



**WEST HOVE
INFANT SCHOOL**
.....
A family of friends

Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter

Friday 4th April 2025

Dear Families,

We've been so pleased by the positive response to our newly founded Parent & Carer Working Group (PCWG) across all three sites over the past few weeks. This is a new and exciting opportunity for parents to get really involved with the schools - to support the whole federation in better engaging with the wider community, promoting learning and enrichment activities and fundraising.

Within our parent and carer community we have a huge amount of passion, ideas, and skills we can harness to make our school and its future stronger working all together.

Hove Learning Federation is facing a range of challenges, including financial, and you, as parents and carers, can really play a role in helping the school. The school urgently needs funding and support, so one of the first things the group has done is to set up project groups that focus on a specific activity that parents and carers can lead on and help run. Some are small, some bigger. All are incredibly valuable.

<https://www.hovelearningfederation.co.uk/0007141311>

For example, there is a group looking at road safety outside the schools, another is exploring how the federation and all three sites can better promote themselves to prospective parents. There is also a group looking at potential grants to help fund larger projects, such as refurbishing outdoor and indoor spaces and purchasing new IT equipment or books. Other groups are discussing how to develop partnerships with local business and run community events. And regular cultural events that celebrate the diversity found within our school and community so we can gather together.



There are lots of ways to participate! This active parent and carer working group is an ambitious and exciting way to help shape the future of the school. So if you're nervous or require some reassurance about your efforts being part of our long term future, we are incredibly hopeful this groundswell of support continues to grow and the PCWG becomes a central part of the sustainability of the school.

You may have seen the WhatsApp group, please do join that if you can spare ideas or time.
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/C3TyyGaUEeRlIQtdDee2meK>

There will also be some coffee meet ups in the playground to chat about the PCWG after Easter, please do join those if you can.

We love what's happening with the group already and are excited to see what we can achieve together.

A huge thank you to our PTAs and FOWHIS for our cake sales, Easter disco and Easter fundraising events across all sites. Thank you to the organisers, volunteers, and staff who worked tirelessly to make the events such a fantastic time for the whole community. Your support makes a real difference, and we truly appreciate it!

This term we have had a big focus on behaviour routines both in the classroom and across the school focusing on the importance of 'Behaviour must be taught and will be treated as a subject' and 'Good relationships are built out of structures and high expectations'. We always encourage pupils to lead by example, making our school a kind, inclusive, and welcoming place for everyone. Our CPD for staff has aimed to provide support and build further clarity & expectations around praise, actions, strategies and consequences. It has been inspiring to see so many children embracing these values, and we look forward to continuing to see these positive actions each day.

We are also delighted to share the highlights of our parent/carers consultation feedback below:

98% of P/C say my child feels safe at this school

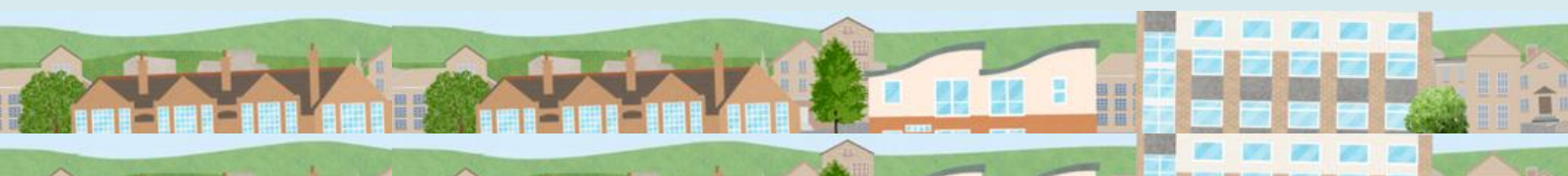
97% of P/C say my child is happy at this school

94% of P/C say the school lets me know how my child is doing

96% of P/C feel that the teacher knows their child well

This week we break up for the Easter holiday, the term seems to have flown by! Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming you back to the summer term on Tuesday 22nd April.

