

Autumn Term – Newsletter 3



Headteachers update

Dear Families,

Autumn has finally arrived, the days are getting shorter families are now turning their attention towards the festive period (my tree is already up 😊). The children have had an incredibly busy first half term and hopefully have managed to have a well-deserved rest and are fully charged for the next 7 weeks. Parent consultations were full of positivity and the turn out was exceptional, you are all very busy people but we really do appreciate the time you give to support your fabulous children.

This month the children have been sharing, studying and learning all about inspirational people linked to 'Black History Month'. One particular article stood out for me which was about a gentleman called Sam Holness, I have attached the link for your viewing pleasure. Truly inspirational!

Sam Holness: 'My dream is to be a black, elite triathlete with autism'

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/triathlon/67214919>

Over the coming weeks we have a number of important events including our infamous PTA Firework Extravaganza; Children in Need and Remembrance weekend. We will be supporting these events as we do every year. As part of our Remembrance Day we will be holding a very special assembly for the children and Owlsmoor will be attending the ceremony at Sandhurst Memorial Park on Sunday 12th November, I am sure I will see some of you there. Poppies will be on sale from the main office until Friday 10th November, so if you haven't got one yet, please feel free to pop in.

Our incredible PTA are still looking for some help if anyone can give up some time on Saturday 11th November to support the fireworks here at the school. The more help we get the more money we can hopefully raise for the children. Please use this link <https://volunteersignup.org/M3QK4> if you can help out on the day.

Finally, we have the amount of money raised from our incredible sponsored walk. We raised a whopping £5228.50!! This will be split two ways between Owlsmoor and Sports relief, each great cause will receive £2614.25 😊.

Thank you again for all of your incredible support. This half term is always very special in so many ways but don't underestimate how much it takes out of our young people. We are looking forward to what the next few weeks will bring, have a great weekend, take care and be kind to each other.

Mr. Cope

Maths and English Superstars

A huge congratulations to our Maths and Writing Superstars for the month – keep up the good work 😊.

 Class	 Maths Superstars	 Writing Superstars 
Mrs Reed	Ethan Harvey	Brooke Heneghan
Mrs Wood	Freya Phillips	Alexis Harradine
Miss Tomlinson / Mrs Garrod	Junior Jones	Thomas Wright
Miss Parr	Bobby Sutherland	Penny Hathaway
Miss Wakelin	Teddy Cripps	Emily Williams
Ms Gardiner	Niam Mehta	Charlotte Roberts
Mrs Read/Miss Holness	Isla Wood	Alyssa Dale
Mrs Bruce/ Mrs Plumtree	Sophia Casas Barradouane	Isabelle North
Mr Francis	Samanvi Nandikonda	Sophia Eife
Miss Hadley	Jack Spring	Aoibhe-Mae Gallagher-Sparkes
Miss Megrath	Riley Ritchie	Talia Bennetts
Miss Bess	Ellis Shipton	Jivan Ghattaoura
Mr Taylor	Ethan Harman	Maisie Pocock
Mrs Panesar	Jacob Wozniak	Emilia (Mila) Kopachevska
Mr Stevens	Tallulah Thomson	Alexis Bradley
Mr Saunders	Clara Glover	Isabelle Callaway

Nursery

We are so proud of the Puffins! They did a fantastic job in their harvest festival before half term, learning all the song words, as well as the actions to the songs and being able to stand up in front of their first audience. Well done Puffins, we cannot wait to see you all in the Christmas play!



Whilst learning the songs for harvest we looked at farming and the children really enjoyed small world and role playing the roles of a farmer. They also had great fun using the different fruits and vegetables in the paint to create their own vegetables pictures.



This half term, we will be looking at Traditional Tales and have started by looking at 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. The children have enjoyed acting out the story with the masks and creating their own bear masks. They have also enjoyed creating their own fireworks, and telling us about the display in Sandhurst. I know they are super excited about the display at school on 11th November!



