

## This week

- Wed 19 Apr: Pupils return after Easter break

## Dates further ahead

- Mon 1 May: May bank holiday: school closed
- w/b Mon 8 May: Year 6 Key Stage 2 National Tests

[A full calendar is available on our website](#)

## Notices and reminders

[Pupils may wear our optional summer uniform](#) when they return for the summer term. You can find details of our uniform on our website at [www.thomascoram.herts.sch.uk/uniform](http://www.thomascoram.herts.sch.uk/uniform)

A reminder to parents that [we are a nut-free school](#) and therefore **no nuts or products containing nuts** must be brought into school at any time. This includes sandwich fillers, such as Nutella.

Please remember to top up your child's Wisepay (My Wise Account) over the Easter break to ensure that they have [sufficient funds for lunch when term begins](#). School lunches currently cost £2.35 per day.

The [Friends of Thomas Coram cake & cookie sales](#) will resume after Easter.

Please note that although [the ukulele club](#) was omitted from the School Clubs Summer Term 2017 letter sent out by email, it will be running on Wednesday lunchtimes.

[Exam Invigilators, £8 per hour](#) - Ashlyns School is increasing its Exam Invigilation team in preparation for the summer exam period. The role involves invigilating exams, collecting and collating papers and working with the Exams Officer to ensure regulations are adhered to. The hours are varied over the exam season (May and June) and there may be further opportunities to work on an ad hoc basis during the year. Appropriate training will be provided. Please contact Jane Gaherty, PA to the Headteacher, for further details (01442 863605) or see application details at [www.ashlyns.herts.sch.uk/news/vacancies](http://www.ashlyns.herts.sch.uk/news/vacancies)

## Recent letters

Last week we sent out these letters which are also available on our website:

- School clubs – Summer term 2017

## This week's attachments

Today we're attaching:

- Delivering Special Provision Locally in Dacorum
- Friday Night Swimming
- Easter Activities at the Natural History Museum Tring

We are now collecting [Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers](#). If you have any, please send them into school with your child.

[This week at St Peter's](#) – the start of Passiontide and the countdown to Easter. On Good Friday at 11.00am there's an All Age Reflection with children's activities led by Lex. On Holy Saturday there will be another of our popular workshops for children aged 0-10 from 2.30-4.30. Children under 5 must be accompanied, but over 5s can be left to have fun with Easter crafts and explore the Easter story. On Easter Day the family Eucharist is at 9.30am.

## Welcome



### Welcome to the Spring Term DSPL Newsletter!

We're delighted to announce that we now have two specialist SEND School Family Workers in Dacorum. Ruth Mason was introduced in our last newsletter, and Cathy Agnihotri has now taken on the post in the Dacorum Family Services team. Cases are allocated to Ruth and Cathy by their teams, if you need any support contact the appropriate service for your school using the details listed on page 4 of this newsletter.

## Siblings Group

DSPL 8 are running a group for up to 20 children aged 5-11 with a sibling with additional needs and who attend a school in Dacorum. This is in response to a request from parents and feedback from schools and School Family Workers.

The group is being held monthly, with the aims of providing respite and the opportunity to have fun. Activities include a visiting zoo and sports.

To find out more and book a place please email Ashley Fabray, DSPL Administrator [fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk)

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Provision Locally  
*Achieving quality outcomes*

**SIBLING GROUP**

Are you aged 5 to 11?  
Do you have a brother or sister with Special Needs?  
And do you attend a school in Dacorum?

21 <sup>st</sup> May	Fun for Fun	18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Fun for Fun	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Sublime Science
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	King of the Hill	22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Yoga	22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Fun for Fun
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Fun for Fun	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Party	18 <sup>th</sup> April	Herts Judo/Arts Theatre
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Herts Industries Theatre	17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Fun for Fun		

A different activity each month | a chance to make new friends, try new things and have fun.

Hobbs Hill Wood School | 4 – 6pm | Snacks & drinks | \$1 voluntary donation

For more info contact Ashley Fabray on 07525917125

**JUNGLE JO** | Hertfordshire

## An Evening with Dean Beadle

Free event for parents and young people aged 12 and above.

