



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

Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026

Dear Families,

We have had a busy start to the term with plenty of stunning starts for our new topics and it has been a joy to see the children so immersed in their learning. We have been so proud of our new reception pupils and how well they have settled into school and into their new routines. Our Heads of School have loved meeting our new families and welcoming them to the school.

We have been working hard to train new volunteers for reading with the children and it was great to see so many of you at our training workshops this week. We look forward to continuing to celebrating the love of reading throughout the year.

Parking:

Thank you for helping us to keep our school community safe.

If you need to drive to school, please park safely and considerately, keeping the safety of our pupils, families, and residents in mind. Please do not double park, stop on double yellow lines, or block residents' driveways. By working together and showing consideration for our neighbours, we can help ensure the area around school remains safe and welcoming for everyone.

Please remember that there are now traffic enforcements between 8:15am - 9:15am and 2:45pm - 3:45pm on School Road and Marmion Road. Motor vehicles are not allowed to enter the restricted area during enforcement hours unless exempt. Any vehicles without an exemption ignoring the restrictions may be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) of £70, reduced to £35 if paid in 21 days.



Scooters and bikes:

A gentle reminder that scooters and bikes are not to be ridden on the school premises before or after school. Please safely walk them in to school at the beginning of the day and avoid riding them at the end of the day until you have left the school gates.

Afterschool club contact info:

ASC number 07342536023 get in touch for last minute changes for collections. Use the enquirieshlfafterschoolclub@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk email if notifying us in advance and any other enquires.

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 well-being 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 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 Group Messages:

Year 1 Families:

Parent/Carer Phonics talks:

Join us for our Year 1 Phonics Workshop on 21st October at 9:00am in the computing suite. You will get information on your child's continuing reading journey, including; how we teach reading, how to pronounce sounds correctly, and pick up quick, easy ideas for reading at home. We will also briefly explain the Phonics Screening Check held in June.

We hope to see you there!

Year 6 Families:

A reminder that the national deadline to apply for Secondary School (Year 7) for September 2027 entry is 31st October 2026.

Please refer to the individual secondary school websites for information on their open events, or contact them directly.



Year 5 stunning Start highlights

Year 5 had an exciting day for their 'Brighton Rocks!' Stunning Start. They learned about how our town developed into a popular seaside resort, and they made traditional seaside-style games in groups. At the end of the day, they got to play each others' games!



Well done to all the Year 5s on some fantastic, cooperative teamwork (and thank you so much for all the cardboard box donations!)

Staff Spotlight

Kindness



Miss O'Shea
Head of School - School Road

This newsletter's value is **Kindness**. At school we use kind hands, feet and words.

Examples of how you can be kind

- Sharing a toy
- Helping your friend
- Inviting friends to play
- Speaking kindly



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
Executive Headteacher

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

September:

Monday 28th - Individual School Photos (Junior school)

October:

Friday 2nd - Individual photos (Infant school)

Friday 2nd - FOWHIS meet up in the back playground, 3:15pm - 4:00pm.

Wednesday 7th - Y3 and Y4 maths parent workshop

Friday 9th - Y5 and Y6 maths parent workshop

Tuesday 13th - New parent visits, 9:30am and 10:45am (Infant school)

Thursday 15th - Spooky disco (Junior school)

Diary Dates

October:

Thursday 22nd - Last day of term. Dress down day.

Friday 23rd - INSET Day.





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.



DONATE HERE

FRED SHED

Fred Shed is a school community non-profit sharing shed that stocks non-perishable items and school uniform for 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 and school uniform which can be dropped into either infants or juniors school reception areas.

OPEN every Friday
after school

along with Fred's free bakery which comes
from generous donations from
Real Patisserie and The Flour Pot Bakery

Fred's shed is located in the juniors
front playground just next to the main gates

If you need help, and don't feel comfortable approaching the sharing shed
please email us at portlandroadenquiries@hovjun.brighton-hove.sch.uk

If you'd like to support Fred Shed with your time contact hovejuniorpta@gmail.com

To keep Fred stocked, there are collection bins in both Infants and Juniors school receptions.

