



Message from Mrs Hughes

Dear Parents and Carers

As always, it has been a busy few weeks at Beecroft Academy. I hope you all enjoyed the three day weekend. I would like to thank you all for your support through our recent funding raising events which enabled us to raise £306.99 for Children in Need and £519.36 for the Royal British Legion. These donations are never an expectation and are always voluntary so we appreciate your generosity. We have also been extremely lucky to be supported by Project Linus UK who have donated beautiful handmade quilts and blankets to our school. I know that these are going to be greatly appreciated by our pupils.

As we approach the festive season, Bedfordshire Police is seeking artwork from children across the county to adorn the workspaces of police officers and staff, who will be working throughout December to keep people safe. The colouring sheets can be found at the bottom of this newsletter. Entries should be submitted by 8th December and can be related to Christmas, Hanukkah or be generally police-themed. Please send artwork by post to Corporate Communications, Bedfordshire Police, Woburn Road, Kempston, MK43 9AX.

Hopefully you have seen the new playground designs that have now been installed. The children have been very excited to see these and start using them. Thank you to our PTA for funding this improvement to the school which will support our pupils' learning and play.

We are now busy preparing for everything Christmas! You will have received information about the following events which will be taking place in the coming weeks:

- Early Years Christmas Performance
- Year 1 Christmas Performance
- Year 2 Christmas Crafts
- Year 5 and 6 Christingle
- Years 3-6 Panto
- Beecroft Christmas Day including Fair and Santa's Grotto

We are looking forward to welcoming you all in to school for these events.

Finally, the Beecroft family has just got bigger! Miss Northwood and her family have recently welcomed baby Ronnie and we wish them huge congratulations. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Hughes

#BestofBeecroft

Friday 1st December 2023

Lumi Nova



Lumi Nova is a NICE recommended digital therapeutic game to support children (7-12 years old) with anxiety.

It is available for families to access independently through self-sign-up pathway. It is a mobile app to help children and young people learn to self-manage, reduce symptoms of anxiety, build resilience and thrive.

- Fun and safe way for children to tackle their fears and worries head on.
- Facilitates graded exposures - based on CBT - proven to be the most effective treatment for anxiety
- NICE recommended for children with mild to moderate anxiety
- Not suitable for children in crisis or those with complex needs/difficulties
- Residents of Bedfordshire

Access and lots more information is available here:

<https://luminova.app/elft>

Positive Postcards

Mr Buksztel has updated our positive postcards. These are given to children for exceptional behaviour. If awarded one, your child will bring it home to show you and explain how they earned it.



Thank you for supporting our value of
December:
Honesty



How could you encourage your child to show this value at home?

Achieving Excellence Together

Attendance

Week ending 23.11.23	95.87%
This year so far	95.62%
Key Stage 1	Tiger - 99.58%
Key Stage 2	Panther - 98.71 %

Week ending 17.11.23	95.94%
This year so far	95.60%
Key Stage 1	Tiger - 98.67%
Key Stage 2	Rhino - 98.66%

House points

Well done to everyone who has received house points to contribute towards their house total.

27.11.23

Brewers	2906
Drovers	2791
Maidenbower	2663
Westfield	3062

20.11.23

Brewers	2772
Drovers	2663
Maidenbower	2542
Westfield	2848

Family Forum:

- Healthy lifestyles - 9am Monday 15th January
- Anti-bullying - 9am Monday 4th March
- Transition - 9am Monday 29th April
- PSHE SRE - 9am Monday 24th June

Please treat out staff with the same respect you would expect to receive.

All of our staff work incredibly hard for our children and will always endeavour to help you.

**NO EXCUSE
FOR ABUSE**

Diary Dates

- Tuesday 5th Dec Year 5 and 6 Christingle service at St. Fremunds church
- Thursday 7th Dec Year 2 Christmas Craft workshops:
9:30-10:30am Session 1
10:45-11:45am Session 2
- Tuesday 12th Dec KS2 Grove Pantomime visit
- Tuesday 12th Dec Year 2 Local Walk - Penguin Class
- Tuesday 12th Dec Early Years Christmas Production
9:30-10:30pm
- Wednesday 13th Dec Year 2 Local Walk - Zebra Class
- Thursday 14th Dec Year 2 Christmas Craft workshops:
9:30-10:30am Session 1
10:45-11:45am Session 2
- Friday 15th Dec Early Years Christmas Production
2:30-3:30pm
- Tuesday 19th Dec Beecroft Christmas Day & FE'd Fair and Santa's Grotto
- Wednesday 20th Dec Last day of term

Achieving Excellence Together

Star of the week

Each week, a pupil is recognised from each class who has shown particular effort in their learning.

Class	Winner - 27.11.23
Elephant	Ayla- Rose Sinclair McAllister
Giraffe	Ethan Gibson
Monkey	Gloria Quinton
Tiger	Skye Kelly
Penguin	Khadija Begum
Zebra	Oskaras Narusevicius
Lion	Leah-May Griffiths
Meerkat	Lily Dyer
Panda	Maria Matei
Panther	Aidan Nash
Koala	Ollie Wild
Lemur	Eric Sora
Leopard	Freshta Hameed
Rhino	Fabian Santos

Class	Winner - 20.11.23
Elephant	Maisie Farmer
Giraffe	Arlin Rira
Monkey	Gabriel Puia
Tiger	Isobel Siberry
Penguin	Ryan Katoch
Zebra	Grace Carroll
Lion	Lara Orimoloye
Meerkat	William Mimer
Panda	Panda Class
Panther	Liliana Dyszko
Koala	Scarlett Chamberlain
Lemur	Sienna Chamberlain
Leopard	Andile Mandimutsira
Rhino	Alfie White

Above and beyond

A pupil can be awarded a house point for upholding the school values of ready, respectful, safe.

