



PARKGATE INFANTS &
NURSERY SCHOOL

20 October 2023



Dear Parents,

Phonics

Phonics is the way we teach children to read. Children are taught the sounds that can be combined to make up words. Children start learning sounds when they start Reception and they build up their knowledge as they progress through the school. Children are given reading books which match their phonics knowledge. The reading framework (a document produced by the Department for Education) is clear that children should not get books with sounds that they have not been taught.



We are holding a phonics talk for **Reception parents on Wednesday 1st November** between 9 and 10. This will take place in the hall and will include a chance to try some phonics activities with your children. We understand that not all parents will be able to attend and that parents in other year groups will find it useful and will be sharing a recording of the event afterwards.

This is our first open morning as part of our Working Together: Parent Partners initiative. We will have a number of different open mornings on different subjects as the year goes along with the aim of sharing what the children are learning: our wonderful curriculum and how you can support us at home.



I hope that you have a lovely restful half term and I look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 30th October.

Mr Pritchard

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



We are pleased to support the Poppy Appeal by selling poppies & merchandise after half term. Please note we only have pinned poppies available.

Please send an envelope with your donation into school with your child's name and class and which items they would like. We will then return the items via their school bags at home time.

Attached to this newsletter is information on the items we are selling with their suggested donation prices.

Attendance

Well done to **Badger class** who had this weeks best attendance!



| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Badger Class | 98.8% |
| Fox Class | 94.3% |
| Rabbit Class | 97.2% |
| Squirrel Class | 81.3% |
| Mole Class | 88.5% |
| Hedgehog Class | 86.3% |

WEEK 2

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| Mild Chicken Curry with Rice | Veggie Sausages with Gravy with Creamed Potatoes or Pasta (Ve) | Roast Pork with Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta | Beef Burger in a Bun with Potato Wedges or Rice | Battered Fish Fillet with Oven Chips or Wholemeal Pasta |
| Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread (Ve) | Sweet Chilli Quorn with Creamed Potatoes or Pasta (v) | Shepherdess Pie with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta (V) | Vegetarian Roll (V) | Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Oven Chips or Pasta (V) |
| Tuna Roll | Cheese Sandwich (v) | Cheese Baguette (v) | Ham Sandwich | Egg Roll (v) |
| Jacket Potato with various toppings | Tomato pasta with Cheese (v) | Jacket Potato with various toppings | Cheesy Pasta (v) | Jacket Potato with various toppings |
| | | Halal Roast Chicken and Sage and Onion Stuffing with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta | | |

Stars of the Week



Badger— Ysabel
 Fox—Rebeca
 Rabbit—Aiden
 Squirrel—Noah
 Mole—Ayla
 Hedgehog—Musa A.

Well done!

Learning Awards



Badger—Austin
 Fox—Maya A.
 Rabbit—Yousra
 Squirrel—Akaran
 Mole—Matteo
 Hedgehog—Kalyani

Well done!

DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
|---|---|
| 23 rd October-27 th October | HALF TERM |
| 1 st November | Squirrel class library visit |
| 3 rd November 9am-9.30am | Squirrel class sharing assembly |
| 8 th November | Rabbit class library visit |
| 10 th November 9am-9.30am | Hedgehog class sharing assembly |
| 15 th November | Hedgehog library visit |
| 17 th November 9am-9.30am | Mole class sharing assembly |
| 28 th November | Flu Vaccinations |
| 29 th November | Mole library visit |
| 7 th December | EYFS Christmas Play |
| 8 th December | EYFS Christmas Play |
| 14 th December | KS1 Christmas Play |
| 15 th December | KS1 Christmas Play |
| 18 th December | Christmas Jumper Day & Children's Christmas Lunch |
| 20 th December | Term Ends 1:15pm |

This week in Squirrel Class...

This term we have been researching equipment in parks, We then draw and labelled our own design of park equipment. This week we worked in pairs to create our designs.

