



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the Autumn Term. We've loved seeing the children back in school in their smart uniform, showing us they are ready for learning! We are making sure that we have everything in place early in the school year so the children are 100% ready for learning – smart uniform, smart PE kit. If your child is not wearing the right uniform or if they have jewellery on, you may receive a letter telling you what needs to be changed. If you have any financial difficulty purchasing items for school, we do have some local charities who you are able to contact yourselves or with support from the school: Gratitude and Sebby's Corner have both supported families with uniform this summer – please do contact them directly for any support.



Please remind your children that they are not to be on the school equipment before or after school hours (between 8.30am and 8.50, and 3pm until 3.30pm) or on the field. Any accidents or incidents that happen during this time will be the responsibility of the parent. We do not allow for any balls or games to be played during these times either. Children must be encouraged to enter the school site at 8.40am when the classroom doors open. Thank you for your support.

We hope Years 1 to 6 enjoyed the brief 'Meet the Teacher' meetings we held this week. If you have any questions or were unable to make the meeting, please remember you can use your child's class email address to contact the class team. These addresses are 'NAME OF CHILD'S CLASS'@summerswood.herts.sch.uk e.g. [obama@summerswood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:obama@summerswood.herts.sch.uk), [donaldson@summerswood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:donaldson@summerswood.herts.sch.uk), etc.

Mrs Norman and Mr Goldney do a lot of work over the summer making sure the school is clean, tidy and ready for learning. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their time and care for our school!

### **RAAC – Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete**

You may well have seen in the news that some schools have been affected by the presence of RAAC in their buildings. RAAC, or Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete, is a lightweight form of concrete, which was used in the past in schools and other building construction. After some time and in some circumstances this concrete can collapse.

I wanted let you know that one building on our school site was constructed within the period of 1959 and 1989, which is when RAAC was most used - it has already been surveyed by building surveyors appointed by the County Council and no RAAC was found. However, the Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach, increasing the age bracket from 1950 to 1995. Therefore, to guard against any possibility, however remote, that RAAC was used in any part of the school within those new dates, the County Council is arranging to have additional reassurance checks carried out in the near future. We have no reason to believe RAAC was used in this school, but nonetheless a survey is taking place to confirm this. We have not been contacted about when this survey will take place, but when we have any further information, we will share this with you.

### **Attendance**

Mrs Firby and I had some excellent meetings with families this week to discuss attendance and how we can make sure that we are supporting children to be in school as much as possible. If you have any questions or worries about attendance, please do call or email to speak to us ([attendance@summerswood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@summerswood.herts.sch.uk)). We don't want any friendship worries to be the reason children miss out on school. Good relationships and communication is important and we are eager to build on these across the year.

## **Tissues** 😊

We'd be very grateful for any donations of tissue boxes so classrooms can have access to them across the year. We're just running out of the generous donations you made last year. Please bring any boxes of tissues to your child's class and Mrs Norman will keep them safe until they are needed. Many thanks!

## **School Meals**

Please be reminded that all school meals must be paid for in advance, unless your child is eligible for free school meals. From Year 3, school meals cost £3.15 per day (£15.75 per week) and payments must be made on the School Gateway – you can pay a lump sum in advance and then top up, or just pay the weekly amount. Please note that if you pay for a week's worth of meals, they do not have to be eaten all in that week – money will sit in credit on your child's account until they next have a school meal.

Kind regards,



Sarah Kneller  
**Headteacher**

## Dates to Remember

Monday 11th September	<b>We welcome Nursery and Reception children to school this week</b>
Friday 20th October	<b>School finishes at normal times for Half Term</b>
Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Monday 30th October	<b>INSET Day – no children in school</b>
Tuesday 31st October	<b>Start of Autumn 2</b>
Friday 1st December	<b>OCCASIONAL DAY – no children in school</b>
Monday 18th December	<b>Last day of term - for Nursery Children only</b>
Tuesday 19th December	<b>Last day of term – school finishes at 1.30pm</b>
Wednesday 20th December	<b>INSET Day – no children in school</b>
Thursday 4th January 2024	<b>Start of Spring Term 1</b>
Friday 16th February	<b>School finishes at normal times for Half Term</b>
Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Monday 26th February	<b>Start of Spring Term 2</b>
Tuesday 26th March	<b>Last day of term - for Nursery Children only</b>
Wednesday 27th March	<b>Last day of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm</b>
Thursday 28th March	<b>INSET DAY – no children in school</b>
Monday 15th April	<b>Start of Summer Term 1</b>
Monday 6th May	<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
Thursday 23rd May	<b>School finishes at normal times for Half Term</b>
Friday 24th May	<b>INSSET Day – no children in school</b>
Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Monday 3rd June	<b>Start of Summer Term 2</b>
Friday 5th July	<b>#WOODFEST 2024</b>
Monday 22nd July	<b>Last day of term - for Nursery Children only</b>
Tuesday 23rd July	<b>Last day of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm</b>



