



St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

Head of School: Mrs Naomi Fry

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



Term 3 Week 2 2026

Friday 16th January 2026

Being the best we can be in a thriving community, following the example of Jesus.

Headlines from the Head

It has been a busy start to Term 3. Once the initial excitement of snow and ice had melted away, the children have settled well into their new learning and their new topics.

This term's value - Perseverance

To be the best we can be, often means we have to persevere when faced with challenges. We have started this year focusing on the value of perseverance. In our reflective time children have been reflecting on challenges they may have faced last year, and exploring how they overcame them. This term we will be exploring with the children that difficulties are not signs of failure but opportunities to trust God and explore this through prayer.

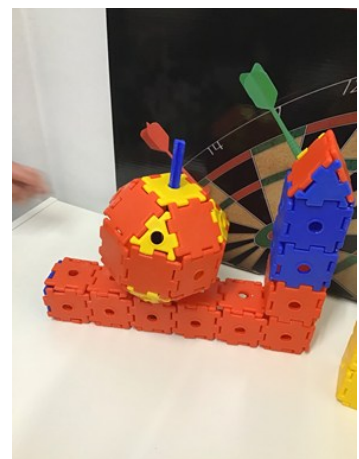
Light from Light

A new song called Light From Light has been created as part of the Diocesan Year of Faith celebrations. *Light From Light is an original song created as part of the Year of Faith Project, inspired by the Nicene Creed and written in collaboration with students from Church of England schools across the Diocese of Chichester. Through song writing and performance, students shared their faith, hope, belief, and creativity — with voices and instruments played primarily by the young musicians themselves.* We first heard this during our End of Term Christmas service and this term we have been learning it. The children are really enjoying learning the song and many have asked for the link, so here it is. https://youtu.be/QB_oczsoots?si=uAR-bcFWtSp0yJAJ

After School Club

After school club has got off to a great start. Here are some photos of what they have been up to this week. If you would like to book your child into after school club, this can be done through Arbor.

"I like building things." "It's so fun and we get to do cooking and baking."



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

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

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— Welcome back from Mrs Fry
Young Voices transport information

Lilac— Residential payments information.

Updated homework pages for T3-4
Reading Adventure challenge

Willow—class newsletter, staffing update.

Cherry— class newsletter

Maple— Fire Station visit,
Wheel Week 19th to 23rd January



Dates for your Diary

January 2026

22nd: Chartwells Food Workshops for children in school

22nd: Forest School for Cherry class

27th: Maple Class visit Forest Row Fire Station (am)

29th: Forest School for Willow class

February 2026

4th: Young Voices concert at the OVO Arena Wembley

5th: Forest School for Lilac class

6th: Free After School Club taster hour 3.15-4.15pm, booking essential—email to come out next week.

12th: Travelling Book Fair arrives

12th: Forest School for Maple class *and Lilac Y6 buddies*

13th: End of Term 3

13th: PTFA disco in the hall

23rd: Start of Term 4

25th: Travelling Book Fair's last day open after school

March

w/c 2nd: Parent Consultations—dates tbc

5th: Forest School for Cherry class

12th: Reception class vision, heights and weights checks by community nurses—more info to come.

12th: Forest School for Willow class

13th: Whole School trip to Hurstmonceux Science Centre

19th: Forest School for Lilac class

20th: Cherry Class assembly @ 2.45pm

26th: Forest School for Maple class

27th: PTFA Easter Disco in hall

27th: End of Term 4



Professional Musicians working with St Mary's Children.

As you are aware we are working closely with Beautiful Noise who are providing wonderful enrichment opportunities across the school including a drumming workshop on a Monday morning. This week we welcomed Rosie Page into our school. Rosie is a professional opera singer. It was wonderful for her to meet the School Choir who she will be working closely with and help us finalise our preparations for Young Voices in a few weeks. Rosie then worked with Maple and Willow Class to support children in learning how to sing. We are very grateful for Rosie's time and look forward to seeing her next week where she will be working with Maple and Lilac Class. If you think your child would like to be part of the Monday morning drumming workshop, please let the school office know. This is fully funded but places are limited.



