

# There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all.

#### JACQUELINE KENNEDY ONASSIS

This has been a joyous week where we have been able to share the excitement of books alongside marvelling at the children's amazing array of book character costumes. The power and impact of books cannot be underestimated and lets all make every week one where we celebrate the wonder of books.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Lincoln and the Senior Leadership Team

#### 1. COMMUNICATION

- Website: please check the website for answers to queries before contacting the office. General information can be found under the Parents & Carers tab. Bulletins/letters are under Parents & Carers > News & Events.
- Email: office@stnm.org.uk please do not email staff directly (unless agreed previously).
- Calendar: Follow the link for instructions on how to use or subscribe to the calendar.
- Language of the Month: British Sign Language (BSL). As part of the month, we will be recognising British Sign Language Week in a couple of weeks time.
- Sign of the Week: Pancake
- Facebook page: <a href="mailto:facebook.com/stnmschool">facebook.com/stnmschool</a>
- 2. DATES AND EVENTS: click here for the dates list.
  - Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March: Y5 and 6, Musical Blitz, Shoreham Academy: Shoreham Academy would love to invite students Yrs 5/6 to a special Matinee/Dress Rehearsal performance of their latest production Musical Blitz (featuring songs, dances and drama).

#### 3. REQUESTS, REMINDERS AND GENERAL NOTES

- a. **Stranger Danger:** Please could we ask you all to remind your children about stranger danger:
  - **Don't go anywhere with strangers**: Children should never go anywhere with a stranger, even if they know them, without a parent's permission.
  - **Don't accept gifts**: Children should not accept gifts, treats, or rides from strangers.
  - Don't share personal information: Children should not tell strangers their name or address.
  - Trust their instincts: Children should say no if they feel uncomfortable or scared.
  - **Tell a trusted adult**: Children should tell a trusted adult if they feel uncomfortable or if a stranger approaches them.
- **b. Arbor Portal:** We kindly request you to take a moment to log in to the Arbor Portal and check that your contact details are up-to-date. Accurate contact information ensures that we can reach you promptly in case of emergencies. As a primary guardian you can view and update the following information with regards to yourself and your child:
  - Phone numbers
  - Email addresses
  - Home address
  - Emergency contacts
  - Medical and dietary information
  - Religion
  - Mode of transport etc.

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For assistance please see the Arbor Support Page: <u>Arbor Support Page</u> Thank you for your help with keeping our records up to date.

- c. West Sussex County Council Holiday Activities and Food Program: Bookings for the Easter HAF Programme can be made from 09:00 on 3 March 2025. Places are available at a range of different holiday clubs across the County for children and young people receiving benefits related free school meals. Each session includes a free nutritious meal, and every child can attend up to 4 sessions over the Easter break. All bookings need to be made using the online booking system. Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme Easter booking process | West Sussex Services for Schools
- d. Little Fishes Nursery 30 Hour Free Childcare Code Reminder Just a reminder to apply now to ensure you have renewed your 30 hours free childcare code by 31 March 2025. Log in to your childcare account to check your details are up to date and reconfirm your eligibility by 31 March 2025 to ensure you continue to be eligible for 30 hours free childcare gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account.
  - Contact the HMRC helpline if you are experiencing issues applying or reconfirming on 0300 1234 097.
- e. Free School Meals (FSM) Means-tested FSMs are provided to children whose families meet specific incomerelated criteria. If you think your child may be eligible for FSMs and you are not already in receipt of them, please apply before the end of March 2025 to ensure your claim and future funding are protected. Only applications processed before I April 2025 will maintain transitional protection (see below).
  - **Transitional Protection Arrangements –** From I April 2025, the Government's transitional protection arrangements for means tested Free School Meals (FSM) will end. Any eligible claims confirmed from this date will no longer be protected. This means any child confirmed as eligible for free school meals from I April 2025 will be subject to ongoing checks to confirm continued eligibility. This will not impact any children who are already confirmed as eligible. Those already confirmed as eligible will maintain their eligibility until the end of their current phase of education. At that point, they will be re-assessed for their eligibility status. This will apply to all year 6 moving into year 7 in September 2025. These children will then be subject to ongoing checks to confirm continued eligibility.

