



### Dates for the Diary

#### Autumn Term

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October** – Year 2 Dragon Day

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**

**October** – Parent/Carer Open Evening

Plus healthy food tasting samples (see poster below)

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October** – Coffee Morning & Uniform Sale 9:00-10:00am

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October** – Last day of Autumn Term

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – INSET Day (no pupils)

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Half Term Holidays

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**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** – All pupils return to school

### Attendance Matters

Congratulations to **2D** in Key Stage 1 with **98.28%** and **6D** in Key Stage 2 with **99.54%**

Class	Attendance
Class 6D	99.54
Class 5N	99.52
Class 2D	98.28
Class 4G	98.28
Class 5A	98.02
Class 1H	97.35
Class 1L	97.32
Class 2W	96.98
Class 3G	95.87
Class 4N	95.19
Class 2K	94.25
Class 6E	94.20
Class RR	94.05
Class 3R	93.75
Class 6AM	93.52
Class RB	93.26
Class 3Z	92.24
Class FT Nursery	91.67
Class 4T	91.59
Class 5H	91.20
Class PM	90.38
Class 1KS	89.66
Class AM	79.49
Class RH	79.41



Dear Parent/Carer,

This week we have experienced dragons, stories from Africa, Egyptian artwork and the school turning yellow in support of World Mental Health Day.

There is never a dull moment at Hunters Hall – our curriculum continues to evolve and respond to our children’s needs. As we approach the last week of this half term, I would like to thank the staff team who serve our school community so well and go to extra lengths to ensure that our ethos and vision is met on a daily basis.

I have a request – please use the following link when shopping online – by doing this, certain companies such as Amazon, Asda, Tesco will donate money to our school. To date, we have raised over £400 through this link. I have also placed a QR code below so that you can scan it from your mobile phone.

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



Next week, we look forward to inviting you into the school to see our corridor displays and your child’s classroom. This will give you an opportunity to ask how your child has settled into their new school year.

Please do not think that I am getting QR Code obsessed but I would appreciate you answering the questions within this Parent/Carer Voice survey.

<https://forms.office.com/e/UZeSiJvnCM>



Have a safe, enjoyable weekend, and remember that next week is a 4-day week for the children due to our INSET on Friday 20<sup>th</sup>.

Michael Kaitell  
Headteacher

## Gold Award Debit Card Recipients

Each week we publish any recipients of the new Gold Award Debit Card.

### Gold Award Recipients

Name	Class
Anastasia Vincea	4N
Olivia Nnadi	1L
Jenson Colcough	1L

## School Uniform

School uniform can be purchased every Monday from 3:00-4:00pm in the dining hall.

In a hope to reduce the cost of school uniform, from September, you will have the option to purchase iron-on badges for plain white polo shirts and plain red jumpers. Badges will cost £1.20 and should make uniform more affordable.

Uniform can also be purchased online:

[www.schooluniformdirect.org.uk/schools/product-category/schools-and-clubs/hunters-hall-primary/](http://www.schooluniformdirect.org.uk/schools/product-category/schools-and-clubs/hunters-hall-primary/)

Or Telephone: 01992 763679 / Email: [info@schooluniformdirect.org.uk](mailto:info@schooluniformdirect.org.uk)



## Parent Hub

We would like all parents/carers to join us on Parent Hub.

Parent Hub is a FREE app that helps keep you up to date with what's going on at school. You'll receive messages, pictures, documents and newsletters, all in one handy place.



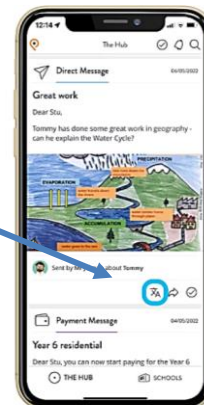
1. Download the Parent Hub app from your app store (iPhone or Android).
2. Create yourself an account.
3. Choose "Add a School" and enter:

**@HuntersHallIPS**

### How to translate messages in the Parent Hub app (guidance for schools)

In the app, parents just tap the 'translate' button in the bottom right of a message.

