

Newsletter Issue 13



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26th March 2026





Headteacher's News

In our final newsletter this term we celebrate all our achievements so far this year and also reflect on what we can do better on. The surveys completed by parents, pupils and staff recently really have helped us with this.

The full feedback from the surveys can be found here <https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Statutory+Information&pid=21> where you can see the last 2 years summaries also for comparison.

We are really pleased that children love coming to school, enjoy their learning and feel safe in school.

Please see our separate documents addressing comments from children and parents, coming next week, so you can see how we are addressing ideas and comments to help us move forwards together. Thankyou for taking the time to give us this feedback, it is really important to us.

A few reminders below for our non-uniform day tomorrow and the last week of term.

We hope you have a wonderful Easter break when it gets here.

From Sarah Holman and the team at Sissinghurst.

Non-uniform Day - Friday, 27 March

The Y6 event planners want to hold a non uniform day for their chosen charity – Cancer Research.

Children are encouraged to wear their own clothes and make a donation here: [Click here to donate](#)

This is a charity that means a lot to our families and community so please feel free to give generously to make a difference.



Reminders for last week of term

Colour Run– FOSS – linked to Holi festival – Wed 1 April 2-3pm

We will welcome in Springtime with a dash of vibrant colour with our third colour run. On the day we are asking parents to arrive at 2pm to watch the children on the school field. Please line edge of field (outside of running track).

Timings for the running –

2.10-2.20 Y5 and 6 then line edge of field / cheer others on

2.20-2.30 Y3 and 4 – then cheer others

2.30.2.40 Y1 and 2 – then cheer others

2.40-2.50 YR

2.50-3 all run again. YR can run or cheer at edge

Please note after the run, CHILDREN WILL NOT BE ALLOWED BACK IN THE BUILDING AS THEY WILL BE COVERED IN PAINT.

We will ask classes to line up so you can collect them from the field or those with parents not watching will walk round (outside) to gate to be collected as usual at 3.10pm.

Children attending a club (and after school club) need a plastic bag to bag up messy clothes before they can enter the building and enjoy their club – thankyou in advance!

Last day – Thursday 2 April

Easter Service – please do join us in church at 9.30 -10 for our Easter Service if you can (please note there is limited space at the back but you are welcome to stand if we run out of seats). Please do walk down with us if you can too to supervise the children, we leave school at 9 or just after.

Open Afternoon - We welcome you from 2pm - a chance to come in, catch up with teachers and TAs and look at your child's books and have a tour if you like. You can sign your child out anytime from 2pm to the normal time/end of the school day. They will be given a sticker to wear as previously.



[Click here for dates](#)

MUST READ - Parentpay

PLEASE DO NOT make any new payments on Parentpay after 30 March or these payments may be missed. After 30 March **ALL** payments must be made on Arbor. You have two important emails from school, sent 20 March and 25 March detailing the change. Please check your junk emails if you have not seen these. Any lunches already booked for next week via Parentpay will be honoured - you do not need to book these meals again for next week on Arbor. Thank you

Update from the Governors

Dear Pupils, Parents, Carers and Staff,

Spring has finally arrived, and with it we are already approaching the end of the spring term.

This year, the Governing Board has adopted a 'Circle Model' of governance. Under this approach, responsibilities are allocated to pairs of governors (rather than committees) who carry out regular monitoring visits. These visits focus on understanding the impact of the curriculum and ensuring that the school's vision and values are fully embedded in both learning and the wider ethos of the school. Each area of responsibility is reviewed termly, and findings are discussed at Governing Board meetings.

Monitoring visits typically involve meetings with school leaders, as well as opportunities to speak with pupils about their learning. This provides valuable insight into the effectiveness of the curriculum and the broader range of opportunities available to our children.

Governors met in late March. Alongside reviewing monitoring activities, we also reflected on our ongoing development as a Board. In addition to undertaking regular training, we recognise the importance of engaging directly with pupils, staff and parents. You may see governors (wearing white 'Governor' lanyards) at school events, at the school gates, or at church events. It was a pleasure to meet a number of you at the recent Parents' Evenings, and we encourage you to speak with us whenever you see us - we greatly value your feedback and perspectives.

