



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



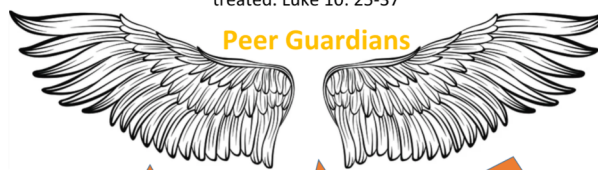
Term 1 Week 8

Friday 25th October

Headlines from the Head

Focus on Peer Guardians

"LOVE and respect all others, treating them as you would like to be treated. Luke 10: 25-37



I met with the majority of the new Guardian's this week, to let them know they were successful in applying for the newly created role of 'peer guardian'. This is a new addition to our 'Pupils as Leaders' offer.

This group of children will be working across the school in a range of ways to ensure that the children are safe, loved and cared for. This group of children are from year 4, 5 and 6, who responded to the job description below:

Being a Guardian means:

- *Helping children when they have friendship problems (like a peer mediator used to do)*
- *Keeping children safe online by reminding them of online safety messages (and letting parents know at big events that could be videoed/photographed not to share on social media)*
- *Noticing when children are hurt and might need taking to first aid*
- *Alerting staff to anything of concern in the school environment*
- *Sharing children's worries if they talk to them about any worries and signposting them to school adults and the worry box*
- *Looking after the play equipment and setting up the equipment for play time each day*

The children will meet me regularly for 'supervision' and will be supported to develop the skills needed to provide this care to their peers.

We talked about the bible quote on the new Guardian posters around school "Love and respect all others, treating them as you would like to be treated. Luke 10: 25-37" what that means and how their role will be to model this to all the other children around the school.

Look out for the children wearing their 'high vis' jackets and proudly wearing their badges soon!

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.

Top Tips

Letters, emails and WhatsApp's home this fortnight. Please check below and let the office know if you have missed any:

Whole School:

- Term 1 Partnership Newsletter

Cherry Class

- Social Justice
- Great Fire of London

Willow Class

- Bedes' Multi Sports
- PE Kit
- Delayed return - trip

Lilac Class

- Class Trip
- 2025 Residential
- PE Kit



Dates for your Diary

October

25th: Last Day Term 1

November

4th: First day Term 2

4th: Parent Prayer meeting 8:50am in prayer space.

6th: Collective Worship - 9:30am - church

7th: Open Afternoon - 1:30pm - 2:30pm

7th: Community Café 2:00pm - 4:00pm

10th: Remembrance Service - in church

12th: Parent Consultations - 3:30pm—6:00pm

13th: Remembrance Service - churchyard 9:30am

13th: Lunch Club - singing YR and Y1

14th: Forest School - Maple Class

14th: Parent Consultations - 3:30pm—6:00pm

20th: Collective Worship 9:30am church

21st: Forest School - Cherry Class

21st: Open Afternoon 1:30pm—2:30pm

21st: Community Café 2:00pm—4:00pm

27th: Collective Worship - 9:30am - church

28th: Forest School – Willow Class

28th: PTFA Wreath Making 7:00pm School Hall

December

4th: Collective Worship 9:30am church

5th: Forest School - Lilac Class

5th: Community Café 2:00pm - 4:00pm

6th: Santa themed Fun Run

7th: PTFA Christmas Fair 12noon - 3:30pm

8th: Christmas Praise - Church

11th: Collective Worship 9:30am church

12th: Forest School - Maple Class

17th: School Nativity

18th: Collective Worship - Church

19th: Community Café 2:00pm—4:00pm

20th: Christingle and End of Term Service



Please note
end of term
service Friday
20th December



Parent Prayers

At the beginning of each term, parents gather together in the prayer space at the front of school to prayer for our school community.



Over the previous term, staff and children collate topics that they would like prayed about, and the parents use these and their own thoughts during a quiet time together.

This is an open group and all parents are welcome to attend.

Next meeting: Monday 4th November, 8:50am.



