



St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

Head of School: Mrs Jane Robinson

Email: office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk



Term 4 Week 4

Friday 15th March 2024

Headlines from our Head of School

This week we have been focussing on **'Supporting Positive Behaviour'**

As many of you know, we at St Mary the Virgin School, support our children to follow our 3 Golden Rules of being **'Ready, Respectful and Safe'**. We prioritise asking the question 'what is a behaviour communicating?' and work towards addressing the need that is being expressed. We ensure children are clear about the **'expectations'** with visual and verbal reminders but alongside this we have a clear behaviour policy for times when this more is required. If the visual and verbal reminders are unsuccessful we might move on to offering a **'helping hand'** which might consist of suggesting an action that improves the situation such as moving seat positions or providing them with a verbal model to say such as "can I play with you?" After this if there is still no improvement we put in place a **'consequence'** which might involve demonstrating that their behaviour has had an impact such as missed learning or hurting another person's feelings. Finally, we support the process of learning with the **'repair'** stage when we encourage the children to look at any reparation they can make regarding the identified impact.



Sometimes you might have heard your child talking about getting a 'slip' or a 'stage 2'. These are both strategies we use to make 'space' in the day for the child to talk through the behaviour event with an adult to 'debrief' and learn from it moving forward. The 'slip' is a smaller conversation that covers what behaviour needs to stop, what rule we need to see being followed and what they can do differently next time. The 'stage 2' is a more in depth conversation with either Mrs Robinson (Head of School) or Mrs Mandy (Senior Teacher) where we talk about what has happened, why it happened, who it affected and how they can make it better.

Thank you for supporting us in reinforcing these conversations at home. A unified message is so effective in offering children a consistent approach.

Mrs Robinson
Head of School

If you need the newsletter, or any other school letter, to be in a different format, please speak with Mrs Funnell in the school office.

If you need help or support with access to any information, please also contact Mrs Funnell.



Dates for your Diary

March

- 19th: Swimming - Willow Class
- 19th: Bake Sale - Willow Class
- 20th: Collective Worship - 9:30am in church
- 21st: Forest School - Lilac Class
- 21st: Community Café - 2:00pm - 4:00pm
- 22nd: Celebration Assembly - 9:15am
- 25th: Easter Fun Run - prizes for best headwear
- 25th: FGB Meting
- 26th: Gymnastics Tournament - selected
- 26th: Hever Castle - Maple Class
- 26th: Swimming - Willow Class
- 27th: Easter Service - 9:30am in church**
- 28th: Wakehurst Place - Willow Class
- 28th: Forest School - Maple Class
- 28th: Last Day Term 4



April

- 15th: First Day Term 5

Top Tips

Letters, emails, WhatsApp:

All:

- Comic Relief / Mufti Day
- Easter Fun Run

Maple Class:

- Hever Castle

Year 6:

- Maths Videos
- After school choir

Selected:

- ParentPay update
- Celebration Assembly



School Value and Weekly reflection

Each term, we focus on a Christian Value with weekly reflection in assembly and in class.

We like to develop this further by asking you, where possible, to discuss the reflection of the week with your child(ren) at home.

This term, we are looking at:



Justice and Hope

This week, the children have started to look at the Easter Story and how important Jesus' Friends, Peter, John and James were to him in the garden of Gethsemane.

The children then worked on a prayer for their own friends, remembering to be thankful for what they mean to them.

Is your family friendly? Not all families grow up as friends but sometimes the simplest things of 'being friendly to each other' can have a huge impact on this. Perhaps this week you could think as a family about the things you all do to support and help each other, what you do to be friends to each other. Maybe write a family prayer that reflects the aspects of friendship that are important to each family member and pin it up somewhere to encourage you all to pray for this to be so.

Celebration of a Life Well-Lived

From Hilary and Frances Rowberry:

Dear Friends,

We are writing to let you know about Dick Rowberry's funeral if you would like to attend.