Please continue to keep in contact with us – should you have any questions or concerns, contact us via the following:



West Hove Infant School
admin@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk
01273 916707

Hove Junior School
hollandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk
01273 916707

Hove Junior School Inclusion Team
inclusionteam@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk
01273 916609

Best wishes,
Maddie Southern

Diary Dates

7th - 21st April - Easter Holidays
22nd April - First day of summer term
w/c 28th April - Year 4 Enrichment Week
2nd May - Infants Class Photos
3rd May - Children's Parade
5th May - Bank Holiday (school closed)
12th - 16th May - SATs Week



Year 2 Trip to Drusillas

As part of our rainforest topic, Year 2 went on a trip to Drusillas last week! We saw lots of amazing animals including penguins, camels, armadillos, and monkeys. We also got to ride the train which was very exciting. The lovely zookeepers told us all about the rainforest and we got to touch a cockroach, a millipede and a python!



Year 2 Drama and Dance Workshops

Year 2 loved their Seaside themed drama and dance workshops this week. We will be learning all about the seaside during our Summer term topic after the Easter holidays.

Each class imagined being different sea creatures and worked together to move as these creatures.

We enjoyed learning about how to be change makers and protect the environment from plastic pollution.



Year 2 Rainforest Instruments

Year 2 loved creating rainforest instruments in DT this week.

We designed our instruments and thought about the materials we would need. Then, once we had made our instruments, we played along to a rainforest song to test them out!

We evaluated what worked well and what we would do next time to make them even better.



ECO COMMITTEE

Eco Committee have loved raising awareness about the different creative ways to use food waste this term. Over the past few weeks, we have created dyes by boiling up anything we might throw away to create vibrant dyes (for example peels and petals from dying cut flowers).

Some of the waste we have made dye from include turmeric peel, dying rose petals, beetroot peel, kale stumps and even onion peel! We had a special event where we gathered together and painted beautiful Spring cards.

We hope this inspires you to use your food waste in different ways at home 😊

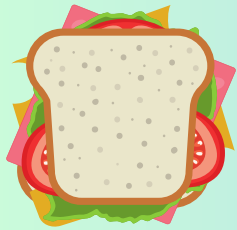


Year 3 Wind Farm Trip

Year 3 had a fantastic trip to the Rampion Wind Farm Visitor Centre, to celebrate their "Trash to Treasure" topic. They did litter picking on the seafront, wore VR headsets to experience what the wind turbines look like up close, and did an experiment to see how many blades are optimal on a turbine.

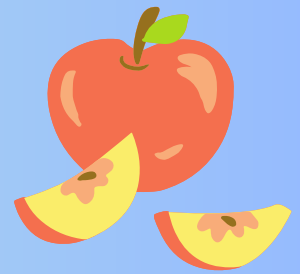
In the words of Rocco (3G), "I found it very interesting and I learnt a lot!"





Spotlight on our Day!

School Road



In each newsletter we are going to shine a spotlight on a part of day giving an insight into our school routines. This fortnight, we are going to tell you about our fabulous lunchtimes!

Years 1 and 2:

- When it is lunchtime, we line up at our classroom door remembering hedgehog hands and bubbles in mouths.
- We are really proud of how quietly and sensibly our classes walk around school!
- Our teachers check we have the right coloured lunch bands and children with allergies have lanyards to make sure they get the right meal.
- Our teacher then leads us up to the canteen and makes sure we are given the right food and that we sit at our allocated tables.
- Each class also has an assigned MDSA to look after us and check everyone has what they need.
- It is lovely to talk to our friends and re-energize after a busy morning of learning!
- Once we have had the chance to eat our food, one of the MSDAs will shake a tambourine and we all stop to listen carefully to which playground our year group will be on.
- If we haven't finished eating we are given extra time.
- When we have finished our food, we sit quietly with our arms crossed and an adult will let us know we can go and start playing outside.

Reception:

- We eat our lunches in the hall.
- We all have our own class MDSA and that MDSA encourages us to eat our dinner.
- We love carrying our trays independently and using our cutlery in a sensible way.
- Some of us like to bring in our own packed lunches.
- It is a calm space when we eat our food and then when we have eaten enough we sit nicely until an adult checks we are ready to go.