Change of Date

Please check your calendars to ensure you have the correct day written for last day of this academic year. There was an initial error on the school website, now corrected.

The last day of Term 6 is Monday 21st July 2025.

Thank you

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.



St Mary's Star Skills



"Skills for learning, skills for life"



SkillsBuilder PARTNERSHIP

Star Skills

Each week, one pupil from each class is recognised for their 'star skills' development. This year, to ensure we celebrate with clarity, certificates are given when a child has shown amazing growth in a particular area, which is then recognised in Celebration Assembly on Fridays.

Celebrations for this term:

Charlie (Cherry): who has worked so hard in his learning this week his **positive attitude** has shone.

Dottie: for her developing skills in **creativity**, with her wonderful self portrait in the style of Frida Kahlo.

Rosie: who has demonstrated strong **speaking** skills, sharing some fantastic ideas in her learning and confidently sharing her ideas about 'ordering' events.

Jax: who has shown great **listening** skills in class, when they were at Bedes' multi sports event. He was able to listen to not only the instructions, but ways in which he could improve his own skills. Well done Jax!

Lilac Class: demonstrated amazing **teamwork** by being kind, welcoming and friendly towards Nutley and Groombridge at their joint Forest School morning. They were all stars! Villain's Lair' descriptive writing. He used brilliant vocabulary and thought carefully about how best to entertain the reader.

Riley: has been spectacular at **problem solving**, gall of the clues in the Escape Room, particularly the Morse Code clue! Thank you for being so SUPER!

Skye: has been developing great **teamwork**, working with another child and applying sounds to spell words in phonics.

Florence: has been demonstrating her amazing **teamwork**, working with others to try and get the water machine working at Herstmonceux Science Centre. Florence was supportive and encouraging to the rest of her team to ensure all worked smoothly!

Well done to you all!

St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School, Hartfield, East Sussex, TN7 4AA

Tel: 01892 770221 Email: office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk Website: www.pioneerfederation.co.uk

School Values

Love: love and respect yourself and all others, treating them as you would like to be treated.

Luke 10: 25-37

Strength: recognise people's strength and use your own to be resilient and the best you can be in all that you do.

John 6: 1-14

Faith: have faith in yourself and others, and be honest and truthful. Believe that you never know what you can achieve until you try.

Luke 5: 1-11



Each week, one pupil from each class is recognised for their engagement within our school values which underpin our vision of 'being the best we can be, in a thriving community, following the example of Jesus'. Again, these are recognised in our Celebration Assembly on Fridays but we want also to celebrate them with. This term:

Finn: thank you for showing us faith this week in your own abilities when creating a thoughtful piece of writing as the character Samuel Pepys.

George: Thank you for your strength this week, within your maths lessons. You have been able to be so resilient in your work, persevering to make sure that your understanding of column addition is clear and correct.

Lottie: thank you for showing us your amazing love, always helping others in the classroom and reminding them kindly of our class expectations. Thank you for going out of your way to make sure others are being as successful as possible.

Henry (Cherry Class): thank you for being a shining example of faith. Across all of your learning it is possible to see that you truly believe in your ability to achieve your very best!

Amelia: thank you for showing amazing strength. For showing such courage, resilience and determination during the cross country competition. You were the only Year 6 girl and you represented our school beautifully.

Scarlett (Maple Class): thank you for showing amazing love through your care for all around you at school.

Evalyn: thank you for demonstrating your amazing faith, in yourself and others at the Escape Rooms. Your encouragement and positivity to everyone in your team was so brilliant and helped everyone to achieve the goal of escaping. We are lucky to have you at our school!



Headteacher Awards

When the children display extra-ordinary prowess through their time within school, they celebrate their success with our Headteacher, Mrs Robinson and they will discuss whether it should receive a Headteacher Award.

This week, we have three children who have received this:



Lottie! Your French learning was so impressive. Your teachers recognise your hard work, care and effort. Well done!



