

Fortnightly

Edition 6

February 23, 2024

## WELCOME BACK! HALF-TERM BREAK REFLECTIONS AND LOOKING AHEAD

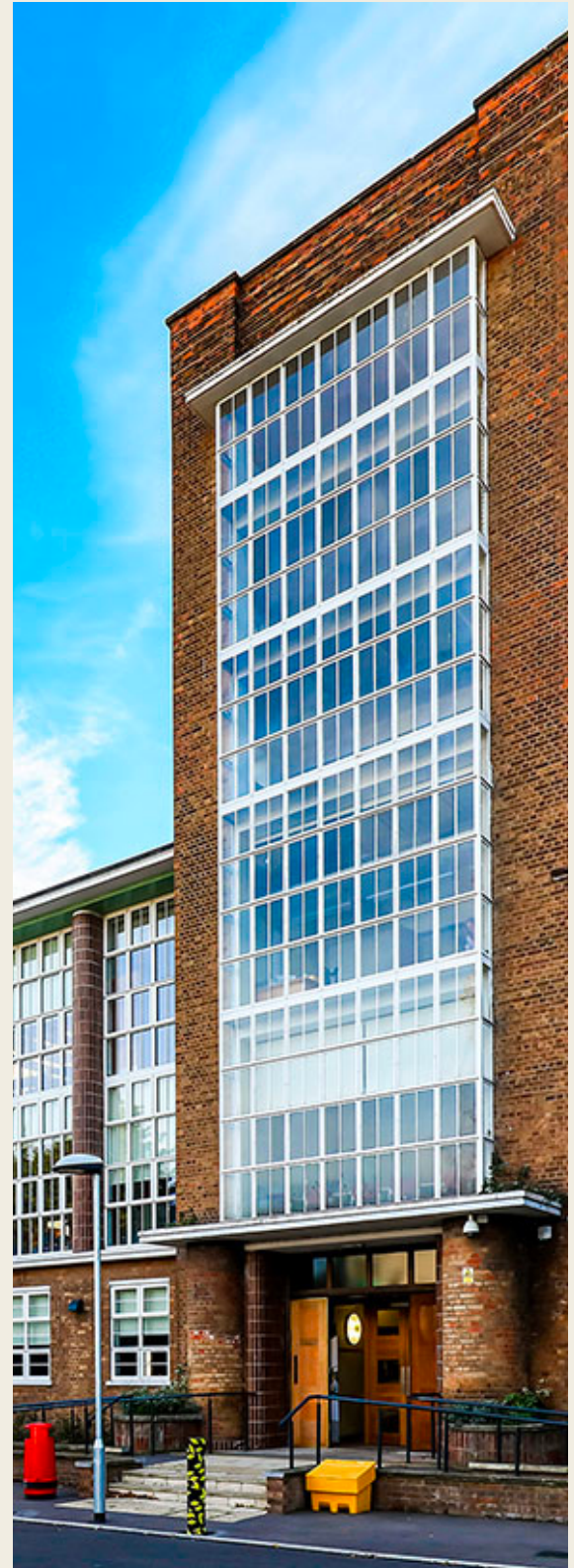
We hope that you and your family families had an enjoyable half-term break. It's heartening to see our students return with renewed energy and enthusiasm, ready to tackle the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead in the coming weeks. As we commence the new term, we want to emphasise the importance of ensuring that your child is well-prepared with the necessary equipment for a smooth start.

Having the right tools at hand not only facilitates learning but also helps your child to stay organised and focused throughout the day. While most students come prepared, some occasionally lack essential items. To ensure your child's success in their studies, please remind them to pack required supplies like **pens, pencils, school bag, school planner, and reading book**. Families facing difficulties acquiring these items can seek assistance from the Head of Year.

