



### Dates for the Diary

#### Spring Term

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024** – Parent/Carer Evening – individual appointment slots.  
**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February** – SEND Bike Club  
**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February** – Last day of term  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** – Half term holidays  
**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February** – First day back for children 8:30am

### Attendance Matters

#### Congratulations to:

3Z in KS2 with 97.32% and 2CR in KS1 with 96.98%

Class 3Z	97.32
Class 5N	97.00
Class 2CR	96.98
Class 4G	96.67
Class 1L	96.22
Class 5H	96.12
Class 6E	95.26
Class RGM	95.19
Class 4T	94.83
Class 4N	94.64
Class FT Nursery	92.97
Class 2K	92.74
Class 3R	92.24
Class RH	91.92
Class 6D	91.00
Class 2D	90.63
Class 5A	90.63
Class PM NURSERY	90.00
Class 1H	87.95
Class 3G	87.28
Class 6AM	85.10
Class 1KS	73.33
Class AM NURSERY	71.43
Class RR	66.30

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to February. I do not know about you but I was wondering whether January would ever come to an end. This month, being a leap year, we have 29 days instead of 28. This means that those of you born on the 29<sup>th</sup> February have an official birthday. Here's a maths question for you. My friend's son who was born on 29<sup>th</sup> February will be technically 6 years old this year. Actually, how old is Oliver?

Mrs Scammell, who has dedicated over 22 years of service to our school, will be leaving us on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February. We know that our children and staff team will miss her dearly. We also know that some of you who attended Hunters Hall as a pupil would have been cared for by Mrs Scammell at some point in time. Furthermore, Christmas will not be Christmas without seeing Mrs Scammell wearing one of her funny hats.



Next week as we acknowledge and celebrate Children's Mental Health Week, we ask our school community to consider the theme: "My Voice Matters" At Hunters Hall, we take our children's opinions seriously. We also teach our children that our voice comes with a level of responsibility. This means that we should be careful with the words we choose to say and not intentionally use our words to cause harm.

Next week, we shall also be marking Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> by considering this year's theme: 'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online' Please visit: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024> for more useful tools to help you support your children at home.

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February we will be holding an "Express Yourself" day, where we invite the children to wear an outfit that sums them up! This could be a favourite outfit, colour, hobby, club, sport, character or traditional dress. Please do bear in mind that the children need to be comfortable and will still be participating in a normal school day. And, please do not go to any expense!

Why not create an avatar that expresses your personality using the Doppel Me app? <https://www.doppelme.com/create/>



Michael Kaitell  
Headteacher



## School Uniform

School uniform can be purchased from 3:00-4:00pm in the dining hall. The dates vary throughout the year.

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.

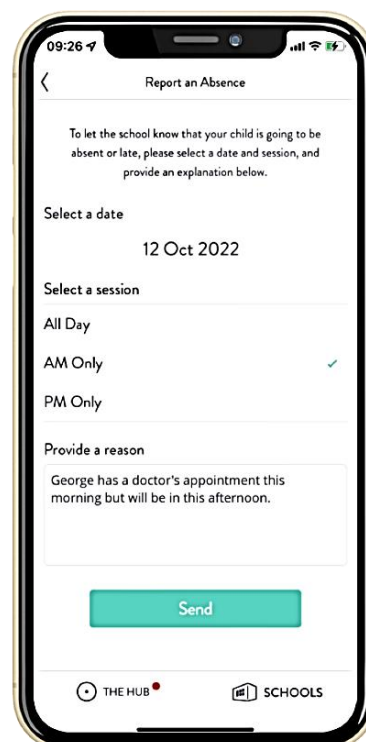
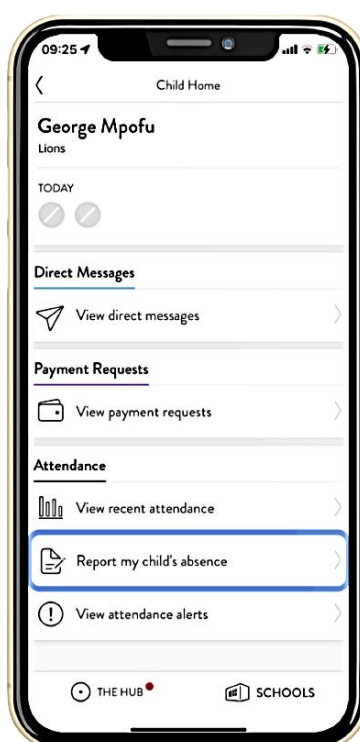
link below for a useful guide.