Playgrounds

- We have lots of games and activities to do at lunchtime.
- Some of us love playing football or climbing the pirate ship in the Snug.
- Some of us like to join in games with the sports coaches or Year 5 buddies.
- Some of us like to do calm activities like drawing, colouring or reading books.
- A small group of us needs the quiet supportive space in the nurture group.
- We can go in to use the toilet but don't return to our classrooms till after lunchtime break is finished.
- There are always lots of adults and older children to support us as we play.

Hove Learning Federation – Governor Update

Spring Term 2025

As we head into the final term of this school year, the governing board has been busy – not only visiting classrooms and supporting staff but also strengthening our team. We know that schools thrive when they are part of a vibrant, well-supported community – and governors play a key role in making that happen.

We're pleased to welcome four new members to the Hove Learning Federation governing board.

Oyinkolade Akinleye

Law, local government & community insight

Oyinkolade works in housing strategy at the council and is studying for a Masters in Intellectual Property and Technology Law. Oyinkolade brings leadership experience from student and community leadership roles and a strong commitment to inclusion and local engagement.

Alex Scott

Strategic communications & education sector experience

A senior consultant in fundraising, organisational development and communications, Alex has worked with organisations like YoungMinds, NSPCC and the University of Brighton. A school parent and former Vice-Chair at Stanford Junior, Alex also brings valuable experience of school governance.

Katie Kershaw

Reputation, risk management & parent voice

Katie has over two decades' experience in public relations, corporate reputation and business transformation. She brings a calm, clear approach to navigating change – and a parent's perspective too.

Sam Seaborne Self

Strategy, operations & system leadership

Sam is a consultant at the council and has held senior roles in education and global charities. With expertise in finance, HR and data, Sam brings practical strengths to support the schools' strategic and operational planning.

Spotlight on Monitoring Visits

As governors, one of our key responsibilities is to act as a critical friend to the school – offering support and challenge to ensure the highest standards are being

maintained. Monitoring visits are a key part of what we do.

Here's a snapshot from two recent visits:

Reading monitoring

"It was clear why reading is such a strength across the school. Staff showed real expertise and ambition – not just maintaining strong outcomes but always looking to improve.

Pupils spoke positively and confidently about reading – even those who find it more of a challenge, which really says a lot about the school's ethos and approach."

— David Karp, Head of Curriculum and Inclusion Committee

SEND, safeguarding & disadvantaged pupils

"We saw a calm, purposeful atmosphere and real care for every child. It was impressive to see inclusive practice in action and how well supported pupils felt.

The children spoke clearly and confidently about their learning, and it was lovely to hear how much they enjoy school and know how to access help if needed."

— Lisa Marshall, Co-Vice Chair

Looking ahead

We know this is a time of change, and we're committed to keeping families informed. Our focus remains on supporting our schools and making sure every child continues to thrive.

If you'd like to get in touch, governors can be contacted via the school office or through our dedicated email; clerk@hovelearningfederation.brighton-hove.sch.uk.

Best wishes from all HLF governors



Invitation

Parenting in the Digital Age

Thursday 1st May, 18:30 - 20:30

Patcham High School, Brighton

- ⚡ Listen to our incredible panel of experts in paediatrics, mental health, the police and education.
- ⚡ Hear from the inspiring Year 10 students who are delivering workshops for the city's primary children explaining what it's really like to own a smartphone.
- ⚡ Meet other parents who are considering delaying giving their child a smartphone until at least the age of 14.
- ⚡ Q&A with our experts to answer your burning questions.

Reserve your seat by scanning the code or visiting sfcbrighton.co.uk/event



Patcham High has very limited parking on site. Once that is full there is on-street parking surrounding the school - allow time to walk from there. We encourage you to share lifts or travel by foot/bike/no. 5 bus.

Audience feedback from our January event

Really powerful and inspiring event - thank you.
Lots to take away and act on with our school community.



"Amazing and inspiring!"



It was fantastic, informative, inspiring!



Get informed • Support our children • Sign the pact

Our Panel of Speakers

More speakers may be announced closer to the time.



Mandy Marshall-Taylor, Schools Associate, Naked Truth

Over the past seventeen years Mandy's work has been to strengthen relationships in schools, prisons and churches. She has been with Naked Truth since 2021, helping to raise awareness of the damaging effects of pornography on children and young people. Mandy will be chairing our event.