In addition to ensuring that your child is well-prepared with the necessary equipment for the new term, we would like to remind you of our school's policy regarding smart mobile phones. As part of our commitment to creating a focused and productive learning environment, Heron Hall Academy maintains a strict **"smart phone free" policy on school premises**. Students are prohibited from bringing smart mobile phones to school in accordance to the Department of Education guidance.

To uphold this policy and ensure compliance, the school will be conducting random phone searches. We kindly ask for your cooperation in reinforcing this policy with your child and ensuring that they do not bring smart mobile phones onto school grounds.

Your cooperation in reinforcing these expectations with your child is greatly appreciated. Together, we can maintain an environment conducive to learning and growth for all our students.



*Keep up-to-date with upcoming events at HHA*



## *Upcoming Events*

*Wednesday, 28th February: PTA Coffee Morning*  
*Thursday, 29th February: Year 10 Parents' Evening*  
*Friday, 8th March: World Book Day*  
*Thursday, 14th March: Year 8 Parents' Evening and Pi day*  
*11th-15th March: Science Week*  
*25th - 29th March: Rewards Assemblies & Breakfast*  
*1st - 15th April: EASTER BREAK*  
*Tuesday, 16th April: The first day of Summer Term 2024*  
*Thursday, 26th April: Year 7 Parents' Evening*  
*Friday, 3rd May: PTA Afternoon Tea*  
*27th - 31st May: HALF TERM*  
*Friday, 28th June: Year 11 Prom*

# *PARENTS' EVENING REMINDER*

Booking slots for **Year 10 Parents' Evening** are now open on Arbor. These slots will be available until 12pm on Thursday, 29th February 26th.



We encourage you to book your preferred times as soon as possible to ensure you secure a meeting with your child's teachers.

Your active participation is crucial for your child's academic progress, and we look forward to discussing their achievements and areas for growth together.

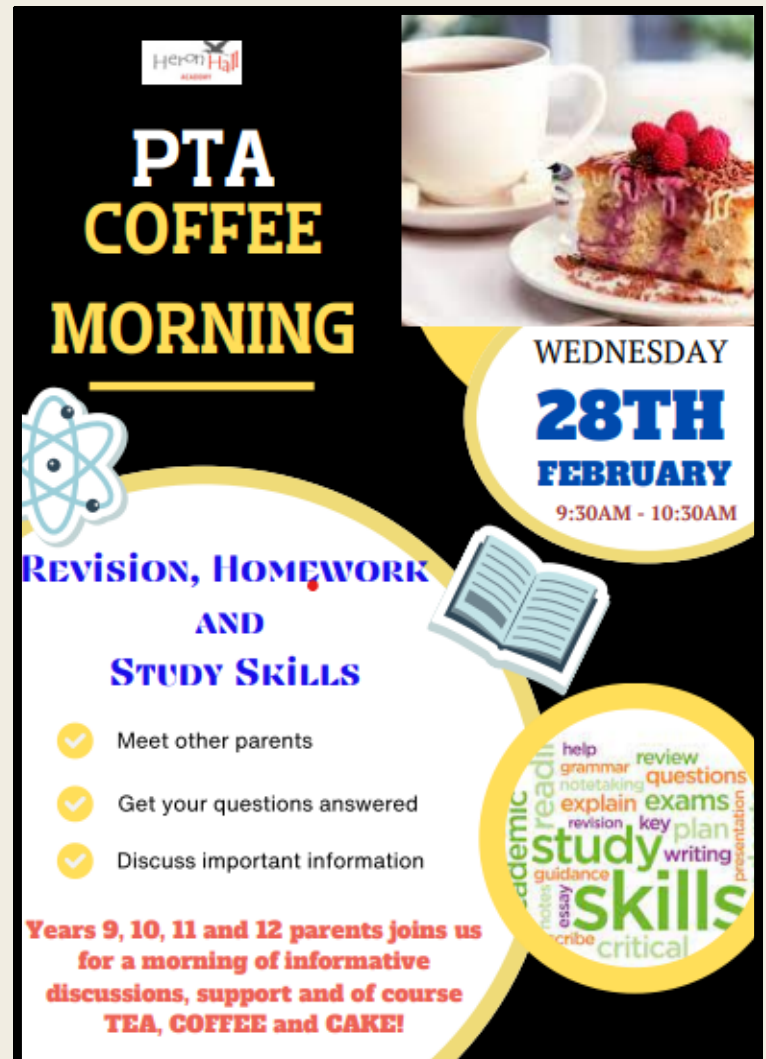
## JOIN US FOR OUR TERMLY COFFEE MORNING!

