



This Week's News!

Friday 15th December 2023

Dear Parents / Carers and Flamstead Families

Here we are, the last newsletter of 2023 and we are very near to the end of the Autumn Term. It has been a privilege to lead our delightful school this term. I have to thank you all for being so welcoming and supportive. The wonderful staff, children and families all contribute in making Flamstead Village School the amazing place it is.

Its been an exciting week in school with the Nativity Production this week. It was a delight to watch our youngest children put on such a great show and a huge thank you to our staff who made it all possible. Thank you for all the positive comments we have received about the show.

Thank you also to FoFS for funding the majority of the Christmas Party last Friday. Thanks also to the parents who ensured our children had a fabulous time. The children were thrilled to see Santa and receive a gift and they certainly had some great dance moves too!

Many thanks too to one of our parents ,Jess McLaughlin, for donating £218.50 to our school from the proceeds of the Christmas Fair at the Rose and Crown. It was a generous gift and the School Council will be meeting to decide what will be best to spend it on.

This week we have had the North Pole Shop open for one special present buying day and our week finished with a visit to the beautiful St Leonards Church. It was lovely to share our Christmas songs with parents and carers in such a special way.

As a reminder, please remember we finish school next Wednesday, 20th December at 1.30pm for the Christmas break.

The Spring term commences on the 8th January 2024. After school clubs will remain the same, as will PE days. I have finally had confirmation that work on our roof will commence from the 8th January with additional scaffolding and 'tin hat' being added on. Large sections of the roof are being totally replaced and there will be some flexibility required in school over the coming term with regard to spaces and rooms that may need to be vacated however provision is in place to ensure we still provide safe and stable learning bases for our children while the work is undertaken. The roof is due to finish in early May.

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

Mrs J Walton-Jones

Headteacher



Bright Stars! Friday 15th December

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---|
| Nursery | Cayleb | For his amazing performance in the Nativity. Cayleb learnt his lines beautifully and sang well during all of our shows so far. Well done! |
| Reception | Reece | For trying hard with all learning this week. Reece has been putting in extra effort this week with his writing, trying to knock his teachers socks off and make himself proud. Well done! |
| Year 1 | George | For great 'odd and even' maths learning. |
| Year 2 | Oscar | For writing a lovely Christmas Calligram (shape poem) about a snowman. |
| Year 3 | Sasha | For some fantastic independent work in English retelling the story of the Finger Eater. |
| Year 3 | Beau | For settling into your new class so well and making a great 'moving monster' in DT. |
| Year 4 | Sidni | For working hard in maths to use strategies to support her learning and recall in times tables |
| Year 5 | David | For great effort in PE when working with his partner to mirror movements. |
| Year 6 | Jeremiah | For settling in well to Bonsai class and being a great role model with his manners and great work ethic. |



Last minute Photos or Christmas Presents



Pret-a-Portrait have extended their Early Bird discount until 20th December, in case any parents want to make any last minute orders.

Contact **Pret-a-Portrait** directly on 0800 021 7626 or customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net

Art Club

If your child has enjoyed Art Club this term you can follow the link below to see some of their amazing art work.

<https://www.myafterschoolartclub.com/flamstead-art-gallery>



Street Dance

Please see the email sent to parents / carers if you would like to join Street Dance Club in the Spring Term.



Drawing comes naturally to young children. Drawing is fundamental to their learning, to remember concepts, to grow, and understand the world around them. It is a powerful tool that taps into visual, kinesthetic, and linguistic areas of the brain at the same time, and establishes more neural connections than writing or reading alone. Our art club helps children retain and develop their drawing abilities and sustain their enthusiasm for self-expression and creativity.

Dear parents and carers,

Our next art project is inspired by the

The circus paintings of French Artist Marc Chagall

Booking essential: [Booking Flamstead next art project](#)

Flamstead Village School
Tuesdays 3.30 - 4.30

Children from Reception to Year 6 are welcome.



