



This half term we are focussing on: Honesty

William Ransom Weekly

Good Morning Parents and Carers,

As we find ourselves at the end of week two, children across the school are settling well into their new classes and it is great to see them becoming familiar with their new routines.

This week has seen children from across the school volunteering to take on a variety of roles of responsibility - which has been wonderful to see! For those who were successful, they will have worn home a metal badge reflecting their new role. We hope this will give them a sense of pride and let them see how much the school values their commitment to the role that they have taken on. It will also make them visible to other children, who might want to talk to them to find out more about their role or to approach them with suggestions to take forward. This could be, for example, a school development point for our School Councillors, or an idea for an article for our Orbit Journalists. If you could help support from home by reminding your child to wear their badge each day, we would really appreciate it.

A huge well done to our footballers who took part in Saturday's early season rally. All of the staff watching were really impressed with your positive attitude, your determination and how well you played together as a team! You thoroughly deserved the three wins you achieved in the last three games! Finally, I am looking forward to seeing just how much of a fantastic time our Year 5 children will have at Cuffley next week on their three day residential - it is going to be an amazing experience for all of you!

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend ahead!

Mr Plunkett



Celebration of Sport in the WR Community

We want to celebrate all of the physical activity and sport that is taking place outside of school. So if your child is taking place in a sport, or physical activity outside of school, then please send in a photo of them in action for our Celebration of Sport in the WR Community display. We want to include a huge variety of physical activities, so whatever your personal achievement in whatever physical activity, we want to

celebrate it! Please email all photos to sport@wransom.herts.sch.uk

Thank you for your support!



Coming Up...

Monday

- Yr 5 Residential to Cuffley

Tuesday

- Yr 5 Residential to Cuffley

Wednesday

- Yr 5 Residential to Cuffley

Thursday

- NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe Workshops for Yrs 2, 5, 6

Friday

- WR Smartphone Free Childhood Pact Official Public Launch

Process For School Collection Changes

From midday each day, parental messages regarding pick-up arrangements for children at the end of the day will be recorded and hand delivered to all classes at 2:45pm.

Due to end of day pressures on the school office and class teachers we will be unable to pass on messages received after this point.

If your child is booked in for Rising Stars that day, they will be sent there and will need to be collected from the usual Rising Stars door.

If your child is not booked in to Rising Stars, they will be sent to the area in the KS1 corridor and parents/carers will need to report to the school office to collect from there.

Festival of Languages 2024

Preparations are underway for our Festival of Languages this year. Every year, we celebrate the European Day of Languages in school by inviting parents, grandparents, friends and relatives into school to share their knowledge about any other country and its language.

The feedback from the children is always fantastic. In the past, they have enjoyed Punjabi dancing lessons, French singing, Wolof chanting, snacks from Bangladesh, Mexico, Senegal, Italy, India and lots more. We would like to introduce the children to as many different languages and cultures as possible again this year and will therefore need your help. If you (or a family member or friend) can speak any foreign language (not just European) or if you have spent a great deal of time in a country and feel that you have information, songs, dances, stories that you could share with the children on Friday 27th September, please fill in the attached google form and I will get in touch with you.

<https://forms.gle/nuMYpDNZHPdSVrjB8>

Please don't be afraid to volunteer, we won't be expecting you to teach and class teachers will be with you at all times. I am happy to meet with you to discuss ideas and share what worked well last year.

Alternatively, I can give more information by phone or email. The parents/grandparents who helped last year were fantastic and I think they enjoyed the day as much as the children did!

Food From around the World - Thursday 10th October 3.30-4.30pm

This event was so popular last year with parents and children enjoying lots of different foods from a huge range of countries so we would like to repeat it! We have chosen Thursday 10th October 3.30-4.30pm.

We can only hold this event if we have chefs! Is this something you would be interested in doing? We could, of course, pay for ingredients. If so, please complete this form <https://forms.gle/Lx9sBSNbQgQhC7em7>

If you have any questions about either of these events, please email j.hallew@ransom.herts.sch.uk

Thank you for your support!