We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming termly coffee morning, scheduled for Wednesday, 28th February from 9:30am to 10:30am. This meeting will provide an invaluable opportunity to delve into essential topics regarding study skills, revision techniques, and homework management, all aimed at empowering you to better support your child's academic journey from home.

Understanding the importance of these skills is crucial and the discussions will encompass areas that are particularly pertinent to parents of students in years 9, 10, 11, and 12. Whether your child is navigating the challenges of GCSEs, A-levels, or simply seeking to enhance their learning strategies, this session promises to equip you with practical insights and strategies to facilitate their success.

Amidst insightful conversation and valuable takeaways, we invite you to relax and enjoy some coffee and cake in the company of fellow parents. Your participation and engagement are vital to fostering a supportive and enriching learning environment for our students.

We look forward to welcoming you and embarking on this enriching journey together. Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.



The poster features the Heron Hall Academy logo at the top left. The main title 'PTA COFFEE MORNING' is written in large, bold, yellow letters. To the right, there is a photograph of a white coffee cup and a slice of cake topped with raspberries. Below the title, the date and time are listed: 'WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 9:30AM - 10:30AM'. The central theme is 'REVISION, HOMEWORK AND STUDY SKILLS', accompanied by an icon of an atom and an open book. A list of three bullet points with checkmarks includes: 'Meet other parents', 'Get your questions answered', and 'Discuss important information'. At the bottom, a red banner reads: 'Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 parents joins us for a morning of informative discussions, support and of course TEA, COFFEE and CAKE!'. A circular graphic on the right contains a word cloud with terms like 'study', 'skills', 'revision', 'exams', 'help', 'grammar', 'notetaking', 'questions', 'explain', 'key', 'plan', 'writing', 'presentation', 'academic', 'reading', 'notes', 'guidance', 'essay', 'scribe', and 'critical'.

## ***SIXTH FORM GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS EXCEL AT RESIDENTIAL COURSE***



*We are thrilled to share the remarkable achievements of our sixth form geography students who recently embarked on a memorable 5-day residential course at the Field Studies Council centre in Nettlecombe Court, Somerset. Despite Mr. O'Mahoney's infamous minibus driving, our students fearlessly ventured forth, staying in the historic Tudor mansion and collaborating with two other schools to conduct fieldwork for their Independent Geographical Investigation.*

*Throughout the week, our students delved into the intricacies of coastal geography, exploring the coastal town of Minehead and dissecting the challenges posed by coastal flooding. Additionally, they investigated the economic resilience of rural areas during the winter months. The students showcased exceptional initiative by collaborating with peers from Mulberry Stepney Green School, with Zuzanna and Ezra providing invaluable support to their counterparts on topics ranging from coastal engineering to the vitality of Minehead's high street.*

*Thursday proved to be a particularly enriching day as our students autonomously collected data, impressing locals with their polite demeanor and astute inquiries. Their dedication extended beyond fieldwork, as they diligently organised their methodology and prepared for the arduous task of compiling their findings into a comprehensive report upon their return to school.*

*cont.*

## ***SIXTH FORM GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS EXCEL AT RESIDENTIAL COURSE***

The commendations received from staff at the Field Studies Council, from their peers from other schools, and members of the public underscored the exemplary conduct and scholarly curiosity exhibited by our students. Special recognition goes to Alidzhan and Baris for their exemplary leadership during group discussions on complex geographical concepts such as isostatic and eustatic sea level rise.