It will be held at 11.30am at St Mary the Virgin Church, Hartfield on Thursday 21st March.

Afterwards there will be refreshments in the village hall in Hartfield which is a few minutes walk away from the Church.

It was Dick's wish that in lieu of flowers, any remembrances be made in the form of contributions to two of his most supported charities:

- Hospice in the Weald (who cared for him so well)
- the Ghana Education Project (a charity supporting education for girls).

Formal funeral attire is not required.

If you knew Dick and would like to attend, you would love to see you there.

Star Skills

Each week, one pupil from each class is identified for their 'star skills' development. Staff and other pupils share their observations of the week, which are then recognised in Celebration Assembly on Fridays. With so many developing, we choose one star skill each week for the Newsletter. From last week:

Harry: is developing great **leadership skills**, especially when working with younger members of the school and in buddy time, and he is always first to offer a helping hand!

Joshua: is amazing at **aiming high**. He always challenges himself in maths, opting for the hardest challenge that he can manage and working well both independently and with a partner to solve it. An absolute superstar!

Bertie: is developing fantastic **listening skills**. While in Maths he was listening so well that he was able to complete all of his work sheets and then help others to do the same!

Sidney: is developing fabulous **problem solving skills** and is now using his words to explain what the problem is and to start to find solutions with the help from an adult.

Well done to you all!



St Mary's Star Skills

"Skills for learning, skills for life"



Sports Awards

The PE specialty being covered this term is tennis and Miss Ambrose has awarded the following children Sports Awards for the last week:

Kate: for sharing her excellent tennis skills and being a great team player.

Abbie: for always coming to PE with a smile on her face and for working so well within the tennis lessons this term.

Jacob: for putting all of his energy into the lessons and being really helpful to his friends when they are finding things tricky.

Charlie: for pushing himself to work out the challenging activities posed within his PE lessons.



Attendance

The Pioneer Federation goal is an average attendance rate of 97%, recognizing that each school day provides opportunities for learning, as well as social and emotional development.

It is noticeable when students miss school as it impacts on their progress, so we ask that you **please support us and your child by ensuring their attendance is a priority.**

Attendance this year:

Whole school: 94.4%

Maple: 93.3%

Cherry: 94.2%

Willow: 94.1%

Lilac: 95.9%

96.5 to 99.9% - Green

Less than 94.9% - Red

95 to 96.4% - Amber

Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind, both academically and socially which impacts on their emotional wellbeing and creates further barriers to learning which is why we are delighted that the children's individual attendance is increasing across the school.

School success starts with ATTENDANCE

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Forest School - Thursday 14th March

Willow Class started Forest School by learning a new game called 'Bat and Moth'; the children all stood in a big circle to create the cave and two were then chosen to go in the middle. One child was the bat and other the moth. The bat was blindfolded and had to listen for the moths *squeak*, trying their best to catch them as they ran away around the cave! Much fun was had by all and it was a great way to start the lesson.



The class then moved on to bird identification. Sitting as a group they looked at nine different bird teddies testing the class knowledge on bird recognition. They had a go at guessing what each one was, doing rather well and only getting stuck on a few! They even managed to get the Jay which was the one the Forest School Leader thought they would find a little tricky. They said they:



"could tell it was a Jay because it has blue feathers on the wings".

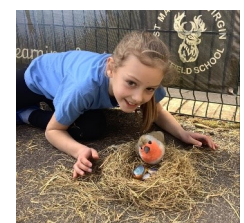
Having identified the birds, the children made nests for them with some hay which they twisted round to make a circle. Making sure there was plenty of hay to line the bottom of their nests, stones were decorated, some with stripes and some with spots and were placed as eggs in the nests ready to be sat on by our birds! Some children chose to place their nests in the trees or in the hedge, and it was great to see so many colourful creations in the trees.



The class then worked on creating some lovely bird drawings on disc of wood. Helping each other they worked well in pairs and took turns to saw a wooden disc off the end of a Silver Birch branch; one child held the branch still while the other did the sawing. Some found this a little tricky but no-one gave up, and it was great to see them using their skills of perseverance which they spent so much time learning about last term!