Lander, your perseverance with learning your phonics sounds has really paid off! You read this so well after such a short time in school! Well done!

**Huge congratulations to Lottie, Lander and Zenny.
Well done!**



Zenny! The sentences you wrote sounded like they were from a published book! They were so impressive!

Forest School

Maple Class started their session on the playground ready to have a go at conker rolling. Standing in a long line they took it turns to roll their conker as far as they could and once it had stopped moving they ran and stood where their conker had landed. Once everyone had rolled their conker the children picked their conker up so that they could have another go, they were all trying to beat their distance from the previous roll

As a group the class walked around the edge of the playground on the hunt for as many different leaves as they could find, they found Beech,



Sycamore, Cherry and Silver Birch leaves. These leaves were then used by the children to do some leaf rubbing pictures. They placed the leaf upside down with a piece of paper over the top, then using a crayon they rubbed over the leaf, making a print of the leaf. The children tried many different leaf and colour combinations.



Some of the class chose to create things using clay. They made some



Hedgehogs using the husk from a conker to create the spiky back, then using a stick they poked holes into the clay body to create the eyes. Others chose to use the conker itself as a snail shell, making the body of the snail from clay. They then found two small sticks that they could push into the clay as the eyes. The conker snail shells were then coloured in a variety of bright colours.



There was some great team work from the class today as they chose to take on the task of raking up as many leaves as they could. This was to clear an area so that they could build themselves a tarpaulin den, pegging it as high as they could up the fence so that they could walk inside without bending over.

Great work Maple class!



Lilac Class set off in the sunshine for an afternoon of Forest School. Stopping at the wellie tree, the class were asked if they thought that if they were all combined would they be as tall as the wellie tree. There were some very mixed answers but using a stick to work out the rough height of the tree, the children then laid down head to toe starting at the trunk of the tree, making a long line to see if they could reach Dormouse who was standing where the class had agreed the top of the tree would be. The line was a little wonky but if straight, Lilac class combined were as tall as the wellie tree!

Once in the woods the class divided into groups of their choosing, one group went to gather some fire wood, another prepared apples and blackberries for jam making and the last group laid and lit the fire. Once the fire was roaring the prepared fruit was placed in a pan and cooked until mushy. The children then took it in turns to toast some bread over the fire. Eating the jam, on toast was a huge success!



Forest School

Willow Class set off in the rain for a rather soggy Forest School session. Stopping at the Wellie tree the class used a stick to work out the rough height of the tree, they then all held hands with the first person touching the tree and stretched themselves out in a straight line to see if they were as tall as the tree. Willow class were almost as tall as the Wellie tree! As they walked along the Forest Way the class came across many large puddles. They spent time jumping in them trying hard to make big enough splashes to get their friends. Some tried to jump over the puddles, which they found that this worked best if they ran before they jumped. Finding a large puddle in a field entrance the children started jumping in it and the water quickly changed colour, one child shouted:

"we are making chocolate milk"

Once at forest school some children helped to lay the fire and practice their fire lighting skills. They listened and followed the instructions given, and it wasn't long before they had managed to light their cotton wool. The children then had a go at making apple and blackberry jam, which was enjoyed by all the class in a sandwich.



With all the rain that has fallen, the stream that runs through the wood was nice and full. The children used trowels to create a channel leading to a hole in the ground. The

water then rushed down their channel before disappearing down the hole. They used the excess mud to make a bank to stop the water going the wrong way, Great team work, Willow Class!



Last week, all Year 5 and 6 children from **the Ashdown Cluster** met for an adventure in the forest. They set off making their way through some squelchy mud and many puddles before arriving at our destination.

After having a tour of the area and going over some safety rules for Forest School, the children were divided into groups, ready to set off to explore by themselves and to try some of the planned activities.

Once the children had got the fire roaring, they were able to roast a marshmallow, and once it was looking nice and gooey (and maybe a little charred around the edges) the marshmallow was placed between two chocolate biscuits ready to be enjoyed!