Dr Eleanor Mason MBBS BSc, General Practitioner

Dr Mason has worked locally as a doctor for 12 years. She quickly took a keen interest in mental health after realising the substantial suffering of those with mental health problems. Dr Mason will focus on the impact of smartphones on teenagers and young children's mental health as she sees the deleterious effects they are having in her GP surgery every week. She is desperate to instigate change amongst this vulnerable group of people whose current mental health, future development and potential is in our hands.



DCI Luke Kyriakides-Yeldham & DI Cyntac Belong Sussex Police Online Child Abuse Team

DCI Kyriakides and DI Belong both started their service in the Metropolitan Police, before moving to the Sussex Police. As senior members of the Online Child Abuse Team, they will discuss the sharing of indecent images on smartphones, including sexting, sextortion and online grooming.



Dr Sharmila Jeyasingh MBBS MRCP Consultant Paediatrician

Dr Jeyasingh works at the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital and has a special interest in epilepsy and neurology. She has over 25 years experience in paediatrics and has an enthusiastic interest in how the environment and lifestyle affects children's health. She will share neuroscientific insights into children's excess screen time.



Viv, Aishah, Josh and Domi

Year 10 students, Varndean School

Viv and Aishah will be talking about what it was like to have a smartphone at an early age. Later in the evening, Josh and Domi will tell us about the inspiring action taken by student leaders at Varndean School to explain the risks and downsides of smartphones to children in local primary schools.

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

Come and give your parenting skills a 'workout'...

Parent Gym is coming to West Hove Infant and Hove Junior School

*** our first face to face programme since pre-covid ***

We know from talking with parents and carers that many of you wonder what you can do to give your children the best start in life (and make your life as a parent/carer a bit easier too).

This is why we're delighted to offer Parent Gym, a well-established, six-week programme that shares and explores practical tips and strategies to make family life easier and help your children thrive.

All parents/carers are welcome to apply and places will be filled on a first come first served basis. Through our relationship with Parent Gym the programme is free for parents.

Each weekly session lasts two hours, and will take place in the hall at the Children's Centre, West Hove Infants, School Road Site (Parents/Carers from all sites welcome) on:

Tuesdays from 9 until 11

1st April 2025 : Taster (**45 mins**) – shorter session for you to meet the coach and find out more about the sessions.

29th April 2025: Chat (2 hours) – Help your family talk and listen to each other

6/5/25: Love (2 hours) – Build self-esteem and independence through secure attachments

13/5/25: Behave (2 hours) – Bring calm and order to your home

20/5/25: Care (2 hours) – Looking after ourselves and our families

Half Term: no session

3/6/25: Discover (2 hours) – Support your children to learn and explore

10/6/25: Together (2 hours) – Look to the future and recapping key techniques

To confirm your place, please email naomimiller@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Maddie Southern

Head Teacher

How to sign up

Speak to:

Naomi Miller naomimiller@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk

or call:

01273916707

The six, weekly sessions run (for two hours) from:

9am until 11am

on:

Tuesdays

from:

29th April 2025

at:

The Children's Centre - West Hove Infants - School Road Site

Before the six-week programme begins, come along for a short, introductory session to find out what Parent Gym is all about:

1st April 2025 - 9am



Your name:

Mobile number:

What is the one parenting question you'd most like answered?

Parent Gym and our coaches will use your details to administer the programme, to notify you of any changes or cancellations etc and to communicate with you about the programme. Your contact details may also be shared between Parent Gym and the school/centre hosting the programme, so that either party can provide you with similar notifications. We will not share your contact details with anybody else. Parent Gym's privacy policy is available at: parentgym.com/privacy-policy.

Parent Gym is a philanthropic programme funded entirely by Mind Gym (Company No. 03833448)

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Weekly workshops
for parents
with children
aged 2-11



To help your
child be happy,
confident and
do well



www.parentgym.com



@ParentGym



facebook.com/ParentGym

Six-week programme overview

Parent Gym is a course of six workshops: each session lasts two hours and is packed with practical tips and techniques to make family life easier and help your children thrive.

