



Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Summerswood families,

HARVEST

Next week, we'll be celebrating **Harvest** with our annual Harvest Hamper competition— always a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together and support **Gratitude**, our local charity that provides food and essentials to families in need. Also a fantastic way for Summerswood children to get creative with their Hamper designs.

We're inviting parents and carers to get involved by sending in **food donations**. Every contribution, big or small, makes a real difference!

Please take a look at the **Harvest poster** for details on the specific items that **Gratitude** is currently low on.

Let's make this year's Harvest our best one yet — thank you for your generosity and continued support!

Attendance- Week ending 10th October

Reception Rosen	***100%***	3 Rashford	96.50%
Reception Peter Pan	98.9%	4 Thunberg	97%
1 Anning	98.3%	4 Queen	98.08%
1 Donaldson	98.7%	5 Southgate	99.2%
2 Attenborough	97.83%	5 Boseman	***100%***
2 Johnson	97.39%	6 Malala	94%
3 Wicks	97.50%	6 Obama	97.27%

Another **brilliant** week for attendance! Rosen hit 100% for the second week in a row and 5 Boseman have hit their first 100% this school year. These 2 classes can come in to school in non-uniform on Monday as a reward for their excellent attendance.

Please continue to ensure that you let us know about absence as early as you can in the morning- and by 9.15 at the latest. You can call, leave a voicemail or email attendance@summerswood.herts.sch.uk

Year 6 spooky Bake Sale

Thank you all for your generous donations for the Year 6 spooky bake sale. We had some fantastically creative cakes available! A special mention to Freddie Slade for making this wonderful sign. The sale was a great success.

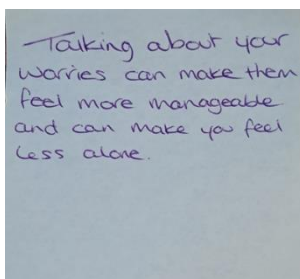


Menu Change Next week

Please see below for a menu change on 22nd October for Diwali.

World Mental Health Day

This year, on world mental health day, we asked pupils, staff and families “Why is it important to ask for help when you need it”. Over the coming weeks, we will share some of the brilliant answers we received. This week we have:



“Talking about your worries can make them feel more manageable and can make you feel less alone”

Interesting Fact of the Week:

In 2008, bakers in Indonesia created a cake that stood over 108 feet tall. That's taller than a ten-storey building!

Kind Regards

Kathryn Mitchell

Acting Headteacher

Dates to Remember

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday 20 th to Friday 24 th October 2025	Harvest Week
Monday 20 th October 2025	Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 21 st October 2025	Year 2 RAF Museum Trip
Wednesday 22 nd October 2025	Reception Local Words and Numbers Walk
Wednesday 22 nd October 2025	Disco- Scaries and Fairies- Nursery & Reception- 2.30- 3pm
Wednesday 22 nd October 2025	Disco- Scaries and Fairies- Y1, Y2 & Y3- 3.15- 4.15pm
Wednesday 22 nd October 2025	Disco- Scaries and Fairies- Y4, Y5 & Y6- 4.30- 5.45pm
Friday 24 th October 2025	Harvest Hamper Judging
Friday 24 th October 2025	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October (inclusive)	Half Term
Monday 3 rd November 2025	Start of Autumn Term 2
Thursday 13 th November 2025	Individual and Sibling Group Photographs
Friday 21 st November 2025	“Mop up session” for pupils who missed flu vaccination
Thursday 27 th November 2025	Whole School dress down day—Donation for Christmas Raffle
Friday 28 th November 2025	INSET DAY – No pupils in school
Monday 1 st December 2025	Occasional Day- No pupils in school
Monday 8 th December 2025	Reception Trip to the Postbox to deliver Letters to Santa
Thursday 11 th December 2025	The Great Summerswood Christmas bake off
Friday 12 th December 2025	Christmas Fair

