



**DUNCTON CE JUNIOR
SCHOOL**

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**GRAFFHAM CE INFANT
SCHOOL**

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MARCH NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers

And just like that, another term has whizzed by! It has been a fantastic few months across both schools, filled with great learning, brilliant achievements, and plenty of moments that have made us all proud. As we head into the Easter break, we want to thank you for your continued support - it makes such a difference to the children, the staff, and the wider school community.

We are especially excited about our growing partnership with Chefs in Schools, who will be working with us to provide freshly prepared hot lunches from September. This is a wonderful step towards offering healthier, more sustainable meals for our children, and we are grateful for your encouragement as we make this transition.

We are also making good progress on plans to introduce after-school wraparound care for families from both schools. Our plan at this stage is for this provision to be based at Graffham and to begin from 1st June. We know how valuable this service will be to many of you, and we will keep you updated as the arrangements take shape.

Looking ahead, next term is a busy one. Year 1 phonics screening, Year 2 phonics retakes, Year 4 multiplication checks, and Year 6 SATs are all on the horizon. The children have worked incredibly hard throughout the year, and we know they will shine. Alongside all the assessments, we also have plenty to enjoy - Sports Days, the summer performance, and lots of opportunities for outdoor learning as the weather brightens.

For now, we wish all our families a restful, joyful Easter break. Thank you again for everything you do to support our schools.

Warm regards,

Charles Beckerson



Wrens

March has been another busy month in Wren class. The children have delighted us with their amazing progress this month and we have some very busy mark makers and writers who love to have their writing displayed on the classroom walls. In Maths we have really focussed on the 'fiveness of 5' and the children have been subitising, counting, comparing, ordering and talking about the different ways we make 5. We have just started to move onto 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

We loved World Book Day and the children immersed themselves in the author Oliver Jeffers, reading a large range of his stories throughout the day. The whole school community came together to share books first thing in the morning with our 'Read With Me' session so many thanks to all of you that came along. It's really important for all of our children to see their parents and carers value reading but also enjoy this activity together! Keep reading everyone!

Wild Wednesdays have been lots of fun this month and we have welcomed some warmer days outside with our coats off! We continue to learn about the boundaries around our school, thinking carefully about how we stay safe when we are off site, how we walk along the road to get to the woods quietly and how we can have fun off site but also staying safe at all times. As the weather gets warmer and the outdoors begins to blossom, we hope to spend as much time as possible learning outdoors!

We hope you have a wonderful Easter holiday and we look forward to welcoming you back soon. Take care.



Kingfishers

This month in Kingfisher has been full of learning. The children have showed great understanding around doubling and halving as well as times tables in their maths. They've written some amazing pieces of descriptive writing about some different machines - steam engines, the world's biggest crane and even a time machine! We've had some wonderful show and tells with some children showing real engagement with their learning outside of school - ask Cara about Ammonites! We were also lucky enough to be invited along by Ben of Lavington Estate to take part in some hedgerow planting where to children made their contributions towards a new piece of local habitat, learned about creating new varieties of apple tree and even got to see a lizard! All in all a great month and we're looking forwards to the short break before our new term in the summer!



Kestrels

We have had a wonderful month of learning in class and are delighted to share some of the exciting things the children have been doing across the curriculum.

This month, our topic has been London. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about our capital city and engaging with a range of activities linked to this exciting theme.

In Maths, we have been learning to tell the time using both analogue and digital clocks. The children have also been introduced to 12-hour and 24-hour time and have been developing their confidence in reading and comparing different ways of showing the time. Last week, we created our own sundials. This was a fantastic practical activity which helped to bring our learning to life, and the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part.



In Science, we have been learning about teeth in preparation for our upcoming work on the digestive system. The children created models to represent the different types of human teeth and have learned about the different types of teeth and their functions, the layers of a tooth and how to care for their teeth and keep them healthy. This has been a highly engaging topic, and the children have shown great interest in the importance of oral hygiene and how our bodies work.

In Computing, we have been learning how to create our own animations. The children have explored a range of techniques, including onion skinning, and have enjoyed using these skills to design and produce their own animated sequences. It has been wonderful to see their creativity and enthusiasm, and they have particularly enjoyed sharing and watching one another's finished work.

In Grammar, we have been using the Natural Curriculum programme to support our learning, with a focus on wildlife as a stimulus for discussion and writing. The children have been working hard to develop their writing skills and have been learning about conjunctions, expanded noun phrases and using commas in a list. We have been very impressed with the children's efforts to apply these skills in their writing and to make their work the best it can be.



Peregrine Class

Where did the month of March disappear to! It has certainly been a busy and exciting time for Peregrine Class, filled with creativity, adventure, and inspiring learning experiences.