For further information and to check your eligibility please click on the following link - <a href="https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/">https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/</a>

Please send any queries to the Free School Meals Eligibility Team at fsm@westsussex.gov.uk

- f. FSM Vouchers for Easter School Holidays 2025 West Sussex County Council is pleased to confirm that families with Free School Meal (FSM) eligible children will, once again, be entitled to a voucher for each FSM child during the upcoming Easter school holiday 2024. FSM eligible families in West Sussex will be entitled to a £10.00 voucher per FSM child per week, which is a total of £20 per FSM child for the two-week holiday.
  - Free School Meal vouchers for Easter school holiday 2025
  - Any queries or issues can be directed to <a href="mailto:support@evouchers.com">support@evouchers.com</a> in the first instance or for further queries, please contact <a href="mailto:welfarecommunities@westsussex.gov.uk">welfarecommunities@westsussex.gov.uk</a>
- g. **Family First Magazine -** A free copy of the UK's largest parenting title. <a href="https://familyfirst.co.uk/issue1-25-download">https://familyfirst.co.uk/issue1-25-download</a>
- h. **Donation of filling for Bean Bags –** Our school is in need of bean bag filling to replenish our current bean bags. If you have any extra bean bag filling at home or are willing to donate some, we would greatly appreciate it! Please drop any donations off to the school office. Thank you!
- 4. Health: The <u>latest data from UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)</u> show norovirus cases are now at their highest levels since reporting began in 2014. It also shows a shift in circulating strains, which means that people who have already had the virus this winter could be at risk again. If you have diarrhoea and vomiting:
  - Stay home for 48 hours after symptoms clear
  - Do not visit hospitals and care homes
  - Wash hands with soap and warm water
  - Clean surfaces with bleach-based products
  - Don't prepare food for others
- 5. Smartphones: As you will be very aware there is a significant movement both locally and nationally around the impact of smartphone use for children. Recently schools and community organisations in Brighton and Hove held a meeting/conference on this topic. A recording of this meeting can be found on YouTube under the banner 'Smartphone Free Childhood Brighton and Hove'- If parents are interested in viewing this, please be warned that the areas discussed including potentially upsetting themes.

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As a school we continue to explore what Smartphone use means for our families and will be sending out relevant news stories – BBC news link below and a survey to give us a sense of parental feelings on this important issue.

Smartphones BBC News

- 6. Great Athletes Fundraising Event: Over £4000 was raised from the Great Athletes event with Courtney Orange, some of which will go towards the charity. I know all the children thoroughly enjoyed the day and we raised a staggering £2516 for our school plus an additional £138 from the sports crew cake sale! Thank you to everyone who contributed. Most children should have received their merchandise, any problems please speak to Miss Gullick.
- 7. Annie at Worthing Theatres: We are delighted to share that Bea from Y6 Oyster class will be playing one of the main orphan roles in Worthing Musical Theatre Company's 'Annie' at the Worthing Pavilion in a couple of weeks. Bea will be performing in the Thursday evening and final Saturday evening shows. See poster below for \*special discounted\* tickets.





Invites you to the following performances of 'Annie the Musical'.

☆Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm
☆
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm
☆

Discounted tickets for groups of 10 or more.