Finally, we have seen an increase in the number of children with juice in their water bottles, please could we politely remind you that they may have juice in their lunch boxes however they need a water filled bottle for during the day.

Miss Grant and the Team

Reception



Harvest – The Reception children did a fantastic job taking part in the Harvest Festival. They really enjoyed making bread, baking rolls, tasting different types of bread and ordering the story linked to the ‘The Little Red Hen’. ***And of course, eating it!***



For Physical Development we have been exercising ‘Our Right to be Healthy’ using our gross motor skills. The children have really enjoyed using the new Adventure Trail to keep fit and healthy.

We learnt about the story of The Enormous Turnip – we went outside and role played the story and managed to pull the turnip out!





Bonfire Night – Guy Fawkes.

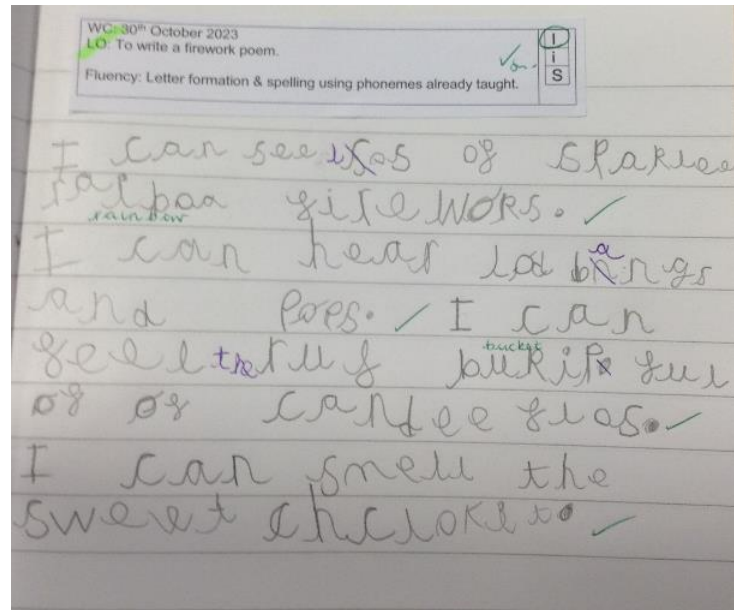
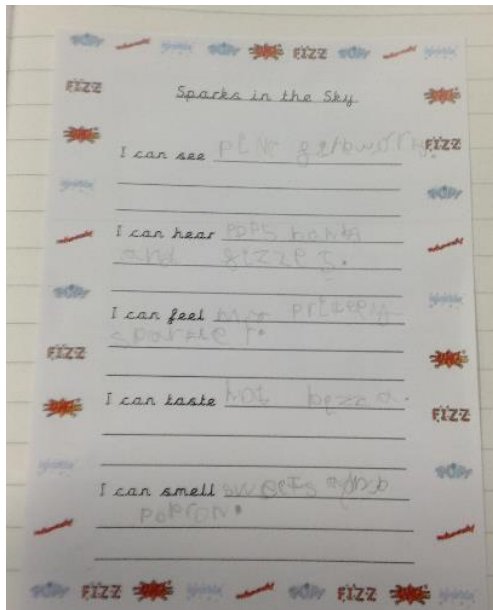
The children have enjoyed making 3D rockets in our junk modelling area and firework splatter paintings in our outdoor area. In Literacy the children were very enthusiastic about having a go at writing onomatopoeic words like boom, bang, whizz, fizz, hiss, pop and crackle. They even got to do some creative dance to the song 'Firework' by Katy Perry using coloured scarves in the hall.

Please don't forget it is our bedtime stories on Wednesday the 8th November at 5pm – bring your teddy and wear your Pyjamas 😊 We are so looking forward to sharing a story and a hot chocolate with you.

