Spring 2 Newsletter



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Spring has finally spung. As the daffodils bloom and the evenings grow lighter, we welcome you to the second spring edition of our school newsletter. Spring is a time of renewal and growth, and Educate U, we are excited to witness the blossoming achievements of our students, our staff and our school.

Standing in the hall this week as the children gathered for a Spring roast dinner lunch and Easter Egg raffle was so lovely to see. Our children and young people were relaxed, enjoying being around others and there was a real feeling of belonging.

There have been successful class trips to Portsmouth this half term, to enrich the curriculum topics - World around me (KS1 and KS2) and World of Work (KS3 and KS4) and we've had lovely feedback from children about this experience.

Transition planning is a crucial aspect of ensuring that our children and young people smoothly navigate into their new classes. We are really happy to report that our transition planning efforts have meant a much calmer, more stable transition process for almost all of our children and young people. Through close collaboration between parents and carers first before discussing transition plans with the children, we have been able to provide tailored support to strengthen what will be a transition from a child's current class every Thursday (Transition Thursdays as they are called in school) into their new class or staff group after Easter until May half term. After May half term, the children will move into their new classes permanently.

We are pleased to announce that Educate U recently underwent a monitoring visit from commissioning teams from West Sussex and Brighton and Hove, and we received commendations for provision for our

children and young people. The visit provided an opportunity for us to showcase the incredible quality of provision, education, and support services we offer to our students. The team of 5 spoke to some of our children and young people and staff and inspected our curriculum, therapeutic interventions, attendance and data and aspects of safeguarding. The feedback was very positive and we are awaiting the final report.

Finally, we have had a number of young people in Key Stage 4 complete functional skills assessments under examination conditions; which for some children is incredible achievement. There have been a number of brilliant passes in the last 6 weeks, and I am very proud of each and every one of our pupils.

Added to this, we also had a successful unannounced visit from the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ). The JCQ plays a vital role in ensuring the integrity and fairness of examinations and assessments, and their positive feedback is a testament to the high standards maintained at Educate U. The inspector was happy with all parts of his inspection, which focussed on Access Arrangements, and had no further recommendations! There has been so much to celebrate, both for our children and for us as a school this half term and lots more to look forward to throughout summer term.

Wishing you a happy and peaceful Easter break with your family.

Sarah Paoletti

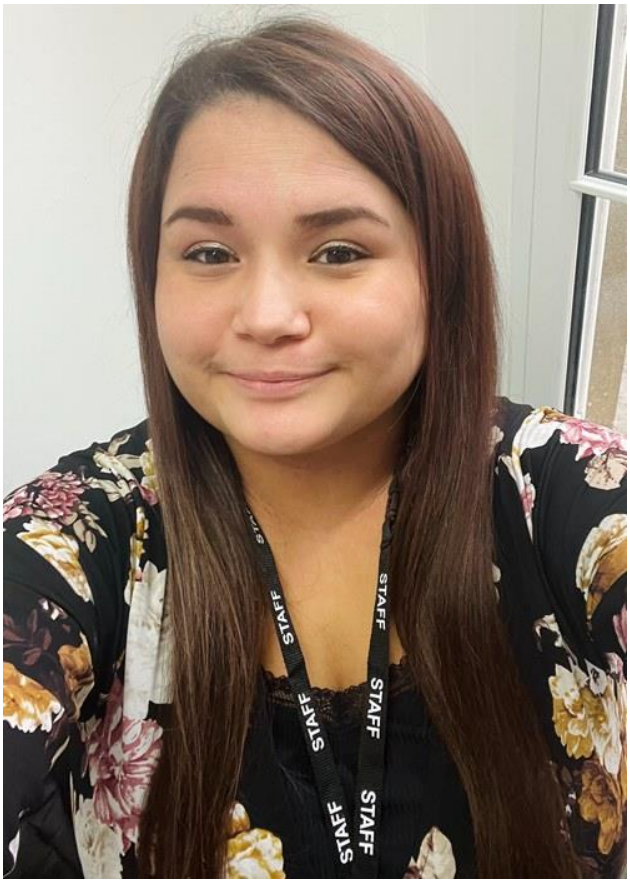
Headteacher

Staffing



Welcome to Alex!

Alex has joined us as a Teaching Assistant and is currently based in Primary, but will be moving into Dermot's class from Transition time. Alex has settled well in class and is already a firm favourite with the children.