Hopscotch Holiday Club – October Half term:

Fang-tastic news... Hopscotch Holiday Club October bookings are officially open! We can't wait to welcome you all back for a week filled with fa-boo-lous Halloween fun!

Whether your child loves to get cosy with a good book and embark on an exciting adventure, Hopscotch Holiday Club has something for everyone! Book now by following the link below, or scanning the QR code above! Once again, our Early Bird discount is valid for the first week of bookings! Use code: Halloween26 by midnight on Sunday, September 20th to get 20% off your booking!

✨ Open to children from Reception to Year 6

✨ 8.30am to 5.30pm

✨ £45 for a full day

✨ 7% discount when booking a full week

✨ 5% sibling discount

To find out more, [click here](#)





HOVE LEGO CLUB

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EVERY WEDNESDAY

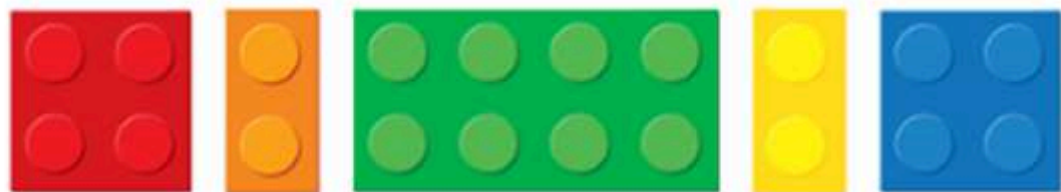
3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

EXCLUSIVELY FOR YEAR 1 & YEAR 2 STUDENTS!

PLEASE GET IN

TOUCH VIA

HOVELEGOCLUB@GMAIL.COM



Volunteers needed

We need parent volunteers to help
with reading, Saplings and more!

Looking for a change of career? Volunteering at
our schools could lead to job opportunities
within the school including Midday Supervisor,
Learning Support Assistant, Breakfast & After
School Club assistant or roles within our Office
teams.

Did you know that if you work in one of our
breakfast or afterschool clubs, your child(ren)
attend for free?

For more information, a volunteer pack or
application form contact:
emmabarrell@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk



**Want to know more about DLD
(developmental language disorder)?**

**Want to meet with other parents/carers
living with children and young people with
DLD?**

**Join Claire Edwards, Specialist Language teacher (BHISS),
Lydia Marsden, Speech and Language Therapist and Mandy
Leahy, Specialist Family Support Worker (BHISS) on:**

- **Tuesday 24th November 2026 9:30 -11 at Roundabout
Children's Centre, 178 Whitehawk Road, BN2 5FL**

This is a great opportunity to:

- Find out more about DLD: what it means and what support is out there.
- Meet other parents/carers of young people in primary school to share experiences.
- Find out what parent/carer groups will be available in future.

**There are limited places available so if you'd like to join us,
please reply ASAP to: Jane Hale at Jane.hale@brighton-hove.gov.uk**

**We will email you 2 weeks before the meeting to confirm you
have a place.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

Online parent talk

In light of changes to smartphone policy in many schools across the city, we are thrilled to announce an online parent talk by Dr Susie Davies, founder of PAPAYA, specially for parents of Brighton & Hove!

 Date: Tuesday 6th October

 Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

@ Location: Zoom (online) - [Click here to register](#)

PAPAYA

Helping our children thrive in today's digital world.

Join Dr Susie Davies as we explore how to empower our children to develop a positive, balanced approach to their digital wellbeing.

Online talk for all Brighton & Hove parents.

DATE & TIME:

TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2026 — 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

FREE TALK -REGISTER TO ATTEND:

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



Dr Susie Davies

CEO and founder of PAPAYA.

