



WEST ALVINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



West Alvington Church of England Academy

Parent Updates Newsletter
Friday 27th January 2023

Dear Families,

Many thanks for all your kind words about my new role this week, it continues to be a pleasure to work with such lovely families!

This week we had a very magical, story sense session in the hall for Hazel class. We have also had some exciting visits this week including Physics Master classes at KCC and a swimming competition in Ivybridge. We will soon be visiting Charleton for a theatre show and sending our excited year 5 and 6 children off on their residential trip, what a busy, brilliant term we are having!



Have a great weekend,

Miss Coombe



Mrs Williams and Betty

How does the Hub Leadership teamwork?

In each newsletter I would like to tell you a bit about our Hub family of schools and how we are stronger by working together.

Across our South Hams Hub of schools (Thurlestone, Charleton and West Alvington) we have a shared Leadership team which gives capacity to all three schools in the Hub. Each of our leaders take responsibility for key aspects of the curriculum or specialist areas such as Special Needs provision.

Who's Who?

Miss Coombe – Head Teacher Charleton and West Alvington and Hub English Lead

Mrs Williams – Interim Head Teacher All Saints Thurlestone and Hub Early Reading Lead

Miss Kingston – Hub Early Years Lead

Mrs Hatch – Hub English Lead

Miss Alen – Hub Maths Lead

Mrs Hasell – Hub SENDco

The leadership team meet weekly to discuss ongoing school development, share quality assurance work across the Hub and, most importantly, ensure that all of our children get the best possible education. An example of this would be Mrs Williams' role across the Hub as Early Reading Lead. Mrs Williams regularly spends times in phonics lessons across all three schools coaching teachers and working with our children to ensure they make great progress with their reading. Mrs Williams is an expert in this area, in her wider Trust role she is an English Hub Expert Teacher and visits schools across Devon to support other leaders with the teaching of phonics in their schools. Our Hub leadership regularly visit all three schools building relationships with staff, getting to know children and continuing to share best practice.

Why do we have a Hub Leadership Team?

In small schools leaders and teachers often wear many hats! Working as a Hub team means that leaders are able to share the load and really focus on their specialist areas which, in turn means children get the best education possible. We are living our Trust belief that we are 'Stronger Together'

A message from Mrs Ive

I am writing to let you know that this is my last week in my role as a Family Support Worker for the South Hams Hub.

I will be working for the Devon Children and Family Partnership.

I have enjoyed every minute of my time here and it has been my pleasure to meet all of you.

Thank you for making me feel so very welcome, I will miss seeing your faces and your wonderful children!

I will drop in now and again as I have built good relationships with my fellow colleagues, so I won't be far away!

I have handed over all of my casework to Mrs Williams and Miss Coombe who will be supporting you until the new Family Support Worker starts.

Thank you again, I have had the best 12 months in post!

Tash.

Family Support Information



**SCHOOL-BASED ANXIETY
PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Creative Arts Therapy Devon CIC
provides a safe space online each month
for parents and carers to form
connections & share experiences



**ONLINE EVENT
TICKETS ON EVENTBRITE**

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL MAAIKE@CATDEVON.ORG.UK

<https://www.facebook.com/Creative-Arts-Therapy-Devon-Support-for-School-Based-Anxiety-105241715541891>

www.catdevon.org.uk

Next session taking place 2nd February, 6-8pm.
Tickets £5.98. Link to Eventbrite booking [here](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-support-group-for-young-people-with-school-based-anxiety-tickets-353829853617>



I CAN - Free webinars for parents!

Is your child aged 18 months-2.5 years?

Are you concerned about their language development?



Join one of the free TALK parent webinars for approaches you can put into practice with your child at home.

Dates and Topics:

7th February - Using Songs and Rhymes to Develop Language.

21st February - Symbolic Noises and First Words.

7th March - Supporting language development during everyday routines.

All webinars last for 40 minutes and are free to attend. Book your place today:

<https://bit.ly/3nLPI8c>

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/TheICANEnquiryService@ICANCharity.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/?fbclid=IwAR2Nh98fuqa0147i9e8jxMEjvWdWumn-aE6piu-ROvm24u5ONBDfESMZ4>



Parent Autism Programme Opportunities – Spring Term 2023

The 'Autism & Us' programme and themed workshops delivered this academic year will once again be offered during the forthcoming Spring term for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary school children, pre or post diagnosis. The programme is open to families of children and young people who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of children and young people who have received an autism diagnosis.

Attending the 'Autism & Us' parent programme gives parents and carers an opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child's presenting needs.

The course is free of charge, fully funded by Devon County Council. The full programme comprises of 4 weekly live online sessions (approx. 2 hours each):

Topics:

Week 1: Autism Overview – Trainer: Paul Lamana.

Week 2: Communication – Trainer: Laura O'Shea.

Week 3: Understanding and Supporting Behaviour:
Trainer: Laura Matthews.

Week 4: Sensory – Trainer: Kevin Jones

Dates:

Mondays; 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th March, 10am-12pm.

Apply direct by email to:

educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk

To secure a place on the above programme, or express your interest for forthcoming programmes. Devon Education Services will confirm your booking request and provide you with a direct link to the event. The sessions will be delivered on line 'live' via the Microsoft TEAMS platform.



Parent Autism Workshop Opportunities

The following topic-based workshops, are available for parents/carers of children and young people who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of children and young people who have received an autism diagnosis.

These are available to choose from based on the priority needs for your child/young person and desired knowledge to further your own understanding in these topic areas.

These online workshops are free of charge, fully funded by Devon County Council.

Topics:

Autism – Demand avoidance & PDA:

Tuesday 23rd February 10am – 12pm.

Autism – Communication (verbal – support strategies):

Tuesday 2nd March 10am – 12pm.

Autism – Managing stress & anxiety:

Tuesday 14th March 10am – 12pm.

Autism – Vulnerability & online safety:

Thursday 23rd March 10am – 12pm.

Autism – Communication (pre/non verbal – support strategies):

Tuesday 28th March 10am – 12pm.

Apply direct by email to:

educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk

to secure a place on any of the above topic-based workshops. Devon Education Services will confirm your booking request and provide you with a direct link to the event. The workshops will be delivered online 'live' via the Microsoft TEAMS platform.



Let's Talk Pre-Teens is a series of free online support sessions and an opportunity for parents and carers of

9-12 year olds, to hear about the challenges young people are facing today and how you can support them.

The last session in this series is focused around 'Physical Risks, Safety Planning, Mental Health and Self Care, taking place on 31st January, 7pm - 8.30pm

Book tickets on Eventbrite here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lets-talk-pre-teens-tickets-473303382157?scrllybrkr=c77bedf5>