



# NEWSFLASH

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

## YEAR 3 & 4 - CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

If your child is in Year 3 or 4 (or Year 5 & 6 choir) you should have received a form yesterday asking for your consent for them to take part in the above.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – St Mary's Church, Worplesdon.

- *Year 3 children will leave school at 9.00am, for a 9.45am start*
- *Year 4 children will leave school at 9.45am, for a 10.30am start*
- *Year 5 & 6 choir children will leave school at 9.00am, for a 9.45am start*



We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to this lovely event.



## AUTUMN TERM – FINISHING TIMES

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December we finish for the Christmas break, school finishing times are as follows:

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| The Haven children  | <b>1.15pm</b> |
| Mainstream children | <b>1.30pm</b> |

## VACANCY – SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHING ASSISTANT

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a strong candidate to support teaching and learning at The Federated Schools of Wood Street Infant School & Worplesdon Primary School. This role is varied, and will either be working in the SEN Centre or a mainstream classroom at Worplesdon Primary School supporting children with SEN. If you would like more information or are interested in applying please use the following link <https://www.eteach.com/jobs?keywords=worpleston%20primary>.

## NEW FEDERATION WEBSITE

Excitingly, we are launching a new website for our federation. Although in its infancy, it currently contains lots of information about the ethos of our schools, governor responsibilities and policies across the schools. We will continue to expand it over time but we hope you enjoy our progress so far - <https://www.wvfs.surrey.sch.uk/>.



## PTA

As you all know the Christmas Fair will return on Sunday 3rd 11.30-2.30pm. We can't wait to see as many of you as possible on the day - please bring your friends, families and neighbours and come and enjoy the fun! And don't forget to save up your small change for some of the stalls!

Thanks to all of you who donated to the bottle and chocolate tombola yesterday - these events can't happen without your support in advance!

You are now able to sell the raffle tickets and will have seen earlier this week the enormous haul of very generously donated prizes we have on offer! So again, please go forth and sell to families, friends and neighbours.

Last but not least we are holding another mufti day next Friday - the 1st December - for cake, cookies and biscuit donations. We sent the flyer out earlier today, but to confirm - these can be shop bought or homemade (please include allergen info if homemade) and will be sold on the fabulous cake stall at the fair which will be run by the Governors. As always, all donations are very gratefully received, but if you have more than one child do not feel obliged to donate more than once and if you are unable to donate do please still send your child to school wearing mufti 😊.

## EARLY BIRDS & NIGHT OWLS

This week at Night Owls we have been looking at Autumn time and how this time of year changes the leaves creating lovely colours on trees. This is ahead of National Tree Week next week. Our crafts were focused on Autumn with the children having the opportunity to make a colourful autumn wreath looking at the reds, yellows, oranges and browns that they see on the trees around the school grounds. The children also had the chance to make a paper squirrel using a concertina effect on the body to make it spring. We have been using the library area to complete homework, go on chrome books and read stories. We do still allow the children some outside time, even though it is getting darker earlier, we limit the number that go out at a certain time and make them play in a designated area that's lit up so that they can be seen safely.



Our children that attend Early Birds in the morning are enjoying listening to a variety of stories at the end of each session. They particularly like our Horrid Henry stories and it is lovely to hear them giggling along when being read to. They are certainly enjoying the porridge and toast on offer now that the cold mornings are upon us. We will soon all be wearing our scarves, hats and gloves!



The Children's Commissioner has launched [The Big Ambition survey](#) to understand what children want ahead of the next General Election.

## SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO OFFER SUPPORTED LODGINGS/FOSTER

Supported Lodgings, and

Fostering are both incredibly rewarding experiences that can transform the lives of both the children/young people being supported and the carers' themselves. Children and young people who enter the care system have often experienced trauma and instability in their lives, and a stable and supportive carer family can make a significant difference in their wellbeing and development.



Nationally, there are currently over 70,000 children living with carer families in the UK. However, there is still a significant shortage of Supported Lodgings and foster carers, with around 9,265 new carer families needed in the next year alone. In Surrey, there are over 1,000 children in care and Surrey County Council have just under 400 carer families.

Supported Lodgings is targeted at young adults aged 16-21 to help them build their independence skills ready to live independently in the future, from the security of a caring, stable home environment.

Supported Lodgings Carers and Foster carers come from all walks of life and backgrounds, and there is no one-size-fits-all approach to caring. Whether you are single or married, young or old, own your own home or rent, you can still become a carer. The most important thing is a willingness to provide a safe and loving home for a child in need.

This is the message that Surrey County Council is promoting in national recruitment film 'Any of Us'. The short film has been jointly funded by over 80 councils across England and aims to raise awareness about fostering, particularly among those people who may not have previously considered themselves suited to caring for vulnerable children and young people. The film *looks at the potential of three people from different backgrounds to become carers, and the potential of children they care for to grow and thrive.* 'Any of Us' is available to watch from the 26<sup>th</sup> September.

If you have ever thought about fostering, or offering Supported Lodgings, now is the time to take that first step and find out more. The more people who consider caring, the greater the chance of finding loving, stable homes for children in Surrey who desperately need them.

