



Dear Families,

A Year of Progress

This week in assembly, I had the chance to reflect on how far we've come as a school since Ofsted's visit a year ago. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the hard work of our staff, the dedication of our children and the support of our families. One area we've worked hard on is our curriculum. We've made it clearer and better organised so that all children can build on what they've learned as they move through the school. This means every lesson is part of a bigger journey, helping children deepen their understanding over time. We've also focused on supporting children with their learning. Whether children need a little extra help or are ready for more challenge, our teachers are working hard to make sure every child gets what they need to succeed. Finally, we've implemented our behaviour policy across the school. This is helping us create a calm, positive learning environment where children feel safe, supported, and ready to do their best. It's been a year of growth, and I'm so proud of everything we've achieved together. We know there is more work to be done but I'd like to thank you for your continued support – we couldn't do it without you!



Attendance week ending 25th April 2025

RPeterPan	RRosen	1Anning	1Donaldson	2Attenborough	2Johnson	3Rashford
89.3%	95.3%	95.1%	92.7%	97.7%	100% ★	98.6%

3Wicks	4Queen	4Thunberg	5Boseman	5Southgate	6Malala	6Obama
95.9%	99%	96.2%	94.7%	96%	95.3%	93%

Well done to 2J who achieve 100% attendance last week. The first one of the Summer Term! As their reward, they can attend school in their own clothes on Tuesday 6th May (the day after the bank holiday).

On a less positive note, we have had a large number of pupils arriving late again, recently. Yesterday, this was over **25 pupils!** Of course, sometimes unexpected things happen and lateness can't be helped, but we urge you to please get your children here in time for the morning register.

When children go in to class late, this can make them feel anxious, as well as being a disruption to their classmates. Late arrivals after 9.20am are counted as unauthorised. If a certain level of unauthorised marks are recorded then we have to report this to the Local Authority, who will then look to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice. Please see further information on this in the leaflets below.

Please note that it is a legal requirement for your children to attend school unless there are exceptional circumstances that prevent them from doing so. Term time holidays are not permitted and usually result in Fixed Penalty Notices being issued by the Local Authority.

If you do want to discuss anything about attendance or reasons why your child is late to school, please contact: attendance@summerswood.herts.sch.uk **Please also use this email address for all attendance related queries.**

Sports Week

Sports week will be held 16th-20th June. Activities will include The colour run, quidditch and the climbing wall.

Sports day will be on **17th June:**

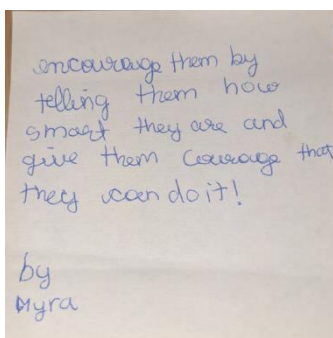
Years 3-6- am

Reception, Years 1 and 2- pm

exact times and details of Sports week to follow.



Children's Mental Health week



As part of Children's Mental Health Week, we asked the children, Families and staff "What advice would you give someone to encourage them to persevere (not give up)?" This week's brilliant suggestion is:

"Encourage them by telling them how smart they are and give them courage that they can do it!"

Kind Regards

Sarah Kneller

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'S Kneller'.

Headteacher

Dates to Remember

Date	Event
Monday 5th May 2025	BANK HOLIDAY
Wednesday 7th May 2025	3R Class Assembly
Monday 12 th - Friday 15 th May 2025	SATs week- SATs breakfast club will be Monday-Thursday of this week
Friday 16 th May 2025	Early Years Cake Sale
Thursday 22 nd May 2025	Parent Coffee Afternoon 2.15-3pm
Thursday 22 nd May 2025	Y5 (old 5S) to Hertswood for Vocal Concert
Friday 23 rd May 2025	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Monday 26 th May- Friday 30 th May	Half Term
Monday 2 nd June 2025	Start of Summer Term 2
Tuesday 3 rd June 2025	Summerswood Sunflower Growing Challenge begins
Monday 16 th -Friday 20 th June 2025	Sports week
Tuesday 17 th June 2025	Sports Day
Thursday 19 th June 2025	Parent Coffee Afternoon 2.15-3pm
Monday 23 rd June	INSET DAY- No pupils in School
Thursday 4 th July 2025	WOODFEST 4.30pm-8pm- School Field
Tuesday 15 th July 2025	Year 6 Production- Performance to Parents and children under 5- 2-3pm
Wednesday 16 th July 2025	Year 6 Production- Performance to Parents and children under 5- 2-3pm
Wednesday 16 th July 2025	Performance to Parents NO children under 5- 5-6pm
Thursday 17 th July 2025	Parent Coffee Afternoon 2.15-3pm
Monday 21 st July 2025	Summerswood Sunflower Growing Challenge- Judging
Monday 21 st July 2025	Leavers dinner 5-6pm in the School Hall.
Tuesday 22 nd July 2025	Last day of Term for Nursery
Wednesday 23 rd July 2025	Year 6 leavers Assembly- Families welcome
Wednesday 23 rd July 2025	Last Day of Term- School finishes at 1.30pm



