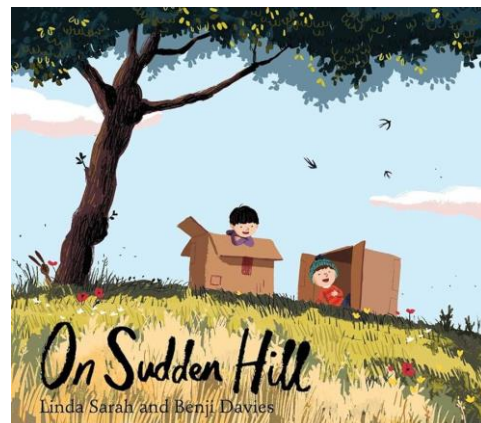


Dear Families,

On Sudden Hill

In assembly on Monday, I shared with the children the importance of reading, how important it is to be able to read well and to understand what is being read to us. I am going to try and read a story in assembly as often as I can - stories with meanings we can discuss and that we can think about. This week, I read a story about friendship and something that many of us may have experienced – when a new friend comes along and we feel left out or confused about how this new friendship may work. We discussed how friendships can grow and change – even if at first things are difficult. If you'd like to read the story, I found this link on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESsRgNVRw68>.



Behaviour

This week in Y6 we've had to manage some behaviour, that I'm sorry to say, is bullying. We have a behaviour policy in school (<https://www.summerswood.herts.sch.uk/policies/>) that is clear about our behaviour expectations. We also have an online system where we log details of incidents, so we can check and see if incidents are one-off problems or accidents or a series of events that are considered bullying. We meet or speak to parents when these problems happen so the message about expected behaviour is coming from home and school in equal measure. All children have the right to be safe and happy in school and we will challenge behaviour that does not allow this to happen. Thank you for your support. **For parents in Y6, please remember to confirm receipt of the letter sent to you about bullying and the impact this has on those around them.**

Attendance – for weekending 8th September

Peterman	Rosen	1Anning	1Donaldson	2Attenborough	2Johnson	3Rashford
N/A	N/A	97.5%	92.2%	83.1%	89%	94.1%

3Wicks	4Queen	4Thunberg	5Boseman	5Southgate	6Malala	6Obama
94.6%	86.2%	94.5%	98.2%	93.1%	98%	97.8%

Due to some unauthorised late holidays, our attendance for our first week back is not looking quite as positive as we would have liked – however, we are looking forward to seeing a huge improvement next week when we will also be reporting on Reception's first week in school. For your information, the government expects overall school – and individual children's – attendance to be at least 96%. We will be continuing with non-uniform reward days for those classes that have 100% attendance for a week, so let us see who our first class will be for the New Year!

If you have any questions or worries about attendance, please feel free to call Mrs Firby, our Attendance Champion, or email her on attendance@summerswood.herts.sch.uk.

The Dogs Trust



Last week we had Darcy in to speak to us about safe behaviour around dogs. The assembly and work in the classroom was aimed around safe and loving relationships between children and the dogs they share their lives and social settings with. Information was shared about being safe and kind and what to do if there were a problem with any dog. They also spoke about how to keep our school dog, Luna, safe when she is school. We are really grateful for the time the Dogs Trust took to speak to children from Years 1 to 6. We hope our children now feel more dog smart.

Nut Free School

Please remember that Summerswood is a NUT FREE SCHOOL. This does include Nutella and peanut butter. There are some chocolate spreads that don't include nuts but they are few and far between – so please be very careful. Nuts can cause extreme reactions in children at school and we must keep everyone safe.

Any payments to school must be made via the School Gateway (app or internet) as we do not accept cash in the school office – you can pay using this link: <https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>, or down the School Gateway app.

Plimsolls

Our school hall has a lovely varnished wooden floor, and we are requesting that, if your child is not happy doing indoor PE in their bare feet, you please send them in with some plimsolls to wear in the hall. Trainers are still required for outdoor PE lessons.

Tissues 😊

Thank you very much for all the donations of tissues that we have received – we are always happy to receive further donations throughout the year, so if you have a spare box every now and then, feel free to pop it to the office and it will be distributed accordingly.

Chag Sameach

This weekend some members of our school will be celebrating Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. On behalf of the school community, I wish everyone celebrating a happy and healthy new year.

Kind regards,



Sarah Kneller
Headteacher

Interesting fact: 85 years and 150 days is how old Dame Judi Dench was when she became the oldest person to grace the front of "Vogue" magazine.

