



## Jolesfield Church of England Primary School



### Headteacher's Message

Our World Book Day events, linked to the National Year of Reading, will take place between Monday 2nd March and Friday 13th March. There are many wonderful resources including online lessons, interviews with authors and book quizzes that teachers will select from in order to promote reading.

Our dressing up day will take place on **Tuesday 3rd March**. This is an opportunity for children to dress up, inspired by a character from a book. This can be a whole outfit or through a prop such as a decorated hat. Please do not send in any valuable props as these can so easily be lost!

We have also chosen a wonderful text to immerse the children in and inspire some fabulous imaginative, creative writing. This text will be shared with the children on Tuesday 3rd March through a staff performance, hence why we are keeping the name of the text a secret for now!

The whole school will be attending on **Thursday 12th March**, a performance of 'The Secret Garden', led by M&M Productions. This is an amazing opportunity to see a beautiful story retold by a group of professional actors. We are very grateful to the JSA for agreeing to fund this experience. If you would like to make a contribution, I'm sure this would be very appreciated. Here are the details:

Account name: JSA  
Account Number: 075838413  
Sort Code: 53-50-39



### Curriculum Spotlight

Butterfly Class have been making puppets this term. Puppets were designed by the children and then sewn together before decorating them to look like their designs. The puppets were made as part of our interconnected learning on Toys from the past and present.



## OTHER NEWS & INFORMATION

### EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Educational visits are a wonderful way of enriching learning and giving children unique experiences. However, they also require intense levels of organisation and considerable cost. All costs associated with trips continue to rise and we fully appreciate how challenging this can be for families meeting these costs whilst continuing to meet the rising costs of all household bills. If an educational visit is organised for your child and you are concerned about the cost, please arrange to speak to me (Ms Price) **before** the date payment is requested so we can see how we might be able to help. We would not exclude any pupil on the basis of costs but we have to know that it is financially viable for a trip to go ahead.

In addition, very kindly some parents have suggested that they would be happy, on occasions, to pay a little more in order to help someone who is having difficulty. If this applies to you, then additional contributions can be made directly to the JSA using the details shared on the previous page. Please mark all contributions 'Trips'.

However, the biggest single issue we are facing with continuing to run trips is the lack of any reply when a trip is shared. We have wonderful office staff but they have a considerable workload to manage and contacting parents multiple times often individually is unfair to them. Please may I politely ask that if you have a question about the proposed trip, intend to pay but after the date requested, want to pay but have a problem with the app or any other barrier to giving consent and making a contribution by the date specified that this is communicated in person, by email or by phoning the office. Having this information makes it far more likely that a trip can go ahead as then we can make an informed choice.

Through the JSA, it has been requested that we share each term, an approximate cost of proposed educational visits to help with planning. From the beginning of the Summer term, we will endeavour to do this.



### PARKING

Unfortunately, one of our neighbours has contacted the school again about inconsiderate parking. When parking your cars at drop-off or pick-up, please don't block driveways, or move residents' bins (if they are moved onto pavements, they can be a safety hazard for pedestrians and will potentially result in a missed bin collection. Thank you.

### TAX-FREE CHILDCARE

Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) is a childcare top-up for working parents. It can be used to help pay for breakfast clubs, after school clubs, holiday clubs, childminders, or sports activities. TFC is available for children aged up to 11, or 17 if the child has a disability. Families can visit the [Best Start in Life website](#) to check if they are eligible. You can find out more about the scheme by clicking [here](#).

Best Start in Life has a page of [frequently asked questions](#), which may be useful. The Family Information Service (FIS) [Facebook page](#) which shares useful information on help paying for childcare and other topics that may be useful to families.

Useful links and additional information:

- [Tax Free Childcare support for summer holiday activities](#)
- [Guidance on getting Tax-Free Childcare](#)
- [The Family Information Service's Facebook page](#)
- [Help paying for childcare web page](#)
- [The Family Information Service website](#) helps parents search for childcare

## WEST SUSSEX COST OF LIVING SURVEY 2025/2026

Citizens Advice West Sussex Partnership, consisting of Arun and Chichester Citizens Advice and Citizens Advice in West Sussex (North, South, East) have launched the 'Cost of Living Survey 2025/2026'. The purpose of this annual survey is to understand the impact the cost-of-living crisis is having on West Sussex residents, including on their physical and mental health, and to be able to compare these with last year's findings. The responses received help us to tailor our service to meet these needs and to campaign against structural inequalities and unfair policies and practices effecting our community.

They would like a representative sample from all sections of the community. All responses are confidential and are vitally important and help us to see if anything has changed in the past year, and the various impacts the cost of living is having.

