



24th April 2026

Caring for God's Creation



Dear parents / carers

Food Waste and Care for Creation

Over the last term, Our City Our World Project has been a whole school effort focused on understanding and reducing waste, with a special emphasis on food waste. Through assemblies for KS1 and KS2, children have explored how food is produced, the energy required to grow it, and what happens to the waste we throw away, learning surprising facts such as how growing just one potato can require up to six bottles of water! We have also deepened our understanding of local food waste systems (including Brighton and Hove's household caddies) and we have introduced dedicated food waste bins in every classroom and outdoor learning space. As part of our commitment to cutting food waste by 50%, our Care for Creation Waste Warriors are actively weighing dining hall food waste to track progress. Before the Easter holidays, we held a whole school poster competition to raise awareness, receiving dozens of creative entries. Our winners were recognised for their insightful ideas and eye-catching designs and received an eco-themed prize from the Book Nook. Congratulations to our overall winners from Year 1 and Year 4 and thank you to everyone who took part. Looking ahead, our project continues to grow, literally, as children are busy planting wheat and a variety of vegetables in our Forest School. This will culminate in the exciting opportunity for children to bake their own loaf of bread using grains grown right here at school. We would like to involve more of our wider school community, so if you have an interest in the environment, sustainability, gardening, or would simply like to join our next Care for Creation meeting in May, please do get in touch to join our team.



School Singing Programme

Music has a central role within our school as does singing. We have an active choir as well as a separate Mass choir not to mention many opportunities for all children to sing in lessons as well as during worship. We also take part in the Diocesan Schools Singing Programme (SSP) which aims to enrich existing provision by offering a differing music programmes which brings in aspects of the mass and faith. Through the SSP, the Diocese helps schools deliver focused singing tuition, music education and performance opportunities with expert guidance and tuition provided by Choral Directors. In our school, all children in Year 5 take part. Before Easter, other children in KS2 enjoyed a special assembly from them where they shared the songs they had been learning. What an uplifting experience!



Baptism and Confirmation

We were delighted to learn that one of our Year 4 children received the sacrament of baptism at a recent Easter vigil and that their parents also received the sacrament of confirmation. They said they felt very blessed to have completed this together as a family and as an expression of their faith. Keeping them all in our prayers.



Reception places for September

As you know, there are more school places than children across the city and some schools are not able to fill all their places. This impacts schools as it means that full budgets are not received. We are pleased to say that our Reception places, for September 2026, have been offered and we are full, with a waiting list. We were also delighted to hear that 75 families put our school as their first choice (for our 60 places) and we continue to be one of the most oversubscribed schools across the city. Thank you for all your support sharing positivity about our school. We look forward to welcoming all new families soon.

Thank you for all your continued support. Have a lovely weekend. Rachel Breen, Headteacher

Computing Club

If your child is interested in Computing club, they are invited to a free taster session. To find out more and to read testimonials from other families, please follow the link.

<https://cambercote.ltd/computerclub>



Grandparents Celebration

Thank you for the contribution of so many grandparent's photographs in October, please find the link to the video that was created to celebrate them.

<https://www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk/page/gps/>

On **Thursday 7th May 2026**, grandparents are invited to Cottesmore St Mary to celebrate the contribution that they make to the lives of the children of and the wider school family. Children, with attending grandparents, will join them and will spend time with their grandparent completing activities linked to the Rosary (as this event will take place in May which is the month of the Mary).

We will offer two sessions, 1.15pm - 2pm for KS1 and 2.15pm - 3pm for KS2.

Any grandparents wishing to attend must sign up by emailing the office by Friday 17th April

2026 office@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk and note the name of their grandchild and year group. This is so we can have the correct children waiting for them.

Please note that timings are subject to change, as we may need to have two sessions if popular demand. As this is an outdoor event, it will unfortunately have to be cancelled if extremely poor weather / rain. Entrance will be via the field gate found on The Upper Drive. We appreciate that many of our children have grandparents who live far away, grandparents who are unwell and unable to travel, as well as grandparents who are in Heaven.

Children who do not have grandparents attending will take part in activities in class such as writing poems, painting pictures for the elderly in our local care home, as well as writing prayers for their grandparents whether living elsewhere or in Heaven. We will ensure that all celebrations, and class activities, are completed with sensitivity. However, if you have any concerns regarding this topic, please do contact your child's class teacher.



Mary Mass – Friday 24th May

Our annual, whole school, outdoor Mary Mass will be held on Friday 22nd May. May is the month that we celebrate Mary, our school patron. You are invited to join us.