Class	Winner - 27.11.23
Elephant	Ayla Ceylan
Giraffe	Eliza Buburuzan
Monkey	Natalia (Anais) Cerceloiu
Tiger	Jude Carton
Penguin	Thomas Olteanu
Zebra	Travis Paterson
Lion	Kiaan Zala
Meerkat	Aisha Mahmood
Panda	Archie Curry
Panther	Michael Coleman
Koala	Amelia Easton
Lemur	Nana Agyei-Agyekum
Leopard	Amaan Aierkan
Rhino	Leo Campbell-Sanchez

Class	Winner - 20.11.23
Elephant	Freya Easton
Giraffe	Oscar Carton
Monkey	Lara O'Donovan
Tiger	Murede Ogunmuyiwa
Penguin	Lucifer Stanbridge
Zebra	Inaaya Rahman
Lion	Jazmin Bertalan
Meerkat	Maja Rojewska
Panda	Isla Ham
Panther	Aidan Nash
Koala	Hanna Swirk
Lemur	Shalom Twumasi
Leopard	Paulo Claudino
Rhino	Ewan Clark

Achieving Excellence Together

Certificate of Achievements

27.11.23

Kai Connelly-Gibson	Bronze Stamp Award
Max Gray	Silver Stamp Award
Sarah Apai	Silver Stamp Award
Andra Cenuse	Silver Stamp Award
Esme Pond	Gold Stamp Award
Bella Ryan	Gold Stamp Award
Ayan Usman	Gold Stamp Award
Esme Pond	Platinum Stamp Award
Liliana Dyszko	Star Stamp Award
Shayaan Khan	Star Stamp Award
Violette Horsford	Star Stamp Award
Amaan Aierken	Star Stamp Award
Olivier Dudek	Headteacher Stamp Award
Hanna Swirk	Headteacher Stamp Award
Aidan Nash	Headteacher Stamp Award
Eric Sora	Super Star Stamp Award
Olivier Dudek	Super Star Stamp Award
Arya Jayswal	Super Star Stamp Award
Morgan Fowler-Heard	Super Star Stamp Award

20.11.23

Key Stage 1	
Jasper Hull	Bronze Stamp Award
Freddie Reddington	Bronze Stamp Award
Elicia Hamilton	Bronze Stamp Award
Abby Campbell-Sanchez	Bronze Stamp Award
Jasmine Bartlett	Bronze Stamp Award
Sienna-Rose Collett	Bronze Stamp Award
Kalisha Darcie	Gold Stamp Award
Alice Bejan	Gold Stamp Award
Key Stage 2	
Dylan Turner	Bronze Stamp Award
Sahasra Jasti	Bronze Stamp Award
Eliza Zakaria	Gold Stamp Award
Lola Chandler	Gold Stamp Award
Melody Pake	Gold Stamp Award
Tiana Gandhi	Gold Stamp Award
Evelyn Roman	Gold Stamp Award
Audrey Kusi	Gold Stamp Award
Grace Gorman	Gold Stamp Award
Kacper Dudek	Gold Stamp Award
Jayden Quinton	Platinum Stamp Award
Eleanor Siberry	Platinum Stamp Award
Liala Armson	Platinum Stamp Award
Brooke Woodham-Ogwu	Platinum Stamp Award
Scarlett Chamberlain	Platinum Stamp Award
Seth Scannell	Platinum Stamp Award

Best of Beecroft



Well done to Mrs Allen and Mrs Whitehead who are our BoB award winners for November. Both have been nominated by our parents for going above and behind for our pupils.

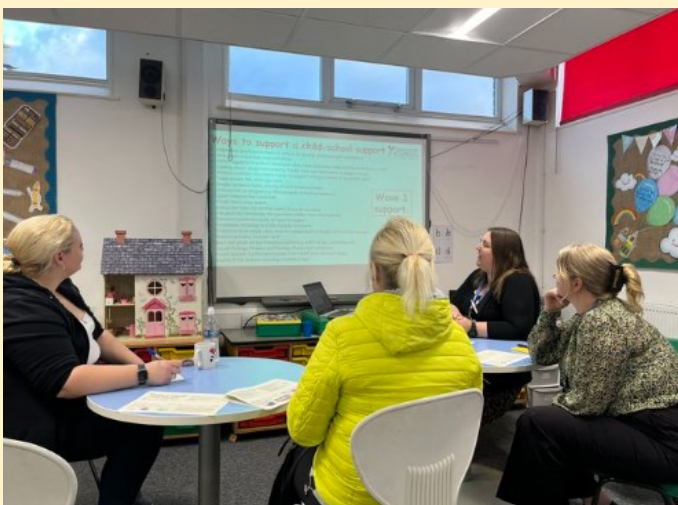
Achieving Excellence Together

What's been going on?



Year 3 travelled back in time to the Stone Age to meet caveman Ug. We explored the different artefacts and considered their use. We handled animal bones, created weapons and become hunters practising our archery skills. Finally we created cave paintings on slate.

Thank you to
@designsandlines for our
wonderful new playground
markings to support our
learning and play, funded by
our PTA.



The recent SEND coffee afternoon focused on our support for social, emotional and mental health needs and how we work with external agencies.

Achieving Excellence Together

What's been going on?



As part of their learning around the Shang Dynasty, Koala Class have been using clay casting to make their taoties. The results have been pleasing so far.

Following on from their clay casting, Year 5 have now been able to add the finishing touches to their taotie designs. The final results are really pleasing, well done Year 5.



Penguin Class had a wonderful afternoon exploring recipes. The children worked well together as a team to carefully follow the recipe and make a delicious bowl of Eton Mess.

Achieving Excellence Together

What's been going on?



It was great to welcome some of our Early Years parents into school to share our phonics curriculum and strategies. They enjoyed a range of phonics learning activities with their children.

Koala Class have been making castings of a pine cone. The Year 5 pupils have also moulded some underwater features using plaster of paris.



Our values winners for October enjoyed afternoon tea with Mrs Hughes for showing kindness.

