



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

Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter

Friday 8th May 2026

Dear Families,

Thank you for encouraging your children to take part in this year's 'City-wide Times Table Rock Stars Competition' within Brighton & Hove. The response was fantastic and across the city 2924 pupils from 200 classes in 31 different schools took part. Access was limited to 30 minutes over one 12-hour window in response to awareness about screen time. We have been informed that our school is one of the winners and we will receive a voucher to spend on maths for the school.

A huge thank you to our staff, pupils and families for supporting us with the Children's Parade on Saturday. The samba band was just incredible and it really showed on the children's faces just how much they enjoyed it. A big thank you to Ollie Turner who led the samba band and the art team and staff who helped to make the big build and accessories for the parade. There is such a community spirit and energy on these events and we really appreciate all of your support for the federation.



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

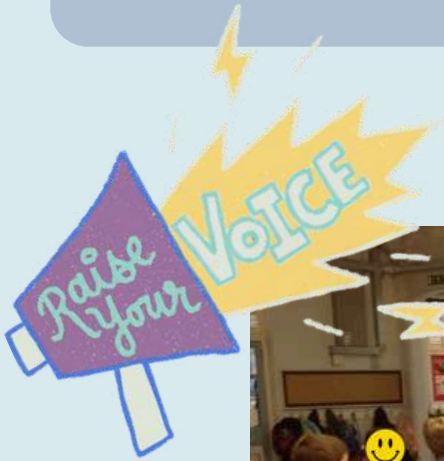
20 minutes late every day = 13 days of school lost a year

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>

Year 4 Body Percussion Workshop



Year 4 had a brilliant time taking part in a body percussion and literacy workshop this week, led by Beat Goes On. The session combined rhythm, movement and language, helping pupils explore how words can be brought to life through sound.

Using clapping, stomping and voice, the children experimented with rhythm, pulse and expression, working in groups to turn sentences into short performance pieces. It was fantastic to see their confidence grow as they collaborated, made creative decisions and performed their work to others.

The workshop was not only great fun, but also supported pupils' speaking and listening skills, creativity and understanding of rhythm in language. A huge thank you to the team for such an engaging and memorable experience.

Year 5 and 6 cricket festival



Some of our Year 5 and 6's had an unforgettable day at the Sussex County Ground, taking part in a special cricket festival to mark 50 days until the start of the Women's T20 Cricket World Cup, which England is proudly hosting this year. The children represented the school brilliantly, showing outstanding skill, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day.

The team were in fantastic form, winning an impressive 3 out of their 5 matches. There was some truly excellent cricket on display, with confident batting, accurate bowling, sharp fielding and, most importantly, superb teamwork. Every player contributed and supported one another, making it a real team effort from start to finish. To top it all off, the festival took place under beautiful sunny skies, making it an even more enjoyable and memorable experience for everyone involved. We are incredibly proud of the team for their achievements and for the way they represented our school. Well done to all involved!

Staff Spotlight



KINDNESS



School Road Reception
team



This newsletter's value is **Kindness!** But what is **Kindness**? **Kindness** is the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate. **Kindness** is key in early years development as it lays the foundation for a child's social and emotional development.

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

How can we see Kindness across Hove learning federation?

- **Kindness during play time** - Children can show kindness during these times by sharing play equipment/toys or taking turns with their peers
- **Kindness in class** - Children can often act kindly in class by helping adults with small tasks like handing out resources.
- **Kind Language** - Children can show kindness by using words such as “please” and “thank you” to ensure they communicate themselves in a way that is polite.
- **Kindness outside of school** - Children will take home the kindness they have learnt from school and work it into their home lives.

KINDNESS

How kindness can be taught and nurtured-

- **Modelling kind behaviour** - such as speaking respectfully, helping others and showing empathy
- **Praise kind actions** - when children share, help or comfort another person.
- **Encourage good manners** - like saying “please”, “thank you” and “sorry”.
- **Recognise others emotions** - teach children to be aware of others emotions and encourage discussion about their own emotions.
- **reading books or watching media** - focus on stories that model friendship, empathy and helping others.
- **Encouraging acts of kindness** - such as making thank you cards, helping neighbours, or donating toys/clothes.

