



Katherine Warrington School

HEADS UP

Newsletter no. 37

5th November 2021

The start of this half term can sometimes be a struggle for students and staff alike as the clocks change and the temperature tends to drop and Christmas looks quite a way away despite the adverts running on TV for it already. With that background, it was good to have the Diwali celebrations and accompanying light displays in school, which certainly provided that. The five Year 9 students who led our celebrations did so in an exemplary fashion - congratulations and a big thank you to them. For more details of our Diwali please scroll down.

We have decided that it would be beneficial to our incoming Year 7 students for 2022 to run a summer school along the same lines as the one we ran this year. It really helped students to feel more comfortable coming into secondary school at the start of the term. This time our summer school will be for three days and it will be in the penultimate week of the summer holidays (22nd-24th August).

As part of our focus on parent voice, our first parent catering forum will take place on Thursday 11th November. There will be a presentation by Clare Ponder (Catering Manager - HCL) from 12.00pm followed by a Q&A session and parents will then be invited to stay and enjoy lunch with us to see the lunch service for themselves. We expect it to be concluded by 1.15pm. There are a limited number of spaces available and if you are interested in attending please email d.inns@kwschool.co.uk

Next week is our KWS Climate Change Awareness Week, led by our Eco Committee and coordinated by Mr Inman. It will include a form time quiz, themed Oracy Assembly and public speakers. There is also a House competition giving students the opportunity to get involved with an activity at home to reduce the environmental impact

A gentle reminder for students to bring in some money if they wish to purchase a poppy from Monday. As part of our participation in Remembrance, students have been making clay poppies and painting them to form an installation. My thanks to Miss Robinson and her team for organising that. Students will also observe a minute's silence and the last post will be playing via our radio station.



Finally, as we are back into Covid precautions, please encourage your child to test before coming to school on Sunday/Monday and bring a mask and hand sanitiser with them.

Tony Smith
Headteacher

House Points

The house points winners for this week are [Ali](#) congratulations.

Form	Overall
Ali	5019
Armstrong	4697
Franklin	4965
Keller	4914
Nightingale	4896
Tesla	4906

Admissions Consultation

We are consulting on changes to our admission arrangements for September 2023 - August 2024.

These changes are to accommodate advice from Hertfordshire County Council on the definition and explanation for home address where two applications are received for the same child in our Admissions Criteria for 2023/24. The revised wording to be included in our document will come under the 'Distance Measuring and Home Address' heading on the sixth and seventh page of our Criteria.

The Admissions Committee in agreement with Katherine Warington School's Board of Trustees have considered this proposal and in consultation with Herts County Council have formulated new admissions criteria to take effect from September 2023. A copy of the proposed criteria is available on the school website by [clicking here](#).

Should you wish to respond to this consultation, please do so in writing to Mrs R Robertson, Governance Professional, by 9.00am on Friday 10th December, r.robertson@kwschool.co.uk. We will not be able to acknowledge or respond individually to your comments but they will be taken into account.

At the end of the period of consultation on Friday 10th December, the Admissions Committee of the Board of Trustees will meet to consider any responses and prepare a report and recommendation to the Board of Trustees, who will determine the admissions criteria for September 2023 - August 2024 by 28th February 2022.

Attendance Review

As a school, we place great importance on attendance and expect that all our students will achieve an attendance level of at least 96% each academic year. It is through good attendance that pupils maximise their full potential, enhancing their life chances for the future. Missing school means missing out on learning and this can have an impact on a child's development and attainment.

There is a strong statistical link between attendance and attainment. Studies show that students who have patterns of poor school attendance could fail to achieve their full potential and this can have a detrimental impact on their GCSE results. Parents have the legal responsibility to ensure their child attends school regularly and punctually.

Research suggests that a drop to 90% can lead to a whole GCSE grade drop in achievement.