Dean Beadle has toured in the UK for ten years sharing his experiences of life with Asperger's Syndrome. In recent years he has also spoken in Denmark, Belgium, Guernsey and Ireland as well as undertaking four annual seminar tours of Australia and New Zealand. Through his humorous and insightful speeches Dean outlines his positive outlook on his diagnosis. In 2011 Deans' speaking was brought to a wider audience, as a clip of one of his speeches was viewed across the world on YouTube. He is also experienced journalist, having been published in local, regional, national and international publications.



**Thursday 18th May 2017**

**7-9 pm (refreshments provided)**

**Willow Room Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Peascroft Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER**

To book a place please email Ashley Fabray, DSPL Administrator [fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk) or call 07525 917 125.

## Autism News

### Autism Education Trust, working together with your child's school.

We are working to make sure that schools and parents are aware of resources available on the AET website. In particular, Working Together with your Child's School is the recommended guide to help parents and carers identify the important needs in their child's education. The guide is a useful tool to help parents and carers to communicate and work together with schools. It is available at:

[http://www.aetraininghubs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/AET\\_working\\_together\\_with\\_childs\\_school.pdf](http://www.aetraininghubs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/AET_working_together_with_childs_school.pdf)



### Herts Inclusive Theatre

DSPL8 is commissioning Herts Inclusive Theatre to work with young people with ASD or undiagnosed ASD in year 6 and above to use drama as a tool for exploring social skills. The group will look at themes such as making and maintaining friendships, identifying and expressing emotions, coping with anger and anxiety, peer conflict, social media and assertiveness and saying no. More information will be sent out soon. Contact Ashley Fabray on [fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk) if you would like to be added to the mailing list.



### Yoga Therapy Workshop for Parents of Children with ASD



**Monday 8th May, 10am to 2.30pm**

**Hobblets Manor Junior School Community Room (formerly the Link Building)**

**DSPL8 is funding a workshop run by Nicole Zimbler of Yoga for Autism (Yo'tism)**

For a child dealing with symptoms whether mild or severe, yoga can act as a way of balancing, regulating and coping better.

Yoga introduces a deep sense of body awareness, mindfulness, motor-neurone organisation and can gently reset the nervous system to create a shift from 'survival' mode to a feeling of internal safety and coping. The sensory system is given space to process, the muscles slowly come out of a contracted state, and attention is brought more to the quiet self.

In this 4 hour workshop you will learn the basics of how to apply a specific neuro-sensory yoga method with your child. Yoga has been scientifically proven to directly target and treat the nervous system with profound effects.

We will cover:

- A simple structured sequence
- Breathing techniques and how to apply
- The basic neuro-science that goes behind this
- Relaxation techniques and how to apply
- Mindfulness techniques and how to apply
- How to use yoga as a quick therapeutic sensory/movement break at home and a few short sequences for different times of the day. (morning, transitions, home from school, bedtime)
- Ways to individualise what we learn to meet your child's direct needs.

This will be a basic introduction to all topics mentioned, which can be followed up with further detailed workshops and input if desired. No yoga experience is necessary, no specific flexibility or fitness needed. Just your lovely selves and an interest to learn.

To book a place please email Ashley Fabray, DSPL Administrator [fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk) or call 07525 917 125.

**Courses, Workshops and Support Groups:**

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Achieving quality outcomes

**Evening for Parents/Carers of children with ASD in School Years 4/5/6**  
Thinking and planning for Transitions to Secondary School.  
What to look for in a Secondary School?  
How to support your child and the school to make the transition a success?

This Workshop will be run by Jo Whitlock and team members from the Autism and Communication Teaching advisory services

Tuesday 18th May 2017  
7.00-9.00pm  
Gade Community Room, Chaulden Junior School, School Row, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 2JU

To book, please call Ashley Fabray, DSPL Administrator on 07525 917125 or email fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk

Places are limited – please book early to avoid disappointment!  
Please note that this course is only open to Dacorum parents/carers.

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**ISL** | Improved Schools for Learning  
www.isl.org.uk  
Head Office: 01296 443333

**Dacorum**

**Autism and Anxiety**

Anxiety is a normal part of children's development, but children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) can experience anxiety more intensely and more often than other children.