During the meeting, we also reviewed and approved a number of key school policies, received a budget update, and considered the Headteacher's Report and the school's strategic priorities. These discussions support our role in ensuring that Sissinghurst School continues to develop and provide the best possible education for all pupils.

As we look ahead, I would like to wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break—an opportunity to recharge before the final term of the academic year.

With best wishes,

Andrea Griffiths

On behalf of the Governing Board

Year 2 - Chicks

In Year 2, we had the wonderful opportunity to observe the amazing process of chicks hatching in our classroom. Out of the 10 eggs, 8 chicks successfully hatched, which also gave us a valuable chance to talk about bereavement in a sensitive and age-appropriate way, turning it into an important learning experience.

Our classroom has been open every lunchtime to all year groups, and many children have thoroughly enjoyed visiting, holding the chicks, and watching them grow. The Year 2 children have been incredibly responsible, helping to ensure the chicks always had food and water, as well as taking part in cleaning them out (which was a little smelly!).

It has truly been a fantastic experience for everyone involved. We were especially lucky to witness some of the chicks hatching live, which was captured on a phone during parents' evening. It has also been lovely to reflect on last year's chicks, seeing how they have grown into chickens through recent photos.

We are very grateful that a parent has kindly offered to rehome this year's chicks and will be taking four hens, ensuring they continue to be well cared for.

Overall, this has been a memorable and enriching experience for all the children.

Mrs Kidd





Report: Flower Show - Saturday, 21 March

Sissinghurst Flower Show Society Spring Show was held on Saturday 21st March in the School hall.

Spring has definitely arrived and the hall was filled with a variety of spring flowers -daffodils, flowering shrubs, camellias, tulips and polyanthus whilst the children's colourful and carefully arranged vases of mixed spring flowers formed a lovely background to the show.

There were several impressive topics included in their letters. One was a letter for peace addressed to world leaders from children everywhere, another about the stages involved in moving house and another asking questions about the Mayan people.

Easter, Spring and a message to the Community of Sissinghurst were amongst the chosen subjects for their greetings cards which were carefully and neatly made by painting, drawing , felting, tissue paper flowers and all showed much creative talent.

Although there were fewer entries for crispy nests, they had all been neatly made and decorated.

The judges send big THANK YOU to you all for your entries which showed that you enjoyed doing them.

It was good to see so many children in the afternoon enjoying the sideshows and parents relaxing with homemade cake and a cup of tea . We would like to thank Mrs. Holman for presenting the trophies followed by the ever popular Raffle.

Trophy winners were:

Percy Foreman Trophy: Audrey D

Queen Mother Trophy: Raffy M

Easter Cup: Henry W

Denis Hemsted Youth Cup: Ava O

Learning Tree Shield: Pippa P



Get Set 4 PE

We know how important it is for children to stay active, and being active as a family can make it even more enjoyable! Each newsletter I will be sharing one or two simple activity ideas that you can try together at home. These activities are designed to be quick, fun and suitable for all ages — a great way to build healthy habits, develop physical skills and spend quality time together.

We would love to hear/see how you get on!

Mrs Kidd

Animal Dance



Get Set 4
Education



How to play:

- Create a short dance that uses the movements of an animal of your choice.
- Try not to just act like the animal, but use their movements e.g. the way they crawl, walk, sleep or jump.
- Think about how quickly or slowly they move.
- Think about how they move e.g. bouncy, smoothly.
- Choose some music that suits your animal too.

Show your dance to a family member or friend.



www.getset4education.co.uk

Book Balance



Get Set 4
Education

What you need: your favourite story

How to play:

- Using your favourite story, pick out three characters and create a balance that represents each one e.g.



- Read through your story or ask someone else to!
- Each time the character is mentioned, hold the balance you have created for five seconds.
- Make this harder by holding your balance until the next character is mentioned!



Struggling with disrupted sleep at home? Join our FREE online Family Learning workshop on 31 March, 10am–12pm, to explore what affects sleep, how poor sleep impacts behaviour, and practical strategies to help your family rest better.

<https://ow.ly/QRg750YwqJG>



Supporting Your Family Through Our Screen-Obsessed World Struggling to manage screen time at home? Join our FREE online Family Learning workshop on 30 March, 7pm–9pm, and explore practical ways to create healthier digital habits for the whole family.