If you are happy to complete the survey, please click on the QR code or the link below:

[www.arunchichestercab.org.uk/current-surveys](http://www.arunchichestercab.org.uk/current-surveys)



## RAISING KIDS IN THE SMARTPHONE ERA

**Title: Online Parent Talk - Let's talk about our kids and their tech: Thursday 19 March: 7pm**

We're hearing more and more from parents who feel uneasy about the growing role of smartphones in children's lives. There's a growing shift in how families and schools are thinking about smartphones and young people. More and more parents are choosing to delay giving their children smartphones and restrict social media access. When they were first introduced, no one fully understood the impact they would have on young people. But today, there is a growing body of research linking early smartphone use with anxiety, disrupted sleep, increased risk of exposure to harmful content, and reduced time for play, connection and creativity. To help build awareness on this important issue and support parents and carers to make the best decisions for their children, I would like to invite you to this important parent talk. The Smartphone Free Childhood team are funding this talk from partner organisation Papaya, so that it can be provided free to all parents and carers across West Sussex.

Whether your child already has a smartphone or social media, or you are considering delaying until they are older, this talk is for you. Hard hitting but non-judgemental, Jennifer Powers, unpacks the complex issues surrounding addictive technology and helps you find solutions that work for your family. Please see attached PDF for further information.

**Let's talk about our kids and their tech - Papaya online parent talk**  
**Reserve your free ticket [here](#)**  
**7pm Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

Smartphone Free Childhood is a movement of families standing together to delay smartphones and social media, giving children time to play, space to grow and freedom to be. Find out more: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

To find your local WhatsApp Group to connect with other parents in the area, share ideas or ask questions, please [Join Steyning Grammar SFC WhatsApp Community](#) -for current and prospective parents, or [Join Jolesfield Primary SFC WhatsApp Community](#).



## **SUITCASE OF SUCCESS**

### **\*\*\* ROLL OF HONOUR \*\*\***

We are delighted to celebrate our children's successes,  
both within and outside of school.

In this week's newsletter, we congratulate the following  
children on their recent achievements:



#### **Football**

*'Player of the Match'*

Callum M (Y2)



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

27th February - **Y3** Benchball at Jolesfield  
2<sup>nd</sup> March - **Y5** Dodgeball at St Peters, Henfield  
3rd March - Dress-up day for World Book Day  
4th March - **Y3** Benchball Competition  
5th March - World Book Day  
10th March - In-school **YR** Toy/Bear workshop run by Horsham Museum  
12<sup>th</sup> March - Production to whole school - The Secret Garden (M&M Productions)  
16<sup>th</sup> March - **Y3, 4 & 5** trip to Butser Farm  
17th March - Parents' Consultation Evening  
18<sup>th</sup> March - Parents' Consultation Evening

### PE Kit

Don't forget PE kits must be in school for all PE lessons. For ease, these can be kept in school until the end of term

## JSA NEWS

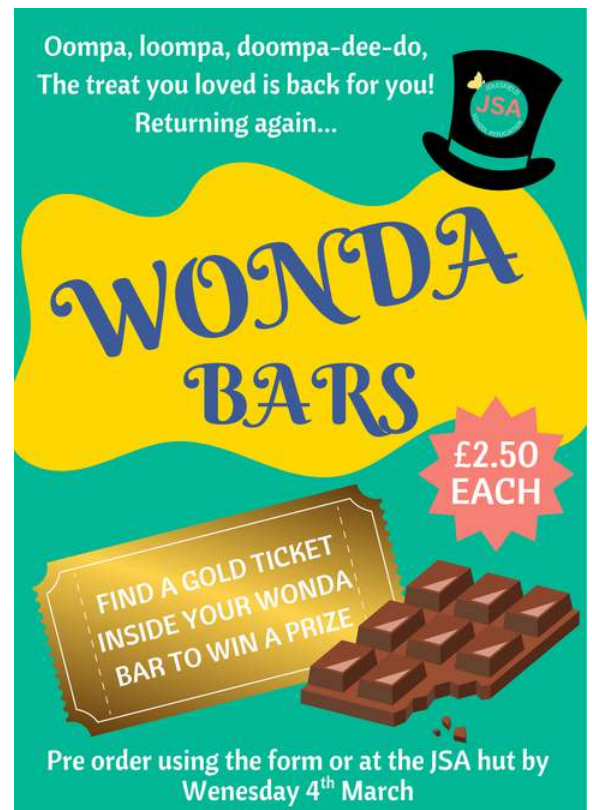
Thank you to those who attended last night's AGM. More fundraising activities are planned for later in the year, and these will be shared with you in due course.

