

# Newsletter Issue 9



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17th January 2024



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## Headteacher News

### School Values

During our assemblies and worship this term we have been focusing on our school values and what they mean to us. So far this term this has been our value of 'Courage' and not giving up when things get difficult. How many of us are still sticking to our New Year's Resolutions? Courage and determination are key to our success in making the changes we are wishing for. For our children, we encourage them constantly to try their best, to not give up when they find things difficult and to welcome challenges. We teach them strategies to help them when they get stuck and to persevere when things get tough! In a world full of challenges both in school and out of school, the value of courage is one which will enable our children to take the opportunities presented to them – and to make the best of them!

We have also been relating our values of kindness and forgiveness. We continually thank our children for kind acts to others and for showing forgiveness when things do not go to plan. Visitors again recently really complemented our children for their compassion, thoughtfulness and superb attitudes to learning.

### School Uniform

We have spoken to all of the children about the importance of looking smart. Your support is very much appreciated and we would ask that all parents ensure that children come to school dressed appropriately, in our uniform, with black or navy school shoes, without nail varnish (or fake nails / extensions / gels) and with only plain stud earrings and watches for jewellery (no bracelets, rings or necklaces please). Please could we also ask that children do not come to school with large bows in their hair or temporary tattoos as this is not part of the school uniform. Click here for a reminder of our expectations <https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=19>

Thank you so much for your valued support. Our school is a vibrant place to be and your children are a real credit to you all. We don't always get everything right all the time but we can assure you that we will always work tirelessly to secure the very best for all children.

Have a lovely weekend when it gets here

Sarah Holman



[Click the link to see Dates for Diaries](#)

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Can you help in school any lunchtime?

Can you help in the morning or afternoon each week?

Mr Humberstone has spent much of the winter months regenerating the pond and garden area and we need helpers to help the children be super planet defenders who look after the grounds (only the allotment / garden area) and take peace and enjoyment in being outdoors, tending the plants, gardening and making a difference.

We can accommodate any day – do get in touch – we would love to hear from you



## Keeping your child safe in sport e-learning course

### **A free e-learning course for parents**

We've designed this course to help you understand your role in keeping children safe in sport and to let you know who to turn to if you have any worries.

The course is free to take and is suitable for any parent of a child who takes part in sport, regardless of your level of safeguarding knowledge. It should take you around 10 minutes to complete.

<https://thecpsu.org.uk/parents/keeping-your-child-safe-in-sport-e-learning-course/>

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## Twitter/ X

Do follow us on Twitter/ X to keep up to date on all the exciting activities/lessons the children are taking part in. Here are a couple of our tweets over the last couple of weeks.

## Yoga sessions for Zebra class this week



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Wonderful acting last week from Open the Book and our volunteers from classes too. Thinking about epiphany.





2024.02 Feb Parish Mag



Dear friends

This month we'd like to appeal for **Beaver section** support. We haven't had a dedicated BEAVER team for over 4 years. Please **volunteer** and play your part in giving young people opportunities to build skills for life. You don't need to be Bear Grylls to volunteer. If you join us, we promise to help you.

The Beavers (aged 6 & 7) meet once a week in term-time, have a weekend outing 2 or 3 times a year and a short camp. We'll work with you to use the time you have available.

This is a brilliant opportunity for you (and maybe your friends too, if they volunteer) to increase your skills, improve your CV and have fun. Did you know volunteering is **GOOD for YOU!**



Beavers having fun last year.

OTHER adult OPPORTUNITIES & vacancies

**Group CHAIR** & trustees - trustees meet about 4 times a year. **Fundraising LEAD** – we're lucky to be one of Cranbrook Coop's chosen charities this year but we'll receive nothing unless you **join the Coop and choose us** as your charity. [www.coop.co.uk/membership](http://www.coop.co.uk/membership). And we need a team at **TractorFest**, a recruitment lead, a quartermaster & youth section adult volunteers.

**SCOUTING** starts at 4 years old. There's no upper age limit! **VACANCIES**

CONTACT: Jan, Arun & Tina, email [Enquiries@SissinghurstScouts.org.uk](mailto:Enquiries@SissinghurstScouts.org.uk)

## VACANCIES

**Squirrels 4 - 6: Wed 3:40pm**

**Beavers 6 - 8: Wed 4:45pm**

**Cubs 8 - 10½: Wed 6pm**

**Scouts 10½ - 14: Fri 7pm**

**Explorers 14 - 18: Fri**

**Adult teams 18 - 99+**

We'd love everyone over 4 to join us.