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School Values

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

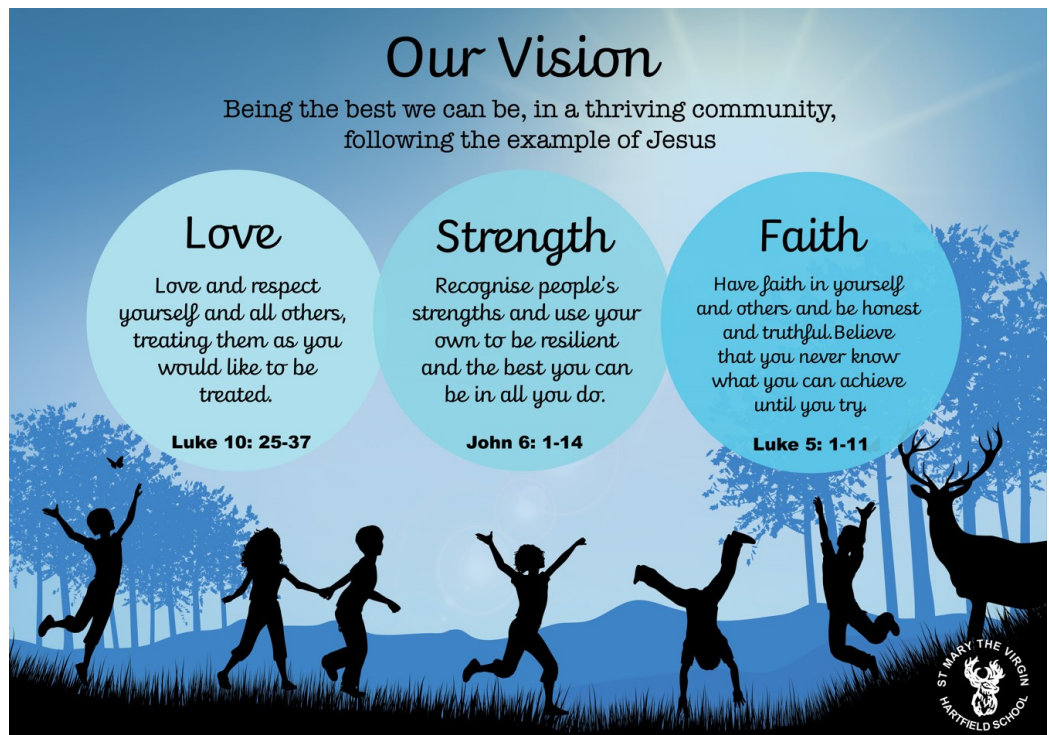
Luke 10: 25-37

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 you. Since the last newsletter and from December:

Strength—Zenny—for working so hard this week showing great focus, and putting so much effort into his learning. Well done Zenny!

Love—Ted—for always checking his friends are okay and trying his hardest to make them happy again.



"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 from December, and since the last newsletter:

Aiming High—Keston—Mr Sumner said that Keston always does his absolute best during PE!

Aiming High—Scarlett—for working so hard in your English! You stayed so focused and your work was absolutely brilliant! Well Done!

Staying Positive—Evie— for being an excellent advocate for our class on the school trip on 4th December. Evie stayed so positive, even in the rain, and it was her birthday!

Aiming High— Bella —This week in Willow class, I have been very impressed with Bella, she is always on task and always has something interesting to share with the class. She has been aiming high in class by pushing herself to success.

Speaking— Zenny—this week during our learning time, Zenny showed a deep understanding of our topic in RE and Science, and was able to 'magpie' ideas and create his own excellent sentences.

What to wear to Forest School in Winter

Winter is our coldest and sometimes wettest time of the year. Because of this I would recommend wearing a comfortable thermal layer, followed by trousers and a long sleeved t-shirt with a jumper on top. Over this I would recommend wearing a waterproof coat and waterproof trousers. A thick pair of socks and waterproof boots or wellies should be worn, also a hat and gloves to help keep you warm.



