

Secondary phase newsletter

Friday 28th January 2022

Creating Tomorrow's Citizens Today



All-through news

We know that many of you will have joined thousands of others both here and abroad to celebrate **Burns Night** on the 25th. Robert Burns is Scotland's national poet and his songs and poems are known and sung throughout the world. We hope you all enjoyed your haggis, neeps and tatties!



Holocaust Memorial Day

Our assemblies next week will focus upon this important day in our annual calendar. Year 7 will be also linking this with their work on “celebrating difference” within their values lessons.

You may have noticed in our last newsletter that we included some seasonal phrases for several of the **home or community languages** spoken by our families at Simon Balle. Whilst Hertford traditionally appears to lack ethnic diversity, especially in its lack of culturally diverse shops, places of worship etc, there are a growing number of families within our Simon Balle community who speak another language at home. We want to celebrate this as we understand the skills that are needed. Therefore do not be surprised if I ask several of you to contribute or even better do email me (saundersa@simonballe.herts.sch.uk) with examples we can use or interesting stories. Thank you.

Safer internet day- Feb 8th, 2022

[Safer Internet Day 2022](#)

We have started this term to focus upon certain elements of this huge and ever changing topic. Password changes and online safety agreements have been reintroduced and explained. We are currently carrying out an audit of where this is taught within and across our curriculum.

Herts For Learning have produced some very useful leaflets to help parents in their understanding on how to keep their child safe. Please take a look at the most recent and do contact us if you need further help. We are looking to put on some workshops but have not agreed dates yet due to the uncertainties that still remain with last minute changes due to the covid pandemic.

[Spring 2022 Online Safety Newsletter](#)

Swimming Pool

As many of you are aware we are having to replace the lining of our swimming pool. This is disappointing as it was part of the big refurbishment project only 5 years ago. However, thanks to our amazing team, we are getting the work done in record time and to a high specification. We hope to reopen in early March. This is great news as swimming lessons are a key part of our primary curriculum along with our commitment to community lettings.

Finally a big thank you to everyone for their continued support and words of encouragement and thanks, during these most challenging times. Unfortunately the pandemic is not over and we are thankful for families who continue to test. Let's hope we will soon be in a position nationally when we are able to manage the situation and not disrupt education.

Parents with children with SEND

We are delighted to say that due to overwhelming demand we have been able to secure funding for a further 3 workshops for parents and carers in Hertfordshire with children with ASD and/or ADHD.

The additional workshops will be on the topics of Stress and Anxiety, and Responding to Anger. Both of these have been in high demand and places book quickly.

Please share the attached flyer widely with your staff and family networks. We are happy for it to be published on social media. Parents and carers are able to self-refer using the Eventbrite links embedded in the flyer.

We thank you for your help in promoting this valuable source of support from HCC.

Best wishes,

Jessica Foster-Edwards

Parenting Consultant and Group Facilitator

Supporting Links



www.supportinglinks.co.uk

Summer School

We are pleased to announce that, after the huge success of last year's Year 7 Summer School, we will be rolling this out again this summer for all students joining us in Year 7 this September.

We have seen firsthand the substantial impact it has had in supporting children making a successful transition, socially and academically. Therefore we are aiming for 100% uptake this year and strongly encourage all parents to take up this opportunity for their child, if at all possible

The Summer School will take place on Monday 22nd - Wednesday 24th of August with the students enjoying a range of academic and enrichment activities.

Further details will be shared with parents as part of the transition process in the summer term.

Dates

Wednesday 2nd February	2nd Covid vaccinations
Tuesday 8th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 9th Feb	Y13 parents evening
Mon 14th to Fri 18th Feb	HALF TERM
Monday 21st February	Inset day school closed for students
Monday 3rd March	DTP/MenACWY injections Y9
Tues 22nd to Fri 25th March	Y7 Bawdsey residential trip



Simon Balle PSA have teamed up with Joules clothing to bring a Joules Seconds sale to Hertford.

The Joules team will be at Simon Balle All-through School on Wednesday 2nd March, selling heavily discounted end of line, imperfections, samples and returns. You will find a variety of clothing, footwear and accessories for all ages, sizes and occasions.

Tickets will *not be available on the door* and are strictly advance purchase only, via this link: <https://simon-balle-all-through-school-psa.sumup.link/> Tickets cost £6 and a limited number of just 65 will be released for each of the time slots. This is to accommodate Covid mitigations, as requested by Joules.

Please ensure you wear a face covering, unless exempt and kindly note children are not permitted.

Sale slots as follows:

6.15-7.15pm

7.30-8.30pm

You will need to show your proof of purchase upon arrival, and will not be admitted before your time slot.

Sales will close 24 hours before the event, or sooner should tickets sell out. The Joules team will be managing sales. All items are sold as seen, no returns or exchanges. Please do bring your own bags for your purchases.



CHIPS Playschemes



Have you got lots of energy, patience and understanding to work with children with a variety of special needs and their siblings in a regular group setting?

Staff Needed for Saturday Clubs in Hoddesdon, Cheshunt & Bishops Stortford

Saturday mornings (2 – 3 per month) 9.30am - 1.00pm and a few days at Christmas, Easter and for 2-3 weeks in the summer holidays from 9.30-4.00pm

Staff Needed for Saturday Clubs in Ware and Waltham Cross

Saturday afternoons (2-3 per month) 1.30pm to 5pm

Saturday mornings (2 – 3 per month) 9.30am - 1.00pm and a few days at Christmas, Easter and for 2-3 weeks in the summer holidays from 9.30-4.00pm

Flexible contract - we send out a rota in advance so you can choose the sessions you work

Assistants £8.91 per hour

Experienced assistants £9.37 per hour



CHIPS runs integrated Playschemes for children with special needs aged 3-19 years.

Contact Anita Ash by email

anita@chipsplay.org

for an application form and more details.

www.chipsplay.org