<https://ow.ly/8Q1J50Ywks1>



**Parenting neurodivergent children
FREE online parenting course**

The course covers:

- Low demand parenting
- Sleep issues
- Tuning into your child
- Sensory regulation
- Managing change and transitions
- Carer burnout and compassion fatigue
- Meltdowns, shutdowns, burnout & masking
- Self-care and looking after yourself
- Communication
- Free downloadable resources and more

Sign up today and work at your own pace

WWW.FAMILYLIVES.ORG.UK 

Our new FREE online parenting course on parenting neurodivergent children, teens and young adult is LIVE. This course is created by parents who have lived experience of raising children with neurodivergence - click here to sign up: <https://ow.ly/GWke50YxvhM>



Family breakups are incredibly tough, especially on children. Understanding their thoughts and feelings is important. Our advice can help you navigate this challenging time and support your children <https://ow.ly/bsFe50YxvSp>



SUPPORTING ADHD IN THE HOME

Practical support for families.

Take part in this engaging and supportive course, designed to deepen your understanding and patience while exploring practical strategies to create a nurturing home environment for children with ADHD.

Where:

Ivy Court Surgery
(or Teams link)

Date: 7th June

Time: 10am-11.30am

To book a place please contact:
kmicb.arsocial.team@nhs.net



For more information
scan the QR code

kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk
FREE, Fun & Informal



KINSHIP CARERS COFFEE MORNING

APRIL 30TH 9:30AM – 11:30AM
HAMSTREET SURGERY
RUCKINGE ROAD, TN26 2NJ

★ A friendly morning for local kinship carers to connect and support one another. This event is open to anyone who is registered at **Hamstreet, Charing, Woodchurch or Ivy Court surgery** and providing full-time care for a child who is not their own (excluding foster carers). All kinship carers are welcome, whether or not they have a legal order in place. This a warm and supportive space where kinship carers can come together to share experiences, offer

PCN AUSTISM / ADHD / PARENT / CARER

SUPPORT GROUP



10:00 - 11:30AM
IVY COURT SURGERY,
RECREATION GROUND RD, TENTEDEDEN
TN30 6RB

✉ KMICB.ARSOCIALTEAM@NHS.NET

02
APRIL

ND HARBOUR - DR J BLACK



07
MAY

UNDERSTANDING PDA -
WITHERSLACK GROUP

04
JUNE

KENT ADULT EDUCATION -
SUPPORTING ADHD IN THE HOME

To attend this session, you **MUST**
complete an enrollment form.

YOU'RE WELCOME TO ATTEND IN PERSON OR JOIN REMOTELY FROM HOME. A
LINK WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL CLOSER TO THE GROUP DATE.

IN ORDER TO ATTEND YOU MUST BE REGISTERED AT WOODCHURCH, IVY COURT,
HAMSTREET OR CHARING SURGERIES.

YOUR CHILD MUST EITHER, BE ON THE WAITING LIST FOR AN AUTISM OR ADHD
ASSESSMENT, OR HAVE A CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS.

THIS IS A SAFE SPACE FOR PARENTS / CARERS TO SPEAK OPENLY, SO WE KINDLY
ASK THAT CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL
THE ADDRESS ABOVE.



HAF

Easter activities

For children aged 5-16 who are eligible for Benefit Related Free School Meals.

Tunbridge Wells

Wednesday 8th - 15th April

Please note that HAF codes for each child will be needed for booking

go create Pottery Session



Kent HIGH WEALD Forest School



Challenger Troop



Dance Workshop



Click this link to book your place. Please complete one form for each child.

Contact us
TWFamilyHub@kent.gov.uk
03000 418 059

[Tunbridge Wells Family Hubs - Easter HAF Activities Booking](#)

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council

BUZZERS ACADEMIES

Easter Holiday 2026

Percussion • Circus Skills • Gymnastics • Sports • Archery • Boxing
Arts & Crafts • Taekwondo • Dance • Science • First Aid • Cooking

Where?

