



Friday 13th December 2024

Dear Families,

Bereavement



It has been a difficult week at Summerswood, as we learned that one of our year six children died in the early hours of Monday morning following her brain tumour diagnosis in the summer term. We are heartbroken for this family and will continue to support them as much as we can as they come to terms with their loss. If you'd like to show your support, we are still collecting financial donations for the family on our **GoFundMe page**: <https://gofund.me/6db313e9>.

As a school we are in a very rare position to have had two children with brain tumours in very close proximity to one another. When speaking to the children, I have been clear about how very rare this is. Data available for the UK says that each year 500 children are diagnosed with a brain tumour. That's from around 14 million children in the country meaning the likelihood of diagnosis is 0.0035%. The two children in our school had different tumours and there is no information that these tumours have anything to do with the school environment. There are no hard and fast rules about why brain tumours occur – they could be genetic, environmental or for unknown reasons. As a leadership team we are of course eager to ensure our school and our community is a safe place for children to learn and grow. We have been in touch with the Health and Safety team at Hertfordshire - we're hoping to hear back from them with any thoughts and advice they have to support us. But it is important for families to know that our school is held to the same standards as all others in the area and around the country to ensure we uphold the highest health and safety regulations. Please do look at this website if you want more information about childhood brain tumours and it may answer some questions you may have <https://www.thebraintumourcharity.org/brain-tumour-diagnosis-treatment/how-brain-tumours-are-diagnosed/brain-tumour-biology/what-causes-brain-tumours/>. If your child is struggling with the difficult news we've had in school this week, please do look at the Child Bereavement website here: <https://www.childbereavementuk.org/supporting-bereaved-children-and-young-people>. Thank you for your kindness and understanding as we navigate these very difficult situations together as a community.

Attendance

Week ending 27th November 2024

RPeterPan	RRosen	1Anning	1Donaldson	2Attenborough	2Johnson	3Rashford
90.7%	96.3%	97.4%	★100%★	97.5%	91.2%	90.1%
3Wicks	4Queen	4Thunberg	5Boseman	5Southgate	6Malala	6Obama
91.3%	90.4%	90.4%	97.2%	92.2%	84.7%	97%

Well done to 1 Donaldson who achieved 100% attendance on the week ending 27th November . As a reward, the pupils in this class were permitted to come in to school in non uniform on Monday

Week ending 6th December 2024

RPeterPan	RRosen	1Anning	1Donaldson	2Attenborough	2Johnson	3Rashford
88.4%	94.8%	90.7%	91.1%	92%	94.2%	92.9%

3Wicks	4Queen	4Thunberg	5Boseman	5Southgate	6Malala	6Obama
97.1%	92.5%	89.6%	98%	95.1%	96.5%	90.8%

We have seen a drop in attendance levels this week- Currently, the whole school attendance for the year so far is just 91.3%- quite a way below the expected minimum of 96% set by the local authority!

More and more children are also arriving late to school in the mornings. Lateness affects not only the children that are late, but their classmates and the staff. Registration is between 8.40am and 8.50am please ensure that your child arrives at school on time and ready to learn.

If you do need any support with getting your child to school on time, please do get in touch with our Attendance Champion, Miss Dowdall: attendance@summerswood.herts.sch.uk or call: 0208 953 3139

Real Christmas Tree

Summerswood has a real Christmas tree we'd like to give to a family who is able to collect it from school on Thursday 19th December 2024. If we have multiple requests, we'll do a draw for the entries. If you'd like to have the tree (about 6ft tall) please email admin@summerswood.herts.sch.uk with your name and confirmation that you are able to collect it on Thursday. We hope it can bring a family some more joy over the winter break.



Spitting

A reminder to adults on the school site that we don't allow the children to spit on the floor and we expect adults to also follow this example. Please keep our site clean and tidy for our children. Thank you.

Poor Parking

BE KIND, PARK WITH OTHERS IN MIND

#selfishparking



- ✓ RESPECT OTHERS
- ✓ THINK BEFORE YOU PARK
- ✓ DON'T BE SELFISH

We have been contacted by a number of local residents again this week about poor and dangerous parking on Furzehill and other roads that surround our school building. Please remember that we must use the local roads safely and sensibly to ensure everyone in our community stays safe. The photos I have seen show cars seemingly left abandoned in the middle of the road, blocking pavements for pedestrians and blocking driveways. The following car number plates have been sent to the school in emails sharing dangerous parking: RV20 KZA, LS23 WCY, AV57 HGD. We have encouraged members of the community to contact the police but we are also in touch with police and parking wardens to keep our community safe. Leave for school 10 minutes earlier so you don't have to struggle for parking – even better – walk to school to prevent too many cars from being in the vicinity of the school premises. as well as being better for the environment.

