

# Primary phase newsletter

Friday 12th May 2023

*Creating Tomorrow's Citizens Today*



## All through news

Dear Families,

An end of another historic week, with the coronation only 6 days ago.

We hope that the various events that took place last weekend were enjoyable and memorable. We know some families went into London on Saturday, whilst others simply watched the events from various venues. On Sunday, a number of our community held or attended street parties, and some even got tickets for the amazing concert. On Monday, others of you took up the challenge of volunteering and it has been great to hear of these efforts.

Combined with our fun run, we too in a small way, looked ahead to the event. Despite the rain, some students embraced that royal theme, with our youngest children receiving commemorative medals, which hopefully they will treasure.

Continue to enjoy the music and photos which are being streamed as coronations are most certainly not everyday occurrences!

Meanwhile, this week has been an important one for so many of our students; Y6 SATS this week, Year 2 SATs (their 'special booklets') over the next fortnight, and for Y11 and Y13, move into revision lessons as the exams start next week. The term is most certainly moving on! We are so proud of all of our students for the ways in which they are demonstrating wisdom and resilience and aspiration.

Thank you to those who have passed on to their friends and neighbours news of our staffing vacancies. I am pleased to report that already four people have come forward. Please continue to spread the word.

The PSA are working hard on their next major project- the much loved "Slice of Summer" returns on Saturday 1 July. Please see below on how to volunteer or make a donation. This is one of our

major fundraising events of our year- we really do need that third minibus! As well as this, we delight in holding so many community events and look forward, as ever, to the special ethos created at our all-through events. Please see our fun-run celebration below, and much more to follow in relation to music and sport this term.

We look forward now to better weather and seeing you all at the vast number of calendared events!

## SEND

If you would like to book a virtual appointment of up to 15 minutes with a member of the SEND team use the following link:

<https://calendly.com/send-drop-ins/send-drop-in-meetings?month=2022-12>

## Recruitment and leadership

Following the successful appointment of Mike Moss and Rachel Kirk as co-headteachers from September 2023, we are continuing to build the senior leadership team in exciting ways to nurture and continually support our all-through school. We are delighted to announce the appointment of two all-through deputy headteachers: Lucy Owen and James Pooley. Following a robust and challenging recruitment process, we are so pleased that Mrs Owen and Mr Pooley will be continuing to lead in innovative ways with the ultimate aim to support every student, academically and pastorally. We will continue to communicate with all stakeholders in relation to recruitment and leadership.

## Fun run

What a fantastic all-through community event last Friday with students getting into the celebratory spirit and also showing great resilience in the bad weather! Thank you to the PSA and volunteers who supported on the day and in preparation for the event. Also a big thank you to you all for your kind donations so far, which has seen us raise over £5000. Here is the link which closes today should you still want to contribute:



## Dates for the Diary

WHOLE SCHOOL	
29th May to Friday 2nd June	Half term
Tuesday 6th June	A Piano Evening (Mr Lovell & Mrs Iles' Y6 & 7 students), 6-7pm
Saturday 1st July	Slice of summer
Sunday 9th July	Saffron Hall
Monday 10th July	Stevensons 'pop up' shop 3pm to 8pm
Thursday 13th July	Year 6 Transition day
Monday 4th September	This is now an INSET day
Tuesday 5th September	All students return to school
SECONDARY	
Monday 15th May	Start of public exams
Monday 22nd May	Year 9 MEN ACWY/ DTP - Vaccinations
Monday 22nd May - 26th May	Year 7 assessments week 1
Monday 5th June - 9th June	Year 7 assessments week 2
Wednesday 7th June	Ms Fitch's Singing Evening, 6 - 7pm
Tuesday 20th June	Mr Lovell's Piano Evening (Y8 & 9 students), 6-7pm
Thursday 22nd June	Guitar Platform Evening, 6 - 7pm
Wednesday 28th June	Mr Stevenson's Drum Evening, 6 - 7pm
PRIMARY	
W/C 22nd May	Y1,3,4,5 and 6 parent consultations (Y2 after May half-term)
Monday 5th June	Larch class photos
Mon 12th-Wed 14th June	Y6 residential to Sheringham
W/C 19th June	Y2 parent consultations

## PSA news

### Larch uniform donations

Thank you so much for all the Larch used uniform donations, however we are running out of room to store them in the office. If you would like to donate some uniform please email the PSA on [Psa@simonballepsa.org.uk](mailto:Psa@simonballepsa.org.uk) to arrange a time for drop off. Many thanks

### 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>



## 30th September Quiz Night

We are delighted to share that, back by popular demand, we will be hosting "A Quiz with A Twist" on 30th September. Please save the date!!