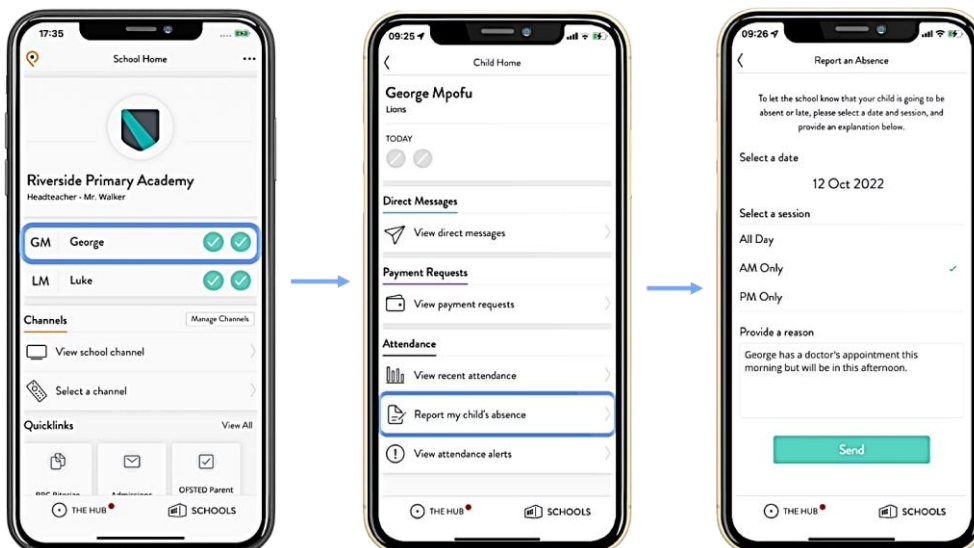
This applies to old messages, as well as new ones.



To find out more, click the link below for a useful guide.

<https://support.parenthub.co.uk/hc/en-us/articles/6172951020689-How-to-translate-messages-in-the-Parent-Hub-app>

## Reporting absence



## Uniform Reminder & PE Days 2023-2024

During the course of this academic year, we are phasing out some of our school uniform in an effort to make it more affordable for our parent body.

Our school uniform provider now sells school badges for £1.20 so that you are able to purchase plain white polo shirts/ plain red jumpers/cardigans and iron on the badge. (Our current provider will continue to sell their stock of red and grey uniform items and staff has been informed that it is a gradual phase out)

We have reduced the number of days that children require their school uniform by allowing them to wear their PE kit on two days of the week. (You will be notified if there is a special day such as school photographs so that you can ensure that children are dressed appropriately.)

### School Uniform

White Polo Shirt (with logo/ iron-on badge)

Red jumper/ Cardigan (with logo/ iron-on badge)

Grey school trousers/ skirt/ shorts

Summer Dress

Plain black shoes/ trainers



### PE Kit

Plain white t-shirt

Red shorts

Red/ Grey jogging bottoms

Red fleece

Black plimsolls



### PE Days 2023-2024

#### PE Days

Year Group	PE Day 1	PE Day 2
<b>Reception</b>		<b>Thursday</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>

Swimming is part of the national curriculum. Children in Year 4 and 6 are offered swimming lessons. From time to time, other selected pupils are given the opportunity.

Children must have a suitable swimming costume, a towel and a swimming hat.

This year, we will be operating a mobile swimming pool on the school site during June and July. |

## ALL YEAR 6 PARENTS NEED TO COMPLETE - Very Important

The closing date for your online application and the other information we ask for is

**31 October 2023**

Apply online for a secondary-phase school place now:

[www.lbbd.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/admissions)



Parents of children in Year 6 must apply online for their secondary school places before 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

All information can be found at the following link:

<https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/moving-secondary-school>

If you require any assistance with the application process, please speak to Mr Bellevue.

## Who's Who?

### Why do you work at Hunters Hall?

From the first time I visited the school, the people and atmosphere welcomed me; it felt like somewhere I could be happy and make a contribution. As a teacher (and parent) there is nothing to match that feeling when you see a light bulb of understanding come on for children, knowing you have helped them get there. We never stop learning, and instilling a sense of enquiry, curiosity and 'have a go' attitude in our children is very important to me. That learning may be academic, practical or learning about yourself and your emotions and at Hunters Hall we all work as a team to help our children be successful and sometimes achieve more than they believed they ever could.

Over the years I have been fortunate to work with some amazing people who have helped me develop as a teacher, for which I'm very grateful. Many of those people have become dear friends, too.