Dates to Remember

Friday 20th October	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October	HALF TERM
Monday 30th October	INSET Day – no children in school
Tuesday 31st October	Start of Autumn 2
Wednesday 15th November	3.30-5.30pm - Parents' Evening - more info to follow
Thursday 16th November	4-7pm - Parents' Evening - more info to follow
Friday 1st December	OCCASIONAL DAY – no children in school
Monday 18th December	Last day of term - for Nursery Children only
Tuesday 19th December	Last day of term – school finishes at 1.30pm
Wednesday 20th December	INSET Day – no children in school
Thursday 4th January 2024	Start of Spring Term 1
Friday 16th February	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February	HALF TERM
Monday 26th February	Start of Spring Term 2
Tuesday 26th March	Last day of term - for Nursery Children only
Wednesday 27th March	Last day of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm
Thursday 28th March	INSET DAY – no children in school
Monday 15th April	Start of Summer Term 1
Monday 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Thursday 23rd May	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Friday 24th May	INSSET Day – no children in school
Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May	HALF TERM
Monday 3rd June	Start of Summer Term 2
Friday 5th July	#WOODFEST 2024
Monday 22nd July	Last day of term - for Nursery Children only
Tuesday 23rd July	Last day of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm

Supporting a Child with ADHD

2 hour online session



FACE Lead Facilitator, Jane Keyworth
is delivering this session on 28th September 2023
from 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Book Now Online via
facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Advice Support Kit

Book an individual, confidential 15 minute online session on one of these dates. With school family workers Claire and Jade.

- Wednesday 20th September
- Wednesday 11th October
- Wednesday 15th November
- Wednesday 6th December

To book please email Emma at abrahamsone@mountgrace.herts.sch.uk – with your name, child's school, what date you want to book and brief reason for your appointment



Hertsmere Schools Partnership

Would you like advice or support with any of the following:

- **Behaviour - setting rules and boundaries**
- **Navigating family relationships**
- **Improving emotional well-being**
- **Signposting for financial support**
- **Signposting for housing support**
- **Signposting for bereavement support**
- **Young people's services and online safety**



September 2023

Newsletter

FACE THE NEW TERM!



FREE SESSION

Are they getting a good night?
insomnia, screens & energy drinks
Book Now - facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Thursday
14th Sep
18:30 - 20:30



Cannabis Awareness

Cannabis, how much do you know? what are the risks? Increase your knowledge and awareness of the issues.

Thursday
21st Sep
18:30 - 20:30



Anxiety Explained

Whether it is your anxiety or your children's, what exactly is it and how do we manage it?

Thursday
28th Sep
18:30 - 20:30



Supporting a Child with ADHD

interactive session explaining what ADHD is and offering a range of interventions that can make lasting differences.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



DSPL6 & Hertsmere Schools' Partnership SEND Events 2023 - 2024

Are you the parent / carer of a child / young person with SEND? Please put the following dates in your diary.

Potters Bar SEND support group

Elm Court, 363 Mutton Lane
Potters Bar, EN6 3BP

- 21st September 2023
- 19th October 2023
- 16th November 2023
- 14th December 2023

Borehamwood SEND support group

10 Leeming Road, Borehamwood
WD6 4DU

- 26th September 2023
- 31st October 2023
- 5th December 2023

Each session consists of an informal chat with other parents/ carers and the chance to listen to an experienced speaker on topics that may affect your child and family. We run the groups in 2 locations – please feel free to attend either or both. Refreshments will be provided and meetings run from 9.15 to 10.45 am

SEND Surgeries on zoom for 2023/2024

- 27th September 2023
- 29th November 2023
- 24th January 2024
- 13th March 2023
- 15th May 2023
- 26th June 2023

The surgeries consist of 30-minute sessions with our SEND School Family Workers to answer questions and to offer support and signposting for parents/carers of children with additional needs.

Please email abrahamsone@mountgrace.herts.sch.uk for more information about any of these events or to be added to our mailing list. You will then receive further information about each event.



DSPL6 & Hertsmere Schools' Partnership SEND Parent Information & Support Group

Are you the parent / carer of a child / young person with SEND?

Come along to our monthly parent / carer support groups in Potters Bar and Borehamwood. Each session consists of an informal chat with other parents/ carers and the chance to listen to an experienced speaker on topics that may affect your child and family. We run the groups in 2 locations – please feel free to attend either or both.

Thursday 21st September 2023

Elm Court, 323 Mutton Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 3BP

Tuesday 26th September 2023

10 Leeming Road, Borehamwood, WD6 4DU

Both groups from 9.15– 10.45am

Please email abrahamson@mountgrace.herts.sch.uk for more information and to register your interest – but no need to book in advance – feel free to just turn up on the day. Refreshments will be provided.