Reception team

Year 1

We have had a really exciting start to our topic of Fire and Light. The children have learned about why we celebrate Bonfire Night and have written poems about it. Next week, they will be writing the story of Gunpowder Plot.



In PE, the children used the shapes they have learned in gymnastics to create a dance routine. They really enjoyed putting this to Katy Perry's 'Fireworks' song and performing to their friends. A popular sequence was moving from a tuck position through a standing stance to an exploding star jump. I am sure the children will be eager to teach it to you!



As the weather continues to be chilly and wet please can you make sure all coats, gloves, hats, etc are **named** please.

Thank you, Year 1 team.

Year 2

Stand and Deliver!



Year 2 have had a great week using Julia Donaldson's 'The Highway Rat' to develop our writing skills. We have created some amazing 'WANTED' posters and the children really enjoyed re-enacting the story. If you want to consolidate your child's learning look out for **possessive apostrophes** in stories and reading books (He stole the **rabbit's** clover). You can also watch a BBC adaptation of the story here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b09kkt1k/the-highway-rat>



We have kicked off our history topic as 'street detectives' (down a highway near you) by tasting old-fashioned sweets your Granny might have bought from a sweet shop in a paper bag. This half term, we will be talking about how shops have changed on the high street in the last 50 years and will be learning about how the way we shop has changed dramatically because of mobile phones, superstores and home delivery – not so much of the *stand* and more about *deliver*! So if you are shopping with your children (either in a supermarket or on your phone or getting an Amazon parcel) do discuss how their grandparents would have shopped on the high street.

Year 3

The first half term flew by and we are well into our rainforest topic and are starting our design and technology projects of sewing and building this half term. Any parent helpers would be very welcome to help out in the afternoons.

We would also be very grateful for parent volunteers to read with the children in the afternoons. If you would be available to come in please see your child's class teacher.

The children enjoyed our trip to Kew Gardens and the wet weather was as kind as it could be on the day. We explored the glass houses and took part in a Rainforest workshop where they were able to taste snacks, play with clothing and instruments and match shopping items, all sourced from the rainforest. Some of the children took part in the treetop walk and were super brave as it was quite a wobbly walkway, unlike Mrs Read who held on all the way around! All the children were fantastic representatives of the school on the visit. Well done year 3!



Towards the end of the term we will be sending home a letter to invite you to an evening carol service performed by year 3. More information and lyrics to follow... 🎵

The Year 3 Team

Year 3 and 4 Footballers

On a sunny Monday afternoon, 10 young boys & girls from years 3-4 represented Owlsmoor Primary School in a local football tournament against 18 other Bracknell Forest schools.

In what was a fantastic experience for our young footballers, they all demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, determination and attitude for one other. It was a pleasure to watch them grow as the tournament progressed. Owlsmoor were in a difficult group against five other schools' including: St Michael's Sandhurst, Sandy Lane, Whitegrove, The Pines and St Joseph's.

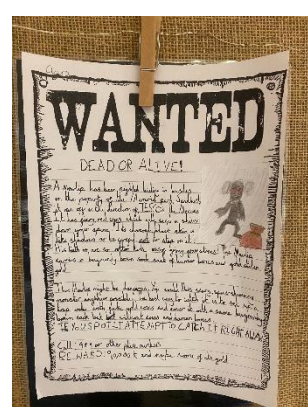
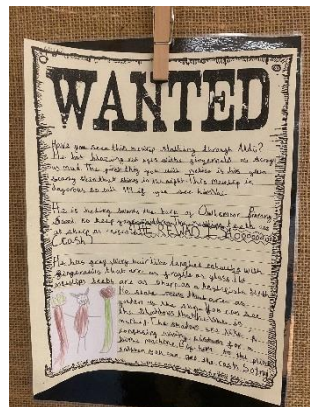
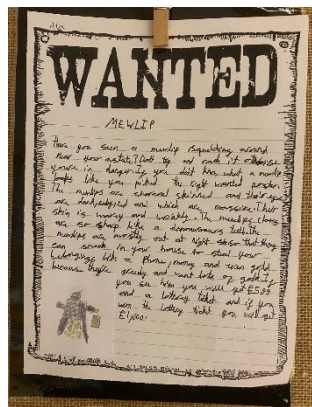
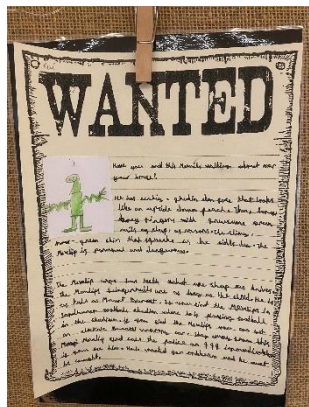
I believe the picture below tells the story – they certainly enjoyed representing the school.