# Super Star Sport

## AUTUMN 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:



### **13 WEEK SUPER PROGRAM**

#### **MONDAY – TENNIS LUNCH TIME CLUB (Year 1&2)**

START DATE: 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 – END DATE: 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
TIMES 12.00PM – 12.30PM  
**JUST £57 FOR OUR 12 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.**

#### **MONDAY – TENNIS LUNCH TIME CLUB (Year 3&4)**

START DATE: 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 – END DATE: 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
TIMES 12.30PM – 1.00PM  
**JUST £57 FOR OUR 12 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.**

#### **MONDAY – TENNIS LUNCH TIME CLUB (Year 5&6)**

START DATE: 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 – END DATE: 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
TIMES 1PM – 1.30PM  
**JUST £57 FOR OUR 12 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.**

#### **TUESDAY – CONSTRUCTION CLUB (Year 1,2&3)**

START DATE: 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 – END DATE: 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
TIMES 3.15PM – 4.20PM  
**JUST £69 FOR OUR 12 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.**



# Super Star Sport

## **WEDNESDAY – FOOTBALL CLUB (Year 1,2&3)**

START DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 – END DATE: 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
TIMES 3.15PM – 4.20PM  
**JUST £69 FOR OUR 12 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.**

## **FRIDAY – FOOTBALL CLUB (Year 4,5&6)**

START DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 – END DATE: 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
TIMES 3.15PM – 4.20PM  
**JUST £63.25 FOR OUR 11 WEEK SUPER STAR SPORT PROGRAM.**

For any additional information, please email us at [operations@superstarsportnwl.com](mailto: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](http://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\**



Hayward Services is hiring!

We are looking to add to our team in  
Summerwood School cleaning crew  
members.

Pay rate: £10.42/h

Hours: to work 2 hours per day (15.30-17.30)



If you believe you are the right person for  
this role, please contact our recruitment  
line on **01753 323 227**

or email

**[recruitment@haywardservices.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@haywardservices.co.uk)**

**Open Evening: Wednesday, 20 September 2023**

**5pm to 8pm - Headteacher's speech at 5.15pm and 7.15pm**

**Open Mornings: weekly 25 September through to the end of October**

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Dear Year 6 Parent / Carer, I am Geeta Patel and I am the interim Headteacher of Mount Grace School. As you may be aware, there have been some changes in leadership at the school. I would like to invite you to our **Open Evening on Wednesday, 20 September 5 - 8pm** to meet our wonderful children, find out about the passions and expertise of subject staff, as well as hear from me personally about the significant improvements we have made to the school and my vision for the future.

I will be speaking at 5:15pm and 7:15pm but around this, tours will be guided by our students, because after all, it is our children who are best placed to talk about their experiences here and share their stories of success. In fact, we know that even our year 7 students who only weeks ago were sharing playgrounds with your children will be ready and confident to show families our school - so there will be plenty of familiar faces!

As a truly inclusive school that supports all children to achieve their potential I am proud of the curriculum we offer. It is a highly effective, knowledge-engaged curriculum, consistently driven by the explicit teaching of vocabulary, reading and oracy. Our teaching is informed by educational research into how children acquire and retain knowledge and it is enhanced by exceptional character development. As a result, children develop skills that allow them to embrace the challenges and demands of future work and life. Our cohorts are limited to four forms of entry which means our curriculum allows for bespoke support to secure next steps beyond our sixth form into college or apprenticeships, whilst being robust enough to ensure our highest achievers can secure their Oxbridge places. But our motto is *Res Non Verba* which means 'actions not words' and our exam results this summer allowed students to secure their next steps including Russell Group places being confirmed and demanding apprenticeships with high ranking companies being secured. Our GCSE results this year continue to tell a story of improvement with many students achieving well above their targets and in some cases, beyond their own imaginations. We are immensely proud.

