

# QEII Newsletter

15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## THIS WEEK

**QEII Connections:** The next QEII Connections event is on **Thursday 21st May** at the school site from **9.30-11.00am**. This session will be with the wonderful charity West Sussex Mind. Please see the attached poster for details.

**Kindness Ambassadors Sale:** Our Kindness Ambassadors are holding a sale of handmade items next week. Please see the attached poster for details.

**Free School Meal Vouchers:** We have received the below information from West Sussex County Council regarding Free School Meal vouchers:

### Free School Meal Holiday Vouchers

Under the Household Support Fund, West Sussex County Council has previously provided holiday food vouchers for all children eligible for Free School Meals. The Easter 2026 school holiday voucher scheme was the final round of universal FSM vouchers funded through the Household Support Fund.

Under the Crisis and Resilience Fund, Government guidance places greater emphasis on targeted support for households experiencing financial hardship, rather than universal provision. As a result, universal Free School Meal holiday vouchers will not continue in the same way under the new fund. However, families experiencing financial difficulty will still be able to seek support through other routes.

How will residents access support?

Residents who are experiencing financial hardship will be able to access support through the West Sussex Community Hub.

The Community Hub can:

- Provide advice and guidance on available support
- Help residents understand what assistance they may be eligible for
- Connect residents with appropriate local services and organisations

Support will continue to be available through multiple access routes, including assistance for residents who cannot apply online.

Community Hub contact details

Residents experiencing financial hardship can contact the Community Hub:

- Online via

[www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure-recreation-and-community/community-hub/](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure-recreation-and-community/community-hub/)

By phone: 0330 222 7980

The Community Hub is open 09:00 - 17:00 seven days a week (except Bank Holidays, when the service operates between 10:00 - 14:00).

Sensory Pods Donation: We would like to say a huge thank you to the Carfax and March & Darnley Masonic Lodges in Horsham for funding the purchase of two sensory pods. (One for each of our sites.)

## **HEADTEACHER'S AWARD WINNERS**

**Maxwell, Beachcombers** - Trying fish for the first time.

**Joseph W, Pathfinders** - Showing incredible co-ordination and stamina during rebound sessions.

## **YOIMOJI OF THE WEEK**

This week's Yoimoji was Bamboozle the kind bear.

## **LETTERS HOME**

**Key Stage 3** - Chessington trip letter.

**Beachcombers** - Outdoor learning letter.

## **CLASS NEWS FROM BALLOONISTS**

We have been thoroughly enjoying our new topic "Scented Garden". The children have been busy planting seeds, learning about what plants need to grow, and taking great care in nurturing them.

We also took part in a local community walk, making the most of a beautiful day outdoors. During DT learning, the children had lots of fun exploring the mud kitchen—getting wonderfully muddy along the way! Our Forest School sessions have been a real highlight. Last week, we even enjoyed delicious pancakes cooked over the fire, which was a fantastic experience for everyone.

We have enjoyed visiting the donkeys. The Balloonists showed such gentle and caring behaviour towards them, which was lovely to see.

## **CLASS NEWS FROM PILOTS**

We have been thoroughly enjoying our new topic "Scented Garden". The children have been busy planting seeds, learning about what plants need to grow.

We had a lovely visit from Chrissy on Monday from Bud and Flower, we did some beautiful flower arranging, we had to cut the stems and place them in the pot carefully. In DT we have been making our own smoothies using a range of fruits and we also used herbs to create our own teabags.