If you are interested in volunteering at future events such as the quiz night or supporting the bar at any of the music events, please register via this [form](#). You will be contacted about volunteer opportunities in due course. Thank you in advance.



**Summer term**  
**Frozen Friday**

**Lead organiser needed**

Traditionally, after the May half term, the PSA host Frozen Fridays for Larch families.  
The sale takes place each Friday between 3.15-3.30pm.

We are looking for one or two people that would be willing to take on Lead Frozen Friday Organiser this year, plus a number of helpers to facilitate the sale each week after school.

We currently have nobody to organise the sale/order stock. Can you help?

This is an event that the children really look forward to and we would like to be able offer Frozen Friday again this year.

[psa@simonballepsa.org.uk](mailto:psa@simonballepsa.org.uk)

## Primary news

### End of KS2 SATs: Year 6

We are incredibly proud of Year 6 after a busy week of completing their SATs exams! They have shown all of our values- including responsibility, hope, wisdom and kindness to each other. We look forward to sharing with you their results once we receive them from the DFE around mid-July. Their achievements are thanks to the partnership between home and school since their journey started in reception, and we know the children will be well prepared for the next stage of their journey into the secondary phase. The children have lots to look forward to- continuing their wider and core curriculum, their residential to Sheringham, transition to Year 7 and fantastic Larch graduation events to celebrate their time in the primary phase!

### Teaching and learning - a fact from each year group!

Just a reminder to please visit our curriculum overviews on our website whenever you have a question about your children's learning and the broad and ambitious curriculum in action! Some facts for the week for Years Reception - Year 5:

- Reception are very excited about the life cycle

of a caterpillar. Immersed in the wonderful journey to butterfly in real life, Miss Hesketh was delighted to see some wonderful symmetrical pictures and excited labelling and writing. Please encourage further curiosity at home! From Understanding the World, to Literacy, to Mathematics and Expressive Arts and Design, the children are enthused and inspired.

- Year 1 are so excited to be swimming in the Simon Balle pool for the first time. At a whole range of prior swimming abilities, Little Fishes and Simon Balle staff are working together to provide exciting and tailored lessons to build water confidence and extend such important life skills. The children are progressing and having fun in equal measure!
- Year 2 have just been introduced to Scratch within their computing curriculum. This is a fantastic way for them to be introduced to algorithms and to extend their computing skills. We focus on e-safety during every computing lesson (and more) and we strongly encourage parents/ carers to do the same at home in relation to what keeps us safe when we are positively learning and benefiting from new technologies.
- Year 3 are at a wonderful stage in their reading journeys where it is such a pleasure to hear them discussing their choices of texts, and reading aloud with such expression. Please remember that at home it is vitally important to keep hearing your children read at this stage, and to be discussing texts for comprehension and inference - please ask for a new Simon Balle bookmark if you have misplaced one!
- Year 4 have embraced a new sewing design and technology unit of learning. From designing original teddies, to practising a variety of stitches (including invisible stitch), Year 4 are excited about working towards and evaluating their final outcomes. The ethos and concentration in the classroom is very special to see!
- Year 5 have been immersed in learning about different journeys in history this half term, with this week a focus on the Titanic's journey in 1912. We have been so impressed with their retrieval knowledge about what happened and their historical analysis skills being put into place by thinking of various questions around 1st, 2nd and 3rd class passengers. The children have also gone above and beyond with high quality home learning ranging from creating booklets to presentations to fact files and more!

## **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Miss Norbury who will now be known as Mrs Adams following her wedding last weekend! We wish her and her husband a happy life.

## **Reports and parent evening appointments**

A reminder that your child's report is available to view on Go4Schools if they are in Year 1-6, (with Years 2 and 6 published earlier this term and Years 1 and Years 3 - 5 published just last week). All reports have comments linking to children's strengths and next steps in each of the core subjects and personalised comments around the wider curriculum. Attainment is also clear on go for schools, and the letter explaining judgments made in reports was emailed with the reports last week.