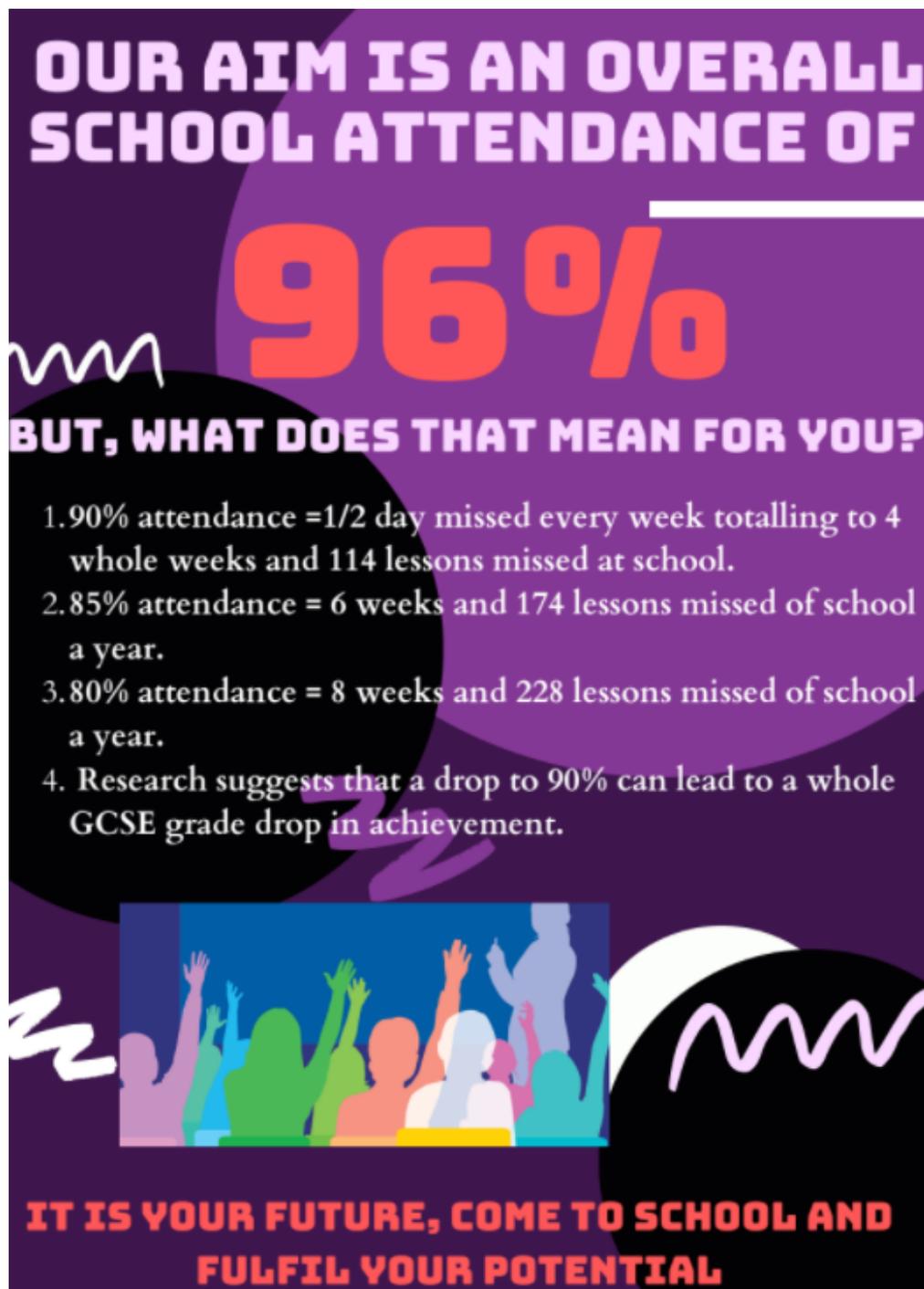
A student with 90% attendance is the equivalent of 4 whole weeks and 114 lessons missed at school.

A student with 85% attendance is the equivalent of 6 weeks missed at school and 174 lessons missed at school.

A student with 80% is the equivalent of 8 weeks missed at school and 228 lessons missed at school.

By working together we can help students reach their full potential and make the most of the opportunities school has to offer.

If you feel you would like support with your child's attendance or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



OUR AIM IS AN OVERALL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OF

96%

BUT, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR YOU?