Amazing team work was observed happening amongst the children at the stream where they worked together to make many dams using long lengths of wood. They gathered up some thick clay-like mud and packed any gaps in the wood where the water was managing to get through. After this, the dams worked well as they created little pools of water behind them. These are some of the things the children said they enjoyed at whilst on their Forest School adventure:

"I loved jumping in the stream"

"I liked building dams"

"S'mores"

"I loved fire lighting"

It was great to see the children from all three schools working so well together.

After School Clubs for Term 2

St Mary's Yoga Club - Wednesday

Yoga has many health benefits for children, but did you know it is much more than a series of poses named after animals such as 'downward facing dog' ?

As well as improving flexibility, yoga has been proven to enhance physical and mental health in school age children. Whilst yoga improves balance, strength, endurance and aerobic capacity, it can also offer psychological benefits too. Growing research has shown that regular yoga practice can improve focus, memory, self-esteem and even reduce anxiety and stress in children.

With this in mind, we are thrilled to announce that St Mary's Yoga Club will begin on **6th October** and continue on Wednesday afternoons afterschool until Christmas!

The class will be lead by Alex Whittaker (parent) who has been practicing yoga regularly for the past ten years and recently completed his 200hrs Yoga Teacher Training at Triyoga London with Adam Husler and Michael James Wong.

The classes will be designed specifically for primary age groups and include breathing exercises, physical poses, storytelling from India, meditation and more!

We are excited to let you know that Mr Whittaker has kindly offered to run the after school Yoga club at St Mary's on a Wednesday for children in Years 1-6.

There will be no charge for this club which can accommodate eight children and will run on a 'first come basis'.

To book, please contact the school office by email, and we will come back to you to let you know whether you have a place.



Gymnastics - Monday Dance - Friday



UPCOMING CLUBS

St Mary the Virgin Primary School
Book Now: activeeducationsussex.co.uk/book-a-course/

GYMNASTICS CLUB

Day: Mondays
Year Groups: Reception - Year 6
Time: 15:15-16:15
Dates: 4 November - 16 December 2024
Cost: £42.00



DANCE CLUB

Day: Fridays
Year Groups: Reception - Year 6
Time: 15:15-16:15
Dates: 8 November - 20 December 2024
Cost: £42.00



ST MARY THE VIRGIN SCHOOL

PTFA EVENTS 2024

25 End of Term Mufti Day & Treat Bags

Oct

Celebrate the end of term with Mufti day and a treat bag!
Details will be sent via class WhatsApp chats soon!

15 Bottle Tombola Donations

Nov

Thank you in advance for donating your favourite tippie for the Christmas Fair Tombola! Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic options gratefully received!

20 Willow Class Bake Sale

Nov

Thank you in advance to Willow class parents for supplying homemade or shop-bought baked goods (nut free please). Join us at 3.15pm on the playground - Please remember your pennies!

28 Christmas Wreath Making

Nov

Following last year's successful event - we are delighted to host another wreath making evening at 7pm in School - £20/person. Adults only.

29 Chocolate Tombola Donations

Nov

We kindly ask that you donate a box, bag or bar of your favourite chocolate for our Christmas Fair - all donations are gratefully received!

The Christmas Fair!

**07
Dec**

Our fundraising showstopper! Come along to school from 12pm-3pm and enjoy the children's class stalls, craft room, games room, cafe and of course... Santa's Grotto!

Wellbeing Poster

Our Wellbeing Posters this week, looks at Mindful Breathing for Kids, taken from Mindfulmazing.com

MINDFUL BREATHING FOR KIDS

Let's make mindfulness fun!

Just keep breathing...

1. THE POWER OF BREATHING

START
HERE

First, we need to teach our kids how to breathe deeply. Trace the shape below, breathe in deeply while tracing the first half of the design, then, exhale slowly while tracing the second half of the shape.



