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# FRIDAY FLYER

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Happy Friday Everyone

As we approach the half-term break, I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your continued support and partnership throughout this term. It's been a very busy and productive few weeks, and we are proud of the progress and achievements of every one of our children. The past few weeks have been filled with many opportunities to reflect on our wonderful community and I thank you, the children and our hard-working staff for making Midhurst the caring community it is.

This half-term break is a wonderful opportunity for our children to rest, recharge, and enjoy some time with family and friends. I encourage everyone to take some time away from schoolwork to relax, but also to engage in fun, creative activities that keep learning alive.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, feel free to reach out. We look forward to welcoming the children back after the break for the second half of the term!

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break!

With every best wish

Mark

## MOLLIE NEWMAN



Here at Midhurst C of E Primary School we are sad to learn of the passing of Mrs Mollie Newman. Mrs Newman or Mollie to the grown-ups – not me! Was an integral part of Midhurst Primary School. To me, she was the most amazing dinner lady – strict but fair and a teacher of only the best manners. “Elbows off the tables!” was uttered most lunch shifts. She worked in so many different guises throughout her long period of service here at MPS and was one of the staff who helped with the move from the Half Moon School to our present site in 1972. Mrs Newman was also the brains behind our much-loved and celebrated Sports Day. It is a testament to her genius that we still follow the same, amazing format today. From the whole family here at MPS we want to extend a heartfelt sympathy to her family for her passing. We know that her legacy here at MPS is in safe hands and we continue to celebrate so many of her achievements today. Thank you Mollie Newman.

- Mr Ind

### MRC QUAD ATHLETICS VICTORY!

A few weeks ago, I took a team of 16 athletes to compete in the 3rd event of the MRC Sports Partnership League; the Quad Athletics competition. Each athlete had to take part in a 75m sprint, a 600m run, standing long jump and a vortex throw. It was a very close competition, but I am delighted to say we were the overall winners and Poppy Alden was the overall winning girl. All members of the team competed brilliantly and encouraged each other so well, we are very proud of all of you. – Mrs Alden



### CROSS COUNTRY DETERMINATION!

Last Friday saw the 4th event of the MRC Sports Partnership League; the cross-country races. We took a team of 40 from Years 3-6 to this event, all who had been training hard for this since October. There were 4 races; Year 3 and 4 girls, Year 3 and 4 boys, Year 5 and 6 girls and Year 5 and 6 boys. We got off to a very strong start with Darcy White winning the Year 3 and 4 girls' race. This winning streak continued with Baxter Phillips winning the Year 3 and 4 boys' race, Poppy Alden winning the Year 5 and 6 girls race and Harry Clark winning the Year 5 and 6 boys' race! Overall, we finished a close 2nd to a very strong team from Hollycomb. The Year 5 and 6 races were selection races where runners who finished in the top 6 were chosen to represent Central Sussex in the Sussex Cross Country finals in March. We had 3 runners selected for this; Poppy Alden, Frances Gooda and Harry Clark.

We are so proud of all our runners who showed real grit and determination. The sportsmanship they demonstrated was exemplary, encouraging each other and congratulating runners from other teams. Cross country is a tough sport and every single runner put in 100% and did themselves and our school proud, well-done team, you are amazing.





### BIRCH CLASS BRAVE THE WEATHER



Birch Class have been marvellous meteorologists this week. They have been learning all about the Beaufort Scale, weather vanes and finally made their own wind detector.

We tested them out and were pleased to see they worked.

### DUCK SQUAD HIT SOUTH POND



A few members of Beech Class had the idea to make and organise duck food to feed the ducks on South Pond. They came up with the plan after seeing people feeding the ducks bread, which we already knew was not the best diet for ducks!

So, a plan was hatched and a recipe sought ... including meal worms; yuck! The group, who named themselves 'Duck Squad', started work devising and creating the mix and filling bags ready to feed the ducks and their new ducklings as we move into Spring.