1. 90% attendance = 1/2 day missed every week totalling to 4 whole weeks and 114 lessons missed at school.
2. 85% attendance = 6 weeks and 174 lessons missed of school a year.
3. 80% attendance = 8 weeks and 228 lessons missed of school a year.
4. Research suggests that a drop to 90% can lead to a whole GCSE grade drop in achievement.

IT IS YOUR FUTURE, COME TO SCHOOL AND FULFIL YOUR POTENTIAL

Attendance Procedures Reminder

We would like to remind you that lateral flow tests should continue to be taken twice weekly and are only for students who are asymptomatic.

If your child has any COVID-19 symptoms:

- A new continuous cough
- A temperature of 37.8* and above
- A loss of sense of smell or taste

A PCR test should be booked and taken instead of a lateral flow test and you should advise the school that you are doing so by emailing admin@kwschool.co.uk and then let us know the result via the same email address as soon as it is known.

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, urgent appointments or other reasons please telephone the 24hr school absence line on 01582 314800 or email absence@kwschool.co.uk **by 8.30am at the latest on the first day of absence and every subsequent day thereafter**, giving your **child's name, tutor/year group** and **full reason** for absence.

Where possible, please give plenty of notice for any planned absence, for example hospital appointments, and provide a copy of any medical/dental appointment letters/cards to the school. We would appreciate all dental and non-urgent doctor appointments being made out of school hours.

Please [click here](#) to visit the attendance page on our website.

Grace Aikman

Assistant Headteacher for Pastoral Care

Sports Notices



Wednesday night saw a fantastic win for our Year 8 girls on penalties in the county cup, particularly when the second half and the penalties were played in almost pitch black! Well done to all girls involved. Special mention to Isobel J and Emily B for the goals, as well as a solid performance in defence by Izzy P, Jessica H and Sarrinah M. A crucial penalty save by Isabella H provided the difference too!

This weekend the Year 7 boys Rugby team are travelling to Nicholas Breakspear School for a 7-a-side tournament. They stayed late on Wednesday and trained very well in preparation.

We wish them all the best. Well done to Year 9 boys Henry H and Nathan T for helping to coach the squad.

We have accumulated a large amount of lost property in the PE changing rooms over the first half term. Can I ask that if your child has lost any item of clothing, that they look for it in the PE changing rooms. On a similar theme, please make sure all clothing is labelled from now on so that we can return any items much more easily.

Mr Alexander

Science Update

NHS Pin Badge Design Competition

Mrs Creamer emailed all students this week about a competition being run by 'All About STEM' to design a pin badge for staff of the NHS Blood and Transplant Services. This scheme is looking for students who are enthusiastic about helping NHS scientists by designing a logo for a staff pin badge. The logo should be related to any of these areas/topics: **brighter horizons; future medicine; healthcare scientist; nursing care; eyedrop; heart; transplantation; tissue donation; bioengineering.**

There are prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed entries. The deadline for submissions is Monday 22nd of November. Further information can be found by [clicking this link](#).

In order to enter the competition students should email their science teacher and Mrs Creamer (s.creamer@kwschool.co.uk) with an image of their entry. Good Luck!

Science Hub

We are still hoping for more donations of science-related **books** or **magazines** in order to open up our Science Hub as a valuable space for students to read about, research and discuss scientific issues at lunchtime. Any donations can be dropped off at reception (Please label them as **Science Hub Donations - for Lab 071**)



Maths

'England Rocks' is back for its third year! As part of National Maths Week Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS) are running their annual competition to see who is the ultimate TTRS Champion!

Across the whole of England schools will be competing to see who is the best EVER class at TTRS! We will also be having a competition at KWS with prizes for the top 3 maths classes across the whole school.

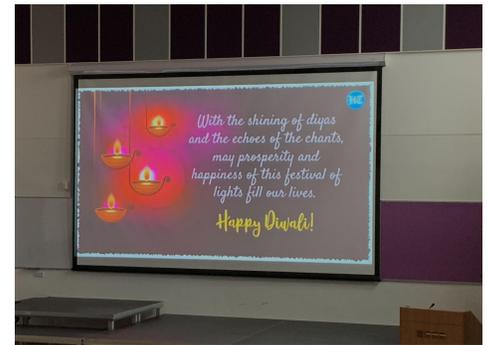


The event runs from the 8th-11th November and you need to try to answer as many questions as possible by playing whichever game on TTRS you prefer. Game time is limited to 1 hour a day between 7:30am and 7:30pm, which does not have to be done at any one time. Any scores after your 1 hour a day will not count, we don't want your eyes going square!