### What's your role?

Having retired from my role as Assistant Head in December, I now work just one day a week as an intervention teacher, which is lovely. I am trying to slowly wean myself off work!

Over my time at Hunters Hall, I have taught in years 1-6, and had my own classes each year group in of KS2. I have been part of the inclusion team, spending very happy times team-teaching literacy and maths groups with the wonderful Mrs Allen; been responsible for various areas including science, assessment and, as a leader, have had the privilege of mentoring and supporting colleagues, which positively affects our children.

Whilst it was an awful time affecting everyone, during the pandemic I was able to support families and children learning at home. I believe that the bonds formed between us during that period have strengthened our relationships at school and had a lasting and positive impact. We often refer to our Hunters Hall family and that was a time when we all truly supported one another.

Although not an official role, I have been involved with, and been a passionate supporter of, Trewern since my first year in year 6 (1999?). Seeing the children in a different environment, we get to know them really well and see their skills develop in many areas. It leaves a lasting impression on us and I have spoken to many parents about their Trewern residential which they are keen for their children to experience. For myself, I started kayaking with my sons after my first trip and we still do it on holiday now.

### Own School Memories

My mum tells me that I screamed the place down and tried to climb out of the window on my first day of school, but surely that can't be right?! 😊 I did settle and have many fond memories. In Manor Primary School I particularly enjoyed sewing, country dancing and story time at the end of every day. We learned our times tables by chanting them in rounds and I'm still pretty speedy today!

I've always loved English and languages, but we had a very strict French teacher in secondary school. If anyone made a mistake Monsieur Werner would say, "My budgie has more brains than you!" That hopefully wouldn't happen today.

The best legacy I have from secondary school is friendship. I was the only child from my juniors who went to St Edward's and knew absolutely no-one, which was pretty scary. However, I have a wonderful bunch of friends (The Magnificent 7) who still meet up regularly and go away on holiday together after 49 years. Whenever we get together, we return to being those young school girls, sharing much fun and laughter; it is very precious.

### **Hopes & Dreams**

To see my grandchildren grow up and be whatever they want. Who knows, I may even get to be a great grandma in the future. For my family and friends to be happy and healthy and for people in general not to have to struggle with their daily living as many are at the moment. Personally, I intend to make the most of every moment and give back wherever I can.

### **How Long have you been at Hunters Hall?**

Long before many of our parents were born! I started in July 1996 as a newly qualified teacher and they haven't been able to get rid of me. I have even taught the children of some of my past pupils; it's lovely to have those long-standing connections and to follow their journey.

### **Achievements to date (in order)**

Qualifying as a Registered General Nurse.

Becoming a mum to two lovely sons who now have families of their own.

Passing my teaching degree. (Having a young family, I couldn't have done it without the support of my husband, family and friends as it was quite a journey).

Level 2 kayak and canoe safety certificates.

Much to my children's embarrassment I won a yodelling competition on holiday in Austria. (It was worth it to see the looks on their faces!).

Gaining a Post Graduate Diploma in Specific Learning Difficulties.

Level 2 counselling skills.

Volunteering as part of the Covid vaccination programme during the pandemic.

Becoming a Thrive Licensed Practitioner.

Completing the training to become a Community First Responder - full circle back to my nursing.

# Optomistic October

**Optimistic October**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward	12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing	14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation
15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead	19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time	21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you
22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?	26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face	27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time	28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?
29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future	31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month				

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS** **Happier · Kinder · Together**



When we practise kindness either to other people or towards ourselves we can experience positive mental and physical changes through lowering stress levels and increasing the body's production of feel-good hormones such as dopamine, oxytocin and serotonin.

There have been scientific studies into the effects of kindness, showing that acts of kindness help your immune system, reduces stress, gives you energy and are good for your heart!

The power of being kind goes even further, it has been proven to slow ageing, improve relationships and it's contagious!

Kindness can change the chemicals in our body.

Committing acts of kindness produces a hormone in the body called oxytocin, sometimes called the 'kindness hormone' and the 'cardio protective hormone'. Which means it protects our hearts!

Oxytocin causes the release of a chemical called nitric oxide, which opens up the blood vessels and lowers blood pressure. It is the main contributor to keeping our hearts healthy after exercise.

