



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

# SUMMERLEA C.P. SCHOOL

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*'Growing thoughtful learners and independent thinkers'*



Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been a fantastic week in school. All of the children have returned ready to learn and it has been wonderful to see so many happy and smiley faces. School is slowly starting to feel more normal again and the sound of children chatting, laughing and playing together is certainly a special one.

A huge thank you to all of our staff and parents for making the transition back to school so smooth and such a positive experience for the children. I am under no illusion that many challenges remain. It will be imperative that everyone in the community remembers the importance of adhering to the protective measures in place. We know that we cannot relax too soon and that social distancing at drop off and pick up times remain as important as ever.

## Staggered start and finish times

A reminder that our new start and finish times are as follows:

8.30-8.40am EYFS and Key Stage 1

8.40-8.45am Key Stage 2

2.50-3.00pm EYFS and Key Stage 1

3.00pm Key Stage 2

If you have children in EYFS/KS1 and KS2 please use the later time slots if possible. Gates will open promptly at the start and end of the day. Please try to avoid arriving too early so that queues outside the school do not become too long. Please also avoid congregating outside classrooms. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Uniform

Although we are currently exercising some leniency around our school uniform policy for the remainder of this term, dyed hair is not acceptable. Please ensure any colour added to children's hair is removed prior to them coming to school. In addition, children may only wear hoodies on PE days. Thank you for your support.

## After School Care Club (ASCC)

We are delighted that ASCC is re-opening next Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March. Please ensure you have read the reviewed addendum and returned enrolment forms by the end of this week. These have been issued to all parents who completed the survey and expressed interest in a place. A reminder that ASCC will run from 3-5pm (and not until 5.30pm). Should you be interested in



your child attending now, or in the future, please contact the office or telephone 07521 734333. We look forward to welcoming your child very soon!

### Parent Survey

A reminder that we are currently administering a parent survey to get your views about our school so that we can celebrate what we do well and look at areas for improvement. This can be accessed via our website by going to 'School Improvement' and then 'Survey's'. We have currently had 81 responses and it would be great to increase this before the end of term. Thank you for your time and feedback.

### Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy

We would like to welcome you to read, ask questions about and/or comment on our draft RSE Policy which can be viewed on our website by 'School Information' > 'Policies' tab. This was drafted after our Parent Focus Group meeting in the summer term of 2020. Please share any feedback ahead of it being finalised by emailing [office@summerleaschool.co.uk](mailto:office@summerleaschool.co.uk) with the subject heading 'RSE Policy'. The deadline for any questions or comments is 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Thank you for your interest.

### Staffing news

We are delighted to be welcoming Mrs Conrad (Early Years Leader) back to work following her maternity leave on 21<sup>st</sup> June next term. Mrs Conrad will be working three days per week and will be non-class based in the first instance, overseeing transition arrangements for our new starters. She will then be class based again as of September 2021. As a result, we are really pleased that Miss Axton will now be remaining with Elm class until the end of the academic year.

### School Angel

We received notification this week that School Angel is sadly closing down permanently this year by the end of autumn as follows:

*"We are sorry to announce that School Angel will be closing down permanently this year. Over the past year, we have lost the support of our biggest and most important high street brands including Amazon, John Lewis, Argos as well, of course, the numerous shops which have permanently closed like Debenhams etc. The remaining shops have all cut the donation rates they pay to such a low level that we feel we cannot claim to offer a viable school fundraising platform going forward. Part of this change has been as a consequence of the pandemic but also the general shopping scene has now changed forever and we have found ourselves without a place in this new order."*

Thank you to everyone who has utilised School Angel in the past – we will be putting the remaining funds of approximately £269 towards books for our new library (see feature below).

### Astra Recycling

At Summerlea we work in partnership with Astra Recycling to raise funds for our school and our children. We raise funds by recycling unwanted textiles, recycling these textiles saves tons - literally going into landfill sites. We have a clothing bank sited by the KS1 playground. Please sort out your wardrobes, cupboards and drawers and put any unwanted items in our clothing bank. Items that can be accepted are as follows:

Clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts, bed sheets, pillow cases, duvet covers, towels, soft toys and unwanted jewellery. Astra Recycling work with many organisations such as schools, air ambulance and community centres all raising funds to help. Thank you for your support with this fundraising venture.