Welcome to Jazelle!

Jazelle has joined the admin team and her incredible organisational and administration skills stand her in good stead to thrive with us



Welcome to Seamus!

Seamus has been successful appointed as a new class teacher. Seamus has a long history of working with pupils with SEND and we are excited for him to join us.



Promoted Posts

Many congratulations to our staff who interviewed and were successfully promoted for courses and roles to support provision for our children and young people.

Kinga – SALT Assistant

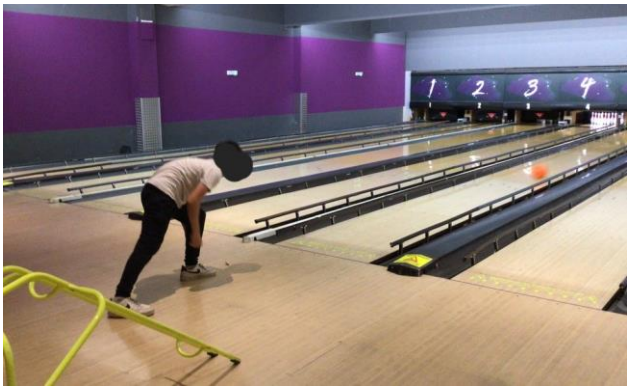
Toni – Occupational Therapist Assistant

Gemma – L3 Forest School Leader

Upcoming Trips

We are delighted to have secured bookings for the following residentials:



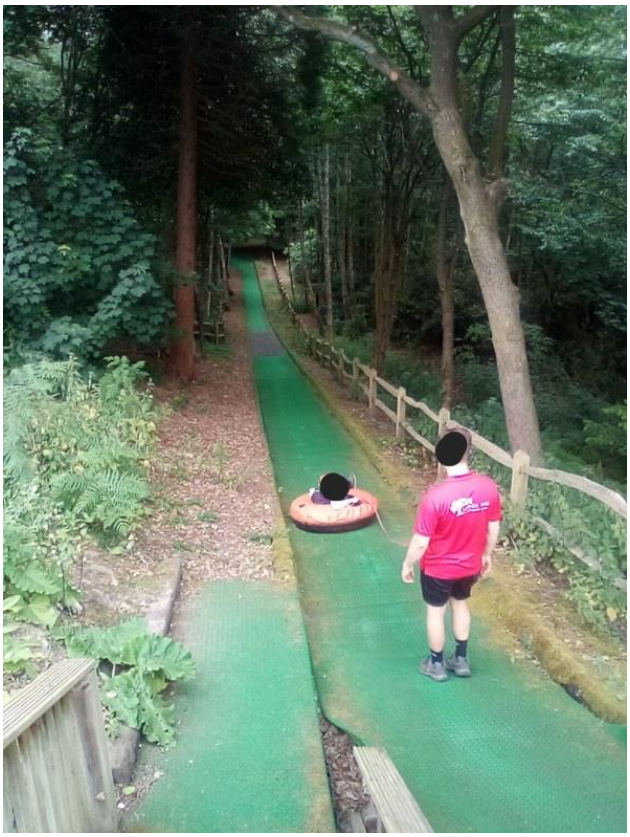






For our older pupils we are booked in to PGL Windmill Hill site near Eastbourne for a two-day residential.





For our younger children we will be visiting Lodge Hill Activity centre at Pulborough for a three-day residential from Wednesday 3rd of July to Friday 5th July.

Both sites are already firm favourites of Educate U: the feedback from previous trips at these venues have been amazing. Activities on offer (subject to confirmation) include archery, abseiling, team building games, low ropes, high ropes, raft building, rifles, crate stacking, campfires with treats.

In due course we will be forwarding further details. Our vision is every pupil at Educate U will have the opportunity to enjoy a residential experience in each key stage. This is part of our Learning Outside of the Classroom policy and encompasses our commitment to providing the very best learning opportunities in different environments

Celebrating Progress with Earwig

We're delighted to share some exciting updates regarding the progress monitoring system, Earwig, here at Educate U. Our dedicated team of Earwig Champions, representing all the classes across the school, have been hard at work refining our systems for target setting and monitoring student and group progress.