Mrs Hall



Raise money for the school next time you declutter!

Do you have a lurking pile of unwanted clothes that you keep meaning to give away to charity...? You can now deposit any pre-loved clothes and shoes in the shiny, new clothes donation bank located close to the uniform shed in the car park. The school will be paid per tonne of clothes collected, raising money for the benefit of all the children in school, all while helping you to declutter!



The donation bank can be used for clothes, shoes, bed linen, belts, scarves, hats, gloves, handbags etc, but no duvets or cushions please. (If you have uniform that you no longer need, please put it in the black storage box right next to the uniform shed so that it can be sold on to other parents, making even more money for the benefit of the children!)



Smartphone Free Childhood parent pact now live!

The Smartphone Free Childhood voluntary pact launched this week, providing an opportunity to join the growing community of local parents/carers waiting until at least the end of Year 9 before giving their children a smartphone.

Parents/carers can sign up at:

<https://hertfordshireparentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

Further information about the national Smartphone Free Childhood movement - including why delaying smartphone use matters and safer alternatives - visit

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

Library Update

A huge thank you to our wonderful parents who bought these items for our library at the summer fete. They look just wonderful in situ and our new library is starting to take shape!



We are looking forward to seeing those developments continue, with more furniture set to arrive shortly! Watch this space...



JOIN HITCHIN RUGBY MINIS!

**OPEN DAY
15TH SEPTEMBER**

**FUN FILLED SESSIONS
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS
AGED 5 - 13**

WHETHER YOU ARE NEW OR HAVE PLAYED BEFORE, THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN OUR INCLUSIVE CLUB TO DEVELOP INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM SKILLS, MAKE FRIENDS AND BUILD CONFIDENCE.

INTERESTED?

Get in touch today
Hitchinrugbyclub.co.uk

Hitchin Rugby Club, Old Hale Way, Hitchin, SG5 1XL

BEEZEE FAMILIES COMES TO BARNWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL!



FREE. 12 WEEK COURSE TO A HEALTHIER, HAPPIER FAMILY
A fun, free, family-focused healthy lifestyles course, BeeZee Families, is coming to Barnwell Middle School.

Aimed at 5-15 year olds and their families, the course covers topics from healthy snacking, balanced meals, portion size and keeping active together.

Our team of family nutritionists are experts at engaging children around healthy eating and fun exercise, and have plenty of tricks to help you and your kids turn a good behaviour into a healthy habit for life!

Kids will cook healthy meals, take part in fun games and sports, and make loads of friends!

Parents are supported by our team to handle conflict resolution, and benefit from the support network of like-minded families.

Bf BeeZee Families
Barnwell Middle School

Thursday
17.30 - 19.30
Age 5 - 15

Starts 23rd September
for 12 weeks

SIGN UP FOR FREE!
beezefamilies.com/herts
01707 248848

beezee families
01707 248848

Hertfordshire

School Pick Up Arrangements

A reminder to all parents and carers about pick-up arrangements for children across the school.

Reception – Parents and carers in Reception must come into the Reception outside area to collect their child from the classroom door.

Year 1 & 2 – Parents and carers from Years 1 & 2 should gather by the external gate to Years 1 & 2 where their child will be handed over to them by a staff member.

Year 3 – Parents and carers in Year 3 are invited onto the playground through Gate 3. We ask that you wait by the gate on the playground, but spread out across the space so that class teachers can clearly identify you.

Year 4 – Parents in Year 4 are invited onto the main playground through Gate 6. We ask that you wait on the astro-turf area. Please spread out so that class teachers can clearly identify you to ensure a safe handover. Parents of Year 4 children wishing for their child to leave by themselves should confirm this by email to admin@wransom.herts.sch.uk. We will only allow children to leave by themselves if we have received this confirmation.

Year 5 & 6 – All Year 5 and 6 children will be dismissed from their classrooms to make their own way out of school. Please make sure that you have made arrangements with your Year 5 and 6 child before the start of the school day so they know where they should be going when they leave the classroom at the end of the school day.