Well done everyone!



The Mewlips!

In English last half term, Year 4 studied the spooky poem *The Mewlips* by J.R.R. Tolkien. We were really impressed by the creativity and imaginative skills they showed when describing their own sinister characters, inspired by Tolkien's powerful description of the dreadful Mewlips! The children created 'Wanted' posters to warn people to beware of an escaped Mewlip, wanted for stealing people's gold, and went on to write their own spooky poem. We very much enjoyed reading them all!



In D.T. we enjoyed tasting and analysing different bread products and we designed our own bread. We learnt how to shape bread too. The children were very pleased with the outcomes!



To raise awareness and understanding about the importance of mental health, Year 4 took part in a variety of activities for World Mental Health Day. These included: mindful yoga, class discussions about mental health and creating cubes decorated with positive affirmations.

This month, we will be looking forward to our first curriculum promise - we will be going on a Fungi Hunt! We are also looking forward to our Egyptian day on Friday 9th December, where Year 4 will have an Egyptian visitor and they will find out more about mummification and explore relevant artefacts! Children do not need to dress up. Further details will follow soon.

Swimming starts this month too; all details are available on our website on the 'Meet the team' PowerPoint. Swimming lessons will start on the week beginning **20th November 2023**. The children will have one 30 - minute swimming lesson every day for two weeks.



Year 5 and 6

Owlsmoor Tag Rugby team travelled to Great Hollands recreation pitches for the latest tournament against 22 other local primary schools. In terrible conditions, the year 6 arrived full of confidence with plenty of practice sessions under their belts. In a tough group with St Michael's Sandhurst, Warfield, Fox Hill, Birch Hill and Uplands, Owlsmoor were keen to impress.

Out of the five games, Owlsmoor lost two and won an incredible THREE to finish third in their group.

They simply were OUTSTANDING – scoring 20 tries in 5 matches and plenty of great defending as well.



Well done Owlsmoor, we are so proud of you!

Year 5

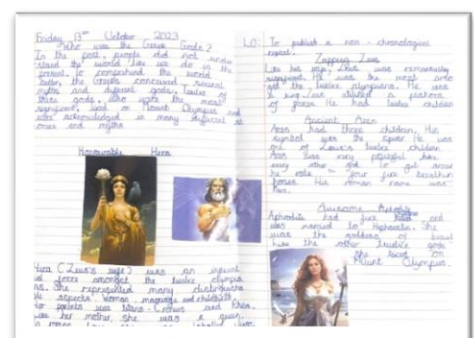
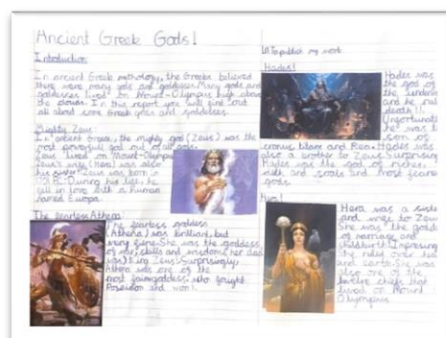
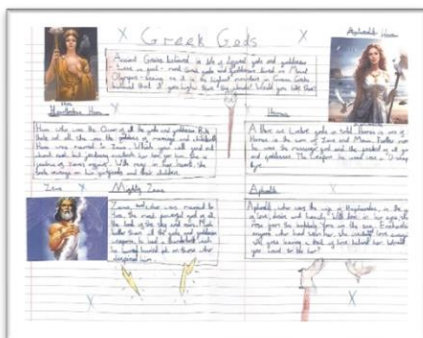
We hope everyone had a good half term break. The children's performance during the harvest celebration at the church was truly a highlight. Their dedication, enthusiasm and talent were evident in every moment and it was heart-warming to see them perform so well. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them for their efforts.