With the next Individual Education Plan (IEP) day fast approaching on the 16th April 2024, our Earwig Champions have been ensuring that our systems are efficient and effective. Their efforts aim to enhance our ability to set meaningful targets for each student and closely monitor their progress towards achieving them.

In addition to these efforts, we've also led meetings with the entire staff team. These sessions have provided an invaluable opportunity for us to reinforce the importance of celebrating every child's achievements and sharing these successes with the wider school community.

We're committed to ensuring that our students receive the support they need to thrive academically and personally, and our ongoing improvements to the Earwig system play a key role in this work.

If you have any questions or would like further information about our progress monitoring processes or upcoming IEP day, please don't hesitate to ask. Your feedback and involvement are important to our continued success.

World Book Day



We celebrated World Book day on 7th March and what an incredible day we had. Both staff and pupils joined in the fun by dressing up as characters from their favourite book. To finish it off our student council arranged for pupils to watch The Gruffalo in the school hall and provided refreshments of squash and Gruffalo themed cakes. It was lovely to walk around and watch children reading in their classrooms with their staff. Displays around the school help to focus reading as a gateway skill and aim to encourage reading amongst our children.

Police Visit

This term we received a visit from our new link police officer PC Marcus Evans. He spent time with Mark Brown and other key staff talking about our school and what we do. PC Marcus Evans then spent time visiting all classes across the school and introduced himself to the team and our pupils. He will also be coming back to help support with our PSHE across the school and working either 1:1 or in small groups as and when needed.

Futures

Futures: Your Journey, Our Guidance

As we roll on towards the Easter weekend it is a fine time to reflect on all that our wonderful young people have accomplished this half term; the dedication and commitment they have shown towards planning for their futures has been admirable and we are so proud of them.

Broadening Horizons

We have broadened our links with colleges in the local area over the course of the term. We have forged links with Plumpton College and Northbrook College who both offer a wide range of unique and interesting post-16 and 14-16 options for our students. We are also in the process of organising further outside speakers to visit our school and show all our students the multitude of options that await them at the end of their journey with Educate U.

Connecting Interests

We have been lucky enough to be selected for Plumpton College's 'Stepping Stones' programme which will take place in May. Our young people will undertake a day of activities and talks these sessions offer a fantastic opportunity for students looking to progress onto vocational and independence-led qualifications from Entry Level 3 through to Level 1.





Real-World Exposure

We welcomed the wonderful Dv8 to our school where students heard about the many wonderful opportunities they have on offer. From music production to media editing, the students were amazed at the choices ahead of them.

The Royal Armed Forces also paid us a visit where our young people received a range of options that lay before them should they consider a career in The Armed Forces. It was a fascinating and thrilling presentation which led to many excellent discussions from our young people.

Informed Choices

We understand that every student is unique, as such, we continue to tailor our career guidance to suit individual interests and aspirations. We believe that fostering these interests and providing bespoke support and guidance empowers our young people to make the most informed choices possible. If you have links with a company that would like opportunities to access our school as a potential provider for apprenticeships or work experience, please email our futures lead: mike@educauteu.co.uk

Early Help Visit

On 25th March, Kayleigh Maskell our link worker from the Early Help Dedicated Schools Team came and spoke to the staff team. Kayleigh explained the role of early help and how she can support our families

by signposting and supporting them directly with both parents and children on a 1:1 basis. Kayleigh detailed a fresh approach to early help and explained how it has developed over the years, to work holistically with everyone involved in a child's life and how even just a small piece of support / input from one of her team can make a big change.

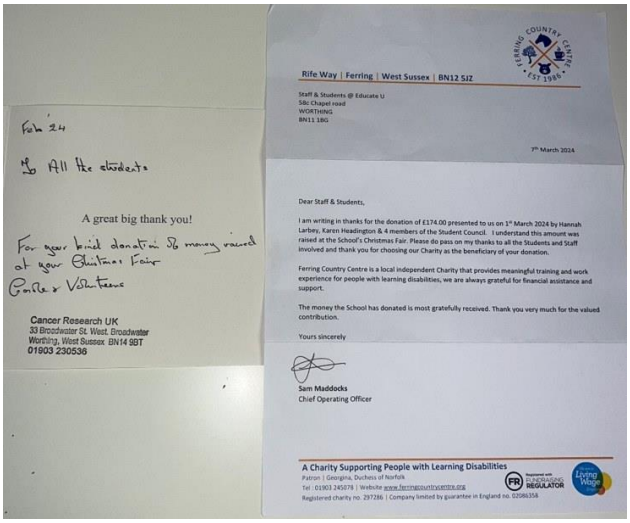
As our link worker Kayleigh has offered to meet with families at the school, if you would like her input or advice on any aspect of support around your family, please contact Emma Jenkinson or Mark Brown and we can facilitate a meeting.