2. 10 DEEP BREATHS



Put your hands on your belly and fill it up with your biggest breath. Like this: Inhale for one, feel your belly fill and expand. Exhale for two, feel your belly go down. Do this ten times. Can you feel your body sink into relaxation? Try this whenever you feel anxious or angry.

3. SET A TIMER

Set a timer for one minute. Sit cross-legged on the floor, in a chair or outside in the grass and breathe in and out until the timer goes off. Pay close attention to any sounds you hear or any sensations in the body. Just notice. If your mind wanders, pull it back to the breath.



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READY TO FEEL CALMER, MORE FOCUSED, AND RELAXED?

FOLLOW THE SUN BREATHS

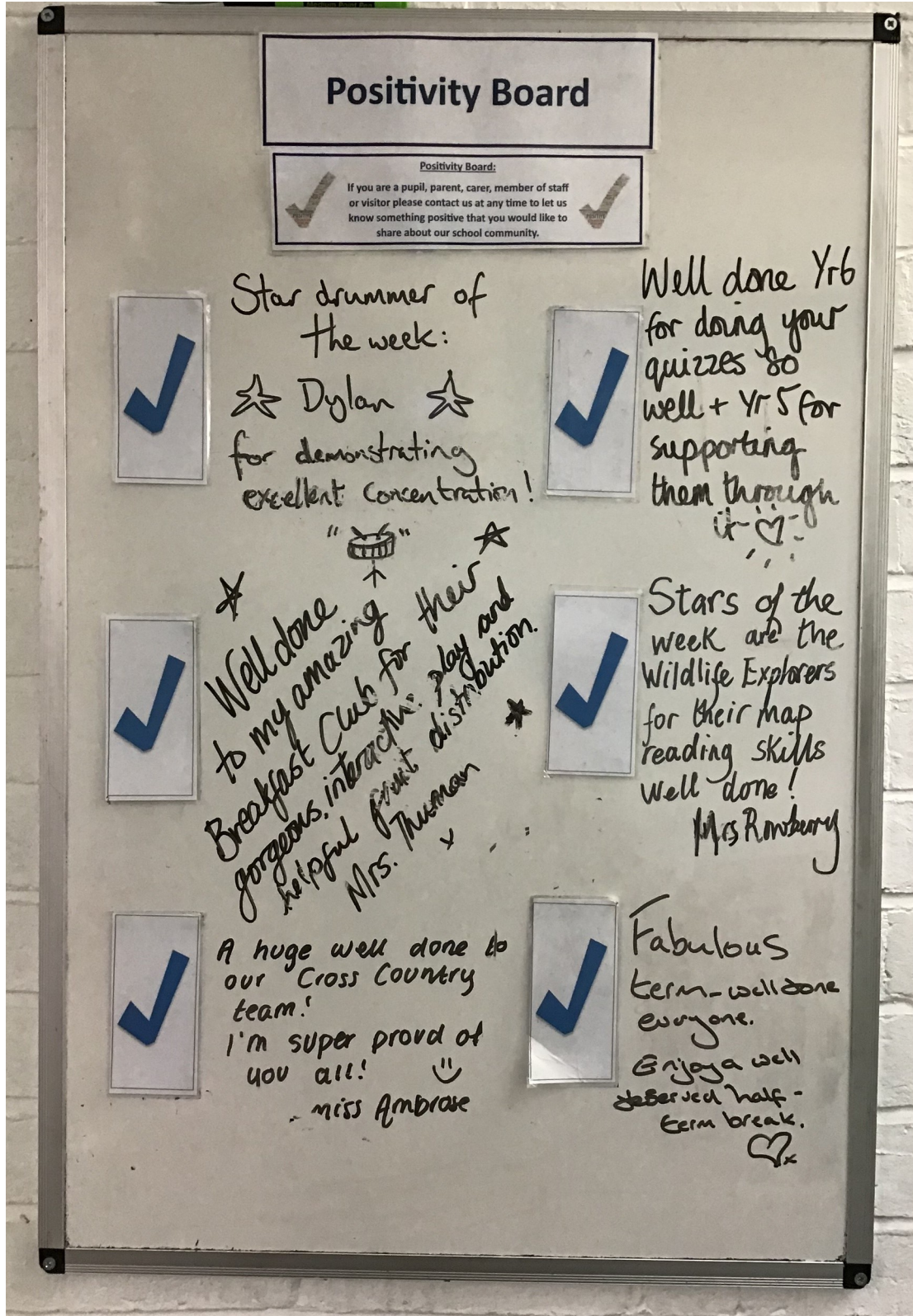
TRACE THE SUN RAYS WITH YOUR FINGERS AS YOU BREATHE IN AND OUT!

