07506 105265

mASCot			mASCot is a parent led peer to peer support network for families with autistic children. mASCot brings families together and enables them to connect with others in similar situations as themselves.
https://www.asc-mascot.com/			info@asc-mascot.com 07943346055

T21 Brighton			T21 Brighton & Hove offers friendship & support for children & young people with Trisomy 21/Down Syndrome and their families. They run monthly preschool meet ups, info sessions, social & sporting activities.
			T21Brighton@gmail.com 07930 418298

The Dads Group	The Dads Group brings fathers of children with additional needs and disabilities together, to meet and talk about issues that surround their family's lives.		
https://amazesussex.org.uk/parent-groups-and-befriending/ dads@amazesussex.org.uk			

CREATE MUSIC

ACADEMY Play on, build confidence,
and grow together



Create Music Academy is a great place to develop your music skills in a fun and creative environment. Running from Mon 29 June–Fri 17 Jul 2026 in multiple venues across Sussex.



createmusic.org.uk/create-music-academy



Supported using public funding by



ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND





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 or Jo Roeg:
jo.roeg@brighton-hove.gov.uk



FRED THE SHED



Fred's 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's 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's Shed with your time, contact fowhis@gmail.com
To keep Fred stocked, there are collection bins in both school receptions.



BRIGHTON AND HOVE READING



NEWSLETTER

EDITION 2

World Earth Day Events

Wednesday 22nd April 2026
Test your knowledge with Judy Wise

11am - age 6+

Embark on this journey through the natural world, following the footprints of Earth's most majestic creatures and magnificent minibeasts, with author Judy Wise. You'll learn some footprints are more harmful than others. [Click here to register.](#)



Mike Barfield: Earth Day

10am - Years 3 - 6

Award-winning author Mike Barfield shares his passion for nonfiction on Earth Day, delivering an interactive event packed with surprising facts to engage your class. [Click here](#) to register.



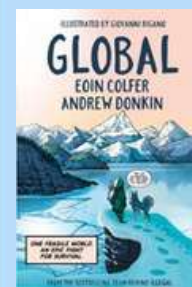
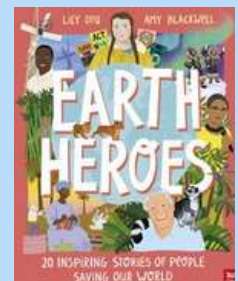
Books for World Earth Day



Clean Up
Nathan Bryon
Age 3+

Earth Heroes

Lily Dyu
Age 7-12



Global
Andrew Donkin
Age 9-14

Other virtual author visits



**The Night I
Borrowed Time**

Iqbal Hussain,
Wednesday 6 May

11am
Year 5-7

[Click here](#)
to register.



Freedom Braids

Oboh Mosesth

Tuesday 28 April
2pm

Age 4+
[Click here](#)
to register.



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

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Each time you sell or let your property through Brand
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the referred selling or letting fee.

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

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Sales
Jimmy Atkins
01273 22 11 02



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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