

Secondary phase newsletter

Friday 17th March 2023

Creating Tomorrow's Citizens Today



All through news

Welcome to our latest all through news. Recently parents within our community received news of their Y7 allocations for September- emotions mixed with excitement and also apprehension. Soon we will roll out our well established and highly regarded transition programme.

It is that sense of community that I want to write about today. Daily I am reminded by parents, visitors and the children themselves how strong that sense of the Simon Balle Community is. How grandparents, parents and now their children are part of who we are; who knows who in Hertford and how so many people are linked. In so many ways this is important, for our values and high expectations are accepted and lived out. Communities help each other to grow and flourish and so many ex students are eager to help us on our next journey. Indeed, our latest addition to the Governing Body, Adam Cooper, a parent, came here himself (actually before I was Head!)

So many of our traditions and experiences are held dear. This week I watched as our Y3's were totally engrossed in producing their best cursive handwriting for the Queen Mother's national writing competition. A tradition that others will remember. Obviously there is some interest in the community as to when I will myself "go to the palace" to receive my award. To be frank, I have no idea. However last week, David, my husband and I attended a Hertfordshire civic reception for award winners, 2022-2023. To my utter surprise I was greeted by a rallying call out of the blue "Mrs Saunders" only to be approached by two women, who told me they were ex Simon Balle students.

When you realise just how few people receive an award, how amazing is it that one of our ex students is there for the very same reason. Verity Naylor (ex Birch) is Director of Operations for the Paralympics and had exciting stories to tell. Her visit to the palace is very soon! You can tell how proud I was for her! Of equal delight was when she and her sister Lucy recounted how many ex Simon Balle friends they

have and how important their time in school was. So, the Simon Balle Community ever expands and indeed continues to create tomorrow's citizens! Well done Verity!



Music news

A fabulous musical half term is taking place, with so many performances and celebrations. Please take a moment to read our online newsletter and listen to some of the music!

<https://www.simonballe.herts.sch.uk/musical-news-march-2023/>

Antarctica Flag

Our Antarctica Flag has reached Antarctica! Natalia Ford volunteered to take the flag to the Rothera Research Station. Natalia is the 'Antarctic Infrastructure Modernisation Project' Sustainability Manager. As you can see from the photographs there is a lot of construction going on at Rothera at the

moment to modernise the facilities there and to improve the sustainability of the buildings and infrastructure there.

Well done to all of the students who contributed.



Dates for the diary

WHOLE SCHOOL	
Friday 31st March	End of term (normal finish time)
Monday 17th April	Start of summer term
Monday 1st May	Bank holiday
Monday 8th May	Bank holiday
29th May to Friday 2nd June	Half term
SECONDARY	
Saturday 18th March	A Celebration of Singing and Strings (6.30 - 8.30pm)
Monday 20th March	Y10 parents exam & information evening
Tuesday 28th March	Rock Gig (7pm)
Wednesday 29th March	Drama showcase
Monday 3rd April to 7th April	Y8 and Y9 sports tour
Tuesday 18th April to 21st April	Y7 residential trip to Bawdsey
Saturday 22nd April	A Celebration of Wind & Brass (6.30 - 8.30pm)
Wednesday 26th April	Y8 parents evening
PRIMARY	
W/C 20th March	Reception parent conversations
Monday 20th March	Year 4, 5 & 6 Ware Drill Hall Music Festival "Esther" (7pm)
Wednesday 22nd March	Y3 Celtic Harmony camp trip
	A Larch Celebration of Music (6 - 7pm)
Monday 27th March	Cross Country Event, Hertford Rugby Club
Tuesday 28th March	KS1 SATs parent workshop, Larch Hall
Thursday 30th March	Y4 performance 5pm (change of date)
Friday 31st March	Year 6 Sports Leader morning
Tuesday 9th-Friday 12th May	Year 6 SATs week
W/C 22nd May	Y1,3,4,5 and 6 parent consultations (Y2 after May half-term)

Secondary news

Y8 Spanish trip

In the early hours of Monday 27th February on a very cold morning, 50, year 8 students from Simon Balle, met at Luton Airport. The excitement was high and after a straight forward journey, we arrived in sunny Malaga. We headed to our resort of Torremolinos and we were very happy to arrive at a clean, modern hotel with views over the sea from our rooms. The students

couldn't wait another moment to head to the seafront so off we went. Although much warmer and sunnier than the temperatures we'd left back home, it certainly wasn't 'barmy' but this didn't deter the students from having an excellent time playing in the sea. Students also got the chance to practise their Spanish straight away with time to explore the shops on the promenade. The 'heladería' (ice cream shop) was definitely a favourite! We finished off our first day with a flamenco lesson with Leo, a professional dancer. Although very tired from the early start, the opportunity to learn this new skill was relished by all, including the teachers! Over the next two days we had day trips to Grenada and Cordoba. Students were fascinated by the history of Alhambra and loved the churros that Grenada had to offer too. In Cordoba, students marvelled at the architecture of Mezquita and then braved the views from the top of the Fortress of Alcazar. For our final day students enjoyed some well-earned down time by the beach and made the most of the Spanish sunshine for one last morning. Students completed their journals each evening and it was great to see their confidence growing as the days went by with new language being learned. Students returned home excited to be reunited with their families but also full of joy and happy memories of a special few days. It has been lovely hearing students talking about their time away around the school since we've been back and we are delighted that they found it such a valuable experience.