We are so thankful to have the opportunity for the children to attend Forest School classes as the impact of these lessons for the children is can be seen in the knowledge they gain from the whole experience, the skills gained, tools used, art and craft activities developed, their observations and knowledge of the fruit, plants and trees in relation to the seasons together with the skills involved in learning how to play Forest School games.



Thank you to Dormouse (Abi Sharp), our Forest School leader and to all of the volunteers who facilitate these opportunities for our children.



British Science Week

This week is British Science week and Maple Class have been experimenting with time and light!

Experimenting with time and light



To investigate time and light, Maple Class began by looking at St Mary's Clock where the children noticed that the numbers were "different" and they talked about the fact that the numerals were Roman.

On returning to the classroom, they looked at a conventional clock face and talked about the role of the long and the short hands. The children talked about the different clocks and watches their parents used. Some of them have their own clocks, including rabbit and candy clocks!

To gauge length of time, they then experimented with timers, jumping up and down for a whole minute and breathing deeply for 30 seconds, to recover!

To help think about the relationship between light and time, they created pictures. The children chose lots of flat shapes to tape on to their pieces of paper, arranging them as they wished. They thought about the way that the shapes would block the light from getting to the paper and the effect that this would have and talked about having to expose the pictures to the light and the fact that they would have to wait a long time before they take the shapes off. Some of them made a connection with how long it is taking for their recycled paper to dry out.



Skye: "I am trying to block the light from it."

Rosie: "So, the shape might protect it and there will be a gap there."

Charlie: "It is going to go in there, and not in there."

Sid: "I didn't cover these holes up so they will have the light."

Clemmie: "It's going to take a very long time! We will have to be patient."

Iris: "I am going to have loads of dark bits on mine."

Florence: "I am stopping the light. It will be dark here."

British Science Week (continued)

Learning about shadows

Maple Class enjoyed talking about shadows and when they had observed them. The children had lots of ideas to share:

Rosie: "I did it with my nanny. We made scare shadows!"

Florence: "In the sun, when it is sunny, you walk and your shadow is under your feet."

Sid: "I make shadows with my torch and my guinea with lights."

Skye: "Shadows go away when it is dark. They need the light."

Zach: "You can make shadows of yourself, they get bigger and smaller."

They created a shadow theatre with a sheet and a lamp using shadow puppets to create a story. Initially, the story was told by an adult but then some of the children also wanted to have a go and continued the story on!



They then went up to the playground to experiment with making shadows with their bodies. Unfortunately it was raining and very dull but they still managed to create lots of different shadow shapes!