It is hoped that the local community will get behind the project by collecting the food bags from The Grange and help make sure the ducks get fed. Duck Squad sourced the bags and beautifully designed stickers so that it was clear to see that the children of MPS are keen to help our local wildlife and support where they can. We are very grateful to the staff at The Grange for supporting the project and to the South Pond Group for allowing us to do it. When you take a trip down to the pond, you will notice the beautifully designed poster that our competition winners, Zara and Masha from year 5, did which clearly say where to go and who the organisers are.

We are very proud of Duck Squad, their kindness and willingness to spend their hard-earned playtimes organising all of this. We hope this will be an ongoing project so, if you would like to contribute oats, seed, meal worms, dried vegetables, please see Mrs Mullen and she will arrange a place to bring donations. Jaxon,

one of the founder members of duck squad said "Being the leader of Duck squad made me feel happy and proud. It made coming to school easier and we are pleased to be improving duck health. It is important that people understand that bread is not good for ducks and we have helped with that".



### HAZEL CLASS VISIT THE TITANIC EXHIBITION



On Wednesday, Hazel class went on a trip to the SeaCity Museum in Southampton to learn about the Titanic which is their topic in history this term. They took part in a workshop where they got to handle artefacts, carried out a science experiment, decided who they thought should have a place in the lifeboats and matched smells to room on the Titanic! They then did a self-guided tour of the museum following a trail and finally had a discovery tour where they were told stories of some of the passengers on board, tried their hand at Morse code and got to dress up. It was a fantastic trip, and we all came back full of facts and enthusiasm for the topic. The children were incredibly well-behaved and their listening and ability to ask and answer questions was commented on by the staff at the museum.



### REMINDER TO BOOK BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

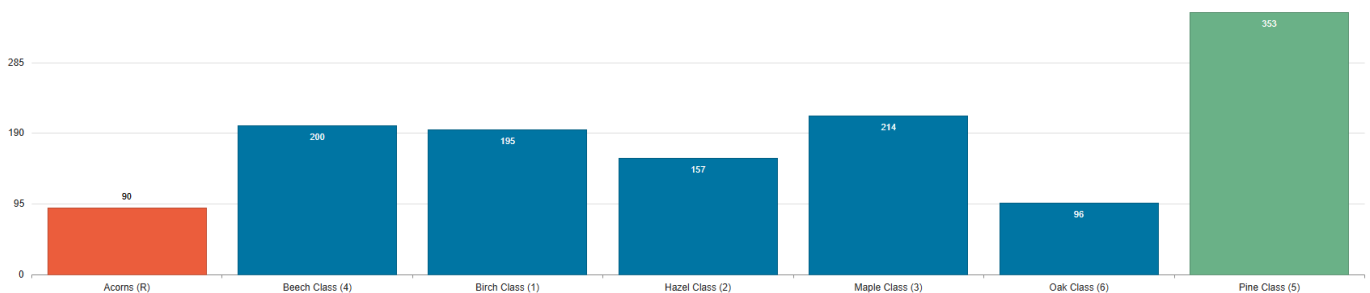
Bookings for Breakfast and After School Clubs for next half term are now open. Sessions can be reserved and paid for directly through MCAS, or if you have a payment plan, email your requests to Helen, our bursar.

Don't forget that you can get help paying for your wraparound care by setting up a Tax-Free Childcare account – for every £8 you pay into the account, the government adds £2 – and our clubs are already registered with the scheme so you can use the money to pay for your sessions. There's a link below, but if you need any help, please contact Helen.