Susie Davies is a GP with a special interest in adolescent mental health. She is the founder of Papaya and is passionate about improving mental health outcomes for today's adolescents.

She founded Papaya seven years ago after recognising the link between technology use and poor mental health in students. She has given countless talks across the UK and is recognised as a national advocate and speaker on this topic. She is also the author of *The Healthy Selfie: How to Like Yourself in the Digital Age*.

PAPAYA

Helping families to thrive in a digital age

In this inspirational, interactive webinar, Dr Davies will unpack some of the **complex issues** surrounding smartphone use and screen time. Using a **non-judgemental** approach, she aims to help you find practical solutions that work for **you and your family**.

Dr Davies will discuss the importance of us all working together to support our young people to thrive, and will cast a spotlight on the great work going on in **Brighton & Hove schools** around smartphone policy.

Topics

- The link between mental health and wellbeing and spending too much time online
- Adult content, AI chatbots and gaming
- The impact of social media on self esteem
- How fully smartphone free, brick phone only school policies are helping
- Strategies for families to achieve a healthy balance with technology
- Question and discussion time

"The talk is so relevant, full of insight and eye-opening. You will walk away inspired to connect, reflect, and find out more. I highly recommend it."

— Claire Curtis, parent and SFC volunteer.



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PACA's Open Evening

Thursday 8th October

5.00pm to 8.00pm

All Y5 and Y6 students welcome

(No booking required)

PACA, Chalky Road, Portslade, BN41 2WS

**Please come and see our beautiful school
on the edge of the Downs**





Join us for our Open Events



Open Evening: 5:30pm – 7:30pm Wednesday 23rd September 2026

**Open Mornings: 9am Monday 28th September,
9am Thursday 1st October and 9am Friday 2nd October 2026**

Pride • Respect • Success

Dear Prospective Patcham High School Families,

We know what a big decision choosing a secondary school is. It's the place where your child will spend the next five years, making new friends, discovering new interests and growing from a Year 6 student into a young adult taking their next steps in life.

We are a proud, ambitious and inclusive school at the heart of our community. Every student is known, supported and challenged through great teaching, strong relationships and high expectations.

There is so much on offer at Patcham High, both in the classroom and beyond it. We want our students to achieve well, enjoy coming to school, get involved, try new things and make the most of the opportunities available to them.

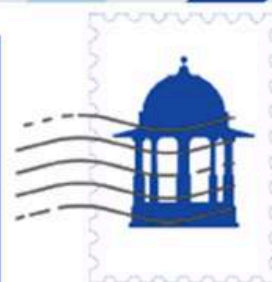
We would love the opportunity to show you what life at Patcham High is like.

Join us at our Open Evening or one of our Open Mornings. Meet our students and staff, explore the school, see lessons in action and ask us the questions that matter to you and your child.

We'll also be organising some additional events for Year 6 children and their families over the coming weeks, so keep an eye on our website and social media for details.

We look forward to welcoming you to Patcham High

Scan the QR
code to visit
our school
website, watch
our video &
view our
prospectus



To: *Prospective*
Patcham High School
Families

From: *All of us at*
Patcham High

📍 Ladies Mile Road, Brighton, BN1 8PB

✉ office@patchamhigh.org.uk

🌐 <https://www.patchamhigh.brighton-hove.sch.uk> 📷 @patchamhighschoolofficial



Open Evening

Thursday 24th September
5.00pm - 8.00pm

We warmly invite all prospective families to attend our upcoming open evening. Our Headteacher, Mrs Sarah Price, will be giving talks at 5.30pm, 6.15pm and 7.00pm.

The evening will give you the opportunity to look around our school, explore the fantastic range of subjects, meet our skilled teachers and see our great facilities.

You will be able to experience what it would be like to be part of the King's community and to join a wonderful school.



Please visit our website for further information

www.kingsschoolhove.org.uk/



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£167.05 FOR THE TERM (£12.85 PER SESSION)

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