During our science unit on forces, the children conducted a series of experiments to observe the effects of various forces in action. They explored the impact of friction on different surfaces and delved deeper into understanding buoyancy. In a particularly engaging activity, they designed and constructed boats, then tested their buoyancy by placing weights on them. Their hands-on approach provided valuable insights into these scientific concepts.



We combined our English and history lessons on the world of ancient Greece. Children researched facts and wrote comprehensive non-chronological reports on the legends of the Greek gods. We were very pleased with the end results!



Finally, we would like to say well done to the children for producing some great homework, we were very impressed with the high standard of work. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 5 Team 😊

Year 6

Another busy month in Year 6 but once again, a VERY enjoyable one!

Firstly, thank you all for attending and booking an appointment for the parent consultations. It was lovely to hear, from your opinions that the children have settled in well and are enjoying life in Year 6. As a year 6 team, we are immensely proud as to how they have settled and look forward to seeing the progress they make in Autumn 2!

Thank you also for ALL the completed homework (6 different activities). It was great to see the variety of different activities as well as how they showcased the work they completed. We had; PowerPoints, tissue paper art work, fact files, pictures of PE work, etc.

We look forward to seeing this carried into Autumn 2, which will be handed out on Tuesday 31st October.

Year 6 highlights

There have been numerous highlights in Autumn 1! Firstly, MASSIVE congratulations to the Year 6 football team for their first match and win against The Pines. We have two more fixtures lined up in autumn 2 before we no longer have the light. Secondly, a HUGE well done to the Year 6 Tag Rugby team for finishing 3rd out of a possible 6 schools in the group stage, winning 3 out of a possible 5 matches. Both teams displaying teamwork, dedication and great sportsmanship.

There is one more tournament left before the New Year, which is cross country 😊

Year 6 have been working tremendously hard in ALL subjects, however, one that springs to mind is their work on Tudors and particularly their Poetry. They have all proudly produced their own poem based on their writing journey over a two-week period. The children incorporated their knowledge of: life as a Tudor, Henry VIII, difference between Tudor London and present London as well as difference between the rich and poor during Tudor times.

Some truly incredible learning, in autumn 2, we move on Extreme Earth!

Thank you all once again for your ongoing support, we really appreciate it!

Year 6 Team

Wrens

Wrens have been enjoying Halloween activities – making pumpkins from paper, making faces on pumpkins and scraping and carving pumpkins and exploring their contents! The children produced some beautiful paintings too!



Deep Thought – Owlsmoor's on the case!

On Monday and Thursday lunchtimes, a group of hardworking 'criminal investigators' have been preparing for their first mock court case as part of Deep Thought club.

The week before half term, these children decided whether or not (the fictional) Mrs Jane Appleyard was guilty of the charges against her for crashing her brand-new car through Mr Smith's shop window. Both groups showed excellent debating skills, enthusiasm and determination when sharing their views and respect when listening to the ideas of their peers.

They should be very proud of themselves for taking part, Miss Megrath definitely is!