Parent & Carer Support TALKING ASD & ADHD Workshops Autumn 2024



Workshops are FREE to parents and carers living in [Hertfordshire](#) of children aged 2-25yrs with suspected or diagnosed Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

[Eventbrite Page](#)

THE TEENAGE YEARS



- 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 25th November 7.30-9.15pm

Workshop SL690 book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-the-teenage-years-690-for-parentscarerers-in-herts-registration-915749771217?aff=odcleoeventsincollection>

RESPONDING to ANGER



- The difference between healthy & unhealthy anger.
- The pattern that anger takes and how to spot the non-verbal signs early.
- Our own and our children's triggers.
- Techniques that stop angry and aggressive behaviour escalating and when to use them.
- How to respond to our child in meltdown, keeping ourselves, our child and siblings safe.

Monday 4th November 7.30-9.15pm

Workshop SL688 book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-responding-to-anger688-for-parentscarerers-in-herts-registration-915702028417?aff=odcleoeventsincollection>

TECH USE



- What you can do to keep your child safe online.
- Helping your child to switch their device off.
- 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.

Thursday 21st November 9.30-11.15am

Workshop SL689 book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-tech-use689-for-parentscarerers-in-herts-registration-915726882757?aff=odcleoeventsincollection>

SCHOOL AVOIDANCE



- What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance and is this what your child is experiencing?
- Common causes and triggers of school avoidance.
- How EBSA is affecting you and your family.
- Practical steps you can take to support your child and look after yourself.
- How to work with your school in your child's best interests.

Wednesday 23rd October 9.30-11.15am

Workshop SL687 book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-school-avoidance687-for-parentscarerers-in-herts-registration-915127068697?aff=odcleoeventsincollection>

Follow on:



Contact via:

info@supportinglinks.co.uk
www.supportinglinks.co.uk

Funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund

TALKING FAMILIES



6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 0-12 sharing tips on:

- Managing challenging behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries.
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.

Tuesdays 9.00-10.00am

17th Sep - 1st Oct

FULLY BOOKED

Online Course ID 678

Tuesdays 7.00-9.00pm

5th Nov - 10th Dec

Venue: To be confirmed

STEVENAGE Course ID 679

Thursdays 8.00-10.30pm

19th Sep - 3rd Oct

FULLY BOOKED

Online Course ID 680

TALKING ANXIETY in FAMILIES



6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of under 12's, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.

Tuesdays 9.45-11.30am

5th Nov - 10th Dec

Online Course ID 677

TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS



A 6-week group for parents and carers of children with any additional need from 2-25. Your child does not need a diagnosis to join.

- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict.
- Improve emotional regulation.
- Explore sensory needs.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage different needs in your family.

Mondays 8.00-9.00am

16th Sep - 1st Oct

FULLY BOOKED

Course ID 675

Wednesdays 9.30-11.30am

6th Nov - 11th Dec

Venue: To be confirmed

ST ALBANS Course ID 676

Booking essential. Please Quote the Course ID

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on: **07512 709556** or bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

These courses are provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund. Information taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any access needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request



ORCHESTRA WORKSHOP DAY

SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2024

09.30 - 15.30

Jubilee Hall STAHS

ARE YOU AGED 7 TO 11? DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT?

St Albans High School is hosting an Orchestra Workshop Day on Sunday 29 September 2024 to give young musicians in the local area the opportunity to come together and enjoy a day of music making. The day is free to attend and is open to any child in Year 3-6 who plays an orchestral instrument (minimum standard of Grade 1 applies).

Instruments included in the workshop are as follows:

FLUTE OBOE CLARINET BASSOON SAXOPHONE VIOLIN
VIOLA CELLO DOUBLE BASS GUITAR HARP FRENCH HORN
TRUMPET TROMBONE EUPHONIUM PERCUSSION

If your child plays an instrument that isn't listed above, please contact us.