January - February 2024
Circus extravaganza!
Inspired by Artist MARC CHAGALL
Learn Drawing Circus scenes and learning how to draw the human figure of acrobats.
New 10 weeks

6 weeks 556 January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13

For more detailed information about the club, visit the website www.myafterschoolartclub.com

Do not hesitate to contact me by email at welcme@myafterschoolartclub.com or by phone on 07 581 185 965 should you have any questions. Thank you. *Nechala*

FOFS NEWS!

FOFS have been working to add a bit of sparkle and fun to the children's experience of Christmas, starting with the Christmas Discos held last week at the school. FOFS fund the Kool Kids DJ and pay for a gift for every child. Huge thanks go to Sarah Percy and Becky Gisborne for organising the discos.

The children were able to choose gifts for their loved ones at the FOFS Christmas Shop yesterday. It's lovely to see how excited they get picking out the presents and decorating the bags.

The Christmas Shop is an enormous task, taking months of preparation and organisation. Our enormous thanks go to Anna Franklin for preparing and running the shop, along with her helpers Christina, Rachel and Louise.

Santa's sleigh broke down in Flamstead yesterday evening and was towed around the village so that he and Mrs Claus could greet all the children.

It was a magical occasion and many families came out to see him and enjoy the mulled wine and mince pies on offer. FOFS would like to thank Becki Shaw and Shaw's Recovery for helping Santa visit the children, as well as all the volunteers who set up 'stations' around the village.

Finally, FOFS will be providing a Christmas Tree collection service again this year. The trees will be collected in January and all proceeds will go towards funding our work in the school. Details on how to book a collection will be shared next week.

As you know Jess Devoti, one of our parents, very generously offered to raise money for Flamstead Village School by completing the MK Winter Half Marathon on Sunday, the 10th of December. If you would like to support Jess and our school you can now donate through the FoFS new Go Fund me page.

We are really grateful to Jess for supporting school, thank you Jess.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/friends-of-flamstead-school>



Attendance this week

| Year Group | w/b 11/12/23 |
|--|--------------|
| Nursery | 85% |
| Reception | 97% |
| Year 1 | 95% |
| Year 2 | 89% |
| Year 3 | 93% |
| Year 4 | 94% |
| Year 5 | 86% |
| Year 6 | 98 |
| Keep trying to get those figures over 96% | |

Keeping Safe Updates

Would you like help with understanding e-safety and how to keep your children safe online?

There is an E-safety session at the Intensive Family Support Team on Tuesday 19th December 2023 at Greenhills Day Service, Tenzing Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 4HS.



This is 2pm-3:30pm

It is for any parents, with children and young people (5 years +) The Police as well as other agencies will be attending to share infor-

Upcoming dates for your diaries!

| Date | Time | Event |
|----------|------------------|---|
| 15.12.23 | 2.30 | Christmas service at St Leonards Church |
| 18.12.23 | AM | Flu spray catch up session in school |
| 19.12.23 | - | Panto in school and Party Day |
| 20.12.23 | 1.30 | End Of Term |
| 04.01.24 | - | Occasional Day—school closed |
| 05.01.24 | - | INSET Day—School Closed to pupils |
| 08.01.24 | - | Spring terms begins - Welcome back everyone |
| 09.01.24 | - | Reception height and weight checks |
| 25.01.24 | AM | Y3/4 trip to Milton Keynes Theatre |
| 30.01.24 | All day/ evening | Young Voices at the O2 arena |
| 08.02,24 | 10,00 | Electric Umbrella visit |
| 12.02.24 | 3.30—5.30 | Parents Evening |
| 13.02.24 | 5.00—7.30 | Parents Evening |
| 13.02.24 | - | FOFS Pancake Flip |
| 16.02,24 | - | Half term begins |

Please put these into your diaries!

Additional dates for the rest of the academic year are on the school website.

SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER 7PM

ST LEONARDS CHURCH

A CANDLE-LIT READING OF



THIS CHRISTMASTIME,
COME AND BE ENCHANTED BY A MUCH-LOVED
ATMOSPHERIC TALE OF GREED AND GHOSTS,
RUIN AND REDEMPTION, HEARTLESSNESS AND HOPE.