**GIRLS & BOYS:** come and have fun at SCOUTS - try new things, make new friends, learn SKILLS for LIFE.

**ADULTS:** please come along, meet the team and see how you can help us. It's fun for you too.

**WHEN?** Weekly meetings term-time; outings & camps.

**HOW MUCH?** £10/month

**EMAIL Alex:** [SissinghurstGSL@gmail.com](mailto:SissinghurstGSL@gmail.com)



[Scouts.org.uk](http://Scouts.org.uk) / [SissinghurstScouts.org.uk](http://SissinghurstScouts.org.uk)



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## Tunbridge Wells District Children's Centres

### JANUARY

#### **NEW IN SECTION 4 - Other Activities Taking Place in our District**

- **Hope Church Tonbridge - Art Cafe** - drawing, painting, knitting, sewing – whatever your hobby, bring it along and let's get creative together! Art Cafe takes place every Tuesday at Hope Church Tonbridge, from 10:45 – 12:30. It's free to attend and anyone is welcome to come along - for all the details take a look in *Section 4*.
- **Visit Kent** - take a look in *Section 4* at some of the best events, exhibitions, openings, and more happening right here in Kent.

#### **NEW IN SECTION 5.2 - Baby & Child Development**

- Every chat you have with your child helps them develop their social skills, so they can make friends more easily. **Start for Life** have some simple ideas to help get them talking, take a look in *Section 5.2*.



### ***NEW IN SECTION 5.3 - Parenting Support***

- **Place2Be – Parenting Smart** - have lots of Practical advice and tips to support children's wellbeing and behaviour, take a look in *Section 5.3*.

### ***NEW IN SECTION 5.6 - Your Health and Well-being***

- **NHS Better Health- Quit Smoking** - when you quit smoking, good things start to happen, check out the free tools and tips provided by NHS Better Health in *Section 5.6*.

### ***NEW IN SECTION 6 - SEND Support***

- **Space 2 Be Me** are very excited to start 2024 with several events supporting parents/carers and extended family members of children with additional needs. All these events can be found on their website in *Section 6*.
- **Space 2 Talk – Support Groups for Parents** - take a look in *Section 6* for the dates.
- **IASK** support families of children and young people (0 to 25 years) with special educational needs or disabilities. They are a free, confidential and impartial service based in Kent, their contact details are shown in *Section 6*.
- **Kent PACT and IASK** are holding a '**virtual cuppa & chat**' on the 26 January, 1.30pm - take a look at the flyer in *Section 6*.

### ***NEW IN SECTION 7 - Financial Support***

- Have you received a Healthy Start prepaid card? Take a look in *Section 7* which shows you all the information you need to *Claim your Healthy Start Vitamins* along with information on whether you are eligible for support in providing a Healthy Start for your family?

### **VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

- Be a **Breastfeeding Volunteer** - do you have personal breastfeeding experience and would like to support other mums who are (or considering) breastfeeding - all the details you need are below.



[Tunbridge Wells District Children's Centres](#)

JANUARY

[Go to this Sway](#)

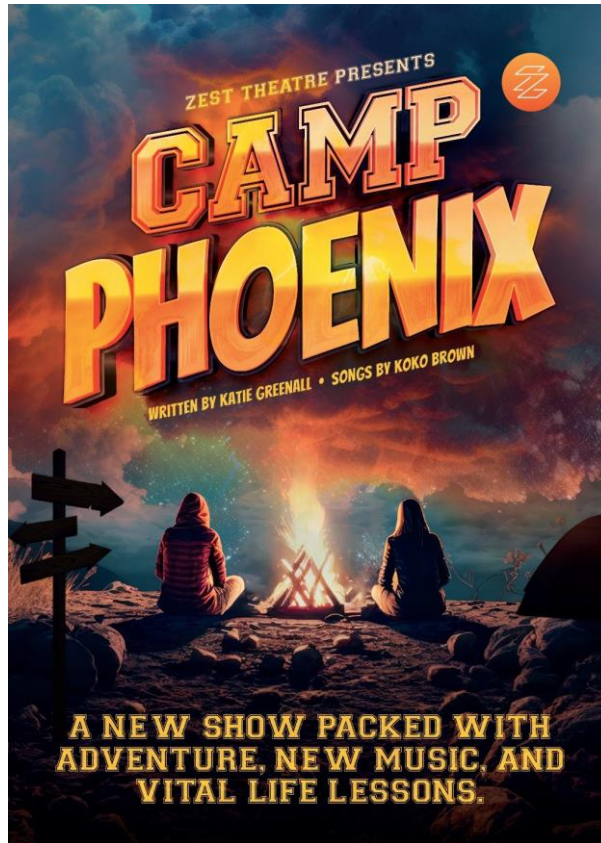
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## Localities Consultation for Parents