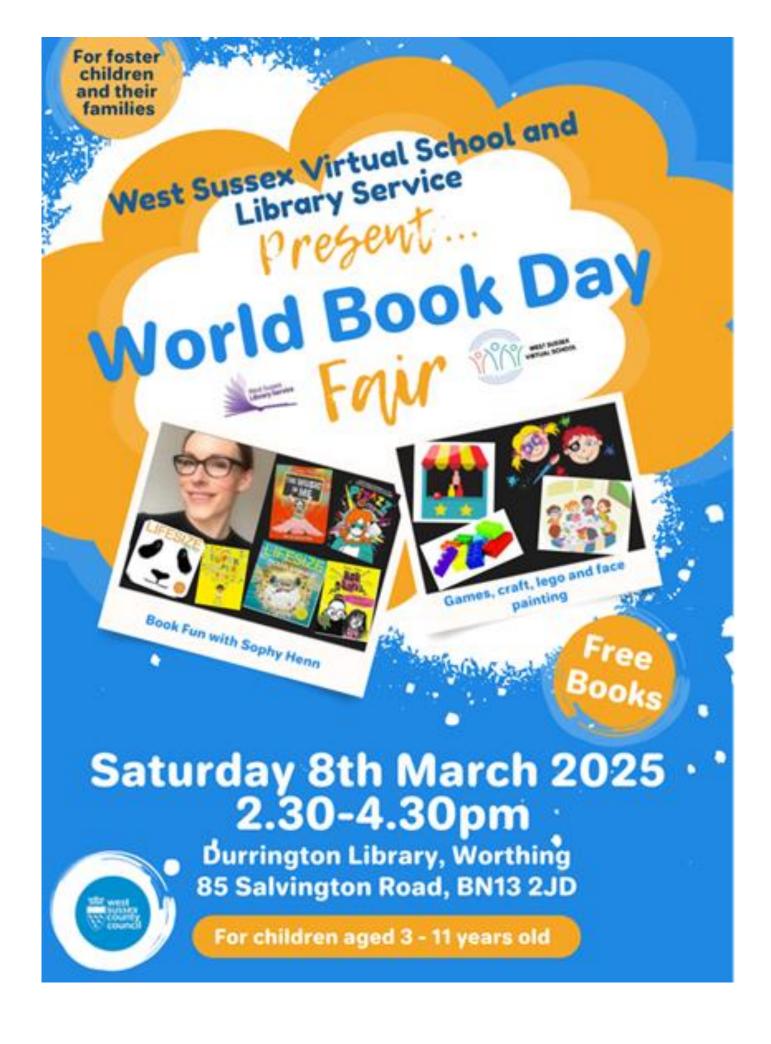
Only available by quoting the unique promo code...

Promo-code WMTCANNIE15
 Special rate ticket price of £15 instead of £20.

Please book online- <a href="https://www.wtm.uk">www.wtm.uk</a>
By phone- 01903 206206 or at the box office.

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### **Training**

#### Spring 2025

(2nd half-term)

Reaching Families offer a range of free training courses and workshops to parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in West Sussex



#### **Training Workshops**

#### **February**

Understanding ADHD	Friday 28th	10.30am
March		
Making Sense of Wellbeing: Understanding & building resilience	Tuesday 4th	7.30pm
Understanding Sensory Processing Differences	Thursday 6th	10.00am
Making Sense of Anxiety in Children (Primary age)	Tuesday 11th	10.30am
Making Sense of Wellbeing: Key skills to improving communication	Tuesday 18th	10.30am
Understanding Demand Avoidance	Thursday 20th	7.30pm
Making Sense of Personal Independence Payment (PIP)	Wednesday 26th	7.30pm
Making Sense of Transition to Secondary School	Thursday 27th	7.30pm
April		
Understanding Autism	Thursday 3rd	10.30am

#### The SEND Foundation Course

An introduction to SEND and the key issues parents and carers will encounter as their children grow and develop.

Dates: 5th March / 12th March / 19th March (3-part course) Wednesdays 7.30pm-9.30pm

#### All training above will be delivered via Zoom

For further information visit our website or email: outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk



information or to book a place, please visit our Eventbrite page or scan the QR code.

All our workshops are free of charge, for more

https://reachingfamilies.eventbrite.com



www.reaching families.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 1150906 Company Limited by Guarantee No: 8261096

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### Easter Holiday Bikeability Sessions

Monday 7th - Thursday 17th April 2025







Oak Grove College, Worthing Downview Primary, Bognor Holbrook Primary, Horsham Three Bridges Primary, Crawley



Is your child in **Year 6** or above?
Would they like to do **Bikeability Level 1&2 or Level 3 Bikeability**?

The West Sussex Road Safety Team are offering limited £20 places for a 2-hour Level 1&2 Bikeability session during the Easter Holidays for those that are not offered it through school or missed out on it when in Yr6.

Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

For more info, or to apply click here:



Cycle safety courses for schoolchildren - West Sussex County Council
Or pop us an email....



cycletraining@westsussex.gov.uk

We will be in touch to discuss your enquiry & offer you a date and time for the session

- Level 1 bike control will be checked off-road prior to commencing on-road to Level 2.

  Please let us know if you think we need to spend more time working with your child on their Level 1 bike control skills (so we can accommodate this in their session).
- Level 2 Bikeability introduces children to on-road cycling for riders that have reasonable control of a bicycle.
- Trainees will need a roadworthy bike and a cycle helmet.
- For any other training requests such as Level 3, please email us, as we should be able to accommodate these sessions.