School Council

The student council have managed to have another three successful meetings this half term! The different ideas our members bring to each meeting always amaze us. They are so focused on benefiting the children and school, which we are so proud of them for. In our latest meetings we have planned even more whole school activities. Starting off with World Book Day, we hosted the 'Gruffalo tea party', turning the main hall into a cinema experience with cake and squash available whilst watching the Gruffalo film on the big screen! Another meeting was spent planning the easter lunch, were members helped decorate the school and cook a roast dinner. Not to forget, of course we had to have Easter biscuits made by two members of our team for dessert.



We are very happy to announce that the student council have successfully completed their first ever outing into the community. The opportunity came around for us to deliver the money from the Christmas fair to our chosen charities. The first trip we ventured out to was to the Cancer Research and Chestnut Tree charity shops. Then we went to Ferring Country Centre and delivered the cheque and managed to look around to see where the money was going to be used. We are also very happy to say we have received a thank you card and a letter from two of the charities, thanking the school on all their hard work in raising the money.



Feb 24

To All the students

A great big thank you!

For your kind donation 5b money raised at your Christmas Fair

Cookie x Volunteers

Cancer Research UK
33 Broadwater St. West. Broadwater
Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 9BT
01903 230536

Rife Way | Ferring | West Sussex | BN12 5JZ

Staff & Students @ Educate U
58c Chapel road
WORTHING
BN11 1BG

7th March 2024

Dear Staff & Students,

I am writing in thanks for the donation of £174.00 presented to us on 1st March 2024 by Hannah Larbey, Karen Headington & 4 members of the Student Council. I understand this amount was raised at the School's Christmas Fair. Please do pass on my thanks to all the Students and Staff involved and thank you for choosing our Charity as the beneficiary of your donation.

Ferring Country Centre is a local independent Charity that provides meaningful training and work experience for people with learning disabilities, we are always grateful for financial assistance and support.

The money the School has donated is most gratefully received. Thank you very much for the valued contribution.

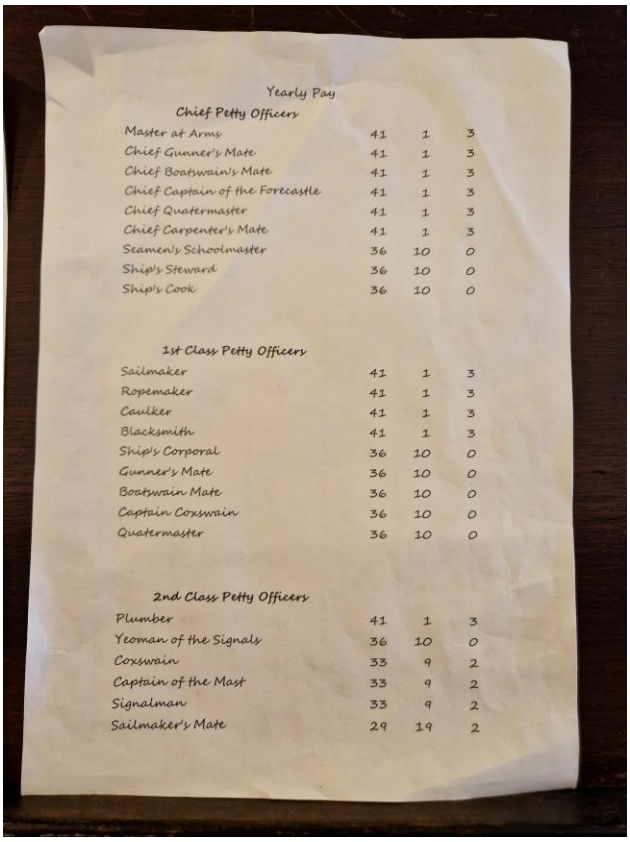
Yours sincerely

Sam Maddocks
Chief Operating Officer

A Charity Supporting People with Learning Disabilities
Patron | Georgina, Duchess of Norfolk
Tel : 01903 245078 | Website www.ferringcountrycentre.org
Registered charity no. 297286 | Company limited by guarantee in England no. 02086358