Please see link below on KELS I for parents to access the meetings that are being held with regards the Localities Consultation. It is really important that you are aware of these meetings and get to have your say in how HNF and SEND support will be offered going forward. This link takes you to the KELS I page that has all the information and dates of the meetings :

[Localities consultation parent meetings - KELS I](#)

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## ONE SUMMER TO SHAPE A LIFETIME

Zia turned 17 last week. When they arrive at Camp Phoenix for a compulsory weeklong residential, they aren't sure if it's for them. The camp helps young people emerge from the dust of their younger selves, just like a phoenix. Through regulated activities, young people develop the skills to rise into the next phase of their lives to become great citizens and employees.

But not everything goes to plan. When Zia and their newfound friends realise that the camp's values don't include everyone, they discover that the most valuable lessons are those learnt from the people around them.

What advice do teenagers wish they'd had when they were still kids? Camp Phoenix has been developed through conversations with 600 young people nationwide to find out. 9-year-olds shared their worries, and those aged 16+ responded with expert wisdom. Camp Phoenix shares that wisdom with honesty, hope, and humour, featuring a dynamic cast of professional performers and local young people from every place we tour to.

**AGE SUITABILITY: 9+**  
**INTEGRATED AUDIO DESCRIPTION**

**Gulbenkian Arts Centre**

THURSDAY 22 & FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2024  
THURSDAY @ 1.30PM & 5.30PM  
FRIDAY @ 10.30AM & 4.30PM  
TICKETS: £8  
BOXOFFICE@KENT.AC.UK | THEGULBENKIAN.CO.UK

zesttheatre.com  
f/zesttheatre X @zesttheatre  
@zesttheatre #CampPhoenix

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND  
Lincolnshire Arts Centre  
Gulbenkian Arts Centre  
ARC  
Gulbenkian Arts Centre

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## SISSINGHURST & FRITTENDEN CHURCHES

### WHAT IS ALPHA?

Alpha is a series of weekly video & discussion-based sessions to explore or have a refresher on the Christian faith in an open-minded and welcoming environment. There's no cost, and no pressure! Just lots of great conversation and space to think

### WHEN & WHERE?

**7:45-9:15pm Thursdays**  
in Trinity Church Parish Rooms,  
Sissinghurst TN17 2JL, head for the  
double doors. Taster session **18<sup>th</sup> Jan**



Bear Grylls  
on Alpha!



**1:45-3pm Wednesdays** at  
Frittenden Memorial Hall, TN17  
2DD. Taster session **24<sup>th</sup> Jan**

### ...AND AFTER THE TASTER?

If you wish to continue,  
it's the same time for the  
following 8 weeks...

### WHO? This is for you!

Invest in exploring life's  
BIGGEST QUESTIONS for yourself

### HOW TO BOOK?

[emma@sissandfritt.org](mailto:emma@sissandfritt.org)

- or to find out more, contact

Pete - 01580 852275, or via

WhatsApp - 07900 185591

## Sissinghurst & Frittenden Blokes'

### NEW YEAR'S FULL ENGLISH\*!

**9am Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan**

Bell & Jorrocks,

Frittenden, TN17 2EJ

Connect, reconnect, and

also find out about our

upcoming ALPHA COURSE. £10 (incl hot drink)

*\* Veg. option available*

**Book in by Thu 11<sup>th</sup> - 07900 185591**



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Office opening hours are 08.30am to 3.30pm (term-time only)