The Maths department

Diwali Celebrations

This week we are delighted to be joining in with the Diwali festivities and sharing the celebrations with our school community. Five of our Year 9 students: Rayan P, Krrish S, Anoushka M, Maanasee N and Nishaan P took the time to prepare and deliver an assembly to the whole student body to explain "What is Diwali?", "Why do we celebrate Diwali?" and "How do we celebrate Diwali?".



The pride of these students in their religion and families celebrations was clear for all to see and it was a great pleasure to help these students share this with the rest of the school community. Our fantastic catering staff also served up a real treat with their delicious Diwali Menu.



Finally, Miss Robinson and I are very excited to be looking through all of the student Rangoli Art Competition submissions before announcing the winners early next week. The winners will have their Rangoli designs brought to life for the whole school to see in our Diwali 2021 display. Happy Diwali everyone!

Mr Church and Miss Robinson

Eco Garden



These Honey glazed grilled courgettes were made using the courgettes that were grown in our eco garden. They were cooked by our lovely chef Sam and put on the menu last half term.

The eco garden has had a final tidy ready for the winter and will restart next spring.



Eco Garden Team

Trips

At KWS we are always striving to provide a varied and far-reaching curriculum. With that in mind and now that the COVID restrictions are beginning to ease, staff have been busy putting together an ambitious programme of activities including day and residential trips to supplement and enhance classroom learning. Examples of upcoming trips include theatre workshops and performances, geography field trips, a visit to the Crystal Maze in London, a Spanish trip and even a ski trip in the French Alps.

To facilitate the running of these trips, we are also introducing a new “Activity Week” which will take place after our internal exams at the end of June. Many of the trips and activities will occur during that week but others will be scheduled throughout the year.

You will notice that some of the trips and activities are directly related to curriculum subjects and others are extra-curricular. The aims are to cover all curriculum areas to provide "something for everyone" and to ensure that there is at least one residential trip available to each year group every year. For more details about upcoming trips and visits, please have a look at our new trips page on the school website. You can find the link by [clicking here](#).

English

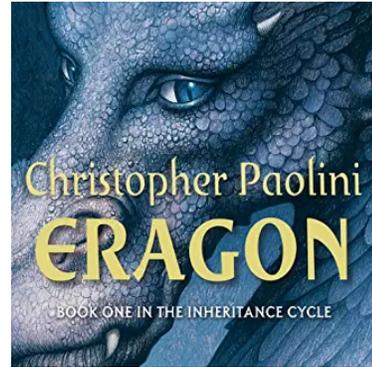
Here is our latest KWS Student Recommended Read:

Eragon by Christopher Paolini

I've recently decided to re-read Eragon, and it's still as good as I remember. The plot is that a boy called Eragon, settled in a small average village under the rule of a tyrannous king, stumbles across a mysterious stone in a supposedly cursed forest. What he doesn't know yet is the enormous peril that this will lead him into, and the danger that lies beneath the surface.

Rhiannon (Year 7)

(Available as audio on KWS Online library e-platform and as hard copy in the Library)



Upcoming Events

Friday 19th November - Year 9 Theatre trip (all day)

Monday 22nd November - Friday 26th November - Literacy week

This week's notices to parents /carers:

Harpenden Rugby Club Fireworks

Covid 19 Additional Measures

New Head of Year 7

KWS Vacancies

Library Assistant (part-time)

Monday to Thursday 10am until 2pm

Start date: ASAP

Science Technician (hours to suit)

Ideal for a student taking a gap year or perhaps studying at a local university

For further details please contact: recruitment@kwschool.co.uk

Katherine Warington Association of Friends (KwAF)

If you would like to get involved and support your school's parents' association please email kwaf@kwschool.co.uk or look out for updates on [Facebook @kwafkws](#). If you haven't already done so, please sign up and follow us!