Our transition programme has been recognised regionally as providing a strong foundation for a happy and rewarding school life but before that, you face the difficult decision of supporting your child to choose a school that is the right fit for their ambition and desires. Don't make that decision without coming and meeting the very people who will be in front of your children for five days a week and 39 weeks a year – it is important that you and your child experience first-hand the unwavering passion of my staff and their dedication and love for their work. This passion and ambition empowers them to go above and beyond to support your child and their future.

I look forward to meeting you on 20th September.



@mountgraceschool



@MGSecondary

STEP 2 SKILLS  
Multiply

# Money Management

## Online Training



Managing personal finances and making decisions about money are an important part of everyday life. In this online session you will understand how to budget and keep track of your spending and gain an overview on how finance is designed whilst improving your numeracy skills.

**Date:**

Tuesday 19th September 2023, 10am-1pm

**NOTE: ONLINE SESSION ONLY. BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY.**

We look forward to seeing you!

**For more information, please visit:**

[www.communities1st.org.uk/CommunityLearning](http://www.communities1st.org.uk/CommunityLearning)

Email: [training@communities1st.org.uk](mailto:training@communities1st.org.uk)

Call: 01727 649950

**Or alternatively, scan the QR Code below:**



@1stCommunities



**STEP SKILLS**  
**Multiply**

# Family Budgeting

## Training Sessions



Do you have a family budget? Learn how to create a family budget in easy steps and how to keep track of your spending, which in turn, can make your money go further. You will learn how to keep a track of your spending, whilst improving your numeracy skills at the same time!

**Date:**

Wednesday 13th September 2023  
10am-1pm

**Location:**

Phillimore Community Centre  
Radlett WD7 8NN

We look forward to seeing you!

**For more information, please visit:**

[www.communities1st.org.uk/CommunityLearning](http://www.communities1st.org.uk/CommunityLearning)

Email: [training@communities1st.org.uk](mailto:training@communities1st.org.uk)

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@1stCommunities



**STEP SKILLS**  
**Multiply**

# Help your Child love Numbers



Learn how to improve your child's confidence in numbers but incorporating activities and awareness in everyday tasks. The best way to improve confidence is by doing tasks which the child is focused on something they enjoy, and numbers can be made part of an activity. This in turn will improve your confidence as parent to continue to help your child develop this important life skill.

**Date:**

Monday 11th September 2023, 10am-1pm

**Location:**

Aberford Park Community Centre  
Aberford Rd, Borehamwood WD6 1PN

We look forward to seeing you!

**For more information, please visit:**

[www.communities1st.org.uk/CommunityLearning](http://www.communities1st.org.uk/CommunityLearning)

Email: [training@communities1st.org.uk](mailto:training@communities1st.org.uk)

Call: 01727 649950

Or alternatively, scan the QR Code below:



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# WIN

# an Air Fryer!

## Attend our Introduction to Air Frying course for your chance to win!

Come to our session to learn new recipes, and about the health and cost benefits of owning an air fryer.

Spaces are limited so book now!



**Tuesday 12th September 12pm - 3pm**

Aberford Community Centre, Borehamwood, WD6 1PN

Any Hertfordshire resident aged 19 and above is welcome to attend this course. Participants are eligible for the draw if they have obtained a D grade or below in their Maths GCSE (or equivalent), or are in receipt of any benefits.

**To book your free place, please**

**Visit:** [www.communities1st.org.uk/Multiply](http://www.communities1st.org.uk/Multiply)

**Email:** [training@communities1st.org.uk](mailto:training@communities1st.org.uk)

**or Call:** 01727 649960



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- \* Communication skills
- \* Effective social interaction

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## Unlock your child's potential!

### Your local academy:

Drama Kids Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire

01442 737030

cambs-herts@dramakids.co.uk

@dkcambsherts

Classes held across Hertfordshire & Cambridgeshire

[www.dramakids.co.uk](http://www.dramakids.co.uk)