BECKENHAM - Clare House Primary School, Overbury Avenue, Beckenham, BR3 6PY
 BEXLEYHEATH - Upland Primary School, Church Road, Bexleyheath, DA7 4DG
 BICKLEY - St George's Primary School, Penzance Road, Bromley, BR1 2RL
 BROMLEY - St Mark's Primary School, Aylesbury Road, Bromley, BR2 0QR
 DARTFORD - River Mill Primary School, Central Road, Dartford, DA1 5XR
 EDEN PARK - Orion Eden Park Secondary School, 43 Balmoral Avenue, Beckenham BR3 3TJ
 HAYES - Pickhurst Junior School, Pickhurst Road, West Wickham, BR4 0LX
 LOCKSBOTTOM - Danlick Wood Infant School, Lovibonds Avenue, Orpington, BR6 8ER
 STONE - The Brent Primary School, London Road, Dartford DA2 4BA
 SWANLEY - Swanley Family Hub, St Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU
 WEST WICKHAM - Oak Lodge Primary School, Chamberlain Crescent, West Wickham, BR4 0LJ

• These venues also offer free places for HAF eligible children

Who?
Boys and Girls aged 4 (Reception class) to 12

When?
Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April & Tuesday 7th to Friday 10th April 2026
8.30am-5.30pm (Extended day) or 10am-4pm (Camp day)

Price?
From £34 per day (Camp day)
£7 morning extended day hours & £7 afternoon extended day hours
We accept CHILD-CARE VOUCHERS

BOOK: www.buzzersacademies.co.uk ENQUIRE: camps@buzzers.org.uk

BUZZERS
B

WHEN?
 February half-term
 Easter holiday
 May half-term
 Summer holiday
 October half-term
 Christmas



Our Buzzers Camps are aimed at children aged 4 to 12 years and are tailored to suit all sporting interests and abilities. All our Camps are based around **Sports** and **Multi-Activity Team Games**.

Each day of our Camps are tailored to ensure, inclusion and maximum participation in a **fun and safe** environment. Our team will ensure that all children make **new friends, are physically active** and **have their say** on the Camp day-to-day activities.

Throughout the Camp week, there will also be various **'Special Events'** such as Archery, Science, Pottery Painting, Fencing, Taekwondo, Cooking, Sand Art, Circus Skills, First Aid and Inflatables.

All Buzzers Camp staff hold enhanced DBS certificates and are trained in First Aid, Safeguarding Children and Child Protection. All senior (Lead) Buzzers staff come from a school based PE teaching background, therefore each Camp day will have a 'learning outcome' focused around:

- **ABC's** (Agility, Balance & Co-ordination)
- **Communication Skills**
- **Leadership**
- **Team Building**

Follow us on **Facebook, Instagram & TikTok** - @BuzzersAcademies
 Download the Buzzers **App** - search 'Buzzers Academies' on your App Store



Holiday & Activity Camps for 2026

at Dulwich Cranbrook School (Kent)



DAY BOOKINGS Available

ONLY £47.00
Per day



Creating wonderful childhood memories...

Book online at:
piedpiperactivities.co.uk

Easter Activities 2026
 WEEK COMMENCING
 7 Apr & 13 Apr

Summer Activities 2026
 WEEK COMMENCING
 27 Jul, 3 Aug, 10 Aug & 17 Aug

Pied Piper Holiday Camps are fun, friendly, & child-centred

Embark on an exciting journey with Pied Piper multi-activity camps, the ultimate experience for children aged 4 to 12 during their Easter and Summer holidays!

Book online at:
piedpiperactivities.co.uk

"Henry has had a wonderful time. I don't know exactly what he has been doing as he is too tired to speak!"

BOOK NOW ONLINE



Scan me to book!



Creating wonderful childhood memories...

 @PiedPiperActivitiesLtd
  piedpiperactivities



Reg No. 2726727



Cranbrook Museum re-opens on 1st April.

Come and try the new Hat Trails for children.
It's free to visit, although donations are always welcome.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Have you discovered
'Wheels of Time'?
For children age 5-11
www.wheelsoftime.uk

Cranbrook Museum is a Wheels of Time heritage site.
Open April to October, 2.00 to 4.30 Tuesday to Saturday,
Summer Bank Holidays
and every Sunday in August.
www.cranbrookmuseum.org

News & Events

For upcoming local events in the parish of Cranbrook & Sissinghurst:

<https://cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk/whats-on/upcoming-events/>

Sign up to receive 'Be In The Know' emails from the parish council:

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

Or follow the Parish Council Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/CranbrookandSissinghurstPC>

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office@sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk / <http://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk>

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