Portsmouth trip - Curriculum Learning





Yearly Pay

Chief Petty Officers

Master at Arms	41	1	3
Chief Gunner's Mate	41	1	3
Chief Boatswain's Mate	41	1	3
Chief Captain of the Forecastle	41	1	3
Chief Quatermaster	41	1	3
Chief Carpenter's Mate	41	1	3
Seamen's Schoolmaster	36	10	0
Ship's Steward	36	10	0
Ship's Cook	36	10	0

1st Class Petty Officers

Sailmaker	41	1	3
Ropemaker	41	1	3
Caulker	41	1	3
Blacksmith	41	1	3
Ship's Corporal	36	10	0
Gunner's Mate	36	10	0
Boatswain Mate	36	10	0
Captain Coxswain	36	10	0
Quatermaster	36	10	0

2nd Class Petty Officers

Plumber	41	1	3
Yeoman of the Signals	36	10	0
Coxswain	33	9	2
Captain of the Mast	33	9	2
Signalman	33	9	2
Sailmaker's Mate	29	19	2



This term students from across the school were fortunate enough to visit Portsmouth Dockyard as part of our topics 'The World Around Us' and 'World of Work'.

The students enjoyed a walk around 'The Warrior' and 'HMS Victory' where they were able to learn more about what life was like in the past. We looked at artifacts from the past and talked about the similarities and differences between then and life now . The students particularly enjoyed looking at the canons and other weapons used during battle, as well as seeing the different bedrooms - which changed depending on your ranking on board the ship.

Everyone really engaged well on this trip, and some of the students asked some great questions to help deepen their understanding of what they saw. We are looking forward to our trips next term, to go alongside our new topics!

Therapy House

A big hello to you all from the team at Therapy House. It's been another full term and the vibe this term from the house has been to embrace the creativity! Allowing a space for creativity can increase positive emotions which helps to manage and understand our more challenging feelings and anxiety. There is also evidence that shows being creative improves the function of our immune system so creativity is a great bridge between our mental well-being and our physical health. Plus, it can be fun!



Using imagery to initiate conversation begins at the entrance doorway. One of our students created images of rainbows and flowers, not only were they beautiful but they also resonated with us and our belief in what EducateU and Therapy House can offer. The idea that a rainbow which is full of light, and colour can appear after there has been some rain is a wonderful metaphor for offering and experiencing hope. A flower, given the right environment will always flourish, as part of the therapeutic provision at EducateU we are proud to involved with helping all who walk through our doors, to be heard and to thrive.



Here we give permission to just let go, to be in the moment and experience ways of relating without having to worry about finding the right words. Creativity offers no expectation, no right or wrong and our therapists are right beside the child, connecting with them and listening to what is being communicated.

When we can feel safe, we can feel able to be authentic and share those big feelings, in whatever way feels best for us.

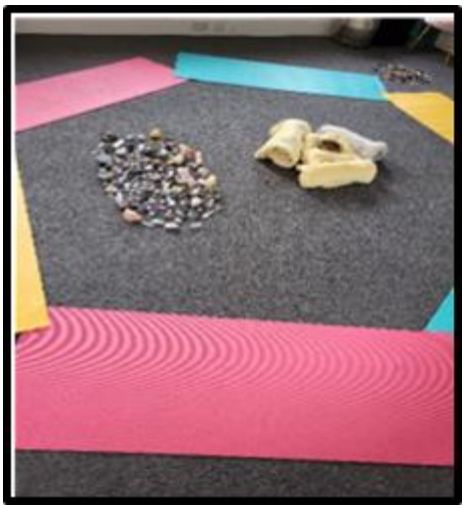




Sometimes our creativity can be too big for one session and the images progress through the weeks. One of our students gave me permission to share their work in the newsletter and it's such an honour to do so. Here is just the start of this creation's journey and Therapy House is curious to see how this journey develops.



We love to play at Therapy House, whether we are connecting via a game or finding ourselves fully immersed in a child's imagination we understand the important of play for students. Students of all ages can build relationships by using play. We have many different play resources available to the children, all our therapeutic play sessions are child led meaning we get a privileged invite into their internal world.