Sebastian's Trust

Sebastian's Trust is a charity I hold very dear to me as they were my chosen charity whilst I was at Wildridings Primary School. In support of Sebastian's Trust we will be having our Christmas jumper day on December 7th to raise money for such a worthy cause. I have also attached the flyer for their upcoming Santa Fun Run, please follow the information below to sign up for the run! It always feels fantastic to be able to give something back to the local community.



School Council have asked everyone to support Children in Need day.

We are asking everyone to bring £1 and wear red, yellow and green clothes to support Children in Need. We would also like everyone to have crazy hair for the day!

Thank you



Reading Reward

We are very excited to introduce our new revamped 'Class Reading Reward'. Each class now has their own jar and marbles – the idea is that they earn extra playtime through reading!

For each day their reading record is signed by an adult who reads with them at home, children are awarded a marble which they can put into the class jar. The lines on the jar indicate how much playtime has been earned, so the more times they read at home, the more playtime the class will get.



We hope this will be a great way to motivate the children to read frequently at home – as close to daily as possible. It would be great if parents can support with this, as reading really is so important to children's development.

Happy Reading!

We're now LIVE!



Follow us on X (Twitter) to keep up to date with what we do at Owlsmoor Primary School!

@OwlsmoorPrimary



KEY DATES

Friday 10 th November	Remembrance Assembly
Saturday 11 th November	PTA – Fireworks
Tuesday 14 th November	Height and Weight Measurements for Year 6
Friday 17 th November	Child in Need
Friday 17 th November	Year 5 Ancient Greeks workshops
Monday 20 th November	Year 4 Swimming Starts for 2 weeks
Wednesday 22 nd November	Nuthatches Class Assembly at 9am
Wednesday 22 nd November	Family Forum 18:00 – 20:00 All welcome ☺
Friday 24 th November	Ostriches Class Assembly at 9am
Friday 24 th November	PTA Neon Disco (More details to follow)
Friday 1 st December	Nursery Nativity at St George's Church (Time TBC)
Thursday 7 th December	Year 2 Nativity at St George's Church (Time TBC)
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Jumper Day – In support of Sebastian's Trust £1 Donation Please
Friday 8 th December	Reception Nativity in School Hall (Time TBC)
Friday 8 th December	Year 4 Egyptian Workshop
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Lunch for the Children (Christmas Jumpers can be worn)
Friday 15 th December	Rudolph Rave 9am
Friday 15 th December	Kingfishers and Wrens to the Panto
Friday 15 th December	School Finishes at 2:00pm for Christmas Holidays
Monday 18 th December – Friday 22 nd December	In2sport Holiday Camp
Tuesday 2 nd January 2024	Inset Day
Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	Children Return
Thursday 18 th January 2024	Heron Class Assembly
Friday 26 th January 2024	Kiwis Class Assembly
Friday 2 nd February 2024	Pelicans Class Assembly
W/C 5 th February 2024	Science Week
Friday 1 st March 2024	Chaffinches Class Assembly
W/C 4 th March 2024	Book Week
Friday 8 th March 2024	Dress Up as Characters for WBD
Wednesday 13 th March 2024	EYFS – Spring Celebration (Time TBC)
Friday 15 th March 2024	Red Nose day (more details to follow)
Thursday 21 st March 2024	World Poetry Day
Wednesday 27 th March 2024	Flamingos Class Assembly
Wednesday 27 th March 2024	Parents Consultations (Remote) (more details to follow)
Thursday 28 th March 2024	School Finishes at 2:00pm for Easter Holidays
Monday 1 st July 2024	Reception and KS1 Sports Day (Time TBC)
Tuesday 2 nd July 2024	Nursery Sport Day (Time TBC)
Friday 5 th July 2024	KS2 Sports Day (Time TBC)
REMAINING INSET DAYS - 2023 - 2024	
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 2nd January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday 3rd June</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday 22nd July</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 23rd July</p>	

SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR - 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term 2024