### Comic Relief

Next Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March we will be celebrating Comic Relief in school. Children are invited to wear a red nose if they have one. Please see the separate letter previously sent out with further detail from Miss Camble.

### New library

During the partial closure of schools this term we have made some exciting progress with the refurbishment of our new library (now located in Ash Class). This has been possible due to FOSS fundraising endeavours in previous years. We are hoping to be able to open the library early next term and can't wait to see it being used and enjoyed by the children. More information and photos will follow once we have a date in the diary for the grand opening!

### FOSS Easter competition

Hopefully you will have seen the ParentMail sent home this week about an Easter art competition FOSS are running. Please encourage your child/ren to take part as fundraising opportunities have taken a bit of a hit over the past year and it would be wonderful to raise some money for our school as well as having some fun! We look forward to choosing the winners.

I wish you all a peaceful weekend and look forward to seeing you again on Monday.

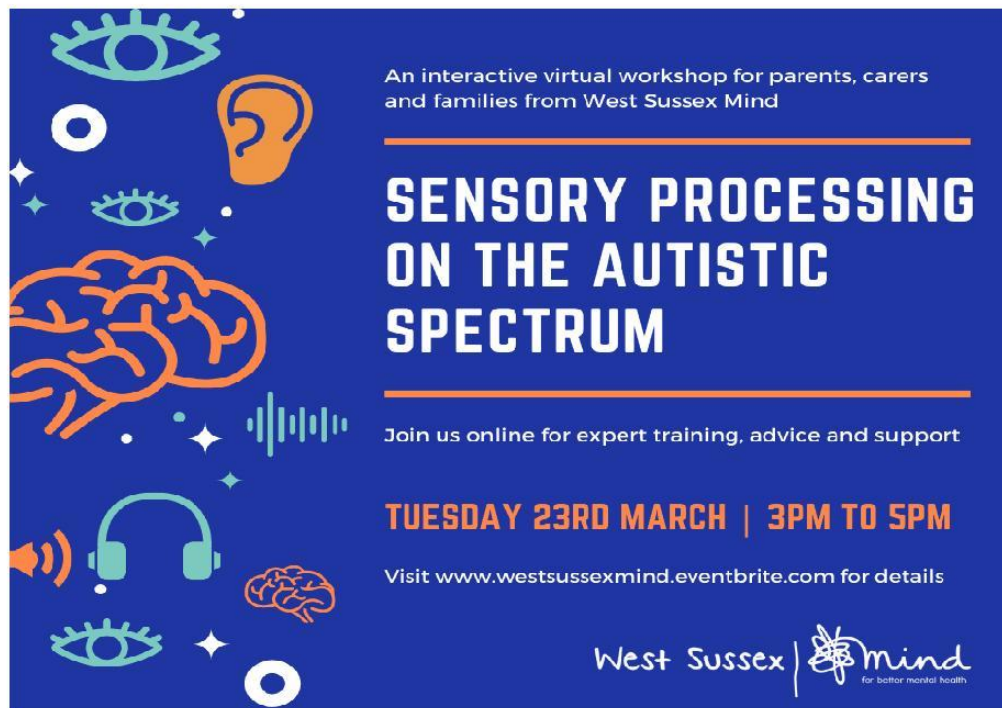
Yours sincerely

*Helen Morris*

Mrs Helen Morris  
Headteacher







## Sensory Processing on the Autistic Spectrum

*An interactive online workshop for people caring for and supporting children and young people with autistic spectrum conditions*

Processing everyday sensory information can be difficult for children and young people with autistic spectrum conditions and can often make the world feel like an overwhelming place to be.

Sensory processing differences may cause stress, anxiety, and sometimes even physical pain. This can result in children and young people on the autistic spectrum becoming withdrawn or distressed, or lead to a meltdown.

By understanding sensory processing differences and identifying the sensory needs of your child, you can help them manage the environment around them and decrease distress and anxiety.

Please come along and join us for this interactive virtual workshop on **Tuesday 23rd March at 3pm** where we will look at how sensory processing differences can impact upon children and young people and effective strategies that parents, carers and families can use to support them.

[BOOK NOW](#)