In the meantime, it's not too late to order Wonda Bars, if you want to be in with a chance of winning a golden ticket!

Forms were sent home with children before half-term, however a supply of forms is at the office if you have misplaced yours. Orders must be received by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

Thank you!

The JSA x



## Thought for the Week

This year is the 'Go All In' National Year of Reading 2026, the biggest campaign in a generation designed to help more people (re)discover the joy of reading and make it part of their everyday lives.

Reading expands our world and sharpens our minds, yet fewer people are making time to read. With World Book Day next week, let's all discover how reading can unlock the things we already love – be that music, football, baking, family-time, sci-fi, or ... anything!

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."*

Dr. Seuss



# Turn your daily shopping into everyday magic for us with easyfundraising

You shop, brands donate to our school. It won't cost you any extra!



Help us make a difference when you shop.  
Visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)



- 1 Visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)
- 2 Sign up and search for us
- 3 Your favourite brands donate to our school whenever you shop with them

Shop with 7,500+ brands including:



Booking.com



M&S

GROUPON



JOHN  
LEWIS



Viking

ASOS



Uber Eats



**YOUR  
SCHOOL  
LOTTERY**



**SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY**

**It's A  
WIN-WIN  
Situation!**

★ **BOOST School Funds**  
★ **WIN up to £25,000**

**TICKETS  
£1 EACH**



To start supporting, visit:  
[YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play](https://YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play)  
and search for: Jolesfield

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.

# LET'S PROTECT YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ONLINE RADICALISATION

VIRTUAL SESSIONS FOR WEST SUSSEX PARENTS, CARERS AND FOSTER CARER



**24th Feb 2026  
7 to 8 PM**

**26th Feb 2026  
7 to 8 PM**

Choose only one date to join

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER VIA EVENTBRITE](#)**

## IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT...

What is your child watching online?

What are the dangers and warning signs?

Who are they interacting with?

Are they spending too much time online?

**Join our session for parents and carers to learn how can we support our young people to stay safe online.**

Small Steps is a specialist company aimed at raising awareness of the dangers of Extreme Right-Wing (ERW) extremism via quality training delivered by people with lived experience of radicalisation.

For more information visit: [smallstepshub.com](http://smallstepshub.com)



# Schools phone-free by default - You don't have to lead alone

With the UK government's announcement that schools should be phone-free by default, the SFC Schools Network exists to support school leaders and teachers to lead this change with confidence, clarity, and with a community behind you.

## A turning point for childhood - Schools at the heart of change

The pace of changeover the past week on the issue of smartphones and social media has been extraordinary. Momentum has been building across schools, communities and public debate and a major milestone has now been reached.

[A joint statement](#), from the Department for Education and the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, has announced that schools will now be 'phone-free by default', with immediate action including Ofsted checking school mobile phone policies and their implementation. Alongside these measures, a national consultation will be launched on children's social media use and wellbeing.

This moment matters. Concerns long raised by educators, parents and young people are now being addressed at a national policy level.

For the first time, the conversation is no longer about whether there's a problem - now it's about solutions, and schools are central to what happens next.

"Since becoming a smartphone-free school, we've seen a remarkable transformation."



Kirsty Rogers,  
Aureus School

"Recreating space for young people to be the best version of themselves"



David Veal,  
Hounslow School

"It has significantly contributed to creating a healthier, more focused, and supportive atmosphere for learning."



Jonathan Kirkham,  
Weeke Primary School

**PAPAYA**

# Let's talk about our kids and their tech

ONLINE TALK WITH JENNIFER:

For West Sussex parents/carers and school staff  
THURSDAY 19TH March 2026 – 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Reception through to Year 10.  
It's never too early, or too late, to join the conversation.



Jennifer Powers

Jennifer has been central to the success of the UK's Smartphone Free Childhood movement, serving as a regional leader in London and Surrey. She is co-founder of Smartphone Free Schools Rating and serves as its development director. Jennifer is the founder of the Unplugged Coalition uniting organisations committed to reclaiming childhood from addictive technology.

She is the host of the POWERS UNPLUGGED podcast and a frequent media commentator. A former Special Adviser to the Prime Minister on energy and business, Jennifer has over 25 years of experience in public policy and strategy.

# Swimming Lessons

Sunday's 9am - 12pm  
The Towers, Henfield Road,  
Upper Beeding, BN44 3TF

New parent and toddler  
class 11.30am after Easter



To book your child's space  
Email - [keri@loveforswimming.com](mailto:keri@loveforswimming.com)  
Tel - 01903 372 742