Mass Time: 11.00 am- 11.55am

Picnic Time: 12.10pm - 1.10 pm

- Only Radinden Manor Road gate will open so please don't arrive at any other entrance. This gate will open at 10.45am - 11.05am. This will then be closed. The gate will reopen 11.55am - 12.15pm. It will then be closed during lunch and reopened 1.15pm - 1.30pm.
- We ask that all children bring in some flowers on the day of the Mass. These will be used to decorate the altar and crown Mary.
- Children will need to wear smart school uniform (NO PE KITS ON THIS DAY) but can wear sun hats and have sun cream applied in the morning.
- Please can all children bring in named water bottles. Please can all children bring a packed lunch as the whole school will enjoy a picnic on the field after the Mass. Children in receipt of free school meals who would like school to provide a packed lunch can do so, but we ask that you inform the office by Monday 20th May. There will be no hot school dinners provided on this day.
- There will be a retiring collection for the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage.

We look forward to celebrating with you.



Phonics parent meeting online

Following our Parent workshop about the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, the video version is available on the Year 1 page of our school website. The video explains how the screening check is completed and how you can support your child with phonics at home. The link to access the video is below. We hope that you find it helpful. The phonics screening check week begins on 8th June 2026 and children must be assessed during that week. If they are unwell or absent, they can be assessed in the following week only. Many thanks for all you do to support at home and we do strongly encourage using the phonics videos at home as a way to support.

<https://www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk/page/ny1-learning/#phonics>.





Switch off, to Switch on This one matters

If you have a child with access to a Smartphone or soon will, this one is for you.

Join us for an open, honest, non judgemental conversation about parenting in the digital age, everyone's welcome.

Hear from parents who will be sharing their real life experiences and practical tips to keep your children safe online.

When

Friday 1st May
2pm-3pm

Where

Cottesmore Primary
School



Feedback from Headteachers

Having attend a smartphone free event, it has not only changed my understanding as a school headteacher but also as a parent.

The emotive stories and most up to date research is so powerful and something which you will only truly believe by attending an event.

**Jack Davies, BACA
Principle**

I cannot recommend this presentation highly enough.

They were excellent communicators and gave powerful examples of how children's easy access to damaging and harmful material on smartphones and tablets, can have such long lasting effects on their developing brains.

What was so encouraging to hear was that this campaign is starting to make a difference to children and young people. If you haven't already attended one of their presentations, I would urge you to do so.

**Sophie Thomas, Headteacher
St Andrews**

Feedback from Parents

A huge thanks to Carla for sharing her story with a group of parents today. It has hit home like no statistic ever could. It should be mandatory listening for all parents, teachers and anyone involved in the care of our children.

I have felt extremely emotional since hearing her story, and I am determined to show a fraction of her bravery in working to delay smartphones for children, giving them the childhood they deserve'.

It was the most valuable hour I have spent and cannot recommend it enough.

We weren't judged, it was valuable information to assist parents in making smarter informed decisions.

I hope more schools give support and assist this topic reaching as many parents as possible.



RUSSELL MARTIN ACADEMY

COTTESMORE

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Tuesday/Thursday
All years
Fun Games
Technical Work
Match Practice
FA Qualified Coaches




SPANISH CLUB

MARIPOSA LANGUAGES

AGES 5-11 · YEARS 1-6, SUMMER TERM 2026

SPANISH CLUB

Cottesmore St Mary's Primary School · Tuesdays 3:20 - 4:20 pm
 (KS2 Year 3 to Year 6)



Holidays & Transport



City Life & Directions



Animals & Stories



Music, Dance & Traditions



End-of-Year Diploma

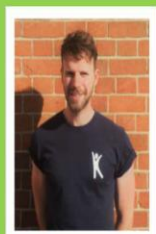
Scan to book or visit:
www.mariposalanguages.com
 NHS & Sibling discount
 Free trial available




Mr Buggy's Girls' Football Club

CardioKids

Healthy hearts and happy minds



Spaces still available!

MONDAYS 3:10-4:20PM

£8 A SESSION - YEARS 4-6

EMAIL cardiokidsclub@outlook.com TO BOOK A PLACE!



Join our **OPEN HOUSE**
SATURDAY 16TH MAY

Carousel of **CURIOSITY**

Where questions **SPARK** possibilities
and young minds learn to **THRIVE**

Available during our Open House event, the Carousel of Curiosity invites students to dive into **three engaging, hands-on mini-sessions** led by our passionate teachers.

Each activity is designed to encourage exploration, discovery, and joyful learning. Whether students are trying something completely new or building on existing interests, they'll be encouraged to think creatively, collaborate with others, and approach challenges with an open mind.



Scan to register



**OXFORD
International
College
Brighton**
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL



U7 MIXED | 2026/27
Sussex Sunday Youth
Football League



FutureFit

U7 GIRLS

PLAYERS WANTED

FOR 26/27 SEASON

(CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR 1)

- PLAYING