Achieving Excellence Together

What's been going on?



We had a wonderful day celebrating our Cultural day.

This term, it focussed on Poland. We welcomed pupils into school in traditional dress, learned traditional dances, baked, developed our geography skills and looked at Polish art.

Tiger Class have been carrying out Geography fieldwork in the local environment. They collected data and discussed which were human or physical features. Many children shared their experiences of going to the Dunstable Downs and that it was a physical feature.



Monkey Class made diya lamps to show their understanding of light triumphing over darkness in the Hindu festival of Diwali.

Achieving Excellence Together

What's been going on?



We marked the start of Anti-Bullying Week with our Odd Socks Day. We celebrated what makes us all unique and our goal of spreading kindness!

Rhino Class are very proud of their modroc masks inspired by the colourful, abstract artwork of 'Trailblazer' Turgo Bastien.



Year 6 have kneaded, proved, chopped, fried, boiled and grated in their DT lessons. We have followed recipes to make wholemeal bread, tomato pasta sauce and fajitas with a focus on using whole foods and avoiding processed ingredients.

Achieving Excellence Together

What's been going on?



Penguin Class have been learning about the importance of Advent. The children made their own advent wreath and discovered that the four candles represent faith, hope, joy and peace.

Thank you to Alexander in Year 1 who laid the wreath on behalf of Beecroft Academy at the Remembrance Service at Priory Church.



In Koala classroom, Year 5 are extending the artwork of Ola Hanecka. Mrs Watson is delighted with the children's art work.

Achieving Excellence Together

What's been going on?



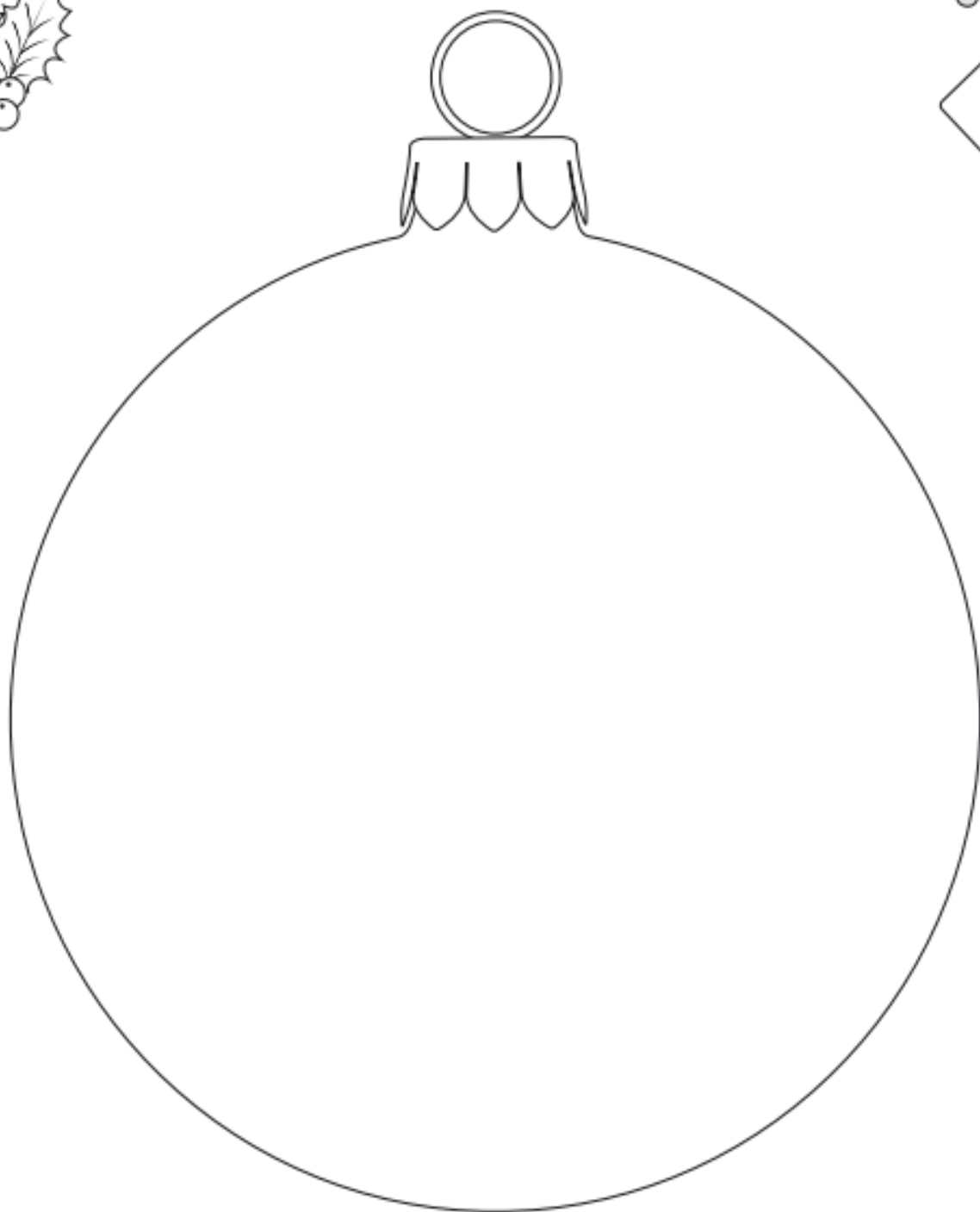
Year 3 have been enjoying their Forest School activities. Linked to our current project of 'Through the Ages' they have made a Stone Age tool testing their knot making skills and a piece of artwork on Stonehenge.

Staff took part in an EYFS INSET session. They were learning the importance of learning through play and about the importance EYFS has to play in a child's journey through school.



Year 4 took part in a Faith Tour where they visited a mosque, church and gurdwara. They learnt about the different religions and explored the places of worship.