READ BY CLIVE HAYWARD, WITH INCIDENTAL MUSIC
FROM DAVID BEAMAN AND CLAIRE HAYWARD,
THERE IS NO BETTER WAY TO REDISCOVER
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS.

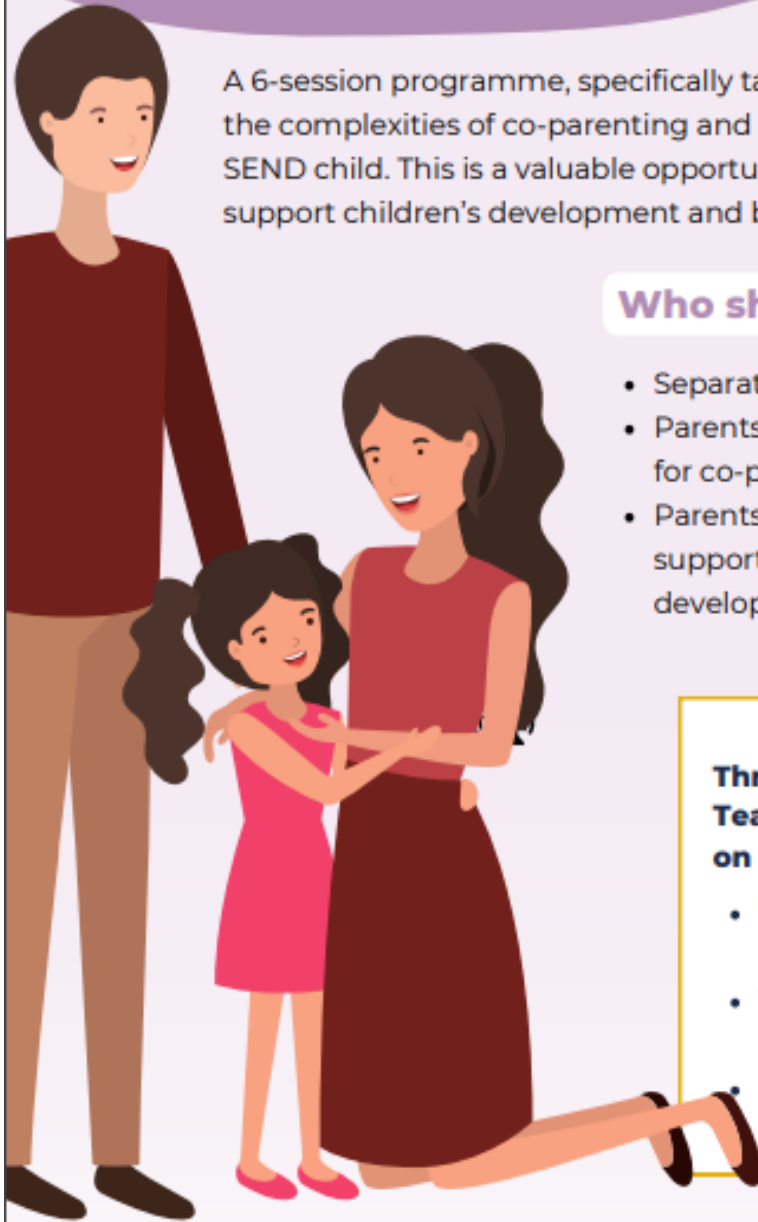


MINIMUM RECOMMENDED AGE: 9+

TICKETS FROM £5 - £20. CALL 07577 530825



Parenting SEN children when separated online programme



A 6-session programme, specifically tailored to help separated parents navigate the complexities of co-parenting and provide the best possible support for their SEND child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance co-parenting skills, support children's development and build a strong foundation for the future.

Who should attend?

- Separated parents raising children with SEND.
- Parents seeking guidance, support, and strategies for co-parenting SEN children more consistently.
- Parents wanting to create a positive and supportive environment for their child's development.