The day will run from 09.30-15.30 with an informal concert at 15.00 (families are welcome to attend the concert). The day comprises a variety of musical games, instrument-specific training sessions and orchestral and performance workshops. Sessions will be led by Julian Smith, Acting Director of Music at STAHS, and assisted by our highly experienced specialist music staff.

Lunch and snacks will be provided by STAHS. Note that we have a no nut policy at the school. Please ensure instruments are clearly labelled with your child's name and school.

To register your interest, please complete the form at this [link](#) by Friday 13 September.



[@stahsmusic](#)

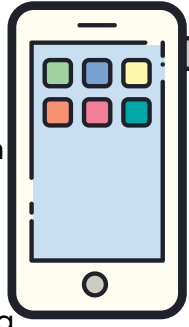
musicevents@stahs.org.uk

St Albans High School
1-3 Townsend Avenue
St Albans
AL1 3SJ

Reminders...

WR Mobile Phone and Smartwatch Policy

The school position is, and continues to be, that phones and smartwatches should not be being brought into school. The exception to this is when a child requires their phone for use before they arrive at school, or after they leave school. When this is the case, phones must be handed into the school office before school starts or as soon as the child enters the school building.



They can be collected at 3:20pm. Smartwatches should not be worn into school. If they are seen in school, the child will be asked to hand the watch into the school office, to be collected at 3:20pm. This is due to the camera and recording functionality, that exist on many, which is not permitted at school.

Vomiting and Diarrhoea

A reminder that children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick/had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

Headlice

Unfortunately, your child may come into contact with headlice. For further information on what this might look like and what to do about it [please click here](#).



Please Look After Our Neighbours

With 422 children now in the school, we realise that picking up and dropping off are going to be very busy times outside the school. But please make sure that you are parking sensibly and responsibly and being courteous to our neighbours.

Taking Care Around Railways

We wanted to share the following links to two assembly videos focussed on railway safety with you all. With the school being in close proximity to a railway track and station, we are aware that some of our children are of an age where they might be independently exploring their local community and we want everyone to be as safe as possible. You can access the KS1 video by [clicking here](#) and the KS2 video by [clicking here](#).



Crossing Wymondley Road

As you are all aware, Lollipop Kate has now retired and the role is currently being advertised. [Please click here if you are interested in finding out more](#). In the meantime, please continue to remind your children to take extra care and be extra cautious when using the crossing on Wymondley Road.



WILLIAM RANSOM
WRAP-AROUND CLUB

BREAKFAST CLUB

From 7:30am - £6.00
Breakfast served until 8.15 only

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Until 5:00 pm - £9.50 per session
Until 5:30 pm - £11.00 per session
Until 6.00 pm - £13.00 per session



MON Multi-Activity TUE Summer Sports WED Dodgeball THU Inflatables FRI FRIDAY Friday Fun Day



At our after school club, children will start the session with the activity listed above or by having time in our chill and care area where they will have access to a variety of play activities. (Activities may be subject to change). After tea, there will be further opportunities for indoor or outdoor games and play activities or quiet time if they prefer.

To register please go to

risingstars.magicbooking.co.uk

If you need to contact us please email
williamransom@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk 07919 330254
or for admin queries: info@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk 01462 790152

On registering your child for a place on our course Rising Stars will collect certain information about you/your child which will include your names, email address, telephone number, child's date of birth, gender and school. We will not share this information with any third party for marketing purposes.

Allergy Awareness To Protect Every Child

We need everyone to do all they can to protect every child in the school. Some of our children have known allergies, others are being diagnosed and there will be some who have allergies that have yet to come to light.

Children bringing snacks in for breaktimes should only be bringing in fruit. Please ensure that your child is not bringing in nut based snacks.

Please also note we are unable to have in school, or hand out, birthday sweets/cakes. This is for everyone's safety. Thank you for your support.

School Uniform

Please can all parents please ensure that children are attending school wearing the correct school uniform. If there are difficulties in doing that, please approach a member of the School Office or a member of the leadership team and we will happily discuss this further with you.