Trousers, long
sleeved t-shirt &
jumper



Thick Socks



Waterproof Boots
or Wellies



Warm
waterproof
Coat



Winter



Thermal Layer



Waterproof
Trousers



Hat & Gloves

Head Teacher Awards

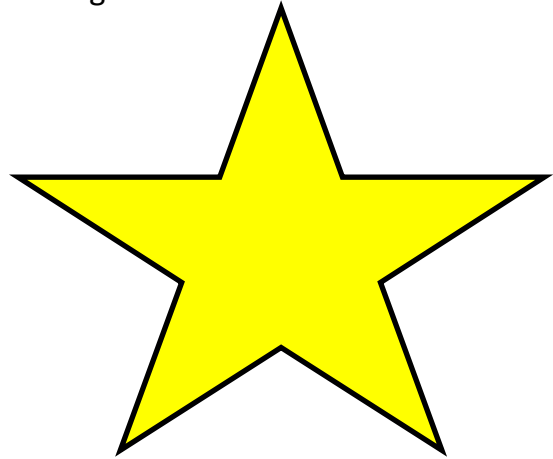
Head Teacher awards since our last newsletter have been given to:

Zach

Barney

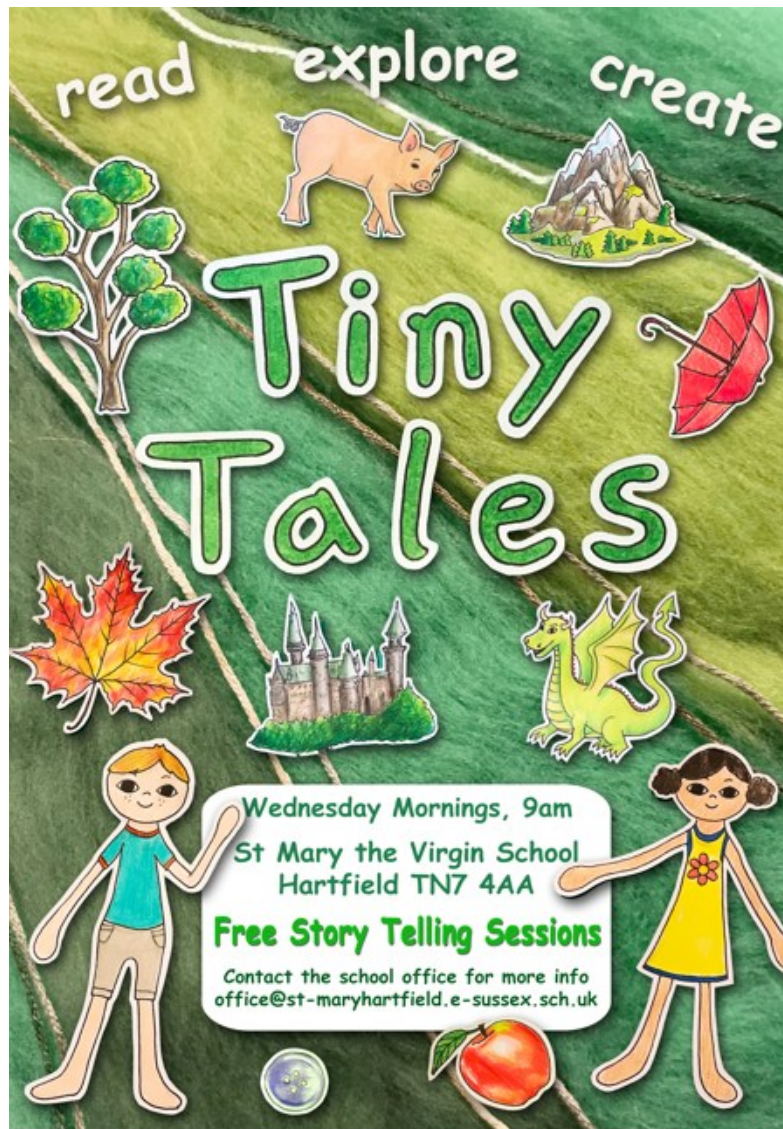
Ruby

Reece



Congratulations!

Story Time for Pre-school Children!



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

The Young Writers 'I Have a Dream' Poetry Competition



We are published Authors!

Back in September we entered The Young writer's I have a Dream poetry competition and our entries were chosen to be published. Today we received our books. It was amazing to see our work in print.

A copy is now in the school library if you would like to read our poems.