This important hormone also increases our self-esteem and optimism, which is extra helpful when we're feeling anxious, nervous or shy.

The positive effects of kindness are experienced in the brain of everyone - whether you are giving, receiving or observing kindness. This improves their mood and makes them significantly more likely to act kindly themselves.

Kindness can spread far and wide pretty quickly! It creates a ripple effect that can improve the day of loads of people!

Produce a poster or 2-minute video clip Staying Safe online and offline

Closing date: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

All entries to Mr Kaitell via [office@hunters-hall.bardaglea.org.uk](mailto:office@hunters-hall.bardaglea.org.uk) or the front reception.

childnet.com/film



## How would you make the internet a better place?

**1** Let's start by thinking about the theme broadly:

- What does 'the internet' mean to you?
- What would a better internet be like?
- Do you have any film ideas already?

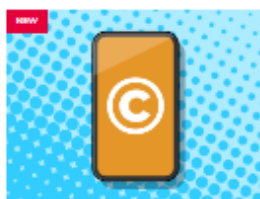
**2**

Next, use the questions below to discuss what the internet is like now, and how it could be better.

The positives of the internet	Internet issues	A better internet...
What are the best parts of going online?	What problems do you see online?	What could improve the best parts of the internet?
How does the internet help people?	What could be improved about the internet?	How can the problems with the internet be fixed?
What exciting changes are taking place online?	What online issues are important to young people?	How can you make those changes happen?



[https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-matters/modules/?user\\_type=student](https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-matters/modules/?user_type=student)

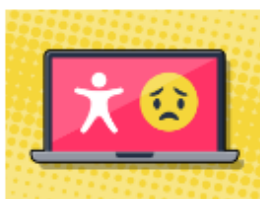


### Copyright and Ownership

What is copyright? Learn what is and isn't okay to share online, including problems caused by sharing others' work without permission.

1 lesson

[View Lessons](#)

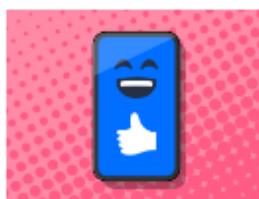


### Self-Image and Identity

Understand how people can present themselves differently online than off along with issues that could impact individual identity and feelings.

1 lesson

[View Lessons](#)

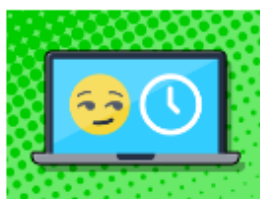


### Online Reputation

Learn what it means to create a positive online reputation for yourself and others, including how information about anyone can be created, copied or shared by others.

1 lesson

[View Lessons](#)

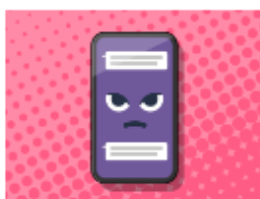


### Health, Wellbeing and Lifestyle

From balancing screen time to managing online peer pressure, learn how to recognise challenges online and when it's time for a break.

1 lesson

[View Lessons](#)



### Online Bullying

Learn how to recognise bullying behaviours online. Understand how to get support when you or someone you know is experiencing cyberbullying.

1 lesson

[View Lessons](#)



### Privacy and Security

Learn about privacy and how to stay secure online. From password strength to algorithms, this subject is designed to help users protect their personal information online.

1 lesson

[View Lessons](#)



### Online Relationships

Learn about the difference between healthy and unhealthy online behaviours and how to appropriately interact with people online.

1 lesson

[View Lessons](#)



### Managing Online Information

Fake news, Misinformation, Satire. Learn about the different types of information and how to think critically about what you see online.

1 lesson

[View Lessons](#)



*"I can be anything I want. If I can just believe in me."*

## **SAFEGUARDING NOTICE**

Hunters Hall Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Should you have any concerns about a child, inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead or one of their deputies immediately.

**Designated Safeguarding Lead is:**



***Mrs Sharon Downes***

***Safeguarding Manager***

**Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are:**



***Mr Michael Kaitell, Miss Susan Mullaney, Miss Lisa Cooper, Mr Patrick Bellevue, Mrs Carla Gross  
Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Assistant Headteacher, Family Support Worker, Inclusion Manager.***



## Reading for Pleasure Matters at Hunters Hall

For this half term, a member of staff will be making their recommendations for great books which explore one of our core values. This week we look at **PREPARATION**. We all know that it is important to be prepared and to try our best. This week's recommendations by Mrs Hobday.