This **FREE** four week course run by Sally Glossop and Sarah Ellis explores how we can support young people on the autistic spectrum manage their anxiety appropriately.

**6.30pm – 8.00pm**  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2107  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017

Myatt room, Dacorum Family Services, Hobbs Hill Wood School, Peascroft Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER.  
Free parking and refreshments provided

Information and bookings:  
Ashley Fabray - 07525 917125 Email - fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk

**Parent Support Group**

**Every Wednesday**  
**10:30 am to 12 noon**  
(Term time only)  
@ The Lodge, Woodfield School  
Widnes Craft, Lovershock Green, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8RL

Contact: [spg@woodfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:spg@woodfield.herts.sch.uk)  
01462 254576

Do you have a child with additional needs? Meet somebody to talk to?

Come and meet other parents for a coffee and a chat. Young children welcome.

Whether your child is at mainstream school or a special school, you are welcome to meet other parents, talk to professionals, or simply drop in for a coffee and meet new friends who also have a child with special educational needs.

ALL WELCOME – JUST COME ALONG

**ADD-vance Workshops**

All of the Parent/ career and Professional Workshops are now fully booked.

More dates coming soon....

**Are you a parent of a child with ADHD/ASD/ Communication Disorder or with Sensory Processing needs?**

A daytime support group has been set up at for parents across Berkhamsted. The next two groups for Summer term will be held on the following dates:

- **Friday 12th May**
- **Friday 23rd June**  
**1.15-2.45pm**

The group is facilitated by Lisa MacGovern (School Family Worker) with Jo Whitlock from the Communication Autism Team.

At Westfield Primary School (Community Room), Durrants Lane, Berkhamsted, HP4 3PJ

Coffee will be available from 1.15 pm and Toddlers are welcome!

## Help, Support & Advice

### Herts Local Offer

Information about services available in your local area for parents, children and young people aged 0-25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

[directory.hertsdirect.org/kb5/hertfordshire/directory/localoffer.page](http://directory.hertsdirect.org/kb5/hertfordshire/directory/localoffer.page)



### Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database

You are entitled to join HAND if you are the parent or carer of a child or young person with an additional need or disability aged 0-19. Benefits of joining include a leisure concession card, and subscription to the HAND newsletter. [directory.hertsdirect.org/kb5/hertfordshire/directory/service.page?id=W-oM7uWKTro&familychannel=4](http://directory.hertsdirect.org/kb5/hertfordshire/directory/service.page?id=W-oM7uWKTro&familychannel=4)

For a list of local support groups and voluntary organisations click here <http://www.hertsdirect.org/docs/pdf/v/volorgs.pdf>

### Dacorum School Family Worker Services

Dacorum has three School Family Services teams, who support families of children attending Dacorum Schools. Advice and support is available on a range of issues, including supporting families of children with additional needs. School Family Workers can also help with the facilitation of Education, Health and Care Plans. The teams also run parenting courses and advice sessions, for example with specialists in special educational needs.

**Dacorum Family Services** [www.dacorumfamilyservices.org.uk](http://www.dacorumfamilyservices.org.uk)

**Gade Schools Family Support** [www.gadeschoolsfamilysupport.co.uk](http://www.gadeschoolsfamilysupport.co.uk)

**Kings Langley Partnership of Schools** 01923 271744

### Hertfordshire SEND Information, Advice & Support Service (SENDIASS)

Formerly known as Parent Partnership Service, SENDIASS is an impartial information, advice and support service funded by Hertfordshire County Council for parents, carers, young people (0-25) and professionals. Phone 01992 555847 or email [sendiass@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@hertfordshire.gov.uk).

Find out more at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/healthsoc/childfam/specialneeds/educ/parpart/>



### The KIDS East and West HUBs 01923 676549

The KIDS HUB offers information and support for parents and carers of disabled children / children with additional needs. aged 0-19 in Hertfordshire. KIDS Hub directory of SEND services has also now been published—take a look at what's going on in your area. [www.kids.org.uk/hub](http://www.kids.org.uk/hub)



### HARC (Hertfordshire Branch of the NAS)

Supporting families and people living with autism  
<http://nasherts.org.uk/>



harc – the Hertfordshire branch  
of the National Autistic Society



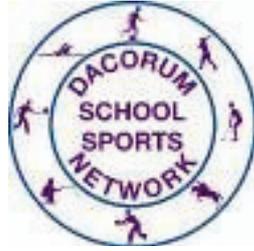
### DSPL - How can I get involved?