'The school and Governing body allow external clubs to advertise on our newsletter but are not responsible for them.'



The Inaugural Ashdown Forest Open Studios will run from Friday 4th, Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th September 2026.

Gala event at The Ashdown Forest Centre on Friday 4th September

Artists & Makers

If you work or live in or around the Ashdown Forest

You are invited to join us for the 1st Ashdown Forest Open Studios
For more information & to register

Visit

www.ashdownforestopenstudios.co.uk



We are keen to increase visits to our school, and have spaces in many year groups, so please spread the word about our open events, and share and like our Social Media posts!



PTFA



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.

UK Rhino Challenge

A unique cycle orienteering challenge
for all the family



Sunday May 3rd 2026



In the beautiful
bluebell woods
of Pippingford
Park on the
Ashdown Forest
TN22 3HW



Have fun & raise funds for conservation

Two levels of challenge
Family Fun - 4 miles
Explorers Adventure - 6 to 20
miles, choose your route

Full details on
www.ukrhinochallenge.com



Book here



"The school and Governing body allow external clubs to advertise on our newsletter but are not responsible for them."

Active Education

The poster features a collage of smiling children's faces at the top. Below them are three location pins: a red one for Eastbourne, a blue one for Uckfield, and a green one for Hailsham. A pink starburst with the word 'NEW' is positioned above the Uckfield pin. In the top left corner is the Ofsted Registered logo. In the top right corner is the Active Education Sussex logo, which includes the letters 'ae' and icons of children playing. Next to it is a QR code with the text 'SCAN ME' below it. The central text 'FEBRUARY HOLIDAY CAMP' is in large, bold, blue and yellow letters. Below this are six polaroid-style photos of children engaged in various activities: 'VARIETY OF SPORTS' (children playing basketball), 'ART & CRAFT' (children at a table with art supplies), 'FOOTBALL' (children playing soccer on a field), 'STRATEGY GAMES' (children playing chess), 'DANCE' (children in a dance studio), and 'PERFORMING ARTS' (children in costumes performing). At the bottom, the dates 'Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026' are displayed, followed by the text 'We now offer even more childcare vouchers!'. Below this text are five logos for childcare voucher providers: Childcare Vouchers, Edenred, Bright Horizons, Childcare Choices, bravo benefits, and GEMELLI EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.

Ofsted Registered

NEW

Eastbourne Uckfield Hailsham

ae active education sussex

SCAN ME

FEBRUARY HOLIDAY CAMP

VARIETY OF SPORTS

ART & CRAFT

FOOTBALL

STRATEGY GAMES

DANCE

PERFORMING ARTS

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026


We now offer even more childcare vouchers!

Childcare Vouchers Edenred Bright Horizons Childcare Choices bravo benefits GEMELLI EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

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

Active Education



Fun Football Camp

Join us for a fun filled day of football! Loads of fun activities to explore and enjoy such as:

- Football Matches
- Football Skill Drills
- Goalkeeping Drills
- Shooting Drills
- Foot Golf
- Football Tennis
- Football Rounders
- World Cup/Wembley
- Tournaments and Competitions

Fun for all no matter of your age or ability!

What to bring

- Packed Lunch
- Breaktime Snacks
- Refillable Water Bottle
- Change of Clothing (expect to get muddy!)
- Football Boots and Astro Turf Trainers Advised

Locations - NEW UCKFIELD LOCATION!

- **Eastbourne** - Ocklynge Junior School, Victoria Drive, BN20 8XN
- **Uckfield** - Manor Primary School, Downsview Crescent, TN22 1UB
- **Hailsham** - Hailsham Primary Academy, Bulrush Lane, BN27 4FB

Dates

Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February 2026


Options & Prices

Breakfast Club (Open to all aged 4-11) - 07:45-08:45 - £7.50

Half Camp Day (Open to all aged 4-11) - 08:45-12:45 - £19.50

Main Camp Day (Aged 5-11 Only) - 08:45-15:15 - £29.50

After Camp Club (Aged 5-11 Only) - 15:15-16:15 - £7.50



Multi Activity Camp

Come and join us for our Multi Activity Holiday Camp, with plenty of activities including:

- A Wide Selection of Sports
- Fencing
- Gymnastics
- Dance
- Painting
- Art and Craft Activities
- Movies
- Party & Circle Games
- Team Games

Don't forget to visit our gift shop filled with loads of fun toys and items for you to enjoy (card payments only)

What to bring

- Packed Lunch
- Breaktime Snacks
- Refillable Water Bottle
- Spare Clothes

Locations - NEW UCKFIELD LOCATION!