Achieving Excellence Together



Name:

School:



Please decorate the shape for the police officers and staff working over the festive period.
You can also write a message or letter to send to them

Please send artwork and letters by post to: Corporate Communications, Bedfordshire Police,
Woburn Road, Kempston, MK43 9AX by Friday 8th December.

Thank you for helping bring a festive feel to our workplace this Hanukkah and Christmas.



Name:

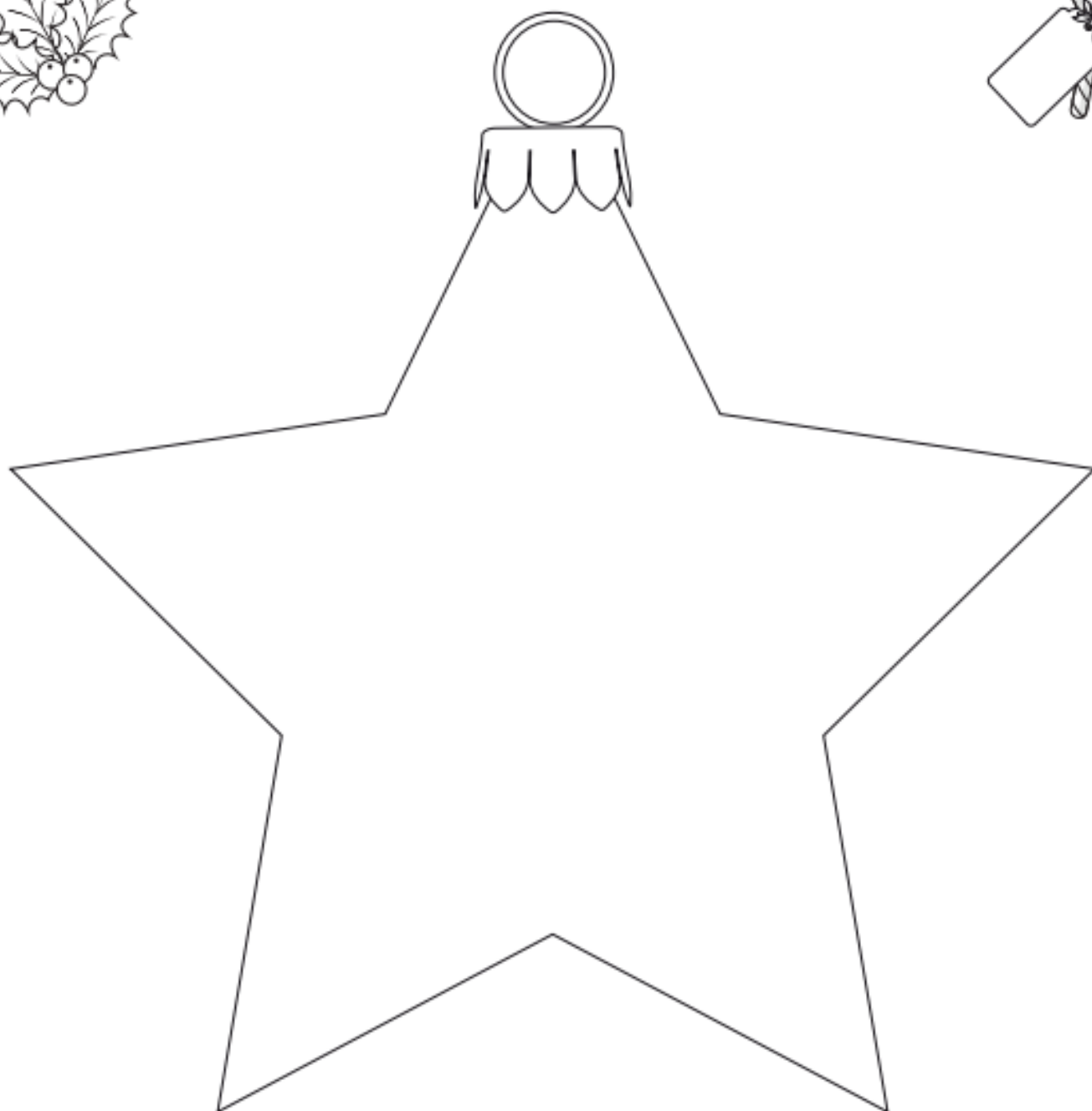
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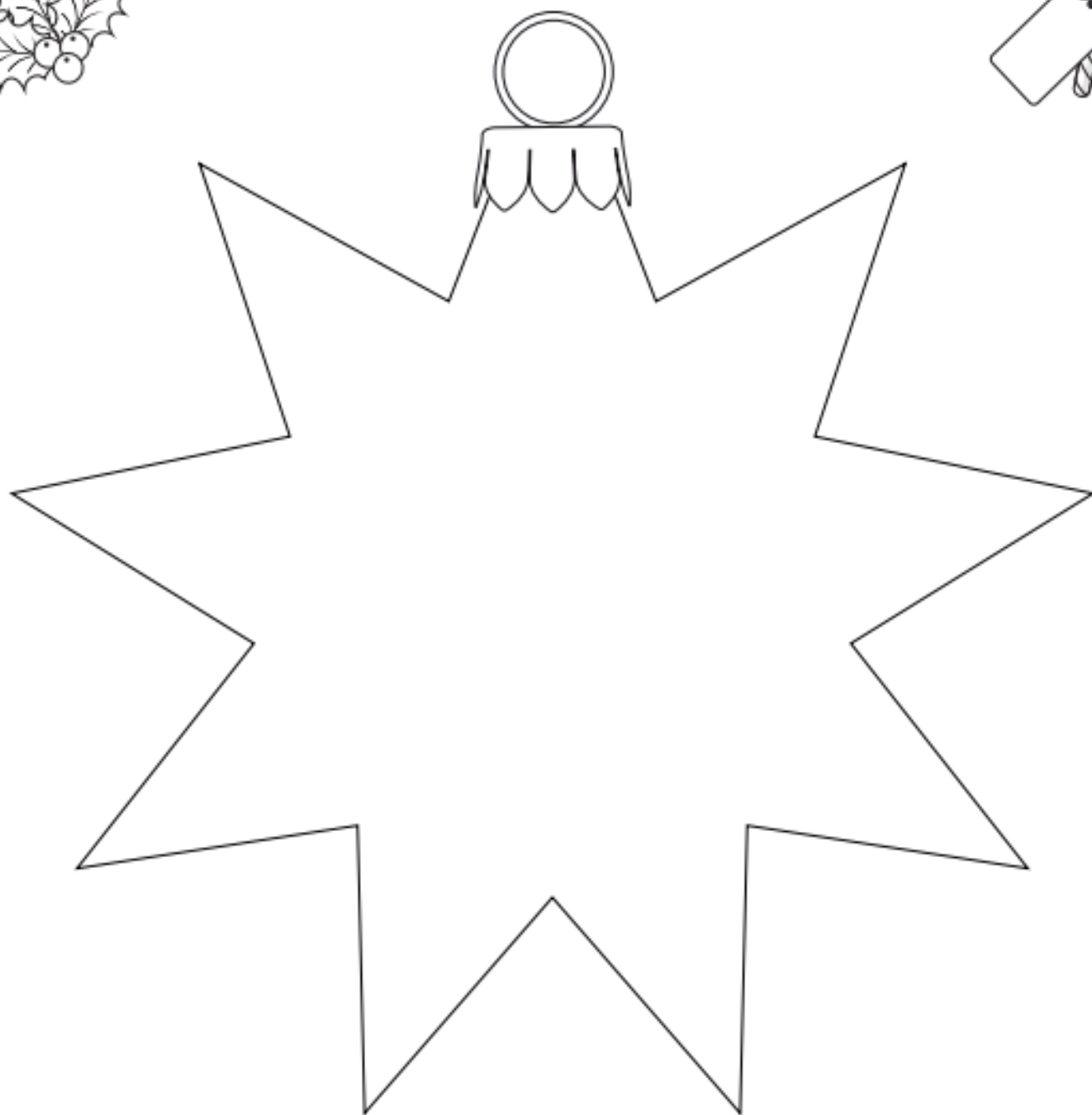
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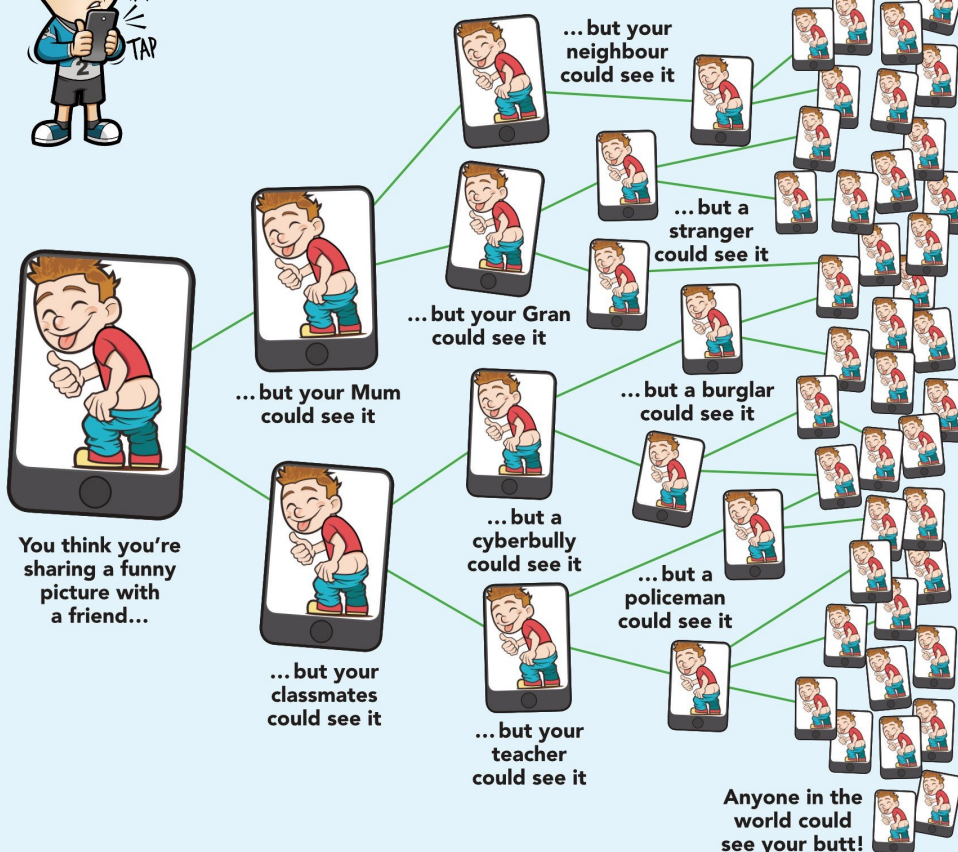
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Parent Guides to Online Safety