Mr. O'Mahoney stated that this was the hardest working group of students he has ever taught at A level and is looking forward to their excellent grades at the end of year 13.



## OUR STRIVE VALUE FOR THIS HALF TERM IS INTEGRITY

This half term at HHA we will be focusing on the value of integrity in an aim to equip our students with the tools needed to lead a successful life. **Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.**

### How can students display integrity at school?

A student who has integrity will understand the value of right and wrong and be able to articulate this. While a student who has integrity will not always make the right choices, and we fully expect all of our students to make mistakes when it comes to behaviour, they will show that when presented with the right choice they will choose to do so. Students who have integrity will also make the correct choices without being told to do so such as throwing litter in the bin, arriving to school on time, completing homework and working correctly in the classroom. They will be guided by their moral principles to make the best choices for themselves.

### How can you support your child to become someone who has integrity?

- Have honest and open conversations about any mistakes
- Debate topics to gauge your child's understanding of right and wrong and guide them accordingly
- Create a safe space where they can feel comfortable to speak to you about any issues that they are experiencing
- Model integrity and be honest with them at all times
- Expect integrity and expect them to do the right thing
- Always remind them about the choices they have so they feel inclined to reflect on their actions

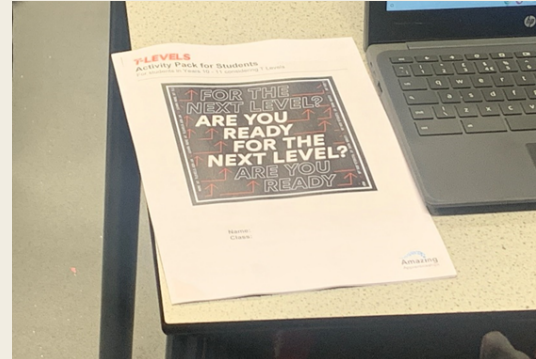
**"Integrity is the seed for achievement. It is the principle that never fails."** -

**Earl Nightingale**

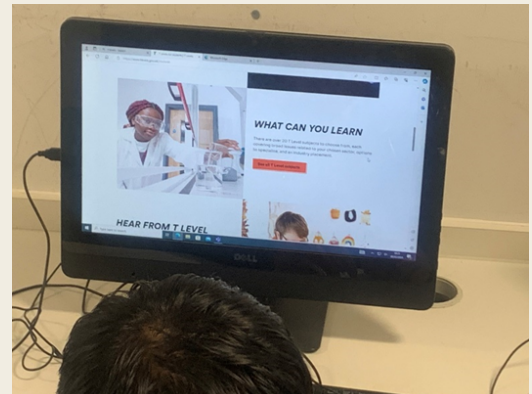


# NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK AT HERON

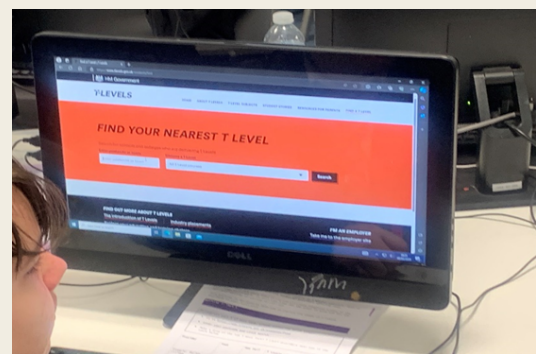
During Apprenticeship week Heron Hall Academy celebrated the fantastic work and opportunities that are open to those undertaking apprenticeships. All students undertook a range of engaging form time activities that helped them to gain knowledge, skills and understanding relating to apprenticeships and Post 16 and Post 18 options.