- **Eastbourne** - Ocklynge Junior School, Victoria Drive, BN20 8XN
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*Both Multi Activity and Fun Football Camps will be run at the same venue but will be two separate holiday camps to ensure there is something for everyone whilst also making it accessible and easy for parents/carers to book siblings onto different camps. We look forward to seeing you all there!

*Please note all children aged 4 attending must be currently attending primary school in reception.

Follow our socials

 Active Education Sussex

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 Active Education Sussex



There is a national shortage of classroom support staff Step into the classroom with our online School Support Programmes



With career progression routes such as:

Teaching Assistant Midday Supervisor Learning Mentor
Cover Supervisor Lunchtime Supervisor Pastoral Support
Behaviour Support 1:1 Support Admin Support

Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Courses Available

"The teaching skills were second to none, I now feel confident that I can go into my new role as a TA knowing I have the knowledge and confidence to face anything I may come across. Thank you, Aspire."

Enrol today:

07707470845

jamie.baguley@aspireeducationacademy.co.uk



The Parenting Team

Being a parent is
a journey...

Let's make it a
positive one!

For more information
about our free courses,
groups webinars and
events.
Scan the QR code



The Parenting Team

FREE ONLINE groups for parents/ carers of East Sussex.
From January - March 2026

Parenting Children with Anxiety 4+
learn strategies to support your child's emotional resilience

Tues 13th Jan- 3rd Mar
10:00-12:00pm - 7 Sessions
No session in half term

Parenting children with ADHD 4+
learn how to go from frustration to connection; strategies to support you and your child to cope

Wed 14th Jan - 11th Mar
10:00-12:00pm - 8 Sessions
No session in half term

Early Bird Plus 4+ (National Autistic Society)
learn how to make sense of your autistic child's communication, behaviour and sensory needs

Thurs 22nd Jan- 19th Mar
10:00-12:00pm - 8 Sessions
No session in half term

Calmer Co Parenting
For parents who are separated or divorced.

Learn at your own pace, anywhere, anytime. Interactive, easy-to-use online program with videos, activities and downloadable resources. Supported by an East Sussex Parenting Practitioner



For more information about our free courses, groups webinars and events. Scan the QR code

To book or ask a question, email
EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk



The Parenting Team

FREE ONLINE webinars for parents/ carers of East Sussex.
From January - March 2026

Managing Anxiety and Avoidance in Children (2-12 yrs)

Want to understand the signs of anxiety and what to look out for?
• Tues 24th Feb 12:30 - 2:30pm

Becoming a Positive Parent (2-10 yrs)

Want to stay calm when your child isn't?
• Wed 14th Jan 12:30 - 2:30pm
• Tues 17th Mar 10:00 - 12:00pm

Triggers Tantrums & Teaching Moments (2-12yrs)

Want to make small changes that have a big difference?
• Thurs 15th Jan 10:00 - 12:00pm
• Wed 25th Mar 12:30 - 2:30pm

Learning about Neurodivergent Children (2-19yrs)

Want to know what neurodivergence actually means and how it impacts behaviour?
• Thurs 22nd Jan 10:00 - 12:00pm
• Tues 24th Mar 10:00 - 12:00pm

Responding to Teen Emotions (10-19 yrs)

Want to understand what drives teen emotions, choices and challenges?
• Tues 3rd Feb 12:30 - 2:30pm

Understanding Teen Behaviour (10-19 yrs)

Want to keep your cool in the chaos?
• Tues 24th Mar 6:30 - 8:30pm

Pre-recorded webinars that you can watch any time

- Online Safety in a Digital World
- Everyday Ways to Play
- Supporting Big Emotions Before School Starts



For more information about our free courses, groups webinars and events. Scan the QR code