MAY SPORTS CAMP

**TUE:
SPORTS
DAY**

**WED:
WATER FIGHT
GAMES**
(WEATHER DEPENDENT)

**THUR:
SPORTS &
CRAFTS**

**FRI:
TOURNAMENT
DAY**

**10%
REFER A
NEW FRIEND
DISCOUNT**

**10%
Early Bird
discount
valid until
May 5th**

**10%
sibling
discount**

Summerswood Primary School

Furzehill Road, WD6 2DW (Childcare vouchers accepted)

Tuesday 27th - Friday 30th May

FULL DAY:

£24.50 per day

£85 for 4 days

Year 1 - 6 only

8:45AM-3:30PM

HALF DAY:

£14 per day

Reception - Year 6

8:45AM-1PM/
12PM-3:30PM

SCAN HERE

Early drop off and late pick up 5PM available

To book visit:



www.superstarsportnwl.com

or email operations@superstarsportnwl.com



HERTSMERE MHST WOW CAMP

2025

FREE NHS WELLBEING CAMP FOR 8-12 YEAR OLDS

Note you can sign up for specific days, and not just the whole week



Hertsmere MHST WoW Camp



• DATES •

28th July - 1st of August

• TIME •

09:30am - 14:30pm

• LOCATION •

St. Margaret's School
Merry Hill Rd, Bushey WD23 1DT

• ACTIVITIES •

Meeting new people.

Wellbeing Workshops involving psychoeducation.
Access to qualified Mental Health Practitioners.
Arts, crafts, baking, more.



• REGISTER IN [CREST HERE](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe9kFAFpwVAC0xc4e4QdU4F3k31vaTFcVw2uYDFrrOIRQWJrg/viewform?usp=header) •

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe9kFAFpwVAC0xc4e4QdU4F3k31vaTFcVw2uYDFrrOIRQWJrg/viewform?usp=header>

Statutory Attendance Support Team Penalty Notice Fines – Sept 2024



Helping Parents understand Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance

From 19 August 2024, there is a National Framework for Penalty Notice Fines being issued for unauthorised absences recorded by schools.

National Threshold

A single consistent national threshold for when a Penalty Notice **must** be considered by **ALL** schools in England, this is:

- 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.
- These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.
- For example, a 5-day unauthorised leave of absence would meet the national threshold.
- The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Who may be fined?

- Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent without authorisation from school.
- For example, 3 siblings absent for unauthorised leave during term-time would result in each parent/carer receiving 3 separate fines.

Definition of Parent

- Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 states that, in relation to a child or young person, a 'parent' includes any person who is not a parent (from which can be inferred 'biological parent') but who has parental responsibility for or care of the child.
- Parent refers to a person who typically has care of a child or young person if the child lives with them either full or part time and they look after them, irrespective of what their biological or legal relationship is with the child.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence, the fine amount will be:

- £80 per parent, per child if paid **within 21 days**.
- If **not paid within 21 days**, the fine will increase to **£160 per parent, per child**, payable between the 22nd and 28th day.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence, a reduced rate is not available. The amount therefore will be:

- £160 per parent, per child – payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed, a Penalty Notice WILL NOT be issued, and the case will be presented **straight to the Magistrate's Court**:

- **Prosecution** can result in **criminal records** and **fines of up to £2,500**.
- Cases found **guilty** in a **Magistrates Court** can show on the parent's future DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) certificate (Disclosure and Barring Service) due to a **'failure to safeguard a child's education'**.



CHURCH FARM, ARDELEY
A Free Range Experience



Camping at Church Farm

At Church Farm Ardeley we have very large camping fields which offer a wonderful opportunity for larger groups of families to book school class camping trips as well as individual family stays.

Accommodation includes the hire of bell tents and cabins (with or without 'glamping' options), as well as multiple woods and fields to pitch your own tents. All large groups are allocated roped private areas so that they can all camp together.