- Fun and interactive sessions, with a weekly 'mission' to practise at home
- Rooted in scientific research
- A great chance to meet and chat with other parents

Each week's session covers one of these key topics:

01 / Week

Chat

How to communicate

Get you and your child talking and listening in a positive way every day.

02 / Week

Love

How to show you care, in the right ways

Boosting your child's confidence, with a balance between closeness and independence.

03 / Week

Behave

How to be consistent in setting boundaries

Bring calm to your family with rules and routines that really work.

04 / Week

Care

How to raise healthy children

Keep yourself and your family healthy and happy with good sleep, eating and exercise.

05 / Week

Discover

How to encourage learning

Help develop healthy learning habits with your child, including managing screen time.

06 / Week

Together

How to build a family support network

Keep your family feeling happy, supported and loved.

Still looking for a reason to take part?

Around **10,000** parents have already participated

Parents' feedback

"I am calm... the family is happier..."

96% of those surveyed would recommend to other parents

It is amazing how a course can change your life."

Parent, Morningside Childrens Centre

"I'm sleeping through the night for the first time in years."

Parent, Boxgrove Primary School

"Parent Gym has worked wonders for me and my family. It's not

about who's a good or bad parent – it just gives you lots of ideas to overcome difficulties in parenting."

Parent, Mount Stewart Junior School



Schools Mental Health Service



Does your child struggle to go to school?

Regular drop-in sessions for parents/carers of children/young people struggling to go to school.

Hosted by Family Support Workers, the sessions are a space to access information and support and meet other parents facing the same challenges.

Tuesday 22 April online 7 – 8.30pm

Wednesday 7 May 10 -11.30am at Alcampo Bar, London Rd

Tuesday 3 June online 10 – 11.30am

Tuesday 8 July 10—11.30am at Alcampo Bar, London Rd

To find out more or book onto the online sessions, please email Jo Roeg: jo.roeg@brighton-hove.gov.uk



It all starts with...



All Stars Cricket is the best cricket experience for 5-8 year-olds

All kids are guaranteed to develop new skills **while** having fun **and** making friends

Participants receive a personalised backpack of goodies **including a bat, ball and t-shirt!**



Sign up today at
allstarscricket.co.uk





DYNAMOS
CRICKET

This is our game.

Calling all 8-11 year olds!

Whether a graduate from All Stars or new to the sport, Dynamos Cricket is an exciting way for kids to play, learn cricket skills and make new friends.

Participants receive a personalised New Balance shirt with their name and chosen number.

Sign up
today



dynamoscricicket.co.uk

bricycles.org.uk

07812 036415 / kidicalmass@bricycles.org.uk

Children must be accompanied by an adult



On the 27 April Brighton and Hove's epic family-friendly mass cycle ride will return to fill the city with music, colour and kids on bikes!

This is a fully safety-stewarded and free event for people of all ages to ride safely on our streets and call for a city where everyone can use cycling to get around securely and independently.



YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY

Hove Junior School

WE'VE LAUNCHED A LOTTERY

Buy your tickets now to
help our fundraising

Tickets cost just £1

All profits go to our school

Local cash prize every week

Chance to win the £25,000 jackpot!



[Play Now](#)



Are you concerned about your child's mental health?



- Anxiety
- Low mood
- Difficulties regulating emotions
- Self esteem and confidence
- Sleep difficulties
- Fears and phobias
- Separation, loss and bereavement



Scan the QR code below to *refer* your concern to Hove Learning Federation's Mental Health Lead. Link also available on our school website.

<https://www.westhoveinfants.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2023/03/Capture-1.png>



Naomi Miller (Mental Health Lead) will contact you within a week of your referral.

New referrals will be discussed at half termly triage meetings and support allocated.

NB: If you have an urgent concern about a child's mental health please call 0300 304 0061 during office hours or 0300 5000 101 outside of office hours.