Three courses will be delivered by MS Teams, from 7pm to 9pm, over 6 sessions, on the following dates:

- Wednesdays 10, 17, 24, 31 January and 7, 14 February 2024
- Thursdays: 11, 18 & 25 January and 1, 8 & 15 February 2024
- Mondays: 29 January, 5, 12 & 26 February and 4 & 11 March 2024

For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email services@familylives.org.uk or call 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8699

SCAN ME



We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk

@FamilyLivesHertsandBeds



Family Lives is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 3817762. Registered charity No.1077722. Registered address: 15-17 The Broadway, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 5HZ.

Neurodiversity Support Hub

For Parents, Carers and Professionals

We can offer support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things including but not limited to:

- Understanding ADHD/Autism
- Distressed Behaviours
 - Anxiety
 - School

No
Diagnosis
Required

The phones are answered by our team of parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people

Are you a
Parent, Carer
or
Professional?



01727 833963 



supporthub@add-vance.org


Open Monday-Friday

9 AM - 1PM



We Can't:

- Give updates/ fast track places on waiting lists
- Recommend specific private assessors

Here to support, reach out for a listening ear 

ADD-vance Drop-in Consultations: 10.01.2024**Booking Link:** <https://AddvanceConsJan24.eventbrite.co.uk>

Free mini consultations for
parent/carers in Dacorum

Facilitated by ADHD/Autism
Specialist Coaches
from ADD-vance



Dacorum DSPL Area 8 are pleased to offer
Mini Consultations For Parent/Carers
of children with Autism/ADHD

DSPL 8 will be funding ½ hour individual sessions for parents of children with ADHD and/or Autism (diagnosed or suspected).

This session will be with a trained ADD-vance coach to address one issue in your family life you would like advice or support on. The session will take place over Zoom.

You need to book a 30 minute session at Eventbrite—www.dspl8.eventbrite.com for one of the following date and times (bookings open monthly on Eventbrite):

Wednesday 10.01.2024 10:00 - 11:30

You will receive an email directly from ADD-vance, with a zoom invite link nearer the date.

More consultation sessions will be available next month.

Update DSPL8 Communications

DSPL8

Delivering Special
Provision Locally

We have been working on streamlining our DSPL8 Communications and going forward the parent/carer newsletters will now be distributed once per half term, with the newsletter due on the following dates:

29.11.2023

24.01.2024

20.03.2024

08.05.2024

03.07.2024

We will be using our social media pages more to share courses, workshops, events and support from DSPL8 and local services, so please make sure you like and follow our social media pages to be kept up to date with the most recent information via:

-  Facebook: www.facebook.com/dspldacorum
-  Instagram: www.instagram.com/dspl_dacorum/
-  Eventbrite: www.dspl8.eventbrite.com

Please also share this to help us spread the word, thank you 

Job opportunities to develop whole family SEND work in Hertfordshire

Supporting Families are leading a project funded by Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities. The project is designed to increase whole family focussed work when supporting a child / young person with SEND. The project is focussing on children/ young people without an EHCP and who are at risk of suspension/ exclusion and / or on a reduced time table. The project is being piloted in Dacorum and St. Albans districts.

We are recruiting two 12 months fixed term contract roles:

[Family Support Co-ordinator \(SEND\)](#) and
[Senior Family Intervention Worker \(SEND\)](#)

The Senior FIW will line manage the Family Support Co-ordinator and not be responsible for direct work with families.

If you have / know someone who has a passion for improving outcomes for children, young people with SEND and their families, this is an exciting time to stamp your mark on a new SEND early help whole family response.

The closing date for applications is Sunday 10th December and interviews will take place Wednesday 13th and Friday 15th December.



SEND Surgery: 23.01.2024Booking Link: <https://SendSurgeryJan24.eventbrite.co.uk>**SEND Surgery Dates for 2023-24**Tuesday 23rd Jan 2024

Dacorum Family Services North & East is offering a 30 minute session with our SEND School Family Workers to answer questions and to offer support and signposting for parents/carers of children with additional needs.

Topics for discussion:

- Strategies to help support your child at home with challenging behaviour
- EHCP queries
- Liaising with schools and other professionals
- Navigating the SEND world

To book, please go to www.dspl8.eventbrite.com and choose a 30 minute session, providing details of the topic that you would like to cover.