KWAF NEWSLETTER

Edition 2 - Autumn 2021

Working together to support KWS



It's another school year!
Welcome back to our existing members and a warm hello to our new year 7 joiners!

Key Dates:

November
Thur 7th: Yr 7 Disco
Wed 10th: KWAF committee meeting

December
Fri 3rd: Winter Wreath workshop
Sat 4th: Winter wreath workshop
Thur 16th: KWS Winter showcase

Want to Help?
Get in touch: KWAF@kwschool.co.uk
Facebook: KWAF – Katherine Warington Association of Friends

Your elected committee

Chair: Ellie Renshaw
Vice Chair: Natasha Murphy
Secretary: Michelle Quinn
Events Coordinator: Joanna Day
Treasurer: Adam Badi
Publicity Officer: Bryony Davis

A look back on last year's fundraising (Net Income)

 £2478 Sponsored walk		
 £975 Virtual Halloween Spooktacular	 £199 EasyFundraising	 £1504 Christmas Auction
 £4108 Founders' wall	 £1082 Non school uniform	 £388 2 nd Hand uniform

UPCOMING
EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

10

DAY

11

MONTH

21

YEAR

@19:30

KWAF COMMITTEE MEETING



KWAF
YEAR
7
Disco
KWS SCHOOL HALL

THURS 4TH NOV
18:30 - 20:00
£5 ENTRANCE

KWAF PRESENTS

Winter Wreath Workshops

Friday 3rd Dec FULLY BOOKED

Sat 4th Dec 14:30-17:00 (12 spaces left!)

Workshop price £45 - Event held at KWS school

(Includes mulled wine, mince pies and your very own handmade wreath to take home)

To book, please contact Joanna Day on 07779 251469



KWAF NEWSLETTER

Edition 2 - Autumn 2021



Christmas is coming and there is no easier way to raise money for KWAF. Shop via Easyfundraising and KWAF receive a free donation

Raise donations for Katherine Warrington Association of Friends whenever you shop online

Turn your everyday online shopping into FREE donations

Over £55m raised for good causes through easyfundraising



Support Katherine Warrington Association of Friends

£548.20

51

Total raised

Supporters

Support this cause



1. Get started

Choose a cause to support then join for free



2. Start shopping

Visit retailers and then shop online as normal



3. Raise donations

Your cause receives free donations



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kwaf/>

KWAF – Who are we?

What is KWAF?

• The Katherine Warrington PTA is named the Katherine Warrington Association of Friends (KWAF).

When did we form?

• Sept 2019 with the first student intake

Our Aim?

• To lay the foundations of a supportive, inclusive, fun and successful association that will benefit current & future Students

Key Focus?

• Fundraise to support students/school
• Strengthen KWS community spirit
• Support local & Minimise waste

Who can join?

• Membership is open to: Parents & carers of current KWS pupils/Teaching/non-teaching staff employed at the school or any over 18 wishing to support the school and who is accepted by the committee as a member

How often do we meet?

• Once per half term
• Adhoc, targeted meetings for example: to support an upcoming event.



Want to get involved?

Volunteers needed for:

- Winter wreath workshop
- KWS Winter showcase

Contact KWAF@kwschool.co.uk to join up

Social Media

Keep up to date with the latest information via the newsletter, website and our social media platforms by clicking on the links below:

[Facebook @KatherineWaringtonSchool](#)

[Facebook @KWSchoolSport](#)

[Twitter @KWSHarpenden](#)

[Instagram @kwschoolharpenden](#)

[Instagram @kwschoolsport](#)

Non KWS Events / Publicity

Just Talk

Just Talk is Hertfordshire's mental health and wellbeing campaign, involving over 35 local organisations and co-produced with young people. This year's Just Talk Week is coming 15th - 21st November!

This year, Just Talk is focusing on the importance of kindness – how we can all benefit from being a little kinder to ourselves, and each other. Young people, as well as their parents and carers are invited to get involved and promote positive mental health in Herts.