START
HERE



Positivity Board

This board enables us to write positive comments, or thoughts, from parents, carers, staff, children and visitors that they would like to share with others about the school, their classes, the children or events. Please contact us at any time (or come into school) to let us know something that you would like to share. In the newsletter every week, there will be a picture to share and celebrate the positivity within our school.



**No cost opportunity to support your PTFA and therefore, your children!
Sign up before your Christmas shop!**

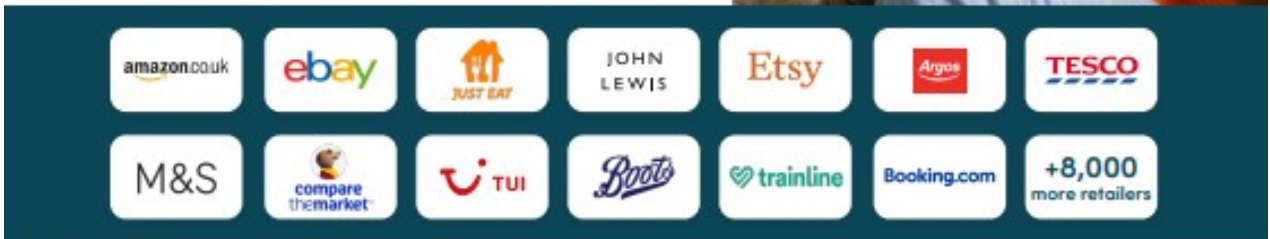
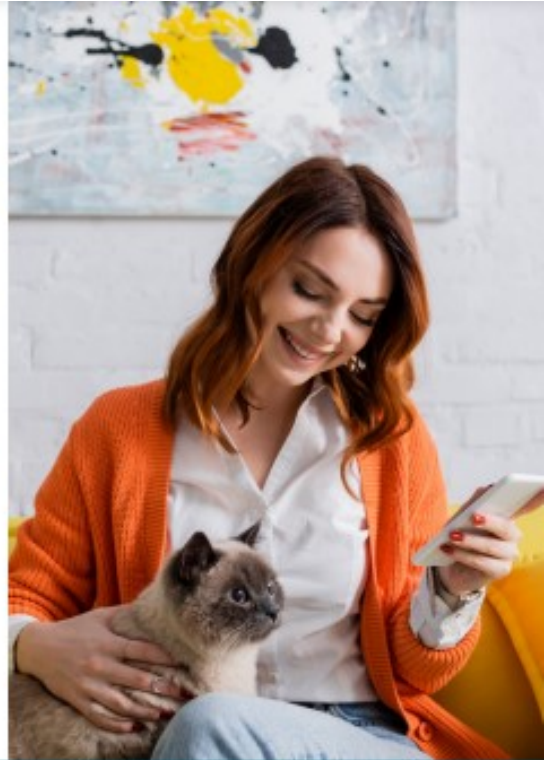


Support your child's future

Sign up to online cashback site, easyfundraising, and select your child's school as your chosen good cause.

Then, when you shop online with over 8,000 retailers, the retailer will give the school a free donation as a thank you for shopping with them.

It's as simple as that. No matter what you buy, from food shops to holidays and everything in between - it's a free and easy way to support your school.



How to get started

Head to easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause and search for your child's school, or scan the QR code.

Registration is free and will take you less than two minutes to sign up!