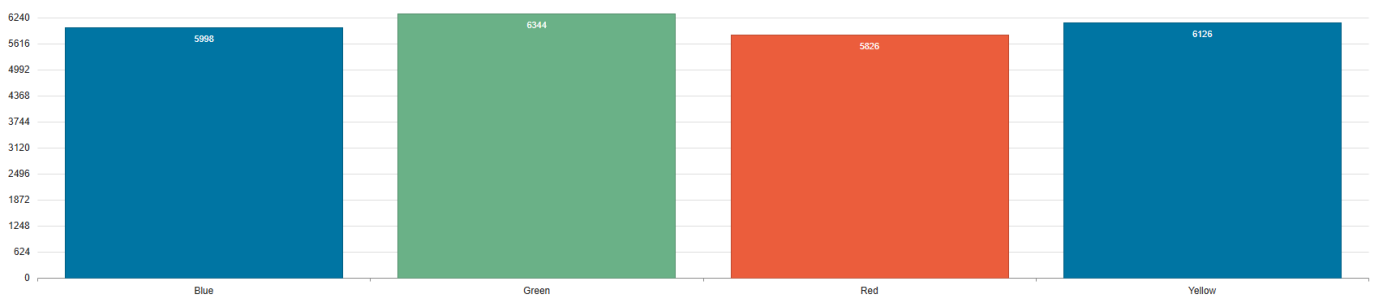
<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

### BEHAVIOUR POINTS

Congratulations to Pine Class for gaining the most Reward Points this week with 353 points. Great job Pine Class!

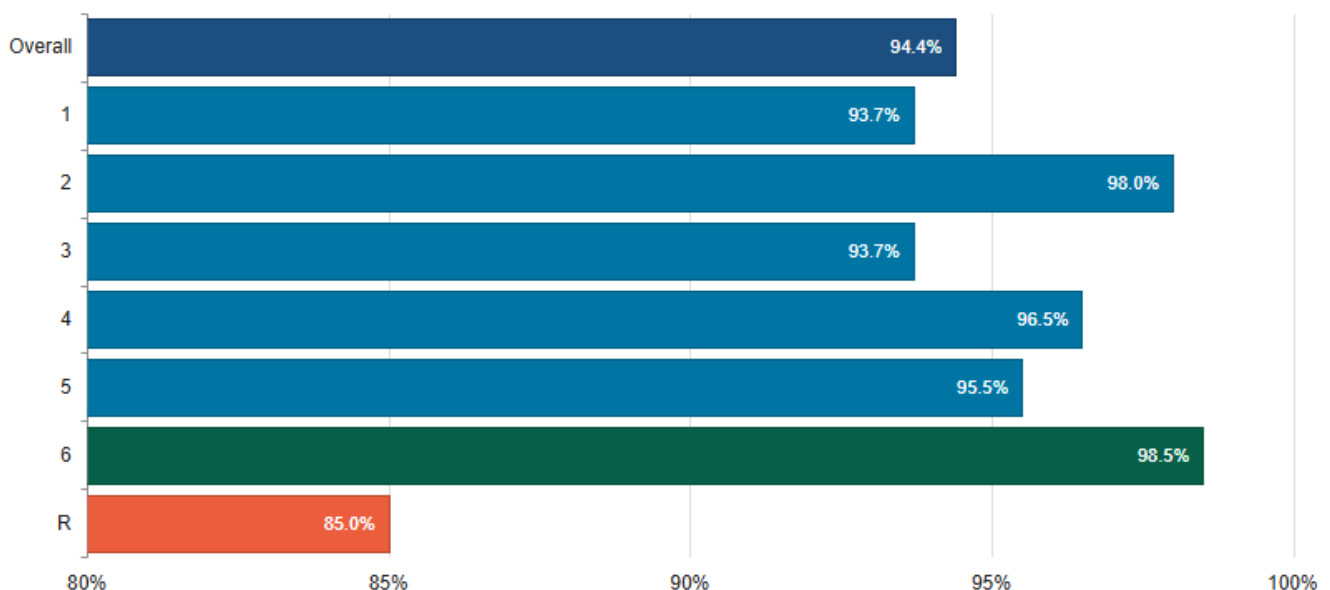


Rother House remain in the lead this week with 6344 points so far this year.



### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

This week's overall attendance is 94.4%, slightly lower than our target of 95%.



### THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE CHAMPION

Congratulations to Oak Class, this week's attendance champions with 98.5%

## DIARY DATES

Date	Event/Activity	Details
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	<b>HALF TERM BREAK</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>BACK TO SCHOOL</b> Birch, Hazel & Maple - PE today Pine Class trip to Winchester Science Centre Aspire Football Club	Please come in PE kit See separate letter  3.30 – 4.30pm
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Beech, Pine & Oak - PE today Oak Class Residential Meeting	Please come in PE kit 3.30pm
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Birch & Oak – PE today Beech class – swimming Forest School Rother Valley Festival Dance club	Please come in PE kit am – see separate letter Year 3 – group 2 By invitation only
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Maple & Pine – PE today Coffee/Croissant morning  Forest School Cross Country club	Please come in PE kit 9-9.45am with Mrs Chance in the school hall – all welcome Year 2 – group 1 3.30 – 4.15pm
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Hazel & Beech - PE today Dance club	Please come in PE kit 3.30 – 4.30pm
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Birch, Hazel & Maple - PE today Aspire Football Club	Please come in PE kit 3.30 – 4.30pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Beech, Pine & Oak - PE today	Please come in PE kit
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Birch & Oak – PE today Theatre visit in school Forest School Rother Valley Festival Dance club	Please come in PE kit pm Year 3 – group 2 By invitation only
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Maple & Pine PE today World Book day Tag Rugby @ MRC Cross Country club	Please come in PE kit Dress up in your favourite book character For some children 3.30 – 4.15pm



Midhurst Primary

# SMARTIES CHALLENGE

The PTA would like to give every child a treat, so we're sending home some yummy Smarties to eat!

Keep the tube, don't throw it away, do tasks and good deeds to earn your pay.

Fill your tube with money right to the top, bring back to school to add to our fundraising pot.

**Please bring tubes back by  
Friday 28th February**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

### "CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

### SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such plays often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

### YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition, or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and so on. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

### FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

### PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

### FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives; talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

### ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

### TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember, adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

### BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as CNIline).

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk](https://OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk) for more.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fake-news-and-scams>



Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 05.02.2025





The Sussex Charity for Children  
Since 1890



## HELP US TO WIN THE TESCO VOTE

From 1st January until 30th March 2025 we are one of three charities hoping to win the Stronger Starts grant at Midhurst branches of Tesco, which will support our gardening project at Midhurst Primary School. PLEASE help us by collecting blue tokens and helping us win £1500!



**Tesco Superstore,  
Haslemere**

**Tesco Express, North Street,  
Midhurst**



CHICHESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION FOR FAMILY SUPPORT WORK  
CHARITY NO 285337 A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE REGISTERED NO 1648903 REGISTERED OFFICE:  
GARTON HOUSE 22 STANFORD AVENUE, BRIGHTON, BN1 6AA

### Midhurst Rother College Community Day Saturday 26 April 2025 10am-2pm

Calling all local businesses, agencies and groups to join us at this event to

- share your skills
- demonstrate your crafts
- promote your goods
- recruit new members
- engage with the local community

**It's all about what's on offer on our doorstep!**

**ALL STAND & EXHIBITION SPACE FREE OF CHARGE**

For more information email: [madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org](mailto:madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org)  
or contact the College Office: 01730 812451



**Midhurst Rother College**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning



# February Half Term Multi-Sports Camps

## Camp Information:

- Camps run from 9am to 3pm.
- For children in years 1 to 6.
- Half Days available to children in year R (9am to 12pm).
- Free drop off from 8:45am and collection by 3:15pm.

## Children require:

- a nut-free packed lunch.
  - mid-morning snack.
  - refillable drinks bottle.
- hot and cold weather protection
  - trainers.