This year's campaign week will also be taking place online and in schools and colleges across the county. You and/or your children will be able to access a range of FREE informational webinars throughout the week, on important topics including:-

Follow @JustTalkHerts on Facebook, twitter and Instagram to keep up to date.

See the full webinar schedule, as well as a range of FREE resources, videos and information [here](#)

#JUSTTALK

Mental health and wellbeing information for parents and carers in Hertfordshire

"It's okay to not be okay"

"Talking shows strength"

Information for parents and carers of children and young people. We all have mental health, and there are things all of us can do to help look after our own wellbeing and mental health, and to support those around us.

Hertfordshire's Just Talk website: www.justtalkherts.org is a central hub of information and resources for parents, carers and young people in Hertfordshire, to help children and young people improve their emotional wellbeing, build their resilience and develop positive coping strategies. It also has details of other organisations who can help if parents, carers, children and young people are struggling.

www.justtalkherts.org
Five Ways to Wellbeing e-learning
Facebook: JustTalkHerts
Instagram: @JustTalkHerts
Twitter: @JustTalkHerts

www.mindforfamilies.org.uk is a national website for quality assured and free e-learning about young people's mental health and wellbeing.

Where to find advice and information

Hertfordshire websites

- www.justtalkherts.org for self help information and details of a range of support available.
- www.servicesforyoungpeople.org - part of Hertfordshire County Council, providing youth work projects, information, advice, guidance, work-related learning and wider support for young people in Hertfordshire.
- www.servicesforyoungpeople.org/support-for-young-people/support-for-young-lgbt-people - projects across the county for the young LGBT+ community of Hertfordshire.
- www.healthshirts.org.uk - Free information, advice and support to help you stay healthy and well.
- www.hertfordshireherts.org - essential mental health support for Hertfordshire residents over the age of 16 and dedicated services for 10-18 year olds.
- www.carersinherts.org.uk - advice, information and support to unpaid carers.
- www.healthyoungmindsherts.org - information on emotional health and wellbeing support.
- www.nhs.uk/education - educational courses about mental wellbeing, free to all Hertfordshire residents aged 18 and over.
- www.healthforherts.co.uk - top tips and advice on all aspects of children's emotional and physical health.
- www.healthforteens.co.uk - information for teenagers about all aspects of health and lifestyle.
- www.nhs.uk/nhs.uk - information for young people, parents, carers and professionals about mental health issues and HPT's CAMHS services.

UK websites

- www.anonfraud.org - advice and guidance to help parent and carers support children and young people who may be struggling with poor mental health.
- www.themix.org.uk - leading support service for young people in the UK.
- www.youngminds.org.uk - mental health charities for children, young people and their parents, making sure all young people can get the mental health support they need.
- www.nhs.uk/everymindmatters - NHS mental health resources include tailored advice, as well as practical tips on sleep and self-care.

Where to find more advice and help

Parents and carers

You or your child might need some more advice, especially when experiencing difficulties, feelings of anxiety or low mood, or whilst adjusting to changes in life. You could speak to:

- your child's teacher, or mental health lead at their school or college
- your GP
- Hertfordshire's family centre service at 0300 123 7573 or www.hertsfamilycentres.org
- Chathealth texting service for parents/carers of 0-5s: 07480 635144
- Hertfordshire's Wellbeing Service for people age 16+ at: www.northhertsiaot.nhs.uk
- HPFT (one of Hertfordshire's NHS providers of mental health services) 24/7 freephone helpline: 0800 6444 101 or you can have a live webchat Monday to Friday 7am-7pm at: www.hertsiaot.nhs.uk

Young people

- free online counselling for anyone age 11-25 at www.kooth.com
- Herts Mind Network, Young People's Helpline for 10-17s: 0923 256391
- Chathealth text messaging service for secondary school aged young people: 07480 635050.

Where to get some urgent help

- Call HPFT's freephone 24/7 helpline: 0800 6444 101 or
- Call NHS 111 and select option two for mental health services

In the event of a life threatening condition that requires an emergency intervention, call 999 for the emergency services.

Letter from Jim McManus, Director of Public Health, Herts County Council

Please [click here](#) to read the latest letter regarding additional coronavirus (COVID-19) measures for all schools from Herts County Council.