Hove Learning Federation

After School Club

We offer wraparound care for your child at our **HLF** Afterschool Club. The children attend straight from school until 6pm. During this time your child can immerse themselves in Lego play, fancy dress, arts and crafts as well as play in one of our playgrounds - there's something for everyone. It gives the children a safe space to unwind after a busy day of learning with their friends, under the care of our fabulous school club team led by Eddie

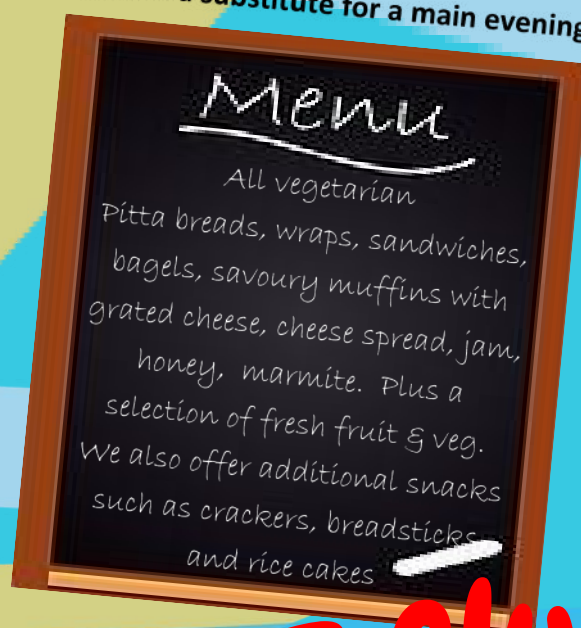
Enquiries: hlf.afterschoolclub@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk

£15 per session with 10% discount for additional siblings when attending the same session.

Book your child's space via Magic Booking ensuring to include additional information such as medical needs and allergies within the profile section.

If your child is attending another club beforehand or is being picked up by someone else, please contact Eddie and Finance team on the above email.

A high tea is also offered during this session - this is not intended as a substitute for a main evening meal.



School and Portland Road Afterschool Club is based within the School Canteen - accessed via the Infants pedestrian gate.

HLF club



easyfundraising

Shop online with your favourite retailers and you'll raise donations for FOWHIS

**By simply downloading the easyfundraising app
and signing up you raise £1 for FOWHIS**

Use the QR code to link to our fundraising page



Shop with 8,000+ retailers, including

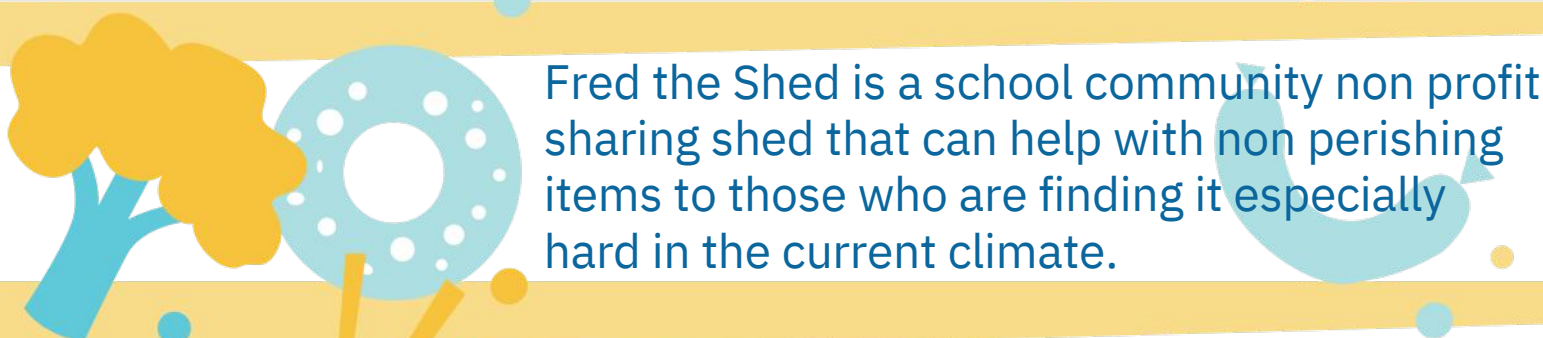


M&S

moonpig

TESCO

FRED THE SHED



Fred the Shed is a school community non profit sharing shed that can help with non perishing items to those who are finding it especially hard in the current climate.