17,000 schools and PTAs have raised over £12.5 million using easyfundraising.

Sign up and support your child's future today.

No cost opportunity to support your PTFA and therefore, your children!
This offer expires at the end of November so please, sign up now!

INTRODUCING Cash Pot for Schools

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate **££s** to schools.



Here's How:

- 1 **Download the Asda Rewards app** and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools.
- 2 **Choose your primary school**
- 3 **Shop in-store across Asda & George,** and scan your Asda Rewards app at the
- 4 **Shopping online?** Simply log in to Asda.com using the same details as your Asda Rewards account.
- 5 **We'll do the rest!** We donate ££s to your chosen school every time you shop, so they can spend it on exactly what they need.



Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 18+. App & Opt in required.
0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parenikind charity 1072833.
Full T&C's at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Rewards T&C's at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30.11.24

Half Term Opportunity - free of charge



Book online:



**This
is your
library**

The Adventures of Baron Munchausen

Join us for a multi-award winning storytelling show!
What has Baron Munchausen been up to on his adventures?
We'll find out together at this hilarious improvised
performance, perfect for 6 - 12 year olds. Free event, booking
is essential.

Thursday 31 October | 11:30 - 12:30pm

Crowborough Library
eastsussex.gov.uk/libraryevents

In association with:

applause

Cultivating creativity
Connecting communities







Juggling family life...?



...we're here to help.

**Every family goes through ups and downs.
Let us help you to find the answers.**

We can offer you a wide range of support with

-  **emotional wellbeing**
-  **special educational needs and disabilities**
-  **financial, housing or employment challenges**
-  **supporting your child's behaviour**
-  **support for new parents**
-  **activities for children of all ages**

 **01323 46 46 55**

 **familyhubs@eastsussex.gov.uk**



Parent & Carer



Lunch and Learn Online Workshops and In-person Family Hub Workshops with 'Me & My Mind'

Do you want to learn about children's mental health and how you can support your child with their wellbeing? If you do, these FREE webinars or our in-person small group workshops may be for you!

Lunch and Learn Webinars

How to support your child with worry and anxiety

~~Tuesday 22nd October 2024, 1pm to 2pm~~

Thursday 27th February 2025, 1pm, to 2pm

Wednesday 11th June 2025, 1pm to 2pm

How to support a worrying child with transition to secondary

Wednesday 21st May 2025, 1pm to 2pm

Small group in-person sessions

Supporting primary school children with anxiety and worry

~~Wednesday 2nd October 2024, 10am to 12pm @ Sidley Family Hub~~

~~Tuesday 8th October 2024, 10am to 12pm @ Uckfield Family Hub~~

Wednesday 5th February 2025, 12pm to 2pm @ Sidley Family Hub

Tea/Coffee and biscuits will be available, and we will be providing activities to make some items to take home with you to do with your child/ren

For more info and to book scan the QR code or visit:



www.tickettailor.com/events/mentalhealthandwellbeingineducation

If you have any questions, please email mhst.parentteam@eastsussex.gov.uk



All webinars are run using Microsoft Teams. You can access this on your phone or computer. You will be provided with the link when you book.