We began the month with a wonderful poetry workshop led by Antosh, where the children explored the South Downs with curiosity and imagination. Inspired by mist-shrouded landscapes and the beauty of nature, they created some truly thoughtful and evocative poetry. Building on this, we then worked with Emily to transform these ideas into lyrics, composing our very own Duncton song about the South Downs. This has been a hugely collaborative and exciting project, and we are delighted that it will be performed at Champs Hill in June, with parents warmly invited to attend.

Year 6 had an unforgettable experience at Marchants Hill during their residential trip. It was a week full of adventure, challenge, and personal growth. The children showed exceptional courage and teamwork as they took on activities such as the giant swing, zip wire, abseiling, challenge course, and sensory trail, among many others. We are incredibly proud of all they achieved.

Meanwhile, Year 5 have completed their Forest School sessions, developing a wide range of outdoor skills. From shelter building to woodland art and poetry, the children embraced every opportunity to connect with nature and learn in a hands-on way.

World Book Day was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, with a fantastic celebration of reading and storytelling across the class.

Alongside these special experiences, our classroom learning has continued. In history, we have been exploring the Middle Ages, learning about the feudal system and the role of castles. In science, our focus has been on the circulatory system, where the children have shown great curiosity and understanding.

We are now very much looking forward to enjoying the Easter Crafty Party organised by Seaford's 6th Form Media students and our upcoming theatre trip to see *The BFG*, which promises to be another memorable experience.

It has been a busy month in Peregrine Class, and we look forward to all that the next term will bring!



Easter Hampers

Thank you to everybody who donated to the Easter hampers, there was great excitement today in both schools today when the winners were drawn out. Well done everybody we hope you enjoy them. Everybody in both schools went home with an Easter treat from the FGD 🐰



School Lunches at Graffham and Duncton

We are delighted to share some very exciting news about lunchtime at our school – from September 2026 we will be cooking all of our own hot lunches on site from scratch using fresh locally sourced ingredients.

Behind the scenes, our school leadership team and governors have been working passionately on an exciting new project to improve our school lunches. We know just how important fresh, nutritious food is for children as they grow, and we want every child in our school to experience food at its very best.

We are delighted to share that we are working in partnership with Chefs in Schools, a charity dedicated to transforming school food through fresh, scratch-cooked meals, real ingredients, and trained professional chefs. Their values really align with ours and we can't wait to start working together.

Over the next few months, we will be recruiting a Head Chef at Graffham and a Kitchen Assistant at Duncton. We will also be getting everyone involved to fundraise money for fitting out a new kitchen at each school as the current equipment will be removed by WSCC at the end of the current catering contract.

We are looking for your help to raise funds for new essential equipment for our school kitchen so that we can cook fresh, hot meals every day for our children to enjoy. Equipment needed are new ovens, cutlery, serving dishes, saucepans, cups, rice cooker and much more. We need to get these items to get this project off the ground by September this year.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/kitchen-equipment-drptt>

This incredible project means every child will have access to a freshly cooked, hot meal each day, prepared with care and using high quality ingredients. These meals will be home-cooked in school, with a strong focus on freshness, nutrition, and helping children develop a positive relationship with food.

Easter Craft Afternoon @ Duncton

We had a brilliant Easter party at Duncton run by sixth form students from Seaford College. As part of their media coursework, they had to run and organise an event and they chose to come to our school. The children had a lovely afternoon of egg painting, bonnet making, cupcake decorating, disco and food.

Thank you for choosing to come to us - all the children had a lot of fun:)



We say goodbye to Becky ..

Becky has worked at Duncton for 6 years in the Kitchen and serving the children lunch. We are all going to miss you Becky.

Lots of luck in your new job at Cowdray farm shop.



We have been working hard on boosting Graffham and Duncton Schools social media presence on facebook and instagram this week. If you don't already, please follow us to see what we have been doing in school this week:



www.facebook.com/graffhamandduncton



www.instagram.com/graffhamanddunctonschools



www.instagram.com/sjearlyyears

Supporting Music at Duncton School

We are excited to share that our piano teacher, Annette Mathias, is running a half marathon on 29th March to raise money to purchase new keyboards for Duncton School. The new keyboards will enhance our music lessons and give pupils even more opportunities to develop their musical skills and confidence.

If you are able to support Annette in this challenge, please visit our JustGiving page to donate:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/annette-mathias-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA

Every contribution, no matter the size, will make a real difference and is hugely appreciated.

Thank you for supporting our school community and cheering Annette on!



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You will receive a contact sheet via your school with your Gallery Name, Code and sample images.