As ever, we value our partnership with parents at home in supporting children pastorally and academically, now and as we prepare for transition to new year groups. Parent consultations will be taking place before half term for Y1, 3, 4, 5 and 6, with Year 2 happening after May half term. Please do sign up for virtual slots! We welcome parents into school next half term too to see and to celebrate children's learning in a number of ways.

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# POP IN TO OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM POP UP

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**SIMON BALLE SCHOOL**

**10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 3.00pm-8:00pm**

Selling events are a 'travelling branch' and provide the opportunity for parents to have the full uniform outfitting experience.

A range of branded school uniform across all stocked sizes will be available in school for pupils to try on, purchase and take away on the day (or to try on and purchase online at a later date [www.stevensons.co.uk](http://www.stevensons.co.uk)).



Shopping



Trying on



Payment

To see your schools uniform price list, scan the QR code below.



You are welcome to try on garments, but a fitting room may not always be available so we recommend wearing a thin baselayer type of clothing for ease of trying on.

Our Event is cashless, we accept all major credit/debit cards (excluding Amex). We encourage customers to bring a reusable carrier bag with them.

**STEVENSONS**

EST. 1925

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SCHOOL UNIFORM OUTFITTERS



# SIMON BALLE SCHOOL

Welcome to Stevensons, your local branch is:

## ST. ALBANS

Address: 131-135 Victoria Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire. AL1 3XS  
Contact: [stacustomerservices@stevensons.co.uk](mailto:stacustomerservices@stevensons.co.uk)

### BOOK AN INSTORE APPOINTMENT

We suggest appointments for all new starters to ensure the perfect fit.

Your schools suggested appointment window is from **Monday 31st July - Friday 4th August.**

Booking an appointment in this window allows us to maximise the school specific stock at our store and reduces the time taken to serve you.

### SHOP INSTORE

Visit your local store throughout the summer on Saturdays or during their "Walk in Weeks" from **21st August**, when all our branches will be extending their opening hours until 7pm.

Your local store will be open for pre-booked appointments and Click & Collect only from **Monday 10th July.**

Please refer to our website for full opening hours.

### SHOP ONLINE

Visit our website [Stevensons.co.uk](https://www.stevensons.co.uk) to order online for home delivery or Click & Collect from your local store.



# STEVENSONS

EST. 1925

SCHOOL UNIFORM OUTFITTERS



Hertfordshire  
Family Centre  
Service

**NHS**  
Hertfordshire Community  
NHS Trust

## School Nursing

Summer Term  
2023

# Public Health Nursing 5-19 Team Newsletter

### Ways to contact us

0300 123 7572  
(Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)

Our referral website, which also has information about our service:

<http://ow.ly/eeWe50K11gW>

Please see below our Workshop link, with lots of advice and support on your child's emotional health, returning to school, and more.

<http://ow.ly/Qn9G50K117f>

[www.healthforkids.co.uk](http://www.healthforkids.co.uk)

A fun and interactive website for children to access health information, with also information for parents available.



### Top Tips

Children and young people are entitled to free regular dental and optician check ups and treatments. This includes orthodontic treatment if needed. If children are not yet registered with a dentist it is important to register as soon as possible. Please see the link below of dentists taking new patients currently.



[www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/dentists/how-to-find-an-nhs-dentist/](http://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/dentists/how-to-find-an-nhs-dentist/)

We see children aged 4-5 for an eye test in school. If there are any concerns we will refer to the children's eye service.

It is advised that children see a high street optician every 12-18 months.

### Q&A

**Q - What support can you offer my child?**

A - We can offer of support for emotional health and wellbeing (including anxiety, anger, self esteem and bereavement) and signposting to further services if required.

An app which can be used for children aged 7-12 with managing anxiety can be found here:

[Lumi Nova: Tales of Courage](#)

**Q - Can I refer my child to you?**

A - Parents and professionals can refer to us using the referral form on our website.

There is also more information on our referral criteria which can also be found on our website.

<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/service-details/-service/school-nursing-56>

[https://](https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/info-and-advice/parents-and-mums-to-be/school-nurses.aspx)

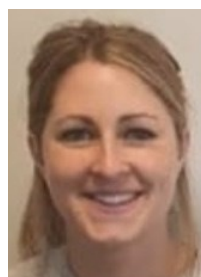
[www.hertsfamilycentres.org/info-and-advice/parents-and-mums-to-be/school-nurses.aspx](https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/info-and-advice/parents-and-mums-to-be/school-nurses.aspx)

### Who we are

Hi, I am Katie, a Specialist Community Public Health Nurse (SCPHN) who works in the School Nursing team.