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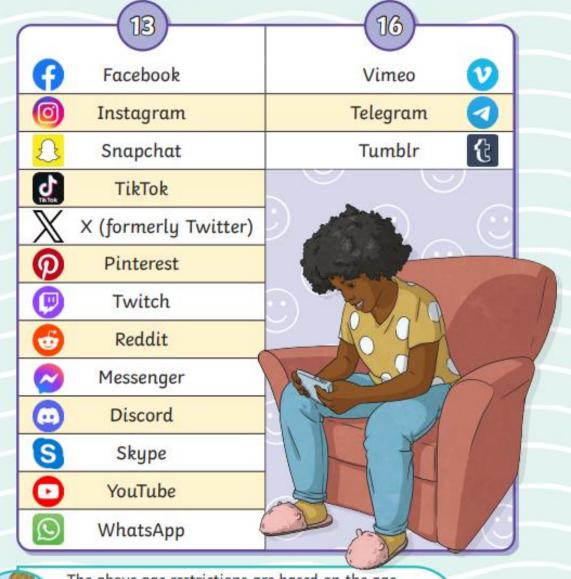


## Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

#### Why are there age restrictions on social media platforms?

Many social media platforms have an age restriction of 13 years or over. This is because you have to be at least 13 years old to give consent for your personal data to be collected and processed.

What is the minimum age for UK account holders on these social media platforms?



The above age restrictions are based on the age required by the individual platform. This may differ from the age ratings suggested on any stores such as

sign up to social media situs after using this resource/information. This resource refers to UK age ratings and other countries may differ





## SOUTHWICK RANGERS FC



# looking for girls to start a new team U10G for next season

Girls in years 3 and 4 are especially invited to come along to our Wildcats sessions.

An hour of fun football for Girls. This will then lead into an U10G team playing in a league next season

Every Thursday 4-5pm On the 3g at Southwick Recreation Ground.

This session is for 6-11 Girls all abilities welcome







For more information-interested@southwickrangers.org





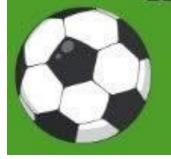
Players in years reception and year 1
wanted -please contactinterested@southwickrangers.org
for more information



Size 2 footballs are used to maximise ball control in a fun hour session.

SATURDAYS

12-1PM











#### 7 - 9 April

**BOGNOR REGIS** - Rap & Lyric Writing

CHICHESTER - Interactive Soundtrack & Music

CRAWLEY - Music Production & DJ

- Interactive Soundtrack & Music

LITTLEHAMPTON - "Soundz" Contemporary Choir

WORTHING - Rock & Pop Band

- Interactive Soundtrack & Music

#### AGES 8 - 16YRS SIGN UP HERE

WWW.WESTSUSSEXMUSIC.CO.UK/HOLIDAYACTIVITIES







https://haf.bookinglab.co.uk/westsussex/37147/login

Due to high demand and limited spaces, please book here











Dates: 7-11 April 2025

This Easter, give your child the opportunity to immerse themselves in swimming with our intensive 5-day course. Whether they are just starting out or looking to improve their skills, our small, friendly classes cater to all abilities.

#### **Morning Classes**

(Timings vary depending on ability)

Our dedicated, passionate team is here to nurture swimmers of all ages. Each day, your child will benefit from personalised attention in a supportive environment.

#### **Term Time Classes**

We also operate a weekly programme for children and adults.

For more information or to book, please email us at: **E** info@penguinswimlessons.co.uk

W https://www.penguinswimlessons.co.uk/



- Saturday 8th March 13:00 15:00
- Adur Valley Scout Hall, South Street, West Sussex, BN15 8AN
- 4thlancingleaders@gmail.com

Join the adventure and learn #SkillsForLife



Please register your interest using the QR code, or send an email.

# You are invited to

Mother's Day Tea



St. Giles Church, Upper Shoreham Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43 6BT



## Easter WORKSHOP

8th - 10th April The Vale School, Worthing



A Journey through Oz

Age: 4-6 year olds

Time: 9.30am-12.30pm

#### **Defy Gravity**

Age: 7 - 16 year olds

Time: 10am - 4pm



SIGN UP



stagecoach.co.uk/worthing worthing@stagecoach.co.uk 07746 608459