There are a number of ways in which parents can get involved in services. Herts Parent Carer Involvement is a forum for parents to get more involved in the shaping and improving of services for children with additional needs. For more information contact your local network at [chair@hertsparentcarers.org](mailto:chair@hertsparentcarers.org) or visit [www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk](http://www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk)



### The DSPL Dacorum Team

**Maria Oliver** - DSPL Manager 07711556792 Email: [oliverm@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:oliverm@kls.herts.sch.uk)  
**Vicky McKirgan** - DSPL SEND Lead 07809 240 858 Email: [mckirganv@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:mckirganv@kls.herts.sch.uk)  
**Ashley Fabray** - DSPL Administrator 07525 917125 Email: [fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk)



# **SWIMMING CLUB AT ASTLEY COOPER SCHOOL FOR YEAR 3 to 6 STUDENTS**

DO YOU LOVE SWIMMING?

CAN YOU SWIM 36 METRES (2 LENGTHS  
OF THE POOL) IN EACH STROKE?  
(Breaststroke, front crawl & backstroke)

DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR  
SWIMMING STROKES?

If the answer is 'YES' to all these questions  
then please ask your teacher for a letter.

The club will continue after the Easter  
Holidays at Astley Cooper School on Fridays  
from 3.45 – 4.45pm.

Only £3.00 a session

Dear Parents

### Ref: Swimming Club at the Astley Cooper School

The Dacorum School Sports Network has teamed up with a local Swimming Teacher to provide an after school swimming club for pupils in years 3 to 6.

Due to the success of the swimming sessions in the PE lessons, a lot of the children have expressed an interest in continuing to develop their strokes and swim more often. Therefore, an after school swimming club has been established. The coach will be Christine Thear, who has been teaching swimming for several years, and teaches 5 Junior schools within Dacorum.

Places are limited to **20** at each session and we will require payment for the ten week period. **Children will be selected on how quickly reply slips are returned.** Christine will confirm your son's / daughter's place with the Club.

Although the network can no longer fund this club, we have secured use of the pool which helps keep the cost remarkably low. Under these circumstances we need to ask for a contribution of **£36.00** for the twelve sessions. When returning the reply slip could you please include full payment of **£36**. Please make cheques payable to 'The Cavendish School' and date them for April 21<sup>st</sup> 2016.

The club will be on the following evenings:

**Fridays (3.45 – 4.45) April 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. June 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. July 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.**

I hope you will allow your child to participate in this club, as this is a unique opportunity in this area to develop school-club links. **All children must be able to confidently jump into deep water and swim two lengths of the school pool (36 metres) on front crawl, breaststroke and backstroke. They must **not** be a member of an ASA affiliated swimming club.**

Please fill out the form below as soon as possible and send it, with payment, to **Christine Thear, 58 Cardy Road, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1SQ**. You can contact Christine on 07546 513355 or [chris.thear@virginmedia.com](mailto:chris.thear@virginmedia.com)

Thank you, and we look forward to working with your child in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Clare McCawley  
**Dacorum School Sports Manager**

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**Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Home Contact No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency contact number while at the club.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Conditions** \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify that my child can jump into deep water and can swim 36 metres of each stroke.**

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Easter Activities

Check the website for times and more details [nhm.ac.uk/tring/whats-on](http://nhm.ac.uk/tring/whats-on).



## Easter Trail

Saturday 1- Monday 17 April

Suitable for all ages

Trail sheet £1

## Explore Eggs

Tuesday 4, Thursday 6 and Friday 7 April

30-minute handling activity

Suitable for ages 5+

Tickets £2

## Tring Park Egg Hunt

Monday 10 April

1.5 hour outdoor activity

Suitable for ages 7+

Suggested donation £2

## Dodo Island Art

Tuesday 11, Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 April

30-minute craft activity

Suitable for ages 5+

Tickets £2