THINK before you send!



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



If you share it, you are involved

If you have, or forward an indecent image of someone under 18, it is a criminal offence. It can affect your future.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipssed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with





Email: info@dunstable.foodbank.org.uk
Website: <https://dunstable.foodbank.org.uk>
Phone: 07874 200056



Email: foodbank@dunstable.cabnet.org.uk
Website: <https://www.dunstablecab.org.uk/>
Phone: 07367 457834

Referrals to Citizens Advice

A referral from Dunstable Foodbank to the Foodbank Adviser at Citizens Advice gives you free, confidential advice about **housing, benefits, debt and money management, employment and family/relationship breakdown** as well as access to other support services.

By providing your phone number and/or email address for a referral, you are giving consent:

- for Dunstable Foodbank to pass your details onto the Citizens Advice service
- for Citizens Advice to store these details in order to assist in helping you
- for Citizens Advice to contact you by phone, email or text message and leave a voicemail if necessary (please let us know if you do not want the Adviser to text or leave a voicemail)

All of this information is kept strictly confidential and will not be shared with anyone else without your consent.

If you change your mind, and no longer want the appointment, just let the Foodbank Adviser know. Or if you'd like to speak to the Adviser before they contact you, call 07367457834.

Please note: Dunstable Foodbank can support households with up to 5 food parcels in a 6 month period. If you are receiving support from Dunstable Citizens Advice, the Advisers there can refer you to us for food support beyond this limit if it is required.

Thank you



How and where to get a food parcel from Dunstable Foodbank

Dunstable Foodbank provides food to people who live in LU5 or LU6 postcode areas who are in crisis and require an emergency food parcel.

We operate on a referral process. You can get a Foodbank voucher from a variety of agencies in Dunstable and Houghton Regis and this voucher can be redeemed for a food parcel (up to 5 food parcels in a 6-month period). For food parcels beyond this limit, the Foodbank voucher will need to be issued by Dunstable Citizens Advice.

The list below has contact details for some of our main referral partners who can issue a Foodbank voucher; these agencies may also be able to offer you advice and support to help your situation.

- **Citizens Advice Bureau** Court Drive, Dunstable. LU5 4JD [07367 457834](tel:07367457834) or [01582 670003](tel:01582670003)
- **Salvation Army** Bullpond Lane, Dunstable. LU6 3AH [01582 606031](tel:01582606031)
- **Downside Neighbourhood Centre** Oakwood Avenue, Dunstable. LU5 4AS [0300 300 8104](tel:03003008104)
- **Beehive Children's Centre** Westfield Road, Dunstable. LU6 1DW [0300 300 8106](tel:03003008106)
- **Tithe Farm Neighbourhood Centre** Tithe Farm Road, Houghton Regis. LU5 5JB [0300 300 8115](tel:03003008115)
- **Parkside Neighbourhood Centre** Parkside Drive, Houghton Regis, Dunstable. LU5 5QN [0300 300 8129](tel:03003008129)
- **Many local schools, GP Doctors surgeries and churches** can also issue Foodbank vouchers.

When you have a Foodbank voucher, this can be redeemed for an emergency food parcel from any one of our Foodbank centres as shown below:

Dunstable Foodbank Locations and Opening times

New Life Church

80a Houghton Road

Houghton Regis

LU5 5AD

Open Mondays 2-4pm & Wednesdays 10-12pm

The Way, Christ Church

West Street

Dunstable

LU6 1SX

Open Tuesdays 2.30-4.30pm & Fridays 12.30-2.30pm

St. Augustine's Church

Oakwood Avenue

Dunstable

LU5 4AR

Open Thursdays from 9.30-11.30am

Houghton Regis Baptist Church

Hammersmith Gardens

Houghton Regis

LU5 5RG

Open Thursdays from 1.30-3.30pm

Phone: [07874 200056](tel:07874200056) **Email:** info@dunstable.foodbank.org.uk **Website:** <https://dunstable.foodbank.org.uk>

MONEY HELP



Step1 – Check your entitlements

- Complete a benefits check. Benefits Calculator: <https://www.entitledto.co.uk/>
This tells you if there is more money help with your everyday living and housing costs, such as:
 - Universal Credit
 - Disability and Carers benefits
 - Pension credit
 - Help with childcare costs

Always seek specialist help when applying for a carer/ disability / health related benefit.

Help you can apply for:

- **Council Tax Reduction** – this is available for households on a low income.
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-council-tax-reduction>
- **Healthy Start** – if you are more than 10 weeks pregnant, have a child under 4 and receive qualifying benefits, you can apply: <https://www.gov.uk/healthy-start>
- **Prescriptions/ dental / glasses** – check your eligibility for free help from the NHS here: <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/>
- **Warm Home Discount** – this discount is made direct to your electricity bill for households on a low income. Contact your supplier to find out if they offer and the qualifying criteria and when to apply.
<https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme> (Open from Nov 2022)
- **National Energy Foundation, Better Homes, Better Health scheme.** Referral form to apply for financial support towards energy bills:
<https://www.bhbh.org.uk/make-a-referral/>
- **Free school meals** – <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Other essential help:

- **Cost of living help from Government** – a range of support paid automatically to qualifying households -
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-living-support/cost-of-living-support-factsheet-26-may-2022>
- Central Beds Council local welfare emergency provision:
https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/53/benefits/1/extra_help_and_appeals/3
- **Housing** – if your housing is at risk contact your District Council or an independent advice agency e.g.
 - Shelter https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help/helpline or 0808 800 4444
 - CBC emergency homelessness number: 0300 300 4370 during office hours or 0300 300 8098 out of hours service (for people who will be homeless in the next 7 days or are homeless tonight).
- **Information on other grants available:** <https://grants-search.turn2us.org.uk/>
- **Recycled / low cost** – try local Facebook / Freecycle/ recycling sites or PREEN CIC Furniture Bank, Biggleswade (<https://www.facebook.com/PreenCIC/>)

Step 2 – Make a budget

- Using a budget planner, go through everything you spend – not just regular bills but all expenses, e.g. haircut, pet food, clothes etc.. Keeping a daily record of spending is very helpful.
<https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/everyday-money/budgeting/budget-planner>

Step 3 – Save money on everyday costs

Energy (Gas and Electric)

- Check with your supplier if you're getting the best deal – at the moment with high energy prices a fixed deal may not suit you but ask your energy supplier for advice
- Take meter readings regularly to see how much you are using and consider a smart meter
- If you are on prepayment meter try and top up regularly all year
- If you are older, have young children and /or a health condition or disability ask to go onto the priority services register with your supplier
- Energy saving tips: <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/hub/quick-tips-to-save-energy/>