Harpenden Evening Floral Group



Invite you to a
Floral Demonstration



By David Thomson
'Time to be Merry'



Date: Thursday 11th November

Time: 7.00pm

Place: Katherine Warington School
Lower Luton Road, AL5 5FH

All arrangements made will be raffled

Tickets £12

Price includes a mince pie, a glass of wine or soft drink

We look forward to seeing you there!



For more information

Telephone: 01582 761277

For our latest news

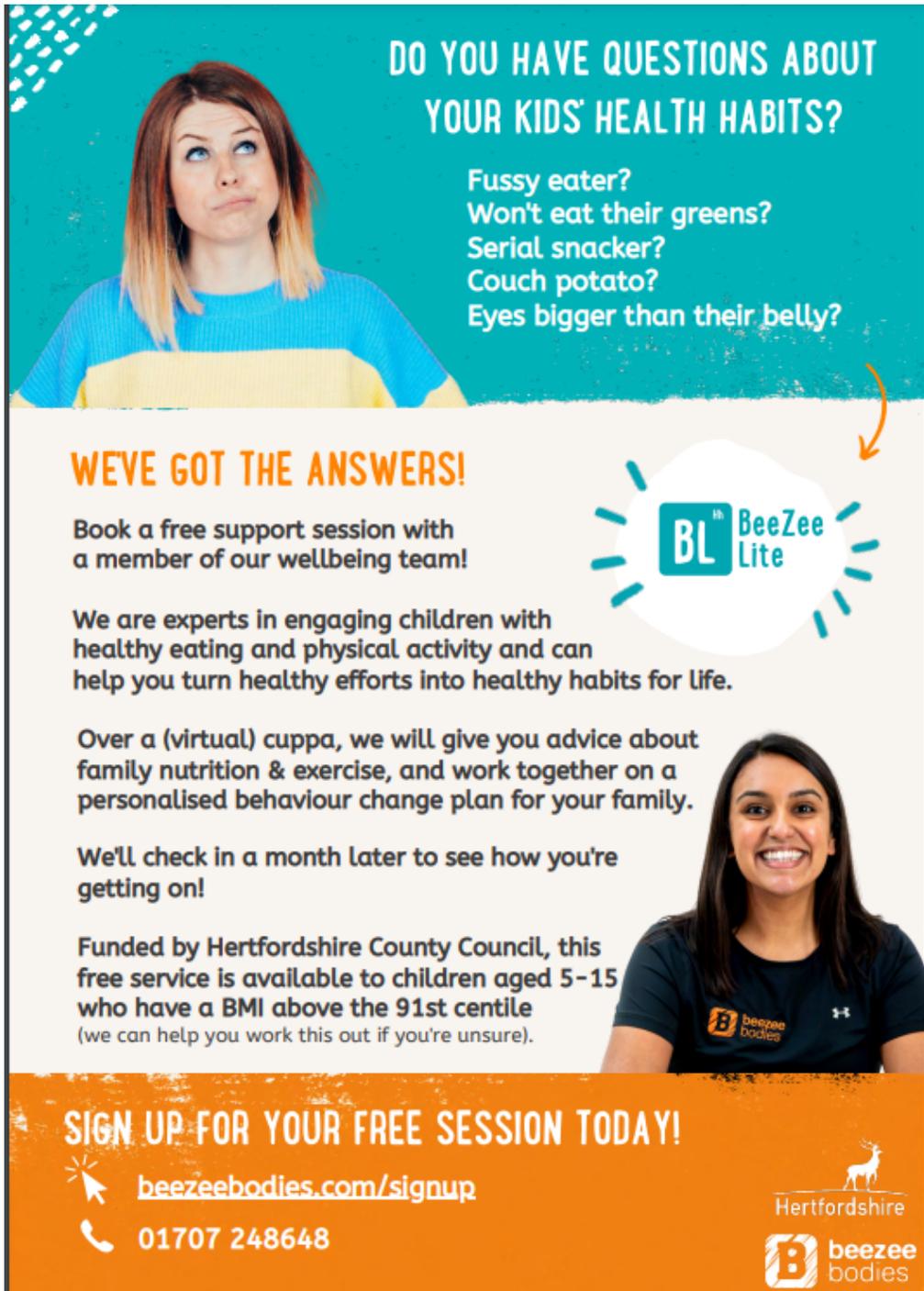


www.facebook.com/harpendeneveningfloralgroup

BeeZee Bodies

Free virtual advice sessions funded by Hertfordshire County Council about family nutrition and exercise to help with your child's health habits.