Thursday 18th December 2025	Christmas Raffle
Friday 19th December 2025	Last day of Term - School finishes at 1.30pm
Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January (inclusive)	Half Term
Monday 5th January 2026	INSET DAY – No pupils in school
Tuesday 6th January 2026	Start of Spring Term 1
Thursday 12th February 2026	Disco- Friendship- time TBC
Friday 13th February 2026	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February (inclusive)	Half Term
Monday 23rd February 2026	Start of Spring Term 2
Thursday 26th March 2026	Last day of Term for Nursery
Friday 27th March 2026	Last day of Term - School finishes at 1.30pm
Monday 30th March-Friday 10th April (Inclusive)	Half Term
Monday 13th April 2026	INSET DAY – No pupils in School
Tuesday 14th April 2026	Start of Summer Term 1
Monday 4th May 2026	BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 22nd May 2026	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May (inclusive)	Half Term
Monday 1st June 2026	Start of Summer Term 2
Thursday 4th June 2026	Disco- Summer Ball- time TBC
Friday 26th June 2026	INSET DAY – No pupils in school
Wednesday 22nd July 2026	Last day of Term for Nursery
Thursday 23rd July 2026	Last day of Term - School finishes at 1.30pm



HCL
NURISH EDUCATE INSPIRE

Happy DIWALI

MAIN MENU
Creamy Chicken Curry
served with Brown and White Rice
or
Carrot Biryani (Ve) (Free From*)

SERVED WITH
Raita and a Mixed Salad
or
Topped Jacket Potato
or
Filled Roll

DESSERT
Turmeric and
Orange Shortbread

DIWALI
OCT 22nd





[@hclcatering](https://www.instagram.com/hclcatering)
www.hcl.co.uk

Menus are subject to change due to supplier stock availability. * Free from the key 14 allergens and plant based/vegan



HARVEST HAMPER COMPETITION

**TO RAISE DONATIONS FOR
GRATITUDE**

The children will decorate Harvest Hampers as a class and parents & carers are asked to donate food to fill them.

The competition will run over the week starting **20th October** and judges from **Gratitude** will be coming in on **Friday 24th October at 2pm** to judge the best hampers for each Key Stage and awarding prizes!

FOOD ITEMS WE ARE RUNNING LOW ON:

- Corn Flakes • Cereals (Variety) • Porridge • Crisps • Pasta Sauce • Sweetcorn • Long Life Milk • Vegan Milk • Self Raising Flour • Plain Flour • Chickpeas (Tins) • Coffee • Jam • Baked Beans • Chopped Tomatoes • Rice Pudding • Fruit Tins



FREE ONLINE AUTUMN 2025 WORKSHOPS FOR HERTS PARENTS/CARERS

Online Workshops funded by Hertfordshire County Council	Audience	Day	Date	Time	Location
Identifying ADHD and/or Autism	Parents/Carers	Mon	8.9.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Autism	Parents/Carers	Wed	10.9.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Understanding ADHD and Autism in the Early Years	Parents/Carers	Fri	12.9.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Autism for Parents/Carers of Girls	Parents/Carers	Mon	15.9.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding ADHD	Parents/Carers	Wed	17.9.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Understanding ADHD for Parents/Carers of Girls	Parents/Carers	Fri	19.9.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Self Harm	Parents/Carers	Mon	22.9.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding PDA	Parents/Carers	Wed	24.9.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Tips & Tools for Sleep	Parents/Carers	Mon	29.9.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Support for Dads	Parents/Carers	Wed	1.10.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Understanding Challenging Behaviour	Parents/Carers	Fri	3.10.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Anger	Parents/Carers	Mon	6.10.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Preparing for Adulthood (14+)	Parents/Carers	Wed	8.10.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Understanding Sensory Differences	Parents/Carers	Mon	13.10.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Sensory Differences	Parents/Carers	Wed	15.10.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Eating Difficulties	Parents/Carers	Fri	17.10.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Medication Options	Parents/Carers	Mon	20.10.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools for Toileting	Parents/Carers	Wed	22.10.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Half Term					
Applying for an EHCP	Parents/Carers	Mon	3.11.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Preparing for an EHCP Review	Parents/Carers	Wed	5.11.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Working in Partnership with School	Parents/Carers	Fri	7.11.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage School Absence	Parents/Carers	Mon	10.11.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Neurodivergent Teens	Parents/Carers	Wed	12.11.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Understanding Anxiety	Parents/Carers	Mon	17.11.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Anxiety	Parents/Carers	Wed	19.11.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Puberty	Parents/Carers	Fri	21.11.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Communication	Parents/Carers	Mon	24.11.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Executive Function	Parents/Carers	Wed	26.11.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Supporting Siblings	Parents/Carers	Fri	28.11.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Everyday Changes	Parents/Carers	Mon	1.12.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Social Skills	Parents/Carers	Wed	3.12.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Emotional Development	Parents/Carers	Fri	5.12.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools for Positive Behaviour	Parents/Carers	Mon	8.12.25	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Build Self-Esteem	Parents/Carers	Wed	10.12.25	19:00 - 20:30	Online