Yoga…

Connection doesn't always have to mean using words, in fact at Therapy House we embrace different ways to connect which are unique to each person. There is evidence showing that Yoga helps to improve the Vagus Nerve which is a key nerve in stress resilience. Strengthening the Vagal Tone helps our brains cope with social anxiety, helping us to regulate enough to experience a safe connection with others. The greater your vagal tone, the greater your perceived sense of felt connection.

Group Yoga involves a synchronicity with others and it's that group movement and connection which helps to release those happy hormones from the brain allowing us to feel that we belong, that we are connected. Our yoga teacher Vicki invites the children to experience this unique way of connecting to self in a fun, playful way that is accessible to all.



We as a team we are so connected that often we turn up dressed almost identically!

IEP Day

The way that we run IEP days is altering slightly to give you as parents and carers more access to the resources available to you and your family, and also so that you have an opportunity to look through your child's work and progress. For all classes, there will be a designated break out space to sit and look through the work that your child has produced this term. Earwig chronology will also be printed off for you to have a look through too. In the hall there will be refreshments with tea, coffee and business, and a brief 15 min headteacher presentation at 10:00am, 11:15am, 12:30pm, and 1:45pm. We want you to you have access on the day for the staff who are most involved in your child's educational journey outside the classroom. Therefore, in the hall will be:

Sarah Paoletti, Headteacher

Annie Richardson, Deputy Head

Emma Jenkinson, Deputy Head and DSL

Georgina Spoor, SENCO

Mark Brown, Senior Mental Health Lead and DDSL

Kym Clay, Lead Psychotherapist

Kim Elliot, School Counsellor

Will Marshall, Youth Worker

Hannah Larby, ELSA

Kinga Rzepecka, ELSA and SALT Assistant

Please do come and find the team to ensure you leave with all the answers or support you need.

Stay and Play over Easter



After a successful Christmas Stay and Play where the piñata got truly smashed, we are ready for our Easter Stay and Play on April 10th 10:00am -1:30pm. We will be having a Treasure trail around Worthing, making cookies and an assault course and games, plenty of fun for everyone. The cost is £5 for a whole family (regardless of how many members attend). Please book onto the session using the following link: https://educateu.co.uk/stayandplay/

Outdoor Education : Re-opening of Forest School!

We are thrilled to announce the return of Forest School days to our school timetable. While our students have been actively participating in outdoor educational trips, gaining valuable knowledge, and understanding, we recognise the unique benefits that Forest School brings to their learning experiences.

Starting from the week commencing April 22nd, Forest School sessions will be reintroduced into our schedule. These sessions will take place on either Mondays or Wednesdays, in accordance with your child's timetable and will be in place for most of our children. Lunch will be included for children on these days in the woods. If you or your child would prefer your child to have a packed lunch, please let your child's teacher know and they can either bring in their lunch, or we can provide.

Forest School provides an opportunity for our students to connect with nature, develop practical skills, and foster a deeper appreciation for the environment. Through hands-on activities, exploration, and play, children and young people have the chance to learn in a natural setting and engage with the world around them in meaningful ways which promotes a sense of self, mental health and well-being.

As we prepare for Forest School days, we kindly ask that parents ensure their children are appropriately dressed for outdoor activities, considering both the weather conditions and the woodland environment. This may include wearing sturdy footwear, waterproof clothing, and layers to stay comfortable throughout the day.

We are incredibly excited to welcome back Forest School and look forward to the enriching experiences and adventures it will bring to our students. As always, safety is paramount, therefore if the weather poses a risk (e.g. high winds, extreme weather etc) we will let you know as soon as we are able.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Forest School days, please don't hesitate to get in touch. annie@educateu.co.uk

Parent / Carer Views and Feedback

We want your feedback! To be able to gauge what we are getting right and what we can continue to work on, we need your help. Please click on the following Parent / Carer views link to let us know your views.

https://forms.office.com/e/i6MHucz5xg

Upcoming: Summer Fayre



As the season shifts and brings in warmer days, we're thrilled to announce an event that's sure to sprinkle extra joy and community spirit into our summer: Educate U's very first Summer Fayre! Scheduled for this July, it's an occasion not to be missed, following the resounding success of our Christmas Fayre which, as you'll all agree, was a remarkable event thoroughly enjoyed by everyone involved—students, staff, and parents/carers alike. The dedication and enthusiasm displayed by our students at the Christmas Fayre were truly inspiring, and we're excited to channel this same energy into making our Summer Fayre an equally memorable celebration.