Drama showcase

Tickets for the Drama Showcase are now on sale and can be purchased via the Finance Office. The Drama Showcase takes place on Wednesday 29th March at 7pm in the secondary hall and will feature 3 short, student-led musicals, plus a variety of outstanding performances from KS3, 4 and 5 students. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible there on the night to support our performers.

PSA news

1st July Slice of Summer - Volunteer Opportunities

Plans are coming together for this year's Slice of Summer. We are keen for both phases of the school to unite to create a truly all-through event.

If you are able to volunteer at the Slice of Summer, please complete this form as soon as you can but ideally before 1st June. This will help us to then confirm volunteer sign ups in good time.

<https://forms.gle/XtwzEkR6eXh3bNN4A>

Stallholder Registration

We have reviewed how we manage external stallholder bookings. If you wish to be added to our stallholder database, please complete this form:

<https://forms.gle/pztbAoBeUNjV6m4V7>

When we are planning an event, be it the summer and winter fairs or fashion and beauty evenings, we will contact those registered - with a booking opportunity, if appropriate.

Soon, we will be opening up new stall holder bookings for the Slice of Summer, do register if you wish to express interest. Please note, we will prioritise bookings to previous stallholders and goods/services which do not conflict with existing bookings, plans and arrangements.

Thank you for your interest and support.

20th March - PSA Meeting

Please join us in the Jubilee Suite on Monday from 7.30pm to learn about upcoming events, such as the Music Department's Wind and Brass evening on 22nd April (Sign up to help here:

volunteersignup.org/WT7KY).

Monday 20th March
Thursday 4th May
Thursday 15th June

7.30-9pm
Refreshments from 7pm

Jubilee Suite

Enter via double gates, to the left of the Larch Hall.
Jubilee Suite is located between the science block and trim trail.

PSA meetings
All welcome

20th April - Bag2School Collection

We have booked another Bag2School collection, just in time for your Easter holiday spring clean!

Before the Easter break, each child in Larch will receive a recycling bag. Secondary families are welcome to participate too. More information to follow!

If you are able to volunteer with this initiative, please sign up here: volunteersignup.org/WT7KY



Hertfordshire County Council Services for Young People

HOLIDAY ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

at Herts Young Mariners Base,
231 Windmill Lane, Cheshunt
EN8 9AJ

Join us this Easter
Mon 3 April to Thurs 6 April
1-5pm each day

For young people aged 13-16

Priority booking for those eligible for
benefits-related free school meals

- Fun physical activities such as sports, dance and team games
- Creative activities such as music production, cooking, arts and crafts.
- Informal healthy lifestyles workshops
- Meet and socialise with other young people
- Free healthy food every day

Use the QR code below or contact
SfYP Broxbourne Team to sign up.

Area Team Manager: Mark Hughes
Youth Work Practice Manager: Russell Cairns

Tel: 01992 588220 Text: 07860 065173
sfyp.broxbourne@hertfordshire.gov.uk
www.servicesforyoungpeople.org
@BroxbourneTeam





Hertfordshire County Council Services for Young People

HOLIDAY ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

at Bishop's Stortford Young
People's Centre, 14 Northgate End,
Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2EU

Join us this Easter
Mon 3 April to Thurs 6 April
2-6pm each day

For young people aged 13-16

Priority booking for those eligible for
benefits-related free school meals

- Fun physical activities such as sports, dance and team games
- Creative activities such as music production, cooking, arts and crafts.
- Informal healthy lifestyles workshops
- Meet and socialise with other young people
- Free healthy food every day

Use the QR code below or contact
SfYP East Herts Team to sign up.

Area Team Manager: Mark Hughes
Youth Work Practice Manager: Russell Cairns

Tel: 01992 588220 Text: 07860 065173
sfyp.eastherts@hertfordshire.gov.uk
www.servicesforyoungpeople.org
@EastHertsTeam





Hertfordshire County Council Services for Young People

HOLIDAY ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

at Breaks Manor Centre, Link Drive,
Hatfield AL10 8TP

Join us this Easter
Mon 3 April to Thurs 6 April
3-7pm each day

For young people aged 13-16

Priority booking for those eligible for
benefits-related free school meals

- Fun physical activities such as sports, dance and team games
- Creative activities such as music production, cooking, arts and crafts.
- Informal healthy lifestyles workshops
- Meet and socialise with other young people
- Free healthy food every day

Use the QR code below or contact
SfYP Welwyn Hatfield Team to sign up.