We offer a variety of options to enhance your stay: camp fire packs, BBQ hire, straw bales, and delicious food that can be ordered in advance from our website or purchased from our on-site farm shop. There is also a pub and restaurant (The Jolly Waggoner) as well as our café for the all-important teas, coffees and bacon rolls.

Camping at the farm also includes free farm passes (usually £6.95pp per day) for the duration of your stay. Get to know the animals, explore our woodland play area, follow the farm trail, and find out about growing and horticulture in our polytunnels and kitchen garden. And there are plenty of beautiful family walks in the peaceful, rolling Hertfordshire countryside.

Additional bookable activities include Egg Collecting, Goat Walking, Fairy Trail, Animal Feeding and (from Feb-April) Lamb Bottle Feeding.



Tel: [01438 861 447](tel:01438861447) Email: info@churchfarmardeley.co.uk
www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk

Supporting Families with Protective Behaviours

For Mums, Dads & Carers

Online courses
starting
May 2025



Are you looking for strategies and new ideas to help improve family life?

This fully funded 8-week term time course can help you to:

Understand what may be influencing your child's behaviour

Understand how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together

Respond to a range of feelings e.g. anger, frustration, anxiety, stress and worry

Improve communication to build better relationships

Build on your own and your child's strengths

Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe

Tuesday mornings

6 May—1 July
9.30am—11.30am
Course code L5/am

or

Thursday evenings

8 May—3 July
7.00pm—9.00pm
Course code L5/eve

For eligibility and to book your fully funded place please contact:

enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk or Tel: 07850 518216

***Please quote the course code and your mobile number**



Please like us on Facebook for further updates @familiesfeelingsafe



Families Feeling Safe Protective Behaviours Services has been funded through HCC to provide Families Feeling Safe programmes across Hertfordshire. We deliver Protective Behaviours training for professionals and provide programmes and workshops to children and their families. www.familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk E-mail: enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk

TALKING FAMILIES



NEW DATES ADDED

Thursdays 9.45 - 11.15am Online Course: ID 757
5th, 12th, 19th, 26th June, 3rd & 10th July 2025

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children under 12, sharing tips on how to:

- **Manage challenging behaviour with consistency**
- **Encourage positive behaviour**
- **Build your child's self esteem**
- **Set and maintain boundaries**
- **Respond to tantrums and difficult feelings in children**
- **Develop a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future**

Our online support sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom.

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

'Every parent should do this course! It has taught me so much about how to deal with family life.'

Booking essential
Please quote the course ID
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

07512 709556

bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

www.supportinglinks.co.uk



Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

EMPOWERING PARENTS TO HELP CHILDREN THRIVE



Bounce Forward, in collaboration with the Harry Kane Foundation, are gifting a series of six online sessions that equip parents with the knowledge and tools to foster mental resilience and emotional wellbeing for themselves and their children.

What we'll cover

- How the brain works, the link between thoughts, feelings and behaviour
- Nurturing optimism and thinking flexibly to overcome adversity
- Helping children gain more control over how they feel and behave
- Developing empathy
- How to connect meaningfully
- Enabling a growth mindset and focusing on strengths

17,000+ parents highly rate this programme

"It was so amazing, I looked forward to the sessions each week, learnt a lot of mind blowing information, that I have applied to my life and have seen improvements! Wish there was more sessions, so sad that it has ended! I have loved learning about my strengths, the ABCs, process praise, the growth mind set, being aware of my gremlins, it has been wonderful learning, and these sessions have been apart of my self care! Thank you ever so much!"

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Harry Kane Foundation is a restricted fund under the auspices of Prison the Gift Fund (Reg. charity number: 1099682)

Family Lives Summer Term Programme 2025



Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group

Thursday 15 May to 26 June 9.30am - 11.30am

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join our online 6-week group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

Getting on with Your Pre Teen/Teenager (6 weeks) Online group

Wednesday 4 June to 9 July 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Is your teen feeling anxious or isolated? Are you concerned about their mental health and struggling to get help? Maybe you have an FFA/CIN/CP in place and need more support. Join our free 6-week online group to learn how parents can best emotionally support their teen and feel confident and prepared for whatever challenges might arise.

Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

Friday 6 June to 11 July, 9.30 am - 11.30 am

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Sorting Out Family Arguments (6 weeks) Online group

Tuesday 10 June to 15 July 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Do you feel everything ends in an argument and you are constantly trying to keep the peace? Join our free online 6-week group to help improve family communication, reduce the reactions which lead to arguments and create a culture of teamwork in your family.

Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop

Tuesday 24 June 9.30am - 11.30am

A workshop that helps parents understand ADHD and provides strategies to help support you and your child.

Reducing Conflict Online Workshop

Date TBC

A workshop that explores different types of conflict between couples and families.

For more information, please contact Louise or Lesley on **0204 522 8700/8701**, or email **services@familylives.org.uk**. Please scan our QR code for our referral form.



Scan Me!

Family Lives is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 3817762. Registered charity No.1077772. Registered address: The Annex York House, Salisbury Square, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 5AD



Online
Course

strengthening families strengthening communities

Want to get some new ideas to help
you be the best parent you can be?
Enhance your relationship with your children?
Learning at a time that suits you?



6 online
sessions



6 group
discussions



Certificate on
completion

What to expect...

- Information on strategies and child development.
- Hear from other parents.
- Worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and fun activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Expert help from a real person each week.
- Choose a course that suits your child's age.

Topics covered...

- Healthy relationships.
- Understanding and managing behaviour.
- Enhancing children's self-esteem.
- Emotions and empathy.
- What to expect for the age of your child.
- Being part of a community.

Group discussion...

1. Speak to a course expert and get answers to any questions you might have.
2. Talk about how the strategies are going at home and how to adjust them for you.
3. Address other difficulties relating to parenting.
4. Hear from others about what works for them.



Find out more or register for the course by scanning the
QR code or emailing us at: sfscparent@racefound.org.uk

How to Register



1

Go to: www.strengthening-families.net/parenting-courses



2

Select an age range for your course



3

Select a day of the week and time for your **group discussion** from the options available



4

Complete your contact details



5

Answer a short questionnaire



6

Click on 'Your profile' and you can start your course

If you need any help, email us at sfscparent@racefound.org.uk

Online
Course

Stronger Relationships

For parents and other adult carers living together or apart



- Do you want to get some new ideas to help you be an even better parent?
- Would you like to reduce the arguments and disagreements in your family and cope better with stress?
- Would you like to enhance your relationship with your current partner, or improve communication with your ex or the other people helping to raise your children?
- How about learning at a time that suits you?



**6 online
sessions**



**6 group
discussions**



**Certificate on
completion**

What to expect...

- Information on strategies to identify and reduce arguments.
- Hear from other parents and carers.
- Downloadable worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and interactive activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Weekly support from our course experts.

Topics covered...

- Healthy adult relationships.
- Identifying and managing disagreements.
- Understanding how conflict affects your children.
- Enhancing parent-child relationships.
- Managing stress, anger and emotions.
- Strategies to resolve conflict and create a parenting agreement

Group discussion...

1. Speak to a course expert and get answers to some of the questions you might have
2. Talk about how the strategies are going at home.
3. Address other difficulties relating to your relationships.
4. Hear from others about what works for them.

Find out more or register for the course by scanning the QR code or emailing us at: sfscparent@racefound.org.uk



**strengthening
families
strengthening
communities**



How to Register



1

Go to: www.strengthening-families.net/reducing-parental-conflict/



2

Select a course, either **Parenting Together** or **Parenting Apart**



3

Select a day of the week and time for your **group discussion** from the options available



4

Complete your contact details



5

Answer a short questionnaire



6

Click on 'Your profile' and you can start your course

If you need any help, email us at sfscparent@racefound.org.uk

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VERULAM ANGLING CLUB

This summer 2025 VAC are offering free angling coaching events which includes tackle and bait, our sessions start at 10am and the last session is at 2:30pm, we offer 30 minute one to one sessions with further coaching in a supervised area. We only take bookings 7 days in advance of the coaching event. To book a session please call our head coach Roger on 07585004485 or WhatsApp message.

More info and all dates can be found on the [Verulam junior AC Facebook page](#), or <https://www.verulam-angling.co.uk/>

Frogmore fishery post code AL22DY

River side road fishery post code AL11SF

Riverside road fishery	10 th May
Frogmore fishery	24 th May
Riverside road fishery	7 th June
Frogmore fishery	21 st June
Riverside road fishery	5 th July
Frogmore fishery	19 th July
Riverside road fishery	2 nd Aug
Frogmore fishery	16 th Aug
Riverside road fishery	30 th Aug
Frogmore fishery	13 th Sep
Riverside road fishery	27 th Sep

Softplay & Inflatable Hire



Covering
Hertfordshire
& other
surrounding
areas



Available for all your
Birthday Parties,
Events, Home Set-Ups
& Special Occasions

Your little ones perfect party is just one booking away!

 bliss_parties

 Bliss Parties

 bliss_parties@outlook.com