In addition to these activities, our Year 10 students participated in a comprehensive Careers Education, Information, Advice, and Guidance Workshop, focusing specifically on apprenticeships and the exciting new Post-16 qualification known as T-Levels. T-Levels represent an innovative alternative to traditional A-Levels or apprenticeships, offering students a specialised, technical-based education developed in close collaboration with employers and businesses.

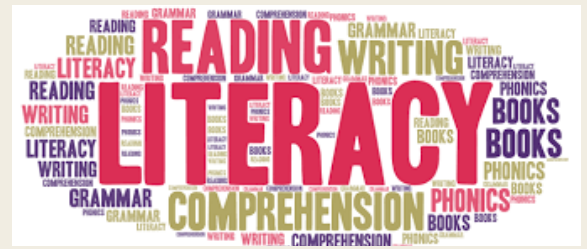


During the workshop, students delved into the various subjects offered through T-Levels and gained a deeper understanding of the skills, attributes, and qualities required to excel in these fields. T-Level qualifications are carefully crafted to meet industry demands, ensuring that students graduate equipped with the practical knowledge and experience needed to thrive in the workforce or pursue further training and study.



At Heron Hall Academy, we are committed to providing our students with a comprehensive understanding of the diverse pathways available to them beyond secondary education. By fostering awareness and exploration of options such as apprenticeships and T-Levels, we empower our students to make informed decisions about their future, enabling them to pursue fulfilling and successful careers aligned with their interests and talents.

# LITERACY ...AT HERON



Literacy (the ability to read and write fluently) is at the very core of teaching and learning. Through literacy we not only unlock the world around us, but also gain the power to change it; it is the key to helping our students navigate both the classroom and social environments, and as such dwells at the heart of everything we do.

At Heron Hall, a great deal of time has been devoted to ensuring that our students have the best chance at achieving high levels of literacy and developing a love of reading. All students up until Year 10 have dedicated library lessons where they can develop their love of language and literature, guided by both their English teachers and our devoted library staff. Reading ages are regularly tested in order to identify any challenges our students are facing, and additional support in the form of additional literacy lessons and EAL sessions led by experienced experts is always at the ready to ensure they continue to develop.

But the teaching of literacy is not solely the concern of our English and Library staff; from History to Science, from Maths to PE, from Design Technology to Modern Foreign Languages, in every classroom we see literacy being taught and proudly displayed on our literacy walls, there to guide and build confidence in our young readers, arming them with the words they need to secure their futures.

Meanwhile, outside of the classroom, our spectacular library staff are constantly innovating new ways to drive the literacy rate of our children. Having unleashed the Word Millionaires competition, which recognises and rewards our high achieving readers, March will bring a Book Swap Party to the school, giving our community and readers the chance to share the books and stories they love with others, all the while discovering new sources of inspiration.

Finally, with World Book Day and its many dedicated activities, costumes and glamour fast approaching, it would be remiss of me not to mention our visionary writers in both the First Story and Young Writers club, which have produced incredible, publishable work. As part of the First Story Programme, in which pupils work alongside a published poet to create their own published anthology, a group of twelve students will be travelling with myself and Mr Bowstead to the illustrious Cambridge University for a day of creative writing workshops and live talks by the movers and shakers of the literary world. As a teacher, this trip is always the highlight of the year for me; there is nothing so inspiring as watching our students walking the grounds of the celebrated university and knowing that one day, soon, they'll be able walk them not as guests, but alumni.



# YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMINATIONS

## THE JOURNEY BEGINS

The Year 11 Mock Examinations are set to commence on Monday, 5th February. The timetable for these examinations, covering all subjects, is detailed below. •

DATE	SUBJECT	PAPER	START TIME	END TIME
MONDAY 5TH FEB	ENGLISH	Language - Writers views and perspective	9:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM
	CITIZENSHIP	Active Citizenship and Politics and Participation	1:30:00 PM	3:15:00 PM
TUESDAY 6TH FEB	MATHS	Paper 1 Non Calculator	9:00:00 AM	10:30:00 AM
	GEOGRAPHY	Paper 1 Global geographical issues	1:30:00 PM	3:00:00 PM
WEDNESDAY 7TH FEB	COMBINED SCIENCE H/F	Combined Biology 2	9:00:00 AM	10:15:00 AM
	TRIPLE SCIENCE	Triple Biology 2	9:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM
THURSDAY 8TH FEB	HISTORY	Paper 1: Germany, conflict and tension	1:30:00 PM	3:30:00 PM
	BUSINESS	Paper 1: Influences of Operations	9:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM
	SPANISH	Writing Higher	1:30:00 PM	2:45:00 PM
	SPANISH	Writing Foundation	1:30:00 PM	2:30:00 PM
FRIDAY 9TH FEB	FRENCH	Writing Higher	1:30:00 PM	2:45:00 PM
	FRENCH	Writing Foundation	1:30:00 PM	2:30:00 PM
	DRAMA	Theory Paper	9:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM
	COMPUTER SCIENCE	Computer Systems	9:00:00 AM	10:30:00 AM
MONDAY 19TH FEB	SOCIOLOGY	Paper 1: Education & Families	1:30:00 PM	3:15:00 PM
	ART	ART Practical	9:00:00 AM	12:00:00 PM
TUESDAY 20TH FEB	ART	ART Practical	1:30:00 PM	3:30:00 PM
	COMBINED SCIENCE H/F	Combined Physics 2	9:00:00 AM	10:15:00 AM
WEDNESDAY 21ST FEB	TRIPLE SCIENCE	Triple Physics 2	9:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM
	GEOGRAPHY	Paper 2 Uk Geographical Issues	1:30:00 PM	3:00:00 PM
THURSDAY 22ND FEB	MATHS	Paper 2 Calculator	9:00:00 AM	10:30:00 AM
	PE GCSE Paper 1	The Human body and movement in physical activity and sport	1:30:00 PM	2:45:00 PM
FRIDAY 23RD FEB	FOOD TECH	Food Tech Paper 1	9:00:00 AM	10:30:00 AM
	DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	Design Tech Paper 1	9:00:00 AM	10:30:00 AM
	HISTORY	Paper 2: Normans and Health	1:30:00 PM	2:45:00 PM
MONDAY 26TH FEB	MUSIC	Listening & Appraising	9:00:00 AM	10:30:00 AM
	ENGLISH	Literature - Poetry seen and Unseen & ACC	1:30:00 PM	3:45:00 PM
TUESDAY 27TH FEB	COMBINED SCIENCE H/F	Combined Chemistry 2	9:00:00 AM	10:15:00 AM
	TRIPLE SCIENCE	Triple Chemistry 2	9:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM
	COMPUTER SCIENCE	Computational thinking, algorithms and programming	1:30:00 PM	3:00:00 PM
	DRAMA	2nd Drama Practical	1:30:00 PM	4:30:00 PM
WEDNESDAY 28TH FEB	MATHS	Paper 3 Calculator	9:00:00 AM	10:30:00 AM
	RE	Paper 2 THEMES	1:30:00 PM	2:30:00 PM
THURSDAY 29TH FEB	SOCIOLOGY	Paper 2 Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification	9:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM
	BUSINESS 2	Influences of marketing and finance on business activity	1:30:00 PM	3:15:00 PM
FRIDAY 1ST MARCH	CITIZENSHIP	Life in Modern Britain and Rights and Responsibilities	9:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM
	SPANISH	Spanish Higher Reading	1:30:00 PM	2:30:00 PM
	SPANISH	Spanish Foundation Reading	2:30:00 PM	3:30:00 PM
	FRENCH	French Reading Higher	1:30:00 PM	2:30:00 PM
FRIDAY 1ST MARCH	FRENCH	French Reading Foundation	2:30:00 PM	3:30:00 PM
	PE GCSE Paper 2	Sociocultural Influences	9:00:00 AM	10:15:00 AM
	SPORTS STUDIES	Contemporary Issues in Sport	9:00:00 AM	10:00:00 AM
	GEOGRAPHY	Paper 3 Making Geographical Decisions	1:30:00 PM	3:30:00 PM