We used lollipop sticks, pipe cleaners, string, paper, straws and joining materials. Squirrel class worked really hard to make sure that the 3D models were stable and secure.



This week in Parkgate Pirates ...

This week's wraparound club theme was "Halloween". Children had lots of fun completing various fun activities, including colouring Halloween themed pictures and creating a Halloween ghost using leaves and chalk.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



Half Term activities

Please check out all the attached information giving you lots of ideas for things to do in the half term.

Hope everyone has a great time!

GLEN ROVERS

GAA CAMP

OCTOBER 24th, 25th & 26th
9.45am - 3pm

*FUN BASED GAA GAMES
ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN
YEAR 2 - 6*

GLEN ROVERS GAA CLUB, RADLETT ROAD WD24 4LH



GLEN ROVERS
GAA CLUB



BOOK NOW

Glen Rovers GAA



watfordglenrovers



@GlenRoversGAA



**Address: Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire station,
Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS**

October Half-Term

23 - 28 October 2023

Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm

Saturday 10am - 4pm

Join us this October half-term for a fun-filled family-friendly week of arts and crafts topped off with a spooky family Halloween day on Saturday 28 October.

Discover more at discoverbucksmuseum.org
or scan the QR code



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



**B Discover Bucks
Museum**
& Roald Dahl Children's Gallery



Discover Bucks Museum
Church Street
Aylesbury HP20 2QP
discoverbucksmuseum.org
01296 331441



Take a trip back to the 1980s in
this nostalgia-filled exhibition
and get ready to exclaim,
'I remember that!'

80s fun for all ages

21 October 2023 - 16 March 2024

Discover more at discoverbucksmuseum.org
or scan the QR code



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Family Fun Free Drop In



Come and join us with your child/children for fun messy play, crafts and activities. These include apple printing, potion making, pumpkin messy play, autumn treasure baskets for babies, spider hand prints and lots more!

Meet other local families and the Family Centre Service team.

As well as lots for Under 5's to enjoy, there will be activities for siblings up to the age of 8.

Free drop in - no need to book

| | |
|--|--|
| Tuesday 24th October 10:30 - 12:00 | Mill End Community Centre Rickmansworth, WD3 8HD |
| Tuesday 24th October 10:30 - 12:00 | Multi-Cultural Community Centre Watford, WD18 7DS |
| Thursday 26th October 13:00 - 14:30 | Leavesden Green Community Hub Watford, WD25 0BW |



Hertfordshire
Family Centre
Service

04/10/2023



www.hertsfamilycentres.org



0300 123 7572



LEARN TO BALANCE AND RIDE AND DEVELOPING BETTER BIKE CONTROL COURSES (HALF-TERM OCTOBER 2023)



One of the best skills children can learn, opening up opportunities for fun, independence, activity and health for a lifetime

LEARN TO BALANCE AND RIDE (L2BR)

- For children typically aged between 3.5 and 11
- 80% + of children are normally riding after 2 sessions
- 1 Instructor to max 5 children
- Balance bike and lightweight pedal bike for each child included in price
- 1 hour sessions

DEVELOPING BETTER BIKE CONTROL (DBBC)

- Follow-on course for new or inexperienced riders
- Covers key skills of starting, stopping, turning, looking, riding close to others, gears and signalling
- 1 Instructor to max 5 children
- Bike provided if required (extra £3.00)
- 1 hour sessions

Full course details at: www.hertsbalance.uk/course-descriptions

Monday October 23rd and Tuesday October 24th

Venue: Tudor Primary School, **Hemel Hempstead.** HP3 9ER

Thursday October 26th and Friday October 27th

Venue: The Ridgeway Academy, **Welwyn Garden City.** AL7 2AF

Cost: £32 for two sessions. £19 for one session.

For more information and to book, go to www.hertsbalance.uk/public-schedule-booking
email phil@hertsbalance.uk or call **Phil** on **07941 061717**.