## Lots of fun activities;

Running, tagging, dodging, jumping, throwing activities, ball games, striking and fielding, orienteering, teamwork & problem-solving



## Join us!



Wednesday 19th to  
Friday 21st February  
2025



Buriton Village Hall and  
Easebourne Primary  
School



[www.aspirecoaching.org.uk](http://www.aspirecoaching.org.uk)



[info@aspirecoaching.org.uk](mailto:info@aspirecoaching.org.uk)



# February Half Term 2025 Football Camp



Football fun for everyone!  
For children in years 1 to year 8  
Half days available for children in year R  
In association with Petersfield Town FC



Mon 17th & Tues  
18th February 2025  
9am to 3pm



The  
Petersfield  
School 3G  
AstroTurf



Book with us

[www.aspirecoaching.org.uk](http://www.aspirecoaching.org.uk)

# Happy Birthday Library!

Join us to celebrate 100 years of West Sussex Libraries with birthday themed stories and crafts!



**Thursday 20 February**  
**10.00-11.00am**

Suitable for children aged 4+

Booking essential – please speak with staff to reserve a place.  
Parents and carers must remain with their child during this activity.



**Chichester Library**

Tower Street, PO19 1QJ

01243 777351

Chichester.library@westsussex.gov.uk

# Happy Birthday Library!

Join us to celebrate 100 years of West Sussex Libraries with birthday themed stories and crafts!



**Wednesday 19 February**  
**2.00-3.00pm**

Suitable for children aged 4+

Booking essential - please speak with staff to reserve a place.  
Parents and carers must remain with their child during this activity.

100  
YEARS

West Sussex  
Library Service  
1914-2014

**Petworth Library**

High Street, GU28 0AU

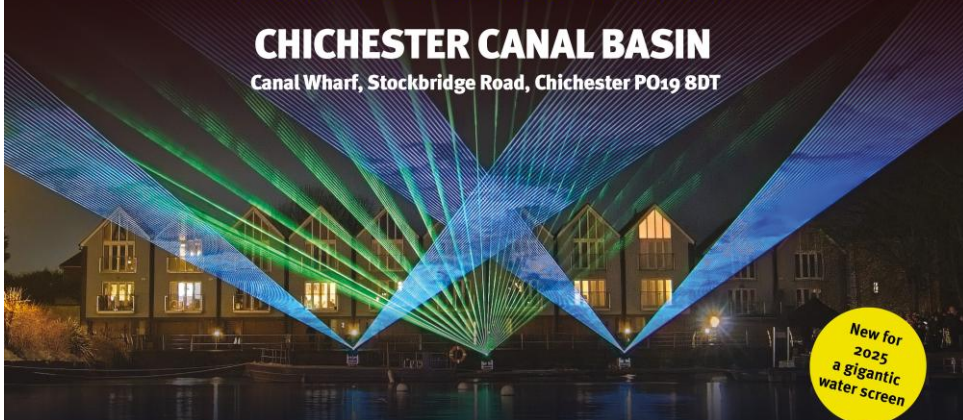
01798 342274

petworth.library@westsussex.gov.uk

# FREE LASER SHOW EXTRAVAGANZA

## CHICHESTER CANAL BASIN

Canal Wharf, Stockbridge Road, Chichester PO19 8DT



New for  
2025  
a gigantic  
water screen

**Friday 21 & Saturday 22 February 2025**

Different displays at 6pm & 7.30pm

- **New for this year** – a gigantic water screen showing clips from your favourite movies to music and laser lights!
- There will be food and drink stalls and the Canal Café will be open.

For more information visit  
[www.chichester.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/whatson)



BROUGHT TO YOU BY



# FREE LASER SHOW EXTRAVAGANZA PETWORTH HOUSE



**Saturday 15 February 2025**  
5.30pm and 6.45pm

FREE access to Petworth House GU28 9LR from 10am until 3.30pm.  
FREE family crafts and entertainment in Battery House and Courtyard  
from 11am and live music from 3.30pm.

For more information visit  
[www.chichester.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/whatson)



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Funded by  
UK Government

**FREE  
HALF-TERM ACTIVITY**



# CIRCUS

## Workshop

with Nick Cook



**TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2025  
10am to 12noon**

**At The Old Library, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst GU29 9DQ**



**MIDHURST TOWN COUNCIL**



**HOPP COACHING**

# Free Tennis Taster

February Half Term 2025

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Rogate Tennis Club

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Milland Tennis Club

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Graffham Tennis Club

Come along have a go at tennis with  
Club Coach Richard Hopp!

