

## This week

- Mon 14 Jan: Clubs start this week
- Wed 16 Jan: eSafety workshop at Westfield school 7pm

## Dates further ahead

- Wed 23 Jan: 5DH and 5RM trip to Hazard Alley
- Thurs 24 Jan: 5SW and 5HG trip to Hazard Alley

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

## Notices and reminders

This week, our whole school worships have been led by Mrs Cutler and Father Simon. Our value for this half term is Perseverance and we have explored what perseverance means and how it is important to persevere even when we find things difficult. Mrs Cutler and the Year 6 reflective leaders retold the story of the Magi, exploring how the wise men needed determination and perseverance to follow the star for so many miles.

The internet is constantly changing. It is an amazing resource but can be a dangerous place. At The Thomas Coram CE School, we are fully committed to the safeguarding of pupils and take eSafety very seriously. We pro-actively teach our pupils how to keep themselves safe online. We also work closely with Hertfordshire Grid for Learning (HGfL) to ensure that we are up to date with current advice and practice.

On Wednesday 16 January, Westfield School is hosting several workshops, which are being run by Richard Maskrey. Our staff will be attending the staff workshop after school and we would strongly encourage you to attend the parent workshop at 7pm. The aim of this workshop is to support parents and carers in areas to be aware of and how to ensure their children are safe. Please contact Westfield School to sign up for the workshop. (01442 862729).

Our School Council is still collecting used stamps for DENS so any used stamps would be gratefully received. Our Eco Council is also collecting Christmas cards (not with glitter) to recycle. Both of these items can be left at the school office.

As the weather grows colder, can we remind you that in the event of an emergency closure, we may be not be able to use GroupCall to contact you if a power cut affects the school's telephone and computer systems. Information on school closures can be obtained from Hertfordshire County Council's website at <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489#/login>. Please make sure that you are registered with Everbridge.

Attendance and punctuality are vitally important in ensuring the children make progress and we would like to congratulate pupils in 3RP as best class (97.3%), Year 3 as best year group (96.7%) and Luther King as best House (95.3%) for their excellent attendance during the month of December. We would also like to congratulate 3RP and 6BT who had no minutes late in December. Well done.

Year 5 Hazard Alley trip payments and permission slips are due by Tuesday 15 January. Also, music payments are due today (Friday 11 January).

Happy's Circus is coming to Thomas Coram on 12 May. More info and tickets available soon.

<https://>

## Recent letters

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

- Welcome letters all year groups
- English in Action

## Today we're attaching:

- Swimming club flyer
- Be a Chorister afternoon

## This week at St Peter's –

Children aged 7 and over are invited to come along to 'A Be a Chorister afternoon' at St Peter's church in Berkhamsted on Saturday 26 January between 1:30 and 6pm. The free event gives children from any background, any religion or none, the chance to find out what's it like to sing in a vibrant choir before performing choral evensong at 6pm to parents and other guests.

The afternoon will be very informal and is all about having fun, learning a new skill, meeting other children and understanding what it's like to sing in a choir – from learning to sing beautiful music to trying on cassocks, exploring the unseen parts of the church including the tower and enjoying the buzz of singing in harmony. No previous experience is required, just enthusiasm to try singing!

To find out more and to reserve a space, or to join St Peter's choir, please email [churchoffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk) or call 01442 878227.

After school and lunchtime clubs start this week. A new science lunchtime club is open for children in Yrs 3 & 4. If you your child would like to attend they need to sign up with Miss Wilson by Tuesday 15 January. Spaces are limited.

A small number of Young Voices audience tickets have become available and will be sold on a first come first serve basis. If you would like to purchase them please contact the school office.



# **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 Summer  
Holidays at Astley Cooper School on Fridays  
from 3.45 – 4.45pm.

Only £3.00 a session  
(If attending every week of the term)

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 eleven 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 **£33.00** for the eleven sessions. When returning the reply slip could you please include full payment of **£33**. Please make cheques payable to Christine Thear.

The club will be on the following evenings:

**Fridays (3.45 – 4.45) January 11, 18 & 25. February 1, 8 & 15. March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29**

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, and backstroke, and have a basic knowledge of breaststroke.**

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:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Be a Chorister for the Afternoon!



**St Peter's**  
Berkhamsted

**Saturday 26th January 1.30-6pm**

**Come with your parents to St Peter's and see what it's like to be a chorister in the choir of St Peter's.**

**Learn some music, have some fun, make new friends, take a trip up the tower, sing with the choir for a short service.**

Open to children aged 7 or over.

For more information, and to reserve your free space, please contact:

[churchoffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk)

Or telephone Hilary and Kate on 01442 878227

[www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/music/choir](http://www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/music/choir)

St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted Registered charity no 1130108