If you would like more information or advice please feel free to [click here](#)



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR KIDS' HEALTH HABITS?

Fussy eater?
Won't eat their greens?
Serial snacker?
Couch potato?
Eyes bigger than their belly?

WE'VE GOT THE ANSWERS!

Book a free support session with a member of our wellbeing team!

We are experts in engaging children with healthy eating and physical activity and can help you turn healthy efforts into healthy habits for life.

Over a (virtual) cuppa, we will give you advice about family nutrition & exercise, and work together on a personalised behaviour change plan for your family.

We'll check in a month later to see how you're getting on!

Funded by Hertfordshire County Council, this free service is available to children aged 5-15 who have a BMI above the 91st centile (we can help you work this out if you're unsure).

SIGN UP FOR YOUR FREE SESSION TODAY!

 beezeebodies.com/signup

 01707 248648

Hertfordshire 

 **beezeebodies**

INVESTIN

Success beyond school is a free, live online event designed to give you essential tools needed to support your child on their career journey.

The first two events have passed but you can still register for the third event if you wish.



YOUR INVITATION TO SUCCESS BEYOND SCHOOL

You are cordially invited to the latest in our Success Beyond School events series. Free-of-charge, live online parent events designed to give you the essential tools needed to support your child on their career journey



**FREE TO
ATTEND**

REGISTER NOW
See reverse for more details

The Skills Surgery

Breaking into a career in medicine, dentistry and veterinary surgery. Led by Dr. Julian Pearce, Dermatology Registrar and Academic Fellow.
WEDNESDAY 6TH OCTOBER | 7:00PM-8:00PM (GMT)

Succeeding in STEM

Learn how to kickstart your child's career in STEM-related industries. Led by Ella Podmore, McLaren Engineer.
WEDNESDAY 20TH OCTOBER | 7:00PM-8:00PM (GMT)

Learning to Lead

Discover how to supercharge your child's leadership skills today.
WEDNESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER | 7:00PM-8:15PM (GMT)

SCAN TO REGISTER



www.investin.org

The Rock Project - School of Rock and Pop

**The
Rock
Project**
School of Rock & Pop

**OPENING AT
KATHERINE WARINGTON
SCHOOL IN HARPENDEN!**

ON TUESDAYS DURING TERM TIME!

**FREE
TASTER
SESSION!**
BOOKING
ESSENTIAL

GET IN TOUCH TO BOOK!
VISIT WWW.THEROCKPROJECT.COM
CONTACT LUKE ON 07791443422 OR AT
HERTS@THEROCKPROJECT.COM

MUSIC LESSONS FOR ALL ABILITIES!
GUITAR | BASS | DRUMS | VOCALS



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

TO WATCH A VIDEO OF WHAT WE DO,
OR TO ENQUIRE ABOUT A TASTER
SESSION VISIT

WWW.THEROCKPROJECT.COM, OR
CONTACT LUKE ON 07791443422 OR
HERTS@THEROCKPROJECT.COM

-  2-hour after school sessions for ages 7-11 and then 11-18 year olds
-  Limited spaces available, booking on a first come first served basis
-  Perform at our annual End of Year Gig!



Services for
Young People

The Wheathampstead Positive Pathways Project

The Services for Young People
Wheathampstead Positive Pathways
Project runs every week for all 13-17 year
olds. It's free, so come along meet new
people and take part in some of the
many different activities we offer,
including use of the football astroturf. All
in a safe place where you can
receive support from our
youth workers.

Follow us



@sfyp.stalbans



@StAlbansTeam

Contact us



01442 454060



sfyp.stalbans@hertfordshire.gov.uk

**Tuesdays
7-9pm**

**Wheathampstead
Memorial Hall**