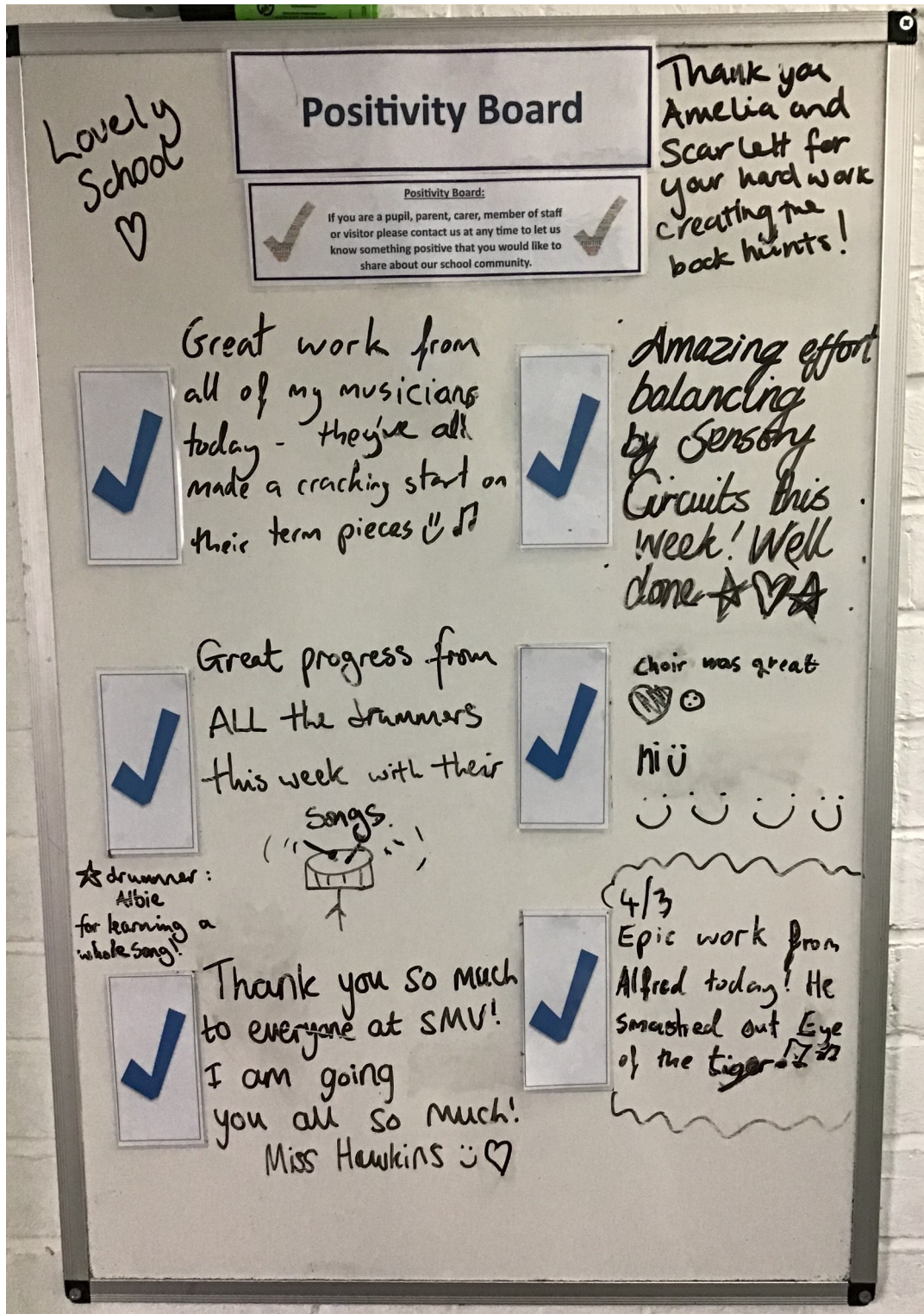
And then into church where they experimented with creating shadows in a very different level of light.



Positivity Board


This board enables all to write positive comments, or thoughts. From parents, carers, staff, and children to all school visitors, who would like to share with others something positive about the school, their classes, the children or events.

Please contact us or come into school at any time to let us know something that you would like to add. In the newsletter every week, there will be a picture to share and celebrate the positivity within our school.







Wellbeing

Our wellbeing poster this week, looks at awareness of cyberbullying and is taken from the Skips Education, a [website](#) that looks at keeping children safe online.



Keeping children safe online


A Parent's Guide to Cyberbullying




scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online

Many young people who are victims of cyberbullying suffer in silence.

They feel they can't turn to parents or a trusted adult for support as they fear they may get in trouble or have their devices taken away from them. It can carry on all day, all evening and all weekend for the world to see, causing a lot of emotional stress to the victim and their family.



It can very quickly lead to the victim feeling trapped, scared and vulnerable to grooming and blackmail.






Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipssed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



Skips www.skipssafetynet.org

Easter at Church

Please see below for the Easter Services being held at St Mary the Virgin and Holy Trinity Church.