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

To find out more, click the



## 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. |



## Eating Breakfast

Dear Parents/Carers

Please see some resources at the following link to on the topic of breakfast -

<https://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/whole-school/parental-engagement/#Breakfast>

**Breakfast information**  
A breakfast information fact sheet for use with parent or carers.  
Download

**Breakfast presentation**  
A presentation about breakfast for parents and carers.  
Download

**Breakfast workshop**  
A workshop idea around breakfast for parents and carers.  
Download

**Porridge generator**  
A worksheet about porridge and different toppings.  
Download

**Breakfast diary**  
A breakfast diary for children to complete with their parents or carers.  
Download

**Breakfast menu**  
A worksheet about creating a breakfast menu for one week.  
Download

## Who's Who? Miss Caisey

### Why do you work at Hunters Hall?

Because it's quite simply the best school. I love the kids who come here and I want the best for them. I will always work as hard as I can to make sure that we are giving the very best to any child who comes to our school.

### What's your role?

I'm the Assistant Head Teacher, Early Years and Key Stage 1 Lead. I also work with the new teachers in the first two years of their career. What I like most about my job is teaching and being with the children. I really like teaching children to read and write.



### Favourite things...

I like spending time with friends and laughing! I like eating and trying new foods. I love reading and going to the theatre. I like exploring London and visiting museums. I also really enjoy going away for the weekend, particularly to the seaside. I will always swim in the sea, even if it is freezing!

### Own School Memories

I quite liked school. I know I had to work really hard to keep up. I often used to say "I can't do it!" when I was taught something new. Mad! It took me a long time to learn to keep trying and to persevere. My favourite subjects at school were Drama and Art.

### Hopes & Dreams

I would like one day to write a children's book, to run, even if it's very slowly, around the park without stopping, and to learn to play a musical instrument.

### How long have you been at Hunters Hall?

A very long time! I think I have worked here for 32 years. I didn't mean to stay that long but the school got 'under my skin' and now I couldn't imagine wanting to work anywhere else. This is the school I care about.

### Achievements to date (in order)

That's a hard one to answer. I think I get up hoping to be the best that I can be.... and, if I don't manage that, to try again tomorrow!

## Reading for Pleasure Matters at Hunters Hall

We are currently thinking about stories set in different countries. Come and see our Reading Around the World display. Here are our next three stories set in three different countries. Ms Caisey would particularly like to hear from a parent/carer or pupil who has a favourite children's book set in Romania, Lithuania, Albania or Bulgaria. The text does not have to be in English.



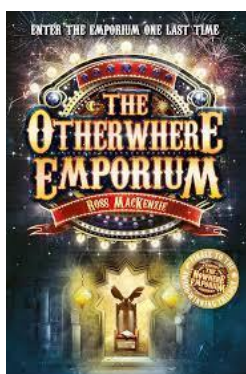
### **Reading interest: 4-8**

'Anansi and the Magic Yams' by Joanna Troughton is a story about Anansi the spider. Anansi stories are popular in Caribbean countries and West Africa. This Anansi story comes from Ghana. Anansi finds that good manners and being trustworthy are more important than greed and trickery.



### **Reading interest: 8-12**

'The Secret Wild' by Alex Evelyn begins in the rainforest of Brazil and then in London, England. It's a page turner of a book for anyone who likes nature, mysteries or sci-fi. Who wouldn't want to read a book that describes lily pads on the River Thames and monkey vines growing on the London Eye?



### **Reading interest: 10-adult**

The author of 'The Otherwhere Emporium', Ross Mackenzie is a Blue Peter book award winner. The story begins in Scotland. The emporium is an enchanted shop, suddenly under the control of a menacing figure in a top hat. Who is Vindictus Sharpe? Where is the emporium's rightful owner? This is a book full of suspense. You will not be able to put it down!