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](#)



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

- 11th - 15th May - SATS week**
- 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
- 10th Jun** - Yr 6 Group photos and class photos
- 15th Jun** - New parents meeting 6:00pm (surnames A-M)
- 15th Jun** - Yr 1 Lewes Railway Wildlife trip (1C & 1G)
- 17th Jun** - New parents meeting 6:00pm (surnames N-Z)
- 20th Jun** - Summer fete
- 22nd Jun** - Yr 1 Lewes Railway Wildlife trip (1D & 1B)
- 22nd Jun** - Sports week
- 22nd Jun** - Choir performing at Brighton dome.

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!

Hove Infants & Juniors talent show 2026

After the huge success of last year's show, The Hove Infants & Juniors Got Talent Show is back! Does your child love to sing, dance, tell jokes, perform magic, show off martial arts skills—or anything else entertaining? We'd love them to take part!

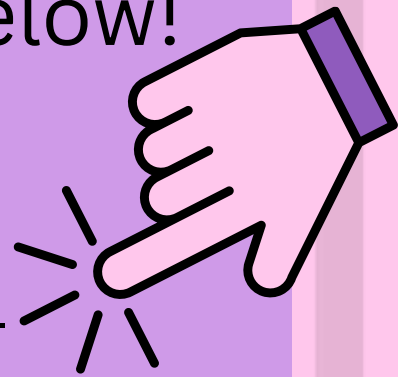
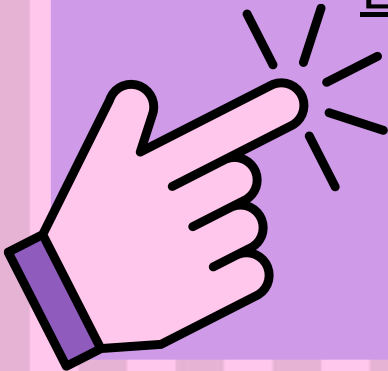
Saturday 20 June | 11am–3pm At the School Summer Fete

Entry Groups (judged separately):

- Group 1: Reception, Years 1 & 2
- Group 2: Years 3 & 4
- Group 3: Years 5 & 6

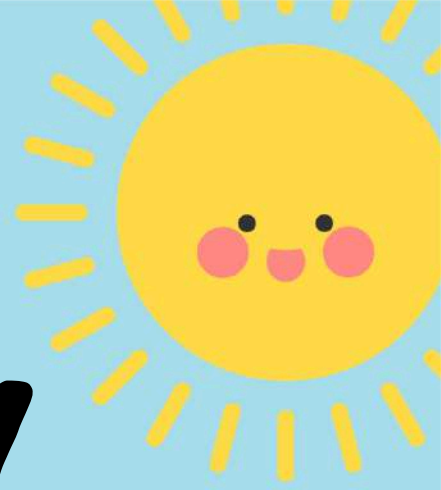
Sign up using the link below!

[Enter the talent show here!](#)





SUN SAFETY



STAY HYDRATED!

Make sure your child brings water to school each day. Adding an ice cube or frozen berries to it makes it extra refreshing!



BRING SUNSCREEN!

Use a roll on sunscreen for easy application in the mornings. Your child can bring these to school but must apply them themselves. Add a name in permanent pen to avoid losing it!



WEAR A HAT & SUNGLASSES

with a permanent pen!



SUMMER UNIFORM

If buying a summer uniform for your child is a challenge, we have pre-loved ones available. Just speak to your class teacher, or a member of staff you feel comfortable talking to. We're here to help!



ANCHOR

A SEASONAL SELF-CARE PROGRAMME FOR MUMS OF CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

Led by Kate Reynolds-Smith (MotherNatureChild), each session uses the current season as an anchor and a guide - to help you ground yourself, care for yourself and remember who you are.

Each will give you time to think, supporting you to make decisions, however small, to create positive changes in your life.



DATES

6TH JUNE, 3RD OCT, 28TH NOV
2026 & 20TH FEB 2027

TIME

10.30AM-12PM

LOCATION

PLOT 22, WEALD ALLOTMENTS, HOVE

TICKETS: £30 FOR THE COMPLETE PROGRAMME OR £10 PER SESSION.

BOOK AT: [PLOT22.ORG/PLOT-OFFERINGS/P/ANCHOR](https://plot22.org/plot-offerings/p/anchor)

OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW:



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.

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

Tuesday 26 – Friday 29 May

Course 1 -10am – 12.30pm each day

Course 2 – 13.15 – 15.45 each day

Ages 9 –15

Levels 1 & 2 together is £50 per person.

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



Brighton & Hove
City Council



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

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.



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