Water

- Ask your water company about their help with water bills.
 - Help with paying your bill - Affinity Water
<https://www.affinitywater.co.uk/billing/struggling-to-pay> or Whatsapp messaging on 07971013368.
 - Extra Care Support - Anglian Water
<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/help-and-advice/water-care/extra-care-support/> or 03457 919 155
- A water meter may save you money. Use this calculator to see if you would be better off getting a water meter installed: <https://www.ccwater.org.uk/watermetercalculator/>

Phone / Internet / TV packages

- BT, Talk Talk, Hyperoptic, VirginMedia and KCOM offer discounted rates for households on relevant benefits. More information here
<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/costs-and-billing/social-tariffs>
- Use a comparison site to check that you are on the best deal available. Review your subscriptions and ensure that you are only paying for what you need
- TV Licence: If you watch or record live TV or use BBC iPlayer without a licence, you may be prosecuted and fined up to £1000. <https://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/>

Step 4 – Take action on debt

- **Contact a debt advice agency** if you have bills or borrowing that you cannot afford, get free and independent debt advice from a regulated service. A debt advisor can help you get some breathing space to manage your situation better and work out the best way forward.
- **Citizens Advice Dunstable & District** 01582 670003
- **Dunstable Salvation Army Debt Advice Service**
dunstabledas@salvationarmy.org.uk or 01582 343680.

Priory Church Christmas Tree Festival 9th & 10th December 2023 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Music - Stalls - Refreshments



Priory Church, Dunstable
Entrance £2.50 adults, children free
All children must be accompanied by an adult



PRIORY CHURCH
DUNSTABLE

WHEN CAN I TRAVEL

DECEMBER 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Santa's Steam Specials

Page's Park Departure Times

Sat 2 nd	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Sun 3 rd	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Wed 6 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	
Sat 9 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Sun 10 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Wed 13 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	
Sat 16 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Sun 17 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Mon 18 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Wed 20 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Thu 21 st	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Fri 22 nd	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Sat 23 rd	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
Sun 24 th	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	

Mince Pie Specials

Page's Park Departure Times

Wed 27 th	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00
Thu 28 th	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00
Fri 29 th	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00

Fares

Santa's Steam Specials Mince Pie Specials

Adult (13 and over)	£12.50	£10.50
Child (2 to 12 years)	£13.50	£7.50
Child (under 2 years)	£8.50	FREE

FOR FEE-FREE ONLINE ADVANCE BOOKING, SEARCH BUZZRAIL, OR VISIT WWW.BUZZRAIL.UK

WHERE ARE WE?

Santa trains leave from Page's Park station, which is on the south side of the town.

BY ROAD

For Sat-Nav, our postcode is LU7 4TG. What3Words reference "either.gallons.rally"

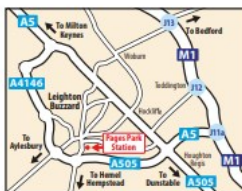
Direct main road access from M1 motorway at Jct 11a. Roads are likely to be busy, please leave enough time for your journey.

Please see the 'Find us' page on our website for detailed directions.

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Leighton Buzzard mainline station is on the west side of the town.

For details of new bus service L1 from the British Rail Station to Page's Park and other local bus services go to www.ariva.com.



Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway Society Ltd
Cooperative and Community Benefit Society No 20630R • Exempt Charity No XN31853 • Accredited Museum No 1631

Registered Office:

Page's Park Station, Billington Road, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 4TG
Phone: +44 1525 373 888 • Email: station@lbng.rs.org.uk

www.buzzrail.uk



www.facebook.com/buzzrail



twitter.com/buzzrail



Twinned with the Froissy-Cappy-Dompierre Railway, France, and Indian Railways.

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LEIGHTON BUZZARD RAILWAY

SANTA'S STEAM TRAINS - 2023 -



FEE-FREE ONLINE BOOKING AT
www.buzzrail.uk

CHRISTMAS STEAM TRAINS

Christmas Steam Train experience at the Leighton Buzzard Railway...

This magical Christmas experience for your family starts with a 25-minute steam train ride over a historic narrow-gauge railway that's over 100 years old, with vintage steam locomotives.

Adults can enjoy a free Mince Pie and cup of Hot Punch.

After the train ride you will be guided through the 'Christmas Grotto' to see Santa himself, where children up to 12 will receive a quality present. On some days when Santa is at his busiest you might get to meet 'Mrs Claus'.

Browse the shop at our award-winning Page's Park Station which has one of the best selections of 'Thomas' presents in the area, and much more besides.

"The Really Awesome Railway Café" will be open offering a range of other snacks, drinks and refreshments.

...or a Mince Pie Special after Christmas

Santa will be off on his holidays as soon as Christmas is over, but for a couple of days you can still enjoy a festive steam train ride, and the complimentary Mince Pie and Punch.

"The Really Awesome Railway Café" will be open with a range of other snacks, drinks and refreshments.

Some people come along for a get-together with family or friends they have not seen for a while. Who would YOU invite?

Term-Time Wednesday is Special

Specially geared to our youngest visitors, our Term Time Wednesday trips are the ideal time for parents or grandparents to bring pre-school little ones for a quiet word with Santa.

Also as a treat for playgroups and primary schools, on Wednesdays we offer one extra free Adult ticket for every 10 accompanied children.

How do I book?

We will still operate with reduced capacity to allow for an amount of informal social distancing and conform with any government restrictions that may be in force at the time of travel. Early booking is recommended to avoid disappointment.

Online

Visit www.buzzrail.uk and follow the Christmas links.

In Person

Visit the station at Page's Park on any operating day, between 11.00 and 16.00. Opening dates can be found on the Buzzrail website.

We are unable to offer a telephone booking service.



SANTA SPECIAL ★★★★★

We took our three grandchildren to the Santa Special. All the staff made them very welcome and special. A thoroughly enjoyable experience for all who went.