To book or ask a question, email
EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk



www.studysmartuk.online

STUDY SMART
Free Online Courses

Starting Monday 2nd February

Fully Funded Education Support Course
Online LIVE Webinars
6 Week Course
Mon - Fri 9.30 - 11.30 & 12.30 - 2.00
Support Session 4.00 - 4.30

Levels 1, 2 & 3 Available
Accredited Awards & Certificates in:
Prepare to Work in Schools
Wellbeing
Safeguarding & Prevent
Occupational Studies
Understanding Challenging Behaviours
Principles of SEN

Aspire Education
Ofsted
Good Provider

Funded by UK Government

Exploring New Directions

PeopleMatter
supporting jobseekers
since 1997
www.people-matter.org.uk

For Eastbourne and Wealden residents

Helping Parents Grow, So Children Can Thrive

Practical workshops designed to help parents:

- reconnect with their strengths
- explore new job, training, or volunteering opportunities
- build confidence and wellbeing
- learn simple ways to encourage and support their children's aspirations

Workshops are now open for booking from February to July 2026.

Thanks to funding support, there is no cost to schools or parents, and we work flexibly to fit around the school day.

Contact People Matter to book your workshop
reception@people-matter.org.uk
01323 431289 or 07843 190738

East Sussex County Council

Celebrating 10 Years of Crest Swim School!

Swim Lessons Just £10!

To celebrate our 10th Anniversary, we're offering discounted lessons at just £10 per lesson Available until the Easter holidays.

- ✓ Available to new customers only
- ✓ Limited spaces available
- ✓ The perfect time to start swimming with us
- ✓ Book by 31st January 2026

Available until the Easter holidays

Don't miss out – once spaces are gone, they're gone!

Email: hello@crestswimsschool.co.uk

Book Now Call: **01825 790896**

£10 discounted lessons available when booked by 31st January 2026.



Lunch and Chat Online Group 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 online or in-person small group workshops may be for you!

Lunch and Chat Small Group

17th September, 1pm to 2:30pm

21st January, 1pm to 2:30pm

These will take place on Microsoft Teams and there will be some "taught" content followed by group discussions.

Small group in-person sessions

Taming the Worries

Thursday 25th September, 10am to 12pm @ St Leonards Family Hub

Monday 6th October, 1:30pm to 2:30pm @ Shinewater Family Hub

Monday 13th October, 10am to 12pm @ Lewes Family Hub

Monday 20th October, 10am to 12pm @ Hailsham Family Hub

Wednesday 5th November, 10am to 12pm @ Uckfield Family Hub

Thursday 27th November, 12pm to 2pm @ Sidley Family Hub

Monday 9th February, 12:30pm to 2:30pm @ Peacehaven Family Hub

Wednesday 4th March, 12pm to 2pm @ Uckfield Family Hub

Tricky Mornings - Friday 7th November @ Devonshire Family Hub

The Impact of Neurodiversity on anxiety, sleep and tricky mornings - Thursday 13th November 9:30am to 11:00am

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:



SCAN ME

www.tickettailor.com/events/mentalhealthandwellbeingineducation

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

St Mary's Church Information

Sunday CONNECT For young people aged 10+

Held in The Oast from 9.30am, for breakfast and chats, before heading back to church for communion.

**Sunday dates are:
18th January
1st February**

Come, relax and chat as we build relationship with Jesus and each other!!

For more information please contact Matt Marriott at m.marriott@btconnect.com



Sunday Discoverers

Discover us every 1st & 3rd Sunday morning at 9.30am, as we find out more about our Creator

Upcoming dates: 18th January, 1st February

For more information please contact Rev Julie Sear at revjuliesear1@gmail.com or 01892770436

LITTLE STARS

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



Upcoming dates

12th January 2nd February
19th January 9th February
26th January

No session on 16th February due to school holidays

9.15 to 10.45am

Tea and Coffee Provided revjuliesear1@gmail.com

CONNECT For young people aged 10+

**Join us for games,
food and fun
From 5-6.15pm in
the Village Hall**

Thursday dates are:

22nd January
5th February

**For more information
please contact Matt Marriott at
m.marriott@btconnect.com**

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 15th January

**Find us at St Mary's Church at the top of
Church Street in Hartfield**

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