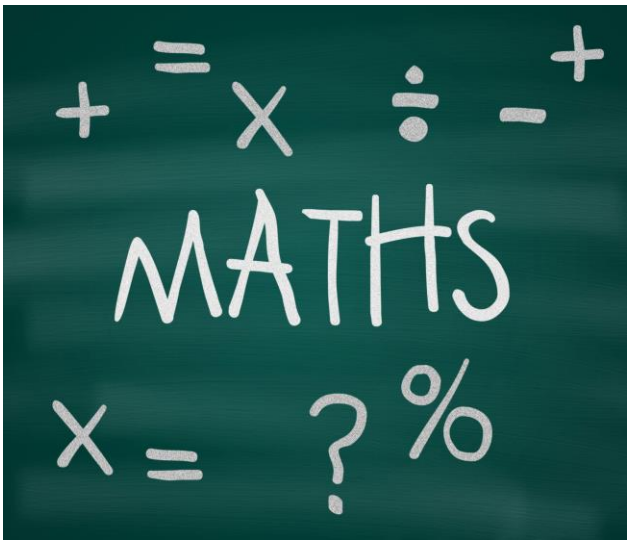
Prepare yourselves for a delightful variety of stalls that promise something for everyone. From the green thumbs and nature enthusiasts, our horticulture stall will showcase the beauty and diversity of plant life. For those enchanted by the sparkle and charm of handmade crafts, our jewellery stall will feature unique pieces perfect for adding that special touch to any outfit. We're also bringing back the fun and laughter with a range of games and activities designed to foster teamwork and community spirit. And what's a fayre without some delicious treats? Our baking stall will offer a selection of homemade goodies that are sure to satisfy any sweet tooth.

SEND friendly Community Activities





Free Maths courses



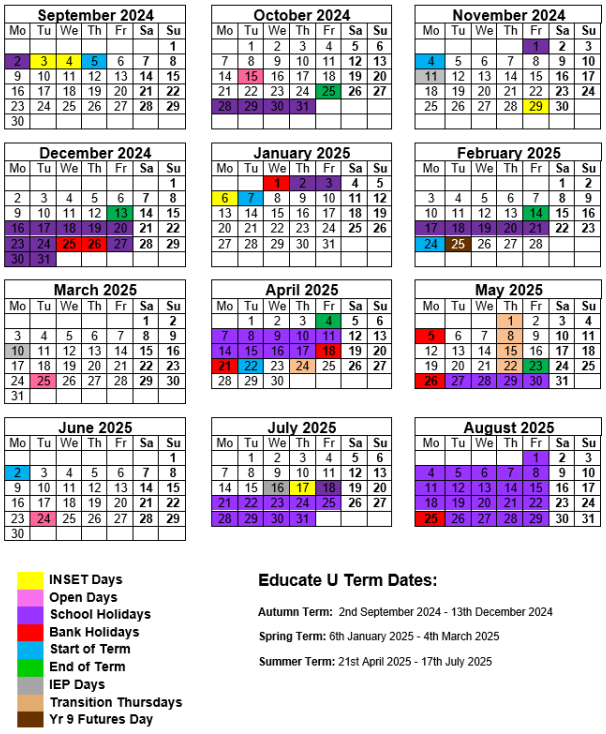
West Sussex County Council has partnered with the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund to deliver **free local courses and activities for adults (aged 19 and over)** who do not already have a GCSE at grade C/4 or higher in Maths or an equivalent subject and want to improve their numeracy skills.

https://schools.westsussex.gov.uk/Article/155458?source=Newsletter&guid=7E612AA4-5388-41D8-AE6F-3367B3E5CD1B

2023-24 School Calendar



2024-25 School Calendar



September 2024

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November 2024

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April 2025

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May 2025

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June 2025

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July 2025

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August 2025

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- INSET Days
- Open Days
- School Holidays
- Bank Holidays
- Start of Term
- End of Term
- IEP Days
- Transition Thursdays
- Yr 9 Futures Day

Educate U Term Dates:

Autumn Term: 2nd September 2024 - 13th December 2024

Spring Term: 6th January 2025 - 4th March 2025

Summer Term: 21st April 2025 - 17th July 2025