Easter Church Services 2024

Date	Times	Church	Service
17 th March <i>Passiontide Begins</i>	9.30am 11am	St Mary's Holy Trinity	Holy Communion Matins
24 th March <i>Palm Sunday with Procession of palms</i>	9.30am 11am	St Mary's Holy Trinity	All Age Service Holy Communion
28 th March <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	7pm	St Mary's	Joint Service of Holy Communion with Music and Reflections
29 th March <i>Good Friday</i>	10am 2pm	St Mary's Holy Trinity	All age with Prayer Stations, making of Easter Garden and hot cross buns Meditations at the foot of the cross with music and readings
31 st March <i>Easter Day</i>	Possible Sunrise Service on The Forest Time To Be Confirmed Please check the website.		
31 st March <i>Easter Day</i>	8am 9.30am 11am	St Mary's St Mary's Holy Trinity	Holy Communion BCP Easter Celebration with Holy Communion Easter Celebration with Holy Communion

For more information, Please contact Rev Julie Sear on 01892 770436 or email:
revjuliesear1@gmail.com.

Websites: hartfieldchurch.org, colemanshatchchurch.org

Opportunity



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April Music School

MUSIC SCHOOL (Think 'School Of Rock')

Age: 7 - 15

Monday 8th - Thursday 11th April, 10am - 4pm
Bonners Primary School, Maresfield, Uckfield

Introducing our popular Holiday Music School this April

Get ready for an unforgettable four days of music exploration and learning, meticulously crafted by our team of expert tutors. With 4 to 6 professional music tutors on-site, children will embark on an exhilarating journey, discovering the world of electric instruments in a band setting.

Our program encompasses a wide range of instruments, including electric guitars, basses, keyboards, vocals, and the heart-pounding rhythm of drums. But that's not all; we warmly welcome the inclusion of other instruments like ukuleles, cellos, violins, and mandolins, fostering a diverse and harmonious musical experience for all. Join us for a week filled with laughter, creativity, and the thrill of making music with friends! 🎸🎹🎤🎸

Here's what to expect:

🎵 **Musical Exploration:** You'll get to try your hand at a wide variety of instruments, including electric guitar, bass, drums, singing, piano/keyboard, and ukulele. Don't worry if you're a beginner – no prior experience is necessary.

🔥 **Jamming Together:** Learn how to play together as a band, harmonizing your sounds and creating something magical as a group.

🎤 **Showtime:** At the end of the week, it's time to shine! We'll host a spectacular performance for parents and friends, where you'll showcase the music you've been working on. And the best part? It'll all be recorded and sent home as a keepsake of your amazing musical journey.

🍱 **What to Bring:** Be sure to bring a packed lunch, snacks, and water. As part of this course there is also an option for lunch (hot or cold) to be provided by a local caterer.

How much does it cost?

The cost of the course is £180 for the 4 days (Monday - Thursday) with 10% sibling discounts available. Deposit of £50 payable with booking. Please make your booking [here](#)

Opportunities

Please look through the courses below and sign up for any that may be of help. They are all run by qualified staff and are offered free across the county.

The Parenting Team offer courses for FREE and ONLINE for the parents of East Sussex.

Triple P Group FEAR-LESS 6 to 7 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Ages 4-9) Wednesday 17th April – 22nd May 10:00-12:00pm 6 weeks • (Age 10+) Wednesday 5th June – 17th July 6:30-8:30pm 7 weeks
New Forest Parenting Programme – 6 weeks(3-11 years) – Children with moderate to severe symptoms of ADHD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 16th April – 21st May 10:00-12:00pm
S.T.O.P Teen Programme for Parents (10+ years) – 7 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 6th June – 18th July 10:00-12:00pm
Triple P Group Stepping Stones – 7 weeks (4-10 years) (Children with Additional Needs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 4th June – 16th July 10:00-12:00pm
The Solihull Approach – Understanding your Baby. Birth -9 months 6 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 18th April – 23rd May 10:00-12:30pm



To Book Email- EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk

The Parenting Team Offer FREE, ONLINE and stand-alone webinars. To book email EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk

The Power of Positive Parenting (2-8 years) 90 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tuesday 16th April 1-2:30pm •Friday 17th May 10-11:30am •Wednesday 12th June 10-11:30am 	Managing Fighting and Aggression (2-12 years) 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tuesday 30th April 12:30-2:30pm •Tuesday 11th June 6:30-8:30pm
Managing Anxiety and Raising Resilient Children(2-12 years) 90 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Monday 22nd April 11-12:30pm •Tuesday 22nd May 1-2:30pm •Wednesday 19th June 1-2:30pm 	Healthy Sleep Webinar (4-11 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Monday 22nd April 1-2:00pm •Wednesday 15th May 1-2:00pm •Wednesday 19th June 2-3:00pm
Primary School (Reception to Year 3) 90 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Monday 29th April 12:30-2:00pm •Wednesday 5th June 10-11:30am 	The Importance of Play (2-10 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Thursday 2nd May 1-2:30pm •Wednesday 12th June 1-2:30pm
Starting Secondary School (10+) 90 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tuesday 21st May 1-2:30pm •Friday 28th June 10:00-11:30am 	Building Teen Survival Skills (10+ years) 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Monday 15th April 6:30-8:30pm •Wednesday 19th June 10-12:00pm
Turning Problem Behaviour into Positive Behaviour(Children with Additional Needs) 90 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wednesday 24th April 12:30-2:30pm •Tuesday 11th June 12:30-2:30pm 	Managing Screen Time (2-10 years) 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Monday 29th April 10:00-12:00pm
Supporting Parents of Neurodiverse Children (2-19 years) 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wednesday 17th April 12:30-2:30pm •Monday 3rd June 10-12:00pm 	Managing Screen Time (10+ years) 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tuesday 7th May 6:30-8:30pm
Dealing with Disobedience (Getting Your Child to Listen) (2-12 years) 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •23rd April 6:30-8:30pm •Monday 20th May 10-12:00pm •Wednesday 26th June 12:30-2:30pm 		

In-house, MHST practitioner Lucy will be running a workshop for parents to support children with:

Sleep, Food & Mood

on Wednesday 13th March at 9am

at Park Mead Primary School

No booking required, just turn up.

Opportunities



Open for parents

Being a parent is not always easy. You are not alone if you find it difficult sometimes. But it's OK. You can talk to us.

If you live in East Sussex and you're worried about managing your child's behaviour, supporting their development or their emotional wellbeing or you want support and advice to help build a positive relationship with your child, we can help.

The Parents' Guide - East Sussex
Free online courses to help parents feel more confident.
April, May, June 2024



Page 1

Please visit our [website](#) for a link to the guide.

Opportunity



Holiday fun and food is part of the national Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF) funded by the Department for Education and East Sussex are now taking bookings for the Easter holiday.

The programme ensures that children can have fun, eat healthily, and socialise with their peers during the school holidays of Easter, summer and winter.

There are activities for young people in Reception to Year 11 inclusive. A meal is provided at each session for everyone who attends. To see what's on offer and to book a session, parents should click on the 'List of holiday clubs' button on our [Holiday food and fun webpage](#).

FREE for children on benefit-related free school meals ...

A range of activities and food is available during school holidays at our Holiday food and fun clubs. It's a great opportunity for children and young people to enjoy a range of fun things to do.

Six weeks of food and fun!

For six weeks during school holidays throughout the year (Easter, summer and Christmas) local clubs will be serving up a menu of activities for children and young people of all ages, plus there's food to enjoy too.

Activities may include sports, games, arts, crafts, music, and nature although these will differ from club to club.

Many clubs can offer families advice and recipes for cooking healthy meals on a budget. Sometimes the young people get to try them out at the club.



Is it FREE?

It's free for school-aged children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals.

A small number of places are available for other eligible groups.

Contact the [HAF team](#) to find out more. Additionally, some clubs also offer paid places alongside HAF-funded ones. The charges may differ from club to club.



Department
for Education

Opportunity

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