SANTA TRAIN FOR THE FAMILY ★★★★★

My wife and I took our daughter and granddaughter on the Christmas special that included a visit to see Santa for the little one. All three generations really enjoyed the experience. Well done to all the staff who made it possible. We will certainly be booking up to go again in 2023.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The times published are when the train leaves, not when you should arrive.

We suggest you arrive at least 20 minutes before your departure time and please be aware that traffic before Christmas can add considerably to journey times.

Because of the popularity of our Santa Trains it is most unlikely that seats will be available on later trains if you miss your booked departure, nor will we make a refund if any member of your booked party fails to appear at the due time.

Facilities are available for wheelchair passengers. Please ensure you select the correct type when booking online.

With reduced capacity, some open coaches are in use. These are part screened for your comfort, but we can not guarantee fully enclosed accommodation for everyone and our trains are not heated. The Christmas train service runs between Page's Park and Leedon, a 25 minute round trip of 2.5 miles, and not over the full length of the line. The scenery is therefore predominantly suburban in nature.

The Leighton Buzzard Railway is operated and managed by volunteers, who have maintained this significant local heritage site for over 50 years.

While we make every effort to deliver the advertised services, we reserve the right to make changes, with or without prior notification, in the event of circumstances beyond our control.



We are grateful for the continued support of our local Aldi store helping to supply the highly praised Mince Pies we offer you.



Have you felt a little lost reviewing your monthly payslip this year? We can help!

The numbers on our payslips can look confusing, but it's important we understand them.

Start 2024 feeling confident understanding your monthly income breakdowns. This short course will help you make better sense of the numbers you see each month.



The 4-week course covers:

- building confidence with calculating money and percentages
- understanding different tax contributions such as National Insurance and your pension
- exploring how different work hours will affect your take home pay
- how savings can help you in the future

Where?

- **Online** on Microsoft Teams. Starting 12 December 2023 (2 week break over Christmas) from 9:30am until 11:30am.
- Bedfordshire Employment and Skills Hub, **Houghton Regis**, LU5 5PY. Starting 26 January 2024 from 1pm until 3pm.

Registering your interest

To register your interest in enrolling on a course, please complete a short online form and a member of the team will be in touch with more information.

[Click here](#)

PARENT/ CARER WORKSHOPS

For families living in Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire and Luton

AUTUMN 2023

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

- 23/11/23 Autism & Sensory Processing 10am-1pm
28/11/23 Autism & Demand Avoidance 10am-1pm

SPRING 2024

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

- 11/1/24 Autism & Behaviour 10am-1pm
16/1/24 Autism & Demand Avoidance 10am-1pm
16/2/24 Autism, Women & Girls 6pm-9pm
27/2/24 Autism & Eating Disorders 10am-1pm
14/3/24 Autism & Mental Health 6pm-9pm

SUMMER 2024

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

- 18/4/24 Autism & Sensory Processing 10am-1pm
26/4/24 Autism & Behaviour 6pm-9pm
1/5/24 Autism, Women & Girls 10am-1pm
7/5/24 Autism & Eating Disorders 6pm-9pm
6/6/24 Autism & Mental Health 10am-1pm

FREE

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ENQUIRIES:

01234 214871

enquiries@autismbeds.org

5 WEEK COURSE

FACE-TO-FACE

Suitable for: A course for pre-diagnosed and newly diagnosed families

When: Wednesdays, 11am - 2pm

Dates: 28th Feb, 6th March, 13th March
20th March & 17th March 2024

Venue: TBC (Milton Keynes)

Course topics: Week 1: Diagnosis journey

Week 2: What is Autism?

Week 3: Sensory Needs

Week 4: Communication

Week 5: Behaviour & local support

TRAINING OVERVIEWS

Autism and...

ANXIETY & BEHAVIOUR

A course providing information about the underpinning causes of differing behaviours in autistic individuals of all ages and how they may best be supported. To explore:

- the differences autistic individuals may experience in regulating behaviours
- how to adapt environments & practices to meet the needs of autistic children and adults
- some possible ways to support during difficult situations

WOMEN & GIRLS

A course providing an understanding of how autism may present in a more internalised way in females (and some males!) To explore:

- the way autism may present more subtly in females and why this may delay diagnosis
- how to adapt environments and practices to meet the specific needs of autistic females
- resources and strategies for supporting autistic females

MENTAL HEALTH

A course explaining the impact of poor mental health on autistic individuals and those who have co-existing mental health conditions and/or dual diagnoses. To explore:

- an overview of co-existing mental health and some neurological conditions commonly experienced by autistic people and how these affect their individual needs
- how to proactively adapt environments and practices to prevent needs escalating
- resources and strategies for supporting individuals

DEMAND AVOIDANCE

A course to increase understanding of the demand avoidant presentation of autism, with advice on how to support those with this challenge. To explore:

- what is meant by 'demand avoidance' in relation to autism and the controversy over the 'PDA' diagnosis
- the role of anxiety in creating demand avoidant behaviour
- how to work collaboratively with children and young people to minimise demand avoidant behaviour

EATING DISORDERS

A course to understand the complicated relationship autistic individuals may have with food and eating, due to both sensory processing and thinking differences. To explore:

- the impact of autism on the way autistic individuals experience food and eating
- sensory processing differences and how these specifically relate to eating challenges
- anxiety and its impact on autistic individuals (including demand avoidance)
- some resources and strategies that may be helpful to support autistic individuals with eating challenges

SENSORY PROCESSING

A course explaining the relationship between autism and sensory processing differences, in autistic people of all ages. To explore:

- the impact of sensory processing differences on the lives of autistic individuals
- resources and strategies to support health and wellbeing due to sensory challenges
- when to ask for professional input

Supporting Young minds

Central
Bedfordshire

A new resource for parents and carers

Your one-stop hub for guidance,
advice, and support on young people's
mental and emotional wellbeing in
Central Bedfordshire.



www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/resources-for-parents-carers