# Friendly February

Friendly February 2024

MONDAY



5 Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour

12 Focus on being kind rather than being right

19 Share something you find inspiring, helpful or amusing

26 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones

TUESDAY



6 Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while

13 Smile at the people you see and brighten their day

20 Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun

27 Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them

WEDNESDAY



7 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others

14 Tell a loved one or friend why they are special to you

21 Really listen to what people say, without judging them

28 Give positive comments to as many people as possible today

THURSDAY

1 Send a message to let someone know you're thinking of them

8 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust

15 Support a local business with a positive online review or friendly message

22 Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today

29 Acknowledge someone's problem or pain rather than trying to fix it

FRIDAY

2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently

9 Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you

16 Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help

23 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise

SATURDAY

3 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone

10 Look for good in others, particularly when you feel frustrated with them

17 Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life

24 Tell a loved one about the strengths that you see in them

SUNDAY

4 Invite a friend over for a 'tea break' (in person or virtual)

11 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost

18 Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself

25 Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

# Diversity Calendar

# FEBRUARY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

February is UK national heart month, LGBT+ history month and raynaud's awareness month.

- **Religious/cultural**
  - 2 - Imbolc\*/Candlemas *Wicca and Pagan*
  - 3 - Setsunbun-sai *Shinto*
  - 7 - Lailat al-Miraj \* *Islam*
  - 10 - Losar begins *Buddhist*
  - 10 - Lunar new year *Confucian, Daoist and Buddhist*
  - 13 - Shrove Tuesday *Christian*
  - 14 - Ash Wednesday (start of Lent) *Christian*
  - 14 - Valentine's day *Christian*
  - 14 - Vasant Panchami \*\* *Hindu, Sikh and Jain*
  - 15 - Nirvana day *Buddhist*
  - 18 - Zacchaeus Sunday *Orthodox Christian*
  - 22 - Feast of the chair of saint Peter *Catholic Christian*
  - 24 - Magha Puja \*\* *Buddhist*
  - 25 - Triodion begins *Orthodox Christian*
  - 25 - Lailat al Bara'ah \* *Islam*
  - 26-29 - Intercalary days \* *Baha'i*
- **Awareness and events**
  - 1 - World hijab day
  - 1 - Time to talk day
  - 1-7 - World interfaith harmony week
  - 4 - World cancer day
  - 5-11 - UK race equality week
  - 5-11 - Children's mental health week
  - 6 - International day of zero tolerance to female genital mutilation
  - 6 - Safer internet day
  - 11 - International day of women and girls in science
  - 12 - Red hand day for child soldiers
  - 15 - International childhood cancer day
  - 17 - World human spirit day
  - 20 - World day of social justice

**Key**

\* Holy day that usually begins in the evening or at sunset of the previous day  
 \*\* Date may vary to this because of religious customs  
■ Religious/cultural ■ Awareness and events



## Rocksteady Assemblies

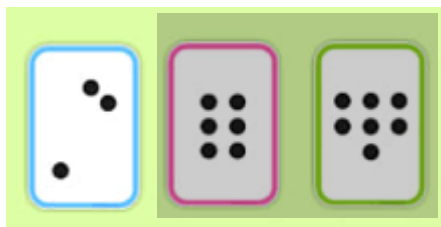


## Parent/ Carer Maths Workshop

Ms Caisey led two successful Maths workshops about subitising this week. Subitising is a term that was coined by the theorist Piaget and defined the ability to instantaneously recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them.



Without counting, how many dots are on each card?





Up-to-date advice on the detection and treatment of head lice and their eggs can be obtained from the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



# HEAD LICE ARE BACK!



## **Parents / Carers:**

**Please check your child's head tonight for head lice.**

**If we all work together, we can eliminate this problem quickly.**

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON PICTURES**

**MINUSCULE**  
VALLEY OF THE LOST ANTS

With creative activities based on the film's characters!

**2.00pm**

**17 Feb 2024**

Free, family friendly (but please prepare that seats are limited)

My Heathway, Unit 30, Dagenham Heathway Shopping

Film Hub London, FAN, Heathway Shopping, MY HEATHWAY

Background photo: Knits Lubars, Unsplash

**PLAY AND COMMUNICATE**

0-5 YEARS WITH SPEECH & LANGUAGE NEEDS

**CYPD-Hub**

**SIX WEEKS PROGRAM, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS**

Come along with your child to explore different range of activities that support their communication. You will meet other parents/guardians and you will be able to speak to professionals about concerns related to your child's growth and development for advice and suggestions. This session is for children with SEN/D.