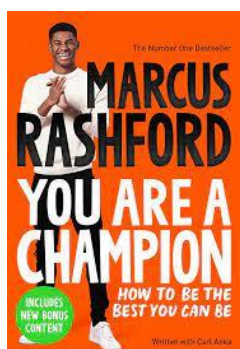
### Reading interest: 4-8

'The Magical Yet' by Angela Diterlizzi is a rhyming story book that reminds us all that when we are faced with new challenges, it isn't that we can't do them, it's that we can't do them YET. This lovely book reminds us that we need to have a positive mindset, determination, to be prepared and to keep on trying!



### Reading interest: 8-12

'The Boy who Grew Dragons' by Andy Shepherd is a laugh out loud book. When Tomas discovers a strange tree in his grandad's garden, he takes the funny fruit from the tree and gets the shock of his life when a tiny dragon hatches! With a dragon in the house Tomas has to be prepared for anything!



### Reading interest: 10-adult

'Marcus Rashford – You are a Champion. How to be the best you can be' is all about the importance of believing in yourself, of learning from your mistakes, of being prepared and to DREAM BIG!



## Sizzling fajitas

Following on from last week's post on Snippets.

**Jamie Oliver's £1 wonders** - With the cost of food and energy on the rise, Jamie's £1 Wonders features delicious recipes that won't blow the budget - all costing less than £1 a portion.

Try it out and let us know how you found it by [emailing the school office for the attention of Miss Ryan & Mrs Keane](#)

[Sizzling fajitas](#) | [Chicken recipes](#) | [Jamie Oliver recipes](#)



## Open Evening Food Tasting Menu



# HUNTERS HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL FOOD TASTING

**18th and 19th October 2023**

### MAINS

Beef Burrito  
Halal Beef Burrito  
Macaroni Cheese  
Chicken Tikka  
Halal Chicken Tikka  
Vegetable Tikka

### DESSERT

Chocolate Sponge

## Theatre Visit

The Nursery, Reception and Year 1 took part in The Freshwater Theatre Company Workshops as part of our work during Black History Month. The Nursery and Reception went on a story hunt and enjoyed performing 'Amazing Grace' and 'Lila and the Rain' as well as other stories from around the world. Year 1 took part in 'Stories from Africa.'



## Art Tutorial

4G have been working hard in our art lessons this week. We followed a tutorial and drew a Minotaur. We will add to these for our final piece next week.



# Year 3 Egyptian Art

We produced an Egyptian theme collage in the style of Henri Matisse.



# HUNTERS HALL POST

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

By: Nabeha Nuaimah

## Dragon shocked Mr Kaitell



Mr Kaitell Shocked.

Yesterday a giant dragon flew across Hunters Hall school in Essex. Mr Kaitell heard Mr Brown scream so loudly! When Mr Kaitell went to check on Mr Brown he

gasped because he saw a felocious, green dragon! The children discored discovered some scrunched up bones, burned grass and some dragon wee! Mr Kaitell was speechless. Mr Kaitell said "I can't believe this, that was magnificent!"

Wow! Super newspaper report. Great vocabulary  
★

# HUNTERS HALL POST

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

By: Suhaimi Islam

## Dragon on Rampage



The dragon flew across the garden

Yesterday morning  
a terrifying  
dragon was on  
a rampage in  
Hunters hall. ✓

It was flying  
over the school!  
Mr Kaitell (the  
head teacher)

got a video  
of it. The children  
went to investigate  
they found a  
egg and will be  
taken in for  
further notes.

The children  
also found some  
ash, some scorched  
grass and some  
discussing dragon  
wee and poo!  
Mr Kaitell said  
that it was  
dark green.

Wow what a  
great report. I love  
those brackets.

# HUNTERS HALL POST

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

By: Noor.F.Ali

## Dragon comes to Hunters Hall



Dragon eggs

Great idea!

On Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2023 the children discovered a dangerous dragon came to visit Hunters Hall primary school. The children also discovered

ruined equipment, dragon weed, foxes bones, also some dragon poo, some wrecked plant pots and some scorched grass as well. ✓ We found ash and burned sticks on top, some claw marks and some plants the dragon ate or stepped on. Also some cracked eggs and one solid egg. We also interviewed Mr Kainer and he said that the dragon was actually dark green. Super report, with lots of detail Noor.