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 **Leo Lion Foundation** PART OWNED BY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
leolionfoundation.org Helping disadvantaged children to help themselves 



GRAFFHAM
TENNIS CLUB

Easter Holidays
Junior Tennis Coaching
Monday 30th March - Thursday 2nd April 2026

AGE	TIME	PRICE
YrR - Yr2	9.30 - 10.30am	£39/£43*
Yr3 - Yr4	10.30 - 11.30am	£39/£43*
Yr5 - Yr6	12.00 - 1.00pm	£39/£43*
Yr7 - Yr11	1.00 - 2.00pm	£39/£43*

*£39 for members, £43 for non members

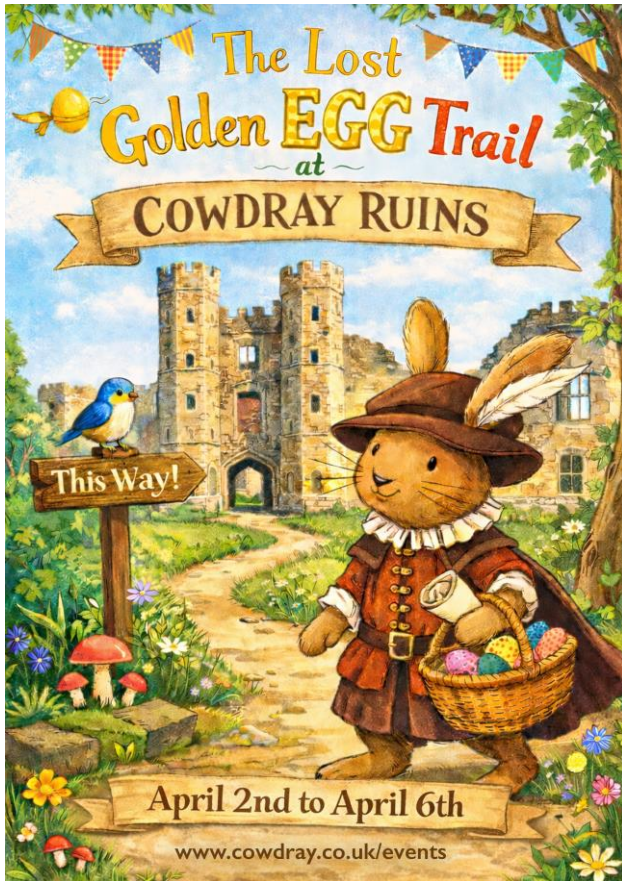
To book a place on this course
or for more information, please get in touch

Places allocated on a first come first served basis

07904 069457
richard@hopppoaching.co.uk

 Sponsored by: 

m: 07904 069457 | e: richard@hopppoaching.co.uk | w: www.hoppoaching.co.uk



Easter Activity Offers

Reduce Student Screen Time, Increase Physical Activity

50% OFF at Out of Bounds

We know how important it is to keep young people active, engaged, and away from screens - especially during the long summer holidays. That's why **Out of Bounds** is excited to offer a **special summer promotion** exclusively for schools.

Offer 1: 50% OFF our High Ropes & Zip Lines Adventure!

This is a **fantastic opportunity** for your students and their families to enjoy an exciting, outdoor activity that promotes **physical exercise, confidence-building, and fun**.

Here's what's included:

- 🧗 **High Ropes & Zip Lines** - a thrilling aerial adventure course designed for ages 8 and up
- 🌿 A safe, supervised environment that encourages **teamwork, resilience, and outdoor play**
- 💎 **50% discount** on all bookings using the code at checkout: **NOSCREENHR**
- 📅 **Valid from now until 13th April 2026**
- 🔄 **Unlimited use** - families can use the code as many times as they like throughout the Easter Break!

Offer 2: 50% OFF Adventure Nets

A thrilling adventure designed for ages 5 and up!

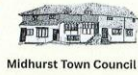
Here's what's included:

- 🧗 Access to our **Adventure Nets**—perfect for active, **high-energy play**
- 🌿 A safe, supervised environment that encourages **teamwork, resilience, and outdoor play**
- 💎 **50% discount** on all bookings using code: **NOSCREENAN**
- 📅 **Valid until 13th April 2026**
- 🔄 **Unlimited use** - families can use the code as many times as they like throughout the Easter Break!

Why we're doing this:

At Out of Bounds, we're passionate about helping young people stay active and healthy. With screen time on the rise, especially during school breaks, we want to give families engaging, accessible ways to get outdoors, move their bodies, and have fun together.





EASTER BUNNY TRAIL

**SATURDAY 28TH MARCH 2026 TO
SATURDAY 4TH APRIL 2026**

Prize collection dates - 10am to 2pm on:
Monday 30th March 2026
Thursday 2nd April 2026
Saturday 4th April 2026
From The Old Library, Midhurst

FREE

**For a trail sheet and more
information head to:
www.midhurst-tc.gov.uk**