<p>THURSDAYS: 4:00-5:30PM</p> <p>Click <a href="https://app.10to8.com/book/cypd-hub/1921925">https://app.10to8.com/book/cypd-hub/1921925</a></p>	<p>Address: Becontree Community Hub Stevens Road Dagenham</p>
<p>FRIDAYS: 10:00-11:30AM</p> <p>Click <a href="https://app.10to8.com/book/cypd-hub/1921928">https://app.10to8.com/book/cypd-hub/1921928</a></p>	<p>RMS 2QR Main Hall</p>

020 8227 5500/07849836795

**CYPD Disability Hub**

**CYP-Disability Hub PRESENT**

**FABULOUS FEBRUARY**

**WHEN**

**TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup>, WEDNESDAY 21<sup>TH</sup> AND THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

**WHERE**

**Becontree Community Hub**

Rm8 2QR

**BOOKING INFORMATION:**

Click on the link to book a place for your child/ren for Whacky Wednesday/Fun-tastic Thursday

<https://app.10to8.com/book/cypd-hub/1925262/>

For Sensory Tuesday click on:

<https://app.10to8.com/book/cypd-hub/1928459>

**AGE AND ALLOCATED TIME SLOT: WHACKY WEDNESDAY AND FUN-TASTIC THURSDAY**

10am – 11:00am (0-5years)  
11:30am - 12:30am (6-10years)  
2:00pm – 3:00pm (0-5years)  
3:30pm – 4:30pm (6-10years)  
5:00pm - 6:00pm (10+ years)

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDES:**

Fake snow  
Bird feeder  
Play dough.  
Smash ice  
Food decoration  
Small world  
Finger printing  
Messy Play  
Soft play area  
Bikini and

**SENSORY TUESDAY SLOT:**

**9:00AM – 9:30AM**

**10:00 - 10:30AM**

**11:00AM - 11:30AM**

**12:00PM - 12:30PM**

**2:00PM – 2:30PM**

**3:00PM – 3:30PM**

**4:00PM – 4:30PM**

**5:00PM – 5:30PM**

PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK:

[HTTPS://APP.10TO8.COM/BOOK/CYPD-HUB/1928459](https://app.10to8.com/book/cypd-hub/1928459)

Our outdoor play area will be available for 30 mins following your sensory session.

**Note:** You're able to book 2 sessions per family, this includes sensory room. Please be advised, families that have failed to cancel activities during the schools out programme are limited to 1 bookable session however, you can be added to the waiting list.





FEBRUARY HALF-TERM

# PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS

**INSPIRING ACTIVITY**

Premier Education



SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION  
or visit [premier-education.com/holiday-camps](http://premier-education.com/holiday-camps)



Trustpilot  
Based on over 20,000 reviews

## Premier Camps Near You

**Manor Junior School - Barking** Multi Activity Camp  
9am - 3pm  
19th - 23rd February

**St Mary's Primary School - Hornchurch** Multi Activity Camp  
9am - 3pm  
19th - 23rd February

**Sacred Heart of Mary's - Upminster** Multi Activity Camp  
9am - 4pm  
19th - 23rd February  
Gymnastics - 19th, 21st & 23rd 9am - 12pm  
Dance - 20th & 22nd - 9am - 12pm

### PLEASE BRING

Plenty of water  
Suitable clothing  
Loads of energy!

Mix it up this half-term with our multi-activity holiday camps!

These camps are a perfect blend of activities for all ages, combining different sports with a variety of team games.

Everyday is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before - from roller skating to fencing, lacrosse to cheer.

30% discount till 2nd February!

Book now for a half term full of fun!



Scan here for more information



Or visit [www.premiereducation.com/holidaycamps](http://www.premiereducation.com/holidaycamps)

Based on over 20,000 reviews

## Warmer Clothing Reminder




As winter approaches the days are getting darker, wetter and colder, it's time for the winter coats, hats, scarves and gloves to be worn.

We have had a selection of children's coats, hats, scarves and gloves donated to us. We recognise this is an expensive time of year and our children are all still growing.

If you need winter items for your child/children, please contact **Mr Bellevue** who will be happy to support you to access the donations.



## Toy Donations



## Second Hand Toy Donation

If you have any unwanted toys in good condition, please donate to the school.

Items such as...



**Wooden Puzzles**



**Fidget toys**



**Sensory baby & toddler toys**





# 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.lbbd.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.lbbd.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**