Our aim is to help as many families in our school community as possible and it is run by volunteering parents and carers, the sharing shed completely relies on donations of non perishable items which can be dropped into either school reception areas.

OPEN every Friday
after school

along with Fred's free bakery
which comes from generous
volunteers from Olio

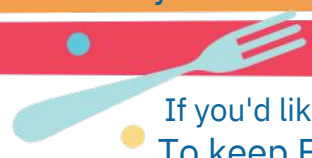
Fred the Shed is located in the juniors
front playground just next to the main gates



If you don't feel comfortable with approaching the sharing shed, please email our
anonymous email address fredshedschoolroad@gmail.com

and items can be requested and left in the school reception area.

If you'd like to support Fred the Shed with your time, contact fowhis@gmail.com
To keep Fred stocked, there are collection bins in both school receptions.





Get in
touch for a
free trial



Boost Your Child's Maths Confidence With Online Group Tuition



What we do:

- ✓ Games to support mental maths strategies
- ✓ Lessons adapted to build understanding and confidence as we go
- ✓ Friendly and collaborative environment

JUL 17

Year 6 SATS group



Time: 5.45pm

Thursdays (until May)



Where: Online



Cost: £20 per session

JUL 17

Prepare for Year 7



Time: 5.45pm

Thursdays (from May)



Where: Online



Cost: £20 per session

- Fully qualified teacher
- DBS checked
- Friendly and supportive tutor
- 20 years classroom experience

Max 4 per
group

Easter Holiday Online SATS Masterclasses

One off sessions to support confidence with SATS questions.

- ✓ Monday 7th April: Addition and Subtraction Problems
- ✓ Tuesday 8th April: Fraction Calculations
- ✓ Wednesday 9th April: Multiplication and Division Problems
- ✓ Thursday 10th April: Money Problems
- ✓ Friday 11th April: Measure Problems

10am-11am
£15 per session
or all 5 for £60

Contact Vanessa at:
mrspprimarytutor@gmail.com
or 07540827713 to secure your
child's space

Scan the QR
code to visit my
Facebook page
to find out more



WANT TO FEEL CONFIDENT IN YOUR YEAR 6 SATS?

Limited spots available in my:

 RYAN FAERS
TUITION

Year 6 Maths Group

Tuesdays (5.00-6.00pm) weekly

- Arithmetic & Reasoning papers
- Interactive quizzes
- Modelled examples

One
space
left!

First
lesson
free!

Current
teacher
and school
leader

This half term in Maths:

- 07/01** - Multiplying decimals by integers
- 14/01** - Dividing decimals by integers
- 28/01** - Understand percentages
- 04/02** - FDP equivalents
- 11/02** - Percentages of an amount - 1 step
- 18/02** - Percentages of an amount - 2 step

Year 6 English Group

Mondays (5.30-6.30pm) weekly

- Reading and Grammar papers
- Comprehension skills
- SPaG applied in writing tasks

Two
spaces
left!

This half term in English:

- 06/01** - Punctuating boundaries
- 13/01** - Non-Fiction comprehension skills
- 27/01** - Word classes
- 03/02** - Poetry comprehension strategies
- 10/02** - Punctuating sentences
- 17/02** - Fiction comprehension skills

 **Call Today**
07848699164

- Online Group Tuition
- Maximum Group Size of 4
- £25 per hour
- Maths Topic Checklist/Syllabus
- Marked Homework Task



Scan the QR
Code to Learn
More

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ryanfaersmathstutor](https://www.facebook.com/ryanfaersmathstutor)

 ryanfaers@gmail.com

Brand Vaughan are proud to be partnered with West Hove Infant School and Hove Junior School.

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vaughan

Sell or let your property with Brand Vaughan and receive
20% off our standard selling or lettings fee.

Each time you sell or let your property through Brand Vaughan, West Hove Junior School will receive **10%** of the referred selling or letting fee.

Our partnership with West Hove Junior school, not only benefits you, but also benefits your children's school.

Speak to our team today, we offer free, no obligation valuations.

Use code **WESTHOVEBV20** to claim your
20% discount.



Sales

Jimmy Atkins
01273 22 11 02



Lettings

Jenna Miles
01273 22 11 01