My role is to provide a link between school, home and the community, offering a health-focused perspective to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people. Working in public health allows me to work in partnership with other professionals, supporting vulnerable families and facilitate health-enhancing behaviours.

The SCPHN programme allowed me to appreciate the value of our role in promoting and protecting the public's health by promoting healthy lifestyles.



### Keeping safe in the community

Your child may be exposed to lots of different influences outside of home, for example their peers, friends, online activities and also in the community.

In most cases, these influences are very positive for a child and bring them opportunities to socialise, learn and thrive.

However, in some situations, some children may become involved in activities in their community that put them at risk of danger.

The best way to understand community risk and safety is to show an interest in what your child does when they are out of the home or online and creating a safe space for your children to talk to you about their experiences and how they feel.

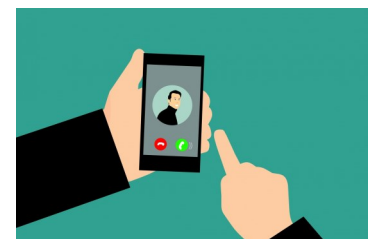
Conversations with your child can help to tip the balance towards your child being safer.

Please see link below for further information:

<http://ow.ly/nF2O50NWtTX>

### CWP Workshops

The Children's Wellbeing Practitioners (CWP) are pleased to offer the following workshops to parents and/or young people focused on emotional wellbeing and mental health.



Please see below website for up to date workshops:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hct-childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-33494371787](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hct-childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-33494371787)



Hertfordshire  
**Family Centre  
Service**



## Want to know more about the Public Health School Nursing team in Hertfordshire?

### Check out our platforms:



<https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/info-and-advice/parents-and-mums-to-be/school-nurses.aspx#>

[www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing](http://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing)



**07480 635 050**

Confidential text message service ran by the school nursing team for 11-19 year olds. Text in any health and wellbeing concerns



**@hct\_schoolnursing**

**@teenhealth.hct**



**@HCT\_SchoolNurse**



**🔍 Hct SchoolNursing**



[www.healthforkids.co.uk/hertfordshire](http://www.healthforkids.co.uk/hertfordshire)



[www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire](http://www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire)



**School nursing duty number**

**0300 123 7572**

9am – 5pm Monday to Friday  
(excluding bank holidays)



# Parent & Carer Support TALKING ASD & ADHD Workshops



## Summer Term 2023

For parents and carers of children aged 2-25yrs with suspected or diagnosed Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

### TECH USE



- What you can do to keep your child safe online.
- Why it is so hard for them to switch off and what you can do to help.
- What you can do to support any difficulties with behaviour when your child is playing.
- The effect of using their devices as a reward or consequence.
- Managing difficult conversations with confidence.
- Teaching your child to develop their own methods of regulating device use and staying safe.

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June**

**7.30 – 9.30pm**

**Workshop 587**

**Book via Eventbrite Link:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-and-adhd-tech-use-587-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-567952730907>

### SIBLING STRUGGLES



- What to do if your children are fighting or arguing
- Dealing with jealousy and unfairness
- Recognising the pressures & worries on siblings of a child with ASD/ADHD
- Helping your children develop a network of support
- Helping your children to communicate with each other without conflict
- Managing your own difficult feelings and helping your children to manage theirs
- Where to access further help and support

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

**9.30-11.30am**

**Workshop 585**

**Book via Eventbrite Link:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-and-adhd-sibling-struggles-for-parentscarers-in-herts-585-registration-565201231097>

## THE TEENAGE YEARS

For parents and carers of children aged 11-25yrs



- Teenage brain development and how it affects a child with ASD/ADHD.
- Reducing conflict by learning how to respond effectively to difficult situations.
- Strengthening your parent/child relationship.
- How to agree appropriate boundaries and teach risk assessment.
- Adapting our parenting approach to help our teens become independent adults.

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

**7.30-9.30pm**

**Workshop 586**

**Book via Eventbrite Link:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-and-adhd-the-teenage-years-for-parentscarers-in-herts-586-registration-568054695887>



**Workshops are open to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire**

[info@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:info@supportinglinks.co.uk) [www.supportinglinks.co.uk](http://www.supportinglinks.co.uk)