Midwife Crisis

Well done to our year one and two students for putting on an excellent production of a Midwife Crisis. The singing was brilliant, the acting was great and the costumes were



superb. Huge thanks to the Year 1 and 2 teams for putting together such a great production that the children really enjoyed being part of.

Summerswood Christmas Fair

Thank you for supporting our Christmas Fair! We raised just over £1000. We will use this money to keep supporting the children's activities including supporting coaches for school trips. Thank you to our school team and the PTA for organising and running activities and stalls.



Christmas Dinner Days

Please note that the children's Christmas Dinner days are as follows:

KS2 children- Tuesday 17th December- children in KS2 can wear Christmas jumpers on this day. KS1 children will be offered packed lunch options on this day or can bring a packed lunch in from home.

KS1- Wednesday 18th December- children in KS1 can wear Christmas jumpers on this day. KS2 children will be offered packed lunch options on this day or can bring a packed lunch in from home.

As always, our last day of term, **Friday 20th December-** will be a ham or cheese packed lunch day **for all children-** or children can bring in a packed lunch from home.

Kind regards,

Sarah Kneller
Headteacher

Dates to Remember

Date	Event
Friday 13 th December 2024	Early Years Cake sale- 3.05pm- on the school playground
Tuesday 17 th December 2024	Nursery Christmas Sing along 9.15-9.45- families are invited to attend
Tuesday 17 th December 2024	KS2 Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 17 th December 2024	KS2 Christmas Concert- 4.30pm-5.15pm on the school playground
Wednesday 18 th December 2024	KS1 Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 18 th December 2024	Reception Peter Pan Sing along 9.15—9.45- Families are invited to attend
Thursday 19 th December 2024	Reception Rosen Sing along 9.15—9.45- Families are invited to attend
Thursday 19 th December 2024	Last Day of Term for Nursery
Friday 20 th December 2024	Packed Lunch day for all children
Friday 20 th December 2024	Last day of Term - School finishes at 1.30pm
Monday 6 th January 2025	INSET DAY- No pupils in School
Tuesday 7 th January 2025	Start of Spring Term 1
Friday 14 th February 2025	School finishes at Normal times for Half Term
Monday 17 th February-Friday 21 st February	Half Term
Monday 24 th February 2025	Start of Spring Term 2
Tuesday 1 st April 2025	Class and Year 6 individual photographs for Autograph books
Wednesday 2 nd April 2025	Last Day of Term for Nursery
Thursday 3 rd April 2025	Last Day of Term- School finishes at 1.30pm
Friday 4 th April 2025	INSET DAY- No pupils in School
Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Start of Summer Term 1
Monday 5 th May 2025	BANK HOLIDAY
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	INSET DAY- No pupils in school
Tuesday 22 nd July	Last day of Term for Nursery
Wednesday 23 rd July 2024	Last Day of Term- School finishes at 1.30pm



Super Star Sport

SPRING TERM CLUBS



We would like to welcome parents/guardians to our Super Star Sport Clubs and Activities at Summerswood primary and we can't wait to get your children involved! All of our clubs are run by enthusiastic, enhanced DBS checked and experienced coaches. Please see below for further details:



12 WEEK SUPER PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY – FOOTBALL CLUB (YEAR 1,2&3)

START DATE: 8th JANUARY 2025 – END DATE: 2nd APRIL 2025

TIMES 3.15PM – 4.15PM

JUST £70.80 FOR OUR 12 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.

THURSDAY-BOXING CLUB (Year 1,2,3&4)

START DATE: 9th JANUARY 2025 – END DATE: 27th MARCH 2025

TIMES 3.15PM – 4.15PM

JUST £64.90 FOR OUR 11 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.

FRIDAY – GYMNASTICS CLUB (Year 1,2,3&4)

START DATE: 10th JANUARY 2025 – END DATE: 28th MARCH 2025

TIMES 3.15PM – 4.15PM

JUST £64.90 FOR OUR 11 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.

For any additional information, please email us at operations@superstarsportnwl.com where Junior would be happy to answer any questions you may have!

HOW DO I BOOK???

Step 1: Enter the site www.superstarsportnwl.com

Step 2: Click 'BOOK NOW' on the home page

After clicking book now, you will be directed to another page on the site.