You can contact Surrey County Council Fostering Service on 0300 123 1620 (this is the General Fostering Duty telephone, please ask for the Supported Lodgings worker, when connected), via email at [supportedlodgings@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:supportedlodgings@surreycc.gov.uk) or by visiting the website; [www.surreycc.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/fostering)

You can watch 'Any of Us' via [Any of Us - YouTube](#) and connect with the Fostering Service on social media via @surreyfostering"

## NATIONAL ADHD MEDICATION SHORTAGE

This is a statement from the Surrey and borders partnership NHS foundation trust in relation to the current shortage of ADHD medication.

The government has announced a national shortage of medicines used to help manage ADHD symptoms. The shortage of these products is being caused by a combination of manufacturing issues and increased global demand; it is expected that the delay will impact until at least December. This is going to be a difficult time for families, and the Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust want to help schools feel equipped with the necessary resources to be able to prepare and support these families over the next few weeks.

We will be contacting all affected families over the next week to update them on the national issue and set out our advice. This will include children and young people currently on, and those awaiting an initial appointment to discuss and potentially commence, medication following an ADHD diagnosis. At present we are asking parent-carers to take a look at our information and resource page for Neurodevelopmental needs on the Mindworks website. This page, which has recently been updated, provides signposts to lots of helpful strategies and interventions to support ADHD symptomology as well as some medication advice under the ADHD section. Parent-carers should also keep up to date with our talking point section of the Mindworks website which will be updated regularly.

We'd particularly like to draw attention to this statement: National ADHD Medication shortage: Mindworks Surrey ([mindworks-surrey.org](http://mindworks-surrey.org)) which includes an important reference to what families should do where a child/young person is taking guanfacine (Intuniv®). This medication should not be stopped suddenly as it can cause the child/young person to experience high blood pressure, so parents / carers are being asked to only contact us if they are having difficulty obtaining guanfacine on 01372 216555, lines are open 9am to 12:30am.

If parent carers need any support with behavioural needs, they can access our out of hours advice line which runs from 5pm until 11pm, seven days a week, 365 days a year, 0300 222 5755. We have also advised parent/carers to contact their schools to discuss how best their child can be supported over the coming weeks.'

If you have any concerns please contact Mrs Earl-Smith.

**FAMILY LEARNING**  
Surrey County Council

**Free Courses for parents and carers**

Surrey Family Learning offer **FREE** courses and workshops to help you create a better family life.

Do you want to help your child or teenager to improve their behaviour, development and learning?

Book onto one of our tailored courses today to begin supporting you and your family. Find more information at:

[surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning](http://surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning)

**Courses available**

- Parenting** Help understand your children and teenagers' behaviour, anxiety and mental health.
- English as an Additional Language** Support for you and your child with English and how education in England works.
- Maths** Learn about methods used in schools today.
- Literacy** Learn about how English is taught in schools today.
- Cookery** Be inspired and cook healthy family dishes together.

**m:tech**  
Inspire Create Compose

**M:Tech (Music Technology) – Spring 2024 Term**

M:Tech is an extracurricular music technology and creative composition course for children aged 7-13.

They teach the fundamentals of music composition theory, with young learners composing soundtracks to fun and engaging multimedia projects like movie trailers and TV adverts.

In the Spring 2024 term the children will be working on Project **HOLLYWOOD**:

**Project HOLLYWOOD**

Lights, camera, action! It's time to go behind the scenes of the biggest blockbuster movies, discovering how sound and music is made for the latest Hollywood hits!

Compose amazing music and create jaw dropping sound effects as you become a superstar composer in... Project Hollywood!

After completing a term of lessons, learners will have created and completed their own unique piece of music to add to their growing **M:Tech** music portfolio. This is sent home and certificates are awarded to mark their improvement and course progress.

Participation on the **M:Tech** course also now includes access to the new **'MvM:Tech'** home platform, where learners can develop their ideas, skills and create music at home.

This course is administered directly by **M:Tech** and to register your child's interest please sign up online at [www.mtechonline.co.uk](http://www.mtechonline.co.uk) or call The M:Tech team on 01483 578114.

Fees are £15.70 per weekly sessions of 60 minutes. Your bill will be adjusted to reflect the exact number of lessons in a term.

**SAL FAMILY LEARNING**

0427P

WORPLESDON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA  
WELCOMES YOU TO OUR

# CHRISTMAS FAIR

FREE ENTRY  
GRAND RAFFLE  
PRINCESS THE UNICORN  
LOCAL BUSINESS STALLS  
CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE  
HOWE & CO FISH & CHIPS  
DOE WOOD FIRED PIZZA  
KID'S CRAFTS, GAMES & PRIZES

DECEMBER 3RD • 11:30-14:30  
WORPLESDON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
140 ENVIS WAY, GU3 3NL  
WORPLESONPRIMARYPTA@GMAIL.COM

DISCLAIMER:  
VENDORS/ACTIVITIES  
MAY BE SUBJECT  
TO CHANGE

## ROCK BAND CLUB!

Sign up for our after school Rock Band Club at Worpleston!  
Join the band and learn how to play fun arrangements of  
modern rock and pop hits on the instrument of your choice!



👉 THURSDAYS / FRIDAYS | 3.20PM - 4.30PM 👉  
DRUMS | GUITAR | BASS | KEYBOARD | SINGING  
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY | ALL INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED



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