Private L2BR, DBBC and Bikeability sessions are available for children and adults and families. Details at www.hertsbalance.uk/private-sessions



Funded by
UK Government

STEP 2 SKILLS
PREPARE FOR SUCCESS IN HERTS

FREE Half Term Family Workshops



Autumn Explorers

Help your child (aged 5-10) develop Literacy, Maths and other skills through making crafts with natural materials.

Waltham Cross

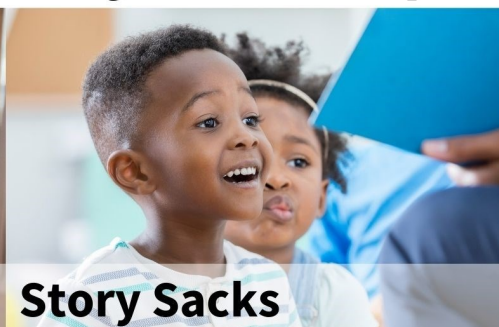
Tue 24th Oct

10am-12pm

Stevenage

Thu 26th Oct

10am-12pm



Story Sacks

Discover how to use 'found' materials to create a story sack/box with your child (aged 4-8).

Waltham Cross

Tue 24th Oct

1.30-3.30pm

Stevenage

Thu 26th Oct

1.30-3.30pm

Book your place: step2skills.org.uk 01992 556194



Free

Rediscovering
the River Colne



Quiz a River Whiz!

Want to hear more about rivers and the Watford Colne as part of a society meeting or school assembly?

Groundwork and Watford Borough Council are working with experts who can come and present to your group about what is happening to the River Colne and how we are attempting to make it a safer, healthier river for the community.

To find out more about this opportunity please contact:
andrew.mackay@groundwork.org.uk



St Peter's Light Party

Tuesday 31st
October

4pm-5.30pm
St Peter's Church Hall.
WD24 7PE

Come and join us for some
crafts and fun as we
celebrate the Light of the
World!



Enjoy face painting,
hot dogs, a tuck shop,
crafts and games!

Reception to Year 6
accompanied by an
adult/guardian

Book your FREE ticket
through our website
www.stPeterswatford.org.uk/whats-on and click on
Light Party, or contact
cyfpastor@stPeterswatford.org.uk







Library Adventure with Hertfordshire Libraries

This autumn Hertfordshire Libraries are encouraging all Reception class children to have their own library card. Our special 'My First Library Adventure' promotion gives your child the chance to win one of 50 personalised signed books by author / illustrator Alex Willmore ('I did see a Mammoth!' and 'Spyceratops'). Plus two children will win a library visit with Alex Willmore for their whole class!

It's easy for your child to take part. Just visit a Hertfordshire Library twice by 31 October 2023 with their special 'My First Library Adventure' bookmark. For each step of the Adventure they will collect a 'paw stamp' to celebrate their progress.



Visit one:

- your child either joins the library, or shows us their library card. (For new members we will need to see proof of a parent/carer's name & address)
- choose and borrow 1 or more books
- ask library staff / volunteers for 'paw stamps' on your bookmark

At home: enjoy sharing the book(s) together

Visit two:

- return the book(s) to the library
- collect more 'paw stamps', tell us about your favourite book, and enter the prize draw



Children love to choose their own books, and it's free to join and borrow books from the library – just remember to bring them back on time or renew them if you want them for longer. Using the library regularly can help save money as you are borrowing and not buying, which is environmentally friendly too.

In your local library you will find thousands of books to choose from:

- picture books – to enjoy together
- beginning to read titles - to build your child's confidence as they learn to read
- information books – to spark their interest for learning about the world
- eBooks and audio books online and via the BorrowBox app – www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/ebooks

With new books purchased every month, there is always something new to discover!

When you visit the library, please ask for a 'My First Day at School' certificate too. We look forward to presenting your child with theirs.