# Mental Health Support Team



## Who are we?

We are four Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP), offering early intervention for young people with mild to moderate difficulties. Our team work closely with young people, parents, and school staff to think together about ways to improve mental wellbeing within your school environment

## Who do we work with?

Parents or Carers of pupils from reception to year 6 with mild-moderate levels of:

- **Anxiety** (e.g. fears, phobias, feeling panicky)
- **Challenging behaviour** (e.g. struggling to follow rules, temper tantrums, difficulty following requests)

Whole classes or year groups (delivering assemblies and workshops)



## Aims of our Team

- Provide early psychological support
- Support the school's whole-school approach to wellbeing
- Signposting to specialist service

For more information please speak to your mental health lead or get in touch [MHST.BD@nelft.nhs.uk](mailto:MHST.BD@nelft.nhs.uk)





# BREAKFAST CLUB



Our breakfast club is open term time only Monday to Friday, 7:45 to 8:30am.

No booking is required, you can turn up on the day and pay.

The charge is **£3** per day, you are required to accompany your child into our breakfast club and stay with them until they have been marked in on our daily register.

You are required to have the correct money for payment.

Please note that payments in advance are non-refundable and non-transferable therefore if you choose to pay in advance and your child does not attend you lose that money.



# WANTED

## SECOND HAND UNIFORM

### DONATIONS NEEDED

A big thank you to everyone who has previously donated. We always need more good quality second hand uniform items. Has your child grown out of theirs? Please donate to the school and come along to one of our sales for bargain replacements!

Winter coats and shoes also welcome.

Please bring any donations in a bag to the school office.



*Thank you*



### DHP Scheme

**Are you struggling to afford your rent payments?**



**Do you have rent arrears?**

**Do you need help with a deposit?**

Help is available through the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham's Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) scheme

Visit <https://www.lbdd.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/discretionary-hardship-support/discretionary-housing-payments-dhp>

To find out more and apply online

You must be in receipt of Housing Benefit or Universal Credit housing costs to qualify for a DHP



**Barking & Dagenham**

### Household Support Fund

**Are you struggling with the rising cost of living?**



**Do you have utility debts?**

Help is available to support the rising cost of living for energy & utility costs, food and other emergency need through the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham's Hardship schemes

Visit <https://www.lbdd.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/discretionary-hardship-support/hardship-payment-schemes/household-support-fund>

to find out more and apply online



**Barking & Dagenham**



# MINI ROCKERS

**FOR RECEPTION TO YEAR 2**

Fun and inclusive in-school rock and pop band lessons, for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. No experience or instrument required.



# ROCK HEROES

**FOR YEARS 3 AND 4**

Fun and inclusive in-school rock and pop band lessons, for Years 3 and 4. No experience or instrument required.



# ROCK ICONS

**FOR YEARS 5 AND 6**

Fun and inclusive in-school rock and pop band lessons, for Years 5 and 6. No experience or instrument required.

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/info-for-parents>

- ✓ **Learn to play in a band**  
Learning an instrument should be fun. Your child can choose from the electric guitar, keyboard, drums or vocals and enjoy playing in a happy, supportive environment with their friends.
- ✓ **Lead by real musicians**  
Your child's music teacher should also be their role model. Which is why all Rocksteady Band Leaders are carefully chosen, extensively trained musicians who know how to inspire a life-long love of playing music.
- ✓ **In school time**  
Lessons are 30 minutes long and take place in school time with all instruments provided, making it hassle-free for parents.
- ✓ **From first notes to favourite songs**  
The Rocksteady Programme is for all children aged 4-11 and is proven to progress musicianship, confidence and teamwork skills with no prior experience necessary.
- ✓ **With regular live performances**  
Playing on stage is a huge confidence booster. With termly concerts at school assemblies, your child will be able to show off their progress to friends, teachers and parents with the rest of their band.
- ✓ **And happily affordable**  
Rocksteady is one of the most hassle-free ways to learn an instrument on a rolling subscription that you can cancel at any time. It's risk free too – cancel in the first month and you'll get a full refund.

**Call 0330 113 0330**