Free fun taster sessions for YrR – Yr6

**\*\*A great introduction to tennis\*\***

**\*\*Fun games\*\***



Age	Time	Price
YrR – Yr2	9.30 – 10.10am	Free
Yr3 – Yr4	10.10 – 10.50am	Free
Yr5 – Yr6	10.50 – 11.30am	Free

After school tennis coaching running from March:

Tuesdays - Milland  
Wednesdays - Graffham  
Thursdays - Rogate

for more information or to book, please get in touch

Sponsored by:



m: 07904 069457 | e: [richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk](mailto:richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk) | w: [www.hoppcoaching.co.uk](http://www.hoppcoaching.co.uk)



# HALF TERM EVENTS

## at Haslemere Museum



Family activity  
**Magnificent  
Masks**

Tue 18 February  
10.30am-1.30pm

Join us for a morning  
of mask making.



Family activity  
**Sunwood**  
Wed 19 February  
11am

Join local author  
Claire Nicholas for  
readings from her  
Sunwood series,  
followed by questions  
and book signing.



Museum Explorers  
**Magical  
Marbling**

Thu 20 February  
10.30am-12pm

Be inspired by Geok's  
marbled boxes and  
make your own amazing  
patterns.



Family activity  
**Skittles**

Fri 21 February  
2-4pm

Join us to try your  
hand at an indoor  
skittle alley and also  
our fun skittles,  
bagatelle and shove  
rally penny games.

**FIND OUT MORE AT**  
[haslemeremuseum.co.uk/whatson](http://haslemeremuseum.co.uk/whatson)



## February half term

February half term is delivered with love at Sky Park Farm, delicious family food, elegant evening dining with a special Valentine Menu and hours of fun for the children.

Deer are at the heart of what we do, but we have so much more to share. This half term we're bringing nature inside - observe an owl, hang out with a hedgehog, ogle a toad and handle a snake with Wild About Britain or track badgers, go behind the scenes with the Rangers, toast s'mores and build dens at Ranger School. Experiment with supersonic science, dance and sing with Suzie Songtime and immerse yourself in the world of Trainmaster UK. If the term has taken its toll and a recharge is needed then book a seat at our movie screenings with popcorn and a drink, we offer a relaxed, family-friendly viewing experience.

Sky Park deer will be grazing in their paddocks throughout half term, feed them by hand and observe the various species in close-proximity. February is the last month to admire full sets of antlers before they are cast in March. The Farm's Adventure Playground will be open for explorers to climb, swing and slide until their heart's content.

Breakfast, brunch and lunch are available seven days a week with a 'Little Fawns' menu available everyday and a Bottomless Brunch from Monday – Saturday every week.



# Henry Adams & Chichester Festival Theatre are delighted to announce



Your challenge is to **make a well-known Book Character** using a recycled cardboard tube/s along with other reclaimed materials and anything else you have at home.

## The Prizes!

As well as our traditional LEGO book prizes, we are delighted to say CFT are providing prizes for 2 winners across all of our schools:

- A family ticket (4 tickets, minimum 1 adult) for the Christmas production in the Minerva Theatre (ages 3-7)
- A family ticket (4 tickets, minimum 1 adult) for the youth theatre Christmas production in the Festival Theatre (ages 7+)
- Interval ice-creams



Examples of LEGO book prizes

Please bring your entries back to your local Henry Adams office for a sweet treat or back to your school by **Wednesday 5th March**.

Don't forget to **add your Name, Year Group and School on your entry**.

Please ask your parents/carers to share your designs on Facebook or Instagram and tag Henry Adams so we can share them too.

We look forward to seeing all your wonderful designs when we return to school for the prize giving assembly in March.

**chichester  
festival  
theatre**

**Henry Adams**  
estate agents

## Thank you for taking part!