Area Team Manager: Mark Hughes
Youth Work Practice Manager: Russell Cairns

Tel: 01992 588220 Text: 07860 065173
sfyp.welwynhatfield@hertfordshire.gov.uk
www.servicesforyoungpeople.org
@WelHatTeam



Services for
Young People

Easter Egg Drive

Future Living Hertford is collecting for families in need this Easter. The generosity shown by the Simon Balle community in the Christmas Gift Drive made such a difference for the families we work with.

We will be passing on donated Easter eggs to clients so they have the opportunity to make Easter special for their children.



What to do...

- Donate an Easter egg for a child. (We are looking for eggs for all ages from babies to teenagers.)
- Drop off the eggs at the school office.
- All donated eggs to be in school by Friday 24th March.



Registered Charity No: 1155145



Hello, parents & guardians!

We are **BeeZee Bodies**, and we work with Hertfordshire County Council to provide FREE (and FUN!) healthy lifestyles support for families.

We run **BeeZee Families** courses after school, across Herts, or you could join our online courses instead. We have new groups beginning in May. Click below to sign up for your family's FREE place!*



SCAN ME WITH YOUR
SMARTPHONE CAMERA OR
CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!



*to be eligible for this awesome free service, your family must live/go to school/be registered with a GP in Hertfordshire and include one child aged 5 - 15 who is above their ideal healthy weight



Roll into Spring

Each year, 20th March marks the first day of SPRING! As we look forward to longer days and warmer weather, try these tasty **Rainbow Spring Rolls** to get you excited for all the yummy vegetables to come over the season.

Ingredients:

For the roll:

- 1 Spring Roll Wrapper (Rice Paper OR Small Tortilla Wrap)
- Red & Yellow Bell Pepper
- Cucumber
- Carrot
- Purple Cabbage

Any other veggies you like or have in the fridge (it doesn't have to be a rainbow!)

For the dip:

- 2 tbsp Soy sauce
- 1 tsp Hoisin
- 1/2 tsp Rice Vinegar
- 1/2 tsp Maple Syrup
- 1/2 tsp Sriracha

What to do:

1. Choose which veggies you'd like in your roll and chop them all into thin matchstick-size strips
2. If using rice paper, soak in warm water until it softens and becomes flexible. If using a tortilla wrap, skip steps 2 & 3
3. Remove the wrapper from the water and place it on your chopping board - pat it dry with a paper towel
4. Add your assortment of colourful veggies to the centre of the wrapper
5. Fold the sides in towards the centre, and roll it up tight from the bottom
6. For the dip: measure all ingredients into a small bowl and stir to combine
7. With a sharp knife, carefully cut your rainbow spring roll in half, dip and enjoy!

Top Tip

If you don't have the ingredients for the dip on hand, soy sauce by itself tastes great too! You can also experiment with other ingredients you have to create your own sauce!

LIONEL BART'S
Oliver!

Lionel Bart's award-winning adaptation of the classic Dickens novel Oliver Twist springs to life.

This exhilarating story of one boy's survival against all the odds is packed with pathos, drama and outstanding musical numbers.

Food, Glorious Food, I'd Do Anything, Where is Love?, Consider Yourself, As Long as He Needs Me, Who Will Buy? and *Reviewing the Situation* are all musical theatre classics.

A great musical for all the family.

Ticket order form	Adult	U 16s	Qty
Tues. 28th March at 7.30pm	£19	£17	
Wed. 29th March at 7.30pm	£20	£17	
Thurs. 30th March at 7.30pm	£20	£17	
Fri. 31 March at 7.30pm	£21	£17	
Sat. 1st April at 2.30pm	£21	£17	
Sat. 1st April at 7.30pm	£21	£17	

Discount of £1 per ticket on bookings of 10 or more adult seats booked at the same time for the same performance

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....Post Code.....

Email.....

Tel.....

How to get tickets

On line: www.waremusicaltheatre.org.uk

Phone: 07754 781049

Post: Ware Musical Theatre Box Office

12 Raynham Street, Hertford SG13 7DF

Cheques payable to Ware Operatic Society

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope

Date.....

Venue: The production takes place at The Drill Hall, Ware SG12 9HP. Directions on Google maps

Parking: Recommended Amwell End West car park or Kibes Lane car park

By Rail: Ware (Herts) Station 3 minutes walk.

Regular trains run from Liverpool Street via Tottenham Hale (around 45 Minutes)

To keep you informed of future productions and to give you the opportunity of priority booking we will include you on our mailing list. We will not pass your details on to any third party. Ware Musical Theatre is committed to protecting personal information. For details of our Privacy Policy please visit our website.

Ware Musical Theatre is a Registered Charity 282781



Ware
Musical
Theatre

LIONEL BART'S

Oliver!

**Tues. 28 March
to Sat. April 1, 7.30pm
Sat. Matinee 2.30pm**

**Ware Drill Hall, Amwell End
Ware SG12 9HP**

Book, Music and Lyrics by LIONEL BART

Orchestral arrangements by William David Brohn

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
All authorised performance materials are supplied by MTI
www.mtishows.co.uk

Book tickets online at
www.waremusicaltheatre.org.uk
or phone 07754 781049