The power of positive parenting

Appropriate for children aged 2-10 years

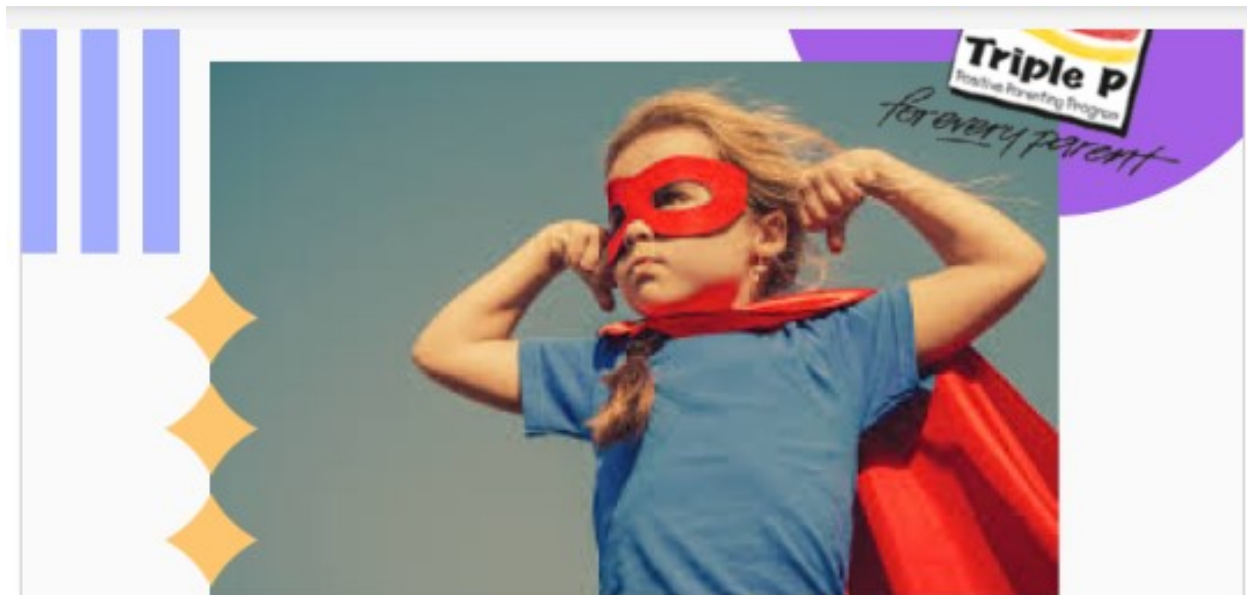


This webinar is perfect for new parents/carers, or those who need a refresh!

It introduces parents to the five key principles of positive parenting that form the basis of Triple P. These principles are: -

- Ensuring a safe, engaging environment
- Creating a positive learning environment
- Using assertive discipline
- Having reasonable expectations
- Looking after yourself as a parent

Tuesday 1st October 6:30 to 8:00pm
Monday 4th November 10:00 to 11:30am
Wednesday 11th December 10:00 to 11:30am



Fear- Less 10+

**For parents/carers with children
experiencing moderate to severe anxiety
Appropriate for pre teens/teens 10-19 years**

Fear-Less Triple P is designed for parents/ carers of children with high levels of anxiety that cause significant distress or negatively impact on their everyday lives.

Fear-Less Triple P has four main goals:

- To help parents/carers set a good example of coping with anxiety
- To assist parents/carers to coach all their children to become emotionally resilient
- To help parents/carers develop a toolbox of strategies for supporting children to manage their anxiety more effectively
- To help parents/carers choose effective ways to respond to their children's anxiety

**Thursday 21st November to Thursday 23rd January
10:00-12:00pm
(8 sessions over 10 weeks)**

Contact the Early Help 0-19 Parenting Team on EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk if you would like to book.

Opportunities at St Mary the Virgin Church

We are blessed to have such a close relationship with our church and are pleased to be able to share information about the many events they provide for the local community. They offer great opportunities and are always open to new people.



LITTLE STARS

Parent & toddler group
Mondays @ St Mary's Church, Hartfield



Upcoming dates

9th September	
16th September	11th November
23rd September	18th November
30th September	25th November
7th October	2nd December
14th October	9th December
21st October	16th December
4th November	

9.15 to 10.45am Tea and Coffee Provided



Church Street Community Cafe

1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 2pm - 4pm.

Homemade cake, tea, and coffee.
Everyone welcome.

Table with crafts and games for children.

upcoming dates

Thursday 5th September
Thursday 19th September
Thursday 3rd October
Thursday 17th October
Thursday 7th November
Thursday 21st November
Thursday 5th December

For more information contact Joanne Griffin on
07941 856715 or msjoannegriffin@gmail.com