Dates are released termly on Eventbrite.

Surgeries may be held either by phone or Zoom/Teams. We will be in touch once your session has been confirmed.

Note: At present these surgeries can only be offered to parents/carers of those children/young people who attend a DFS North & East Partnership School:

St Albert the Great, Adeyfield, Aldbury, Ashllys, Astley Cooper, Aycliffe Drive, Belswains, Brockwood, Chambersbury, Bishop Wood, Bridgewater, Broadfield, DESC, Dundale, Flamstead, Gaddesden Row, Goldfield, Great Gaddesden, Greenway, Grove Road, Hammond, Haywood Grove, Hobbs Hill Wood, Hobeletts Manor Infant, Hobeletts Manor Junior, Holtsmere End Infants, Holtsmere End Junior, Jupiter, Leverstock Green, Lime Walk, Longdean, Little Gaddesden, Long Marston, Maple Grove, Markyate, Potten End, Reddings, Roman Fields, St Bartholomews, St Mary's, St Thomas More, Swing Gate, The Thomas Coram, Tring, Tudor, Victoria, Westfield, Woodfield School, Yewtree



Dear Parent/Carers,

In this DSPL8 Parent/Carers Newsletter please find the following:

| <u>DSPL8 Courses & Support</u> | <u>Booking Link/Website</u> |
|--|--|
| Update DSPL8 Communications | Please read update on page 2 |
| Job opportunities to develop whole family SEND work in Hertfordshire | Family Support Co-ordinator (SEND) Senior Family Intervention Worker (SEND) |
| DSPL8 Dacorum Families SEND Information | https://dspl8sendinfofayre071223.eventbrite.co.uk |
| ADD-vance Drop-in Consultations: 10.01.2024 | https://AdvanceConsJan24.eventbrite.co.uk |
| SEND Surgery: 23.01.2024 | https://SendSurgeryJan24.eventbrite.co.uk |
| DSPL7 & DSPL8 Emotional Based School Avoidance coffee mornings. For parents and carers with children (Year 7 - 11): 25.01.2024 | No booking required—see flyer for various dates |
| DSPL8 EBSA Coffee Morning: 30.01.2024 | https://EBSACoffeeamJan24.eventbrite.co.uk |
| Anxiety Unravelling Course by Bounce Forward: 28.02.2024-13.03.2024 | Webinar Registration - Zoom |
| Spring Term DSPL8 Parent/Carer Support | https://dacorumdspl.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/DSPL8-Parent-Carer-Support-2023-24.pdf https://dspl8.eventbrite.co.uk/ |

Please also view the most recent Dacorum Parent/Carers Courses and Support PDF for the following local updates, via: <https://dacorumdspl.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Dacorum-ParentCarers-Courses-and-Support-Autumn-Term-29.11.2023.pdf>

| <u>Dacorum Parent/Carers Courses & Support</u> | <u>Booking Link/Website</u> |
|--|---|
| Parenting Courses and Support in Dacorum Spring Term 2024 | Online resources for parents and carers DSPL (dacorumdspl.org.uk) |
| HAPPY Camps | https://sportinherts.org.uk/happy-activity-camps |
| SPACE Hertfordshire: December Activities | SPACE HERTFORDSHIRE Events Eventbrite |
| Potential Kids: December Activities | www.potentialkids.org.uk/activities |
| New Herts Haven Café for young people's emotional wellbeing opens in Hemel Hempstead | Herts Haven Cafés - WithYouth |
| Relationship Support for parents | Relationship support for parents Hertfordshire County Council |
| Neurodiversity Support Hub | supporthub@add-vance.org / 01727 833 963 |
| SEND Drop-in sessions | See flyers on pages 7-8 |
| Parenting Courses and Support in Dacorum Spring Term 2024 | Online resources for parents and carers DSPL (dacorumdspl.org.uk) |

Both documents can be downloaded from our website, via the following link:

<http://www.dacorumdspl.org.uk/online-resources-for-parents-and-carers/>

Kind Regards,

DSPL 8 Team – Ruth Mason & Ashley Fabray