"What a fantastic workshop - thank you so much! I've taken away a wealth of information"

"That was so amazing. I have done many training sessions about ASD through my work but that was the most honest & informative session I have ever had"

"Absolutely incredible workshop, it has been extremely beneficial to my child"

Hertfordshire County Council funded workshops - Recordings are sent to all registered participants to view for 7 days, even if you don't attend live.

01727 833963

herts@add-vance.org

http://www.add-vance.org/

Book your FREE ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website

These workshops are funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of Hertfordshire only

**Beezee
FAMILIES**

**FREE Healthy Lifestyle support
for families in Hertfordshire**

Our **FREE 12 week in-person and online programmes**
start on **w/c 19/01/26 in person 12/01/26 online**



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
BOREHAMWOOD Aberford Park Community Centre, WD6 1PN 4:30 - 6:30pm	WATFORD Holywell Community Centre Chaffinch Lane, WD18 9QD 5:30 - 7:30pm	STEVENAGE Oval Community Centre SG1 5RD 5:30 - 7:30pm	WALTHAM CROSS St Joseph's Church 204 High Street, EN8 7DP 4:30 - 6:30pm
** NO SESSION **	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Hobletts Manor Junior School HP2 5JS 5:00 - 7:00pm	HATFIELD Birchwood Avenue Primary School, AL10 0PS 5:00 - 7:00pm	** NO SESSION **
ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm	** NO SESSION **



MT1.maximusuk.co.uk

Sign up today!

@ZInfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648



Our programmes are for children above their ideal weight, see our website for more information.



CREATIVE IDEAS

'BLACK HISTORY MONTH'
FAMILY ART WORKSHOPS OCTOBER 2025

TUESDAY 28/10 -
10am - 11:30am: African Mask Painting
12am - 1pm: Diversity Art

WEDNESDAY 29/10 -
10am - 11:30am: African Crown
12am - 1pm: Jazz Music Collage

THURSDAY 30/10 -
10am - 11:30am: Poetry & Illustration
12am - 1pm: Stencil Art

FRIDAY 31/10 -
10am - 11:30am: Paper Chain
12am - 1pm: Hieroglyphics message

BOOKING ESSENTIAL
£2.50 per family a workshop

Age 4 and above
Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult

<https://www.learningthroughthearts.co.uk/>
0751 937 517

Apply for school on time

**Applying for a school place for
September 2026**

Secondary/Upper/Studio/University Technical
College Application deadline: Friday 31 October 2025

Primary (Reception)/Junior/Middle
Application deadline: Thursday 15 January 2026

Apply online at
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Parent & Carer Support Spring Term 2026



FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire

TALKING TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **12-19**, covering:

- The Teen Brain: physical and emotional changes taking place and why behaviour changes.
- The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- Understand risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.
- How to negotiate and reduce conflict.



Mondays 7.45 - 9.15pm

5th Jan to 9th Feb

Online Course: ID 804

Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

4th Feb to 18th Mar

F2F Course: ID 802

St Albans (venue tbc)

Thursdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course: ID 803

TALKING ANGER in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **11-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why children & adults get angry.
- Develop strategies to handle anger in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anger.
- Reduce conflict and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour.



Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm

6th Jan to 10th Feb

Online Course: ID 805

TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children **2-19**, with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.

- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict.
- Improve emotional regulation.
- Explore sensory needs.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage different needs in your family.



Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

6th Jan to 10th Feb

Online Course ID 797

Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15am

3rd Feb to 17th Mar

Online Course ID 796

TALKING FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **0-12** sharing tips on:

- Managing challenging behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries.
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.



Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

8th Jan to 12th Feb

Online Course ID 799

Thursdays 9.45 - 11.15am

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course ID 798

Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course ID 800

TALKING ANXIETY in FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **3-12**, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.



Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.30am

4th Feb to 18th Mar

Online Course ID 801

TALKING DADS

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of children **0-19**, sharing information on:

- Improved listening and communication skills.
- A healthy dad-child relationship now and for the future.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad, you want to be.



Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

7th Jan to 11th Feb

Online Course: ID 806

Mondays 7.45 - 9.15pm

2nd Feb to 16th Mar

Online Course: ID 807

Booking essential. Please Quote the Course ID

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on:
07512 709556 or bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

These courses are provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund
Information taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any access needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request





UNDERSTANDING ADHD & AUTISM FOR DADS
FREE INTRODUCTORY 6-WEEK COURSES FOR PARENTS/CARERS

ABOUT THE COURSE

These interactive courses are designed for Dads / male carers of children aged 5 to 14 with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism.

ALL SESSIONS MUST BE ATTENDED

TIME AND PLACE

Dates: Mondays, 3/11 to 8/12
Time: 7 - 9 pm
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

☎ 01221 833963 🌐 www.add-vance.org 🌐 <http://www.add-vance.org/>
 Book your **FREE** ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website <http://www.add-vance.org/>

These courses are funded by NorthDevon County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of NorthDevon only.



UNDERSTANDING ADHD & AUTISM IN THE EARLY YEARS
FREE INTRODUCTORY 6-WEEK COURSE FOR PARENT/CARERS

ABOUT THE COURSE

This interactive course is designed for parents & carers of children aged 2 to 5 yrs with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism.

TIME AND PLACE

Dates: Tuesdays, 4/11 to 9/12
Time: 9.30 to 11.30 am
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

☎ 01221 833963 🌐 www.add-vance.org 🌐 <http://www.add-vance.org/>
 Book your **FREE** ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website <http://www.add-vance.org/>

These courses are funded by NorthDevon County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of NorthDevon only.



UNDERSTANDING ADHD & AUTISM IN THE PRIMARY YEARS
FREE INTRODUCTORY 6-WEEK COURSES FOR PARENTS/CARERS

ABOUT THE COURSE

This interactive course is designed for parents & carers of children aged 5 to 11 yrs with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism (or 4 & already in reception).

ALL SESSIONS MUST BE ATTENDED

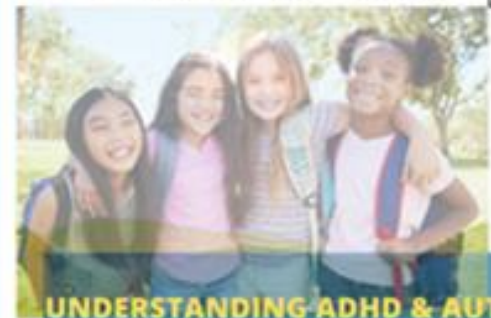
TIME AND PLACE

Dates: Wednesdays, 5/11 to 10/12
Time: 7 - 9 pm
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

Dates: Tuesdays, 11/11 to 16/12
Time: 10 am - 12pm
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

☎ 01221 833963 🌐 www.add-vance.org 🌐 <http://www.add-vance.org/>
 Book your **FREE** ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website <http://www.add-vance.org/>

These courses are funded by NorthDevon County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of NorthDevon only.



UNDERSTANDING ADHD & AUTISM FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF GIRLS
FREE INTRODUCTORY 6-WEEK COURSE FOR PARENT/CARERS

ABOUT THE COURSE

This interactive course is designed for parents/carers of girls aged 5 to 14 yrs (or 4 and already in reception) with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism.

TIME AND PLACE

Dates: Thursdays, 13/11 to 18/12
Time: 10 am to 12 pm
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

☎ 01221 833963 🌐 www.add-vance.org 🌐 <http://www.add-vance.org/>
 Book your **FREE** ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website <http://www.add-vance.org/>

These courses are funded by NorthDevon County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of NorthDevon only.