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Pupils Start on Wednesday 4th September 2024

October Half Term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 4th November 2024

Pupils start on Tuesday 5th November 2024

Autumn Term ends on – Friday 20th December 2024 at 2.00pm

(Christmas holiday: Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025)

Spring Term 2025

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 6th January 2025

Pupils start on Tuesday 7th January 2025

February Half Term – Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025

Pupils start on Monday 24th February 2025

Spring Term ends on Friday 4th April 2025 at 2.00pm

(Spring holiday: Monday 7 April 2025 to Monday 21 April 2025)

(Good Friday: 18 April 2025, Easter Monday 21 April 2025)

Summer Term 2025

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Pupils start on Wednesday 23rd April 2025

Public Bank Holiday (School Closed) Monday 5th May 2025

(May holiday: Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025)

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 2nd June 2025

Pupils start on Tuesday 3rd June 2025

Summer Term ends on Wednesday 23rd July 2025 at 2pm.

in **2** sport in **2** care

WINTER WONDERLAND HOLIDAY CAMP

MONDAY 18TH – FRIDAY 22ND
DECEMBER 2023.



8AM–5PM → £31

9AM–3PM → £25



OWLSMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL, SANDHURST
TO BOOK: [IN2SPORT.MAGICBOOKING.CO.UK](https://in2sport.magicbooking.co.uk)



RESPECT – KIND – INCLUSIVE – DETERMINED – SAFE

Supporting Your Children Workshops

To book a space please email your full name to Inge.Taylor@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

These courses are universal (not specific for SEND or particular ages) and for adults supporting children **not** the children themselves so please arrange childcare if needed. Each course is a **standalone 2-hour session** - please be aware that spaces are offered on a **first come first served basis** and parents should not just turn up.

Once you have completed an enrolment form your space will be confirmed

Please only book onto the sessions if you are ***going to be able to attend*** to avoid other parents missing out on the opportunity to have a place or let me know if you can no longer attend.

Helping children to overcome anxious thoughts and worries

A 2-hour session looking at:

- What happens when children become anxious?
- Impact current events have had on children's mental health.
- Techniques for helping children deal with their fears / worries



Thursday 16th November 2023 (9 spaces remaining)

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre.

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Managing Behaviour in a Positive Way

A 2-hour session looking at:

- Gain insight into your parenting style / relationship with your child.
- Learn or revisit positive ways of managing behaviour!
- Strategies to deal with unacceptable behaviours



Wednesday 8th November 2023 (7 spaces remaining)

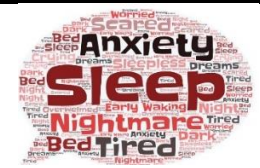
@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Supporting Children to get a Healthy Night's Sleep

A 2-hour session looking at:

- The different sleep issues facing our families.
- Tips on how to get a good night's sleep.
- Help children develop good sleeping habits



Monday 11th December 2023 (8 spaces remaining)

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

Parenting pre / early-teens in a Positive Way (aged 10 – 13)

A 2-hour session looking at:

- Gain insight into the impact of your parenting style!
- Positive techniques for managing older children's behaviour.
- Boosting your relationship and communication with your child



Wednesday 18th October 2023 (6 spaces remaining)

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30

Monday 20th November 2023 (7 spaces remaining)

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30

Reducing Sibling Rivalry

A 2-hour session looking at:

- Encouraging a more harmonious sibling relationship
- Learn / revisit techniques for children to cope with being a sibling
- Boosting children's emotional literacy



Wednesday 1st November 2023 (10 spaces remaining)

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

- Different family dynamics and how they can work
- Parental conflict resolutions
- Being the best parent that you can be for your child

6.30 – 8.30 pm

[illegible]

- What the transition involves
- The positives and concerns of transitioning to a new setting
- Boosting your child's ability to have a smooth transition

RESPECT – KIND – INCLUSIVE – DETERMINED - SAFE