To ensure a well-rounded preparation, all students have been provided with comprehensive revision resources from their dedicated teachers. It is essential that they actively plan their time to guarantee effective revision across all subjects. As a reminder, February half term aligns with the mock period, presenting a valuable opportunity for focused preparation. Additionally, the school will conduct intervention sessions over the break to further support their academic journey.

## *Year 11 Prom - MASQUERADE BALL*

*As the academic year progresses, we find ourselves approaching a significant milestone - the culmination of five years of hard work, growth, and unforgettable memories with our Year 11 students.*

*It is with great excitement that we announce the upcoming Year 11 Prom, a celebration marking the end of an era and the beginning of new adventures. The prom will be taking place on Heron Hall's premise on Friday 28th June, 2024.*



*Prom promises to be a memorable evening filled with laughter, dancing, and camaraderie, set against the enchanting backdrop of our Masquerade Ball theme.*

*To ensure the success of this event, we kindly ask for your support in our fundraising efforts. Our students are actively working towards covering the costs associated with Prom, and any contributions in the form of funds, food, or decorations would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to contribute in any way, please reach out to Madam Chalmers at [cchalmers@northstartrust.org.uk](mailto:cchalmers@northstartrust.org.uk).*

*More details regarding ticket purchases and event timings will be provided in the near future. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with our Year 11 students, as we bid farewell to one chapter and eagerly anticipate the next.*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

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**READ ALOUD**  
15 Minutes

**Book Swap**  
**Heron Hall Academy**

**You are Invited to Book Swap**

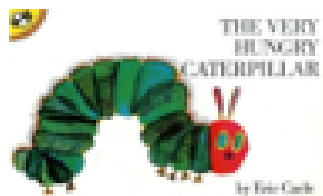
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Time: 12.30 – 1.15pm**

**In the playground**

**Please bring a book from home to swap for  
another book**

**(This does not include any of your schoolbooks)**



**NORTH STAR**  
COMMUNITY TRUST

Community Outreach Team  
[community@northstartrust.org.uk](mailto:community@northstartrust.org.uk)

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# TUNE UP! DOUBLE BASS

## ENFIELD MUSIC SERVICE

To encourage more pupils to learn to play the Double Bass, Enfield Music Service are offering new pupils fully funded lessons for the Spring and Summer terms at our after-school centre. Parents/carers only need to pay for instrument hire (£40 per term) until September 2024.

We're running taster sessions on **Monday 29th January** for pupils to find out more about the instrument and try playing one to see if they'd like to learn:

**For primary school pupils in Years 4, 5 or 6**

4:30 - 5:00pm

5:00 - 5:30pm

**For secondary school pupils**

5:30 - 6:00pm

6:00 - 6:30pm

Sessions will take place at  
**Enfield County Lower School**  
Rosemary Avenue, EN2 0SP

To book a spot, please email  
[robert.domingue@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:robert.domingue@enfield.gov.uk)



# YOUNG PEOPLE... THE FUTURE OF GAMING



## NerdVerse: anime and gaming festival at DAC

Are you the biggest nerd in Enfield? Want to be part of a community that covers all things gaming, comics, anime and film? Dugdale Arts Centre (DAC) is teaming up with The Nerd Council on 30 March to bring all things nerd-culture to Enfield. Expect live panels, gaming tournaments, cosplay competitions and much more. There will also be a live DJ and street food making this one of the most exciting events at DAC this year. The Nerd Council is the UK's most prominent black-led podcast and online platform dedicated to film, TV, gaming, comics and anime.