Step 3: Select your school/nursery location

Step 4: Select the block of sessions you would like to book your child onto and click 'info and booking'

Step 5: Once here please find the 'book this class'

Step 6: Time to sign up your child!!!! (If you have not created a profile with us, there is a short profile creation process)

Step 7: Your child attends their Super Star Sport club!!!

Clubs subject to cancellation depending on booking numbers



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**Fully Funded
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**Available
in Levels
1, 2 & 3**

***Please go to our website
for more detailed
information.**

**6 Week
Course
Mon - Fri
Daily sessions
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2pm**

www.studysmartuk.online

Available In the following levels:

Level 1:	CACHE Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools
	CACHE Level 1 Award in Safeguarding in a Learning Environment
	CACHE Level 1 Certificate in Wellbeing
	Level 1 Occupational Studies for the Workplace
Level 2:	CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent
	CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours
Level 3:	Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Special Educational Needs

Please go to our website address above, for more information.

*Please take note of the online live webinar sessions that MUST be attended to complete this full time 6 week course, and the ESFA's (Education Skills Funding Agency) eligibility criteria.

Recruiting now for foster carers in Hertfordshire



“It is the best feeling in the world, we love it. It’s changed our lives for the better.”

Dave and Helen, Hertfordshire foster carers

Are you looking for a more fulfilling career?

There are approximately **950 children and young people in care in Hertfordshire** and many of these children need the love and support of a foster family.

If you are aged over 21, have a spare room at home, and space in your heart, then fostering could be for you.

When you choose to foster with us, you’ll receive generous pay and allowances for each child, exceptional training and 24/7 local support right from the very start.

Get in touch with our friendly team today and we’ll help you decide if fostering is right for you.

FOSTERWITHUS

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fosternow



@hertfordshirefostering



@HCCFosterAdopt

In partnership with



Stonewall



Hertfordshire



"You're never on your own, there's always support there for any decisions you're finding difficult."

Ed and Jools, Hertfordshire foster carers

Training and support

When you choose to foster with us, you'll receive 24/7 local support every step of the way. We provide local training sessions and offer you the chance to participate in our fostering forums where you can share experience and receive support from other foster carers.

Pay and allowances

Foster carers receive a weekly payment for their skills plus a weekly allowance for each child they look after. The payments foster carers receive are dependent on the age and number of children they look after and their skills and experience. You can view our current rates of pay on our website www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fosternow

To help cover the costs of looking after a child, you will also receive:

- a generous mileage allowance
- setting up fee for furniture and equipment
- two weeks additional summer payments
- holiday and birthday allowance
- initial clothing and school uniform allowance
- festivities allowance
- discounts online and in high street stores



"I believe that every young person, however they come into the world, deserves an opportunity to have a family life."

Ellin, Hertfordshire foster carer



SCAN ME

Parenting SEN children when separated online programme



A 6-session programme, specifically tailored to help separated parents navigate the complexities of co-parenting and provide the best possible support for their SEND child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance co-parenting skills, support children's development and build a strong foundation for the future.

Who should attend?

- Separated parents raising children with SEND.
- Parents seeking guidance, support, and strategies for co-parenting SEN children more consistently.
- Parents wanting to create a positive and supportive environment for their child's development.



These courses will be delivered by MS Teams over 6 sessions, on the following dates:

- Monday 24 February & 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March 2025
Evening: 7.00pm - 9.00pm
- Tuesday 25 February & 4, 11, 18, 25 March & 1 April 2025
Daytime: 9.30am - 11.30am

For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email services@familylives.org.uk or call 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8699

SCAN ME



We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk

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FREE Healthy Lifestyle support
for families in Hertfordshire



Our FREE 12 week in-person and online programmes
start on week commencing 20th January 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
BOREHAMWOOD Aberford Park Community Centre, WD6 1PN 4:30 - 6:30pm	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Hobletts Manor Junior School HP2 5JS 5:30 - 7:30pm	STEVENAGE Oval Community Centre SG1 5RD 5:00 - 7:00pm	HATFIELD Birchwood Avenue Primary School, AL10 0PS 5:00 - 7:00pm
CHESHUNT Andrews Lane Primary School, EN7 6LB 4:30 - 6:30pm	** NO SESSION **	WATFORD Leavesden Green Community Hub, WD25 0BW 5:30 - 7:30pm	** NO SESSION **



Sign up today!

@ BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648