[Book your tickets today](#)



## Enfield Directory 4 All

Services to support children, families and community members

## Enfield Early Help Directory 4 All makes it easier to get support

Enfield Council's Early Help and Children's Services teams have put together a new directory of community services and organisations that can offer support to children, families, community members and professionals. The directory makes it really easy to find help across a huge variety of topics including education SEND, homelessness, training and development, substance misuse in young people, activities and clubs and much more. [You can find the new directory and start browsing the services available online today](#)



### Enfield News - Winter 2024

In this winter's newsletter you can read about how we are helping Enfield become greener and safer, and find out about what's going on around the...

 Enfield Council / Feb 6

# HEALTH AND WELLBEING



## Young People Directory Services

There are many different types of activities and clubs that can provide a fun outlet whilst helping expand your social network and build your confidence.

Being part of a club not only helps you make new friends and meet new people, it also provides you with a support network and promotes health and wellbeing.

### Activities & Clubs

Abundant Living With Autism (ALWA) Play Scheme (Out of school Holiday Club -5-15 years)	Axis Tuition Centre (Ponders End) Ages 5-18	Blue Bears Playscheme (After School and Holiday Club For children 4-10 years)	Bubbles & Smiles (After-school club in Enfield)
Chickenshed	Dream Big Kidz Ltd	Edmonton Eagles Amateur Boxing Club (From 8 years old)	Enfield Youth Development Service (11 to 19 years and up to 25 with SEND)

### Young People Categories: Activities & Clubs

There are many different types of activities and clubs that can provide a fun outlet whilst helping expand your social network and build your confidence. Being part of a club not only helps you make...

# Urgent mental health support - 24/7 crisis lines



Area	Boroughs covered	24/7 crisis line number
North West London	Brent, Hillingdon, Harrow, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster	0800 0234 650
	Ealing, Hounslow and Hammersmith & Fulham	0800 328 4444
North Central London	Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington	0800 151 0023
North East London	City & Hackney	0800 073 0006
	Newham	0800 073 0066
	Tower Hamlets	0800 073 0003
	Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest	0300 555 1000
South West London	Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth	0800 028 8000
South East London	Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark	0800 731 2864
	Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich	0800 330 8590

Every mental health trust in London has put in place a **24/7 crisis line** for people of all ages - children, young people and adults. The lines which are free to call can provide advice to those in a crisis. These crisis lines are supported by trained mental health advisors 365 days a year.

You can find the 24/7 crisis line numbers using the NHS Service Finder (link below) but the table provides all of the telephone numbers in London.

<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline>

## shout 85258

Shout offers confidential 24/7 crisis text support for times when immediate assistance is required  
Text "SHOUT" to 85258 or visit [Shout Crisis Text Line](#)

## SAMARITANS

Samaritans 24/7 365 days a year - they are here to listen and provide support  
Call: 116 123 or email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

## Crisis Tools

Crisis Tools helps professionals support young people in crisis - short accessible video guides and text resources  
Sign up for free resources [here](#)

## PAPYRUS

Papyrus provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person  
Call: 0800 068 41 41 or Text: 07860 039967 (opening hours 9am to midnight - 365 days a year)

## childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME  
Childline confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem  
Call: 0800 1111 anytime or [online chat with a counsellor](#)

# Urgent and other support available

## Good Thinking

Good Thinking is London's digital wellbeing service and provides a range of resources for young people to help improve mental wellbeing including free NHS-approved apps

## THE MIX

The Mix provides free, confidential support for young people under 25  
Call: 0808 808 4994 (11am - 11pm every day) or [Email](#)

## Beat

Beat provide support to help young people who may be struggling with an eating problem or an eating disorder  
Call the Youthline (under 18's) 0808 801 0711 or Studentline 0808 801 0811 (9am - 8pm during the week and 4pm - 8pm on weekends and bank holidays)

## kooth

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community including live chat with the team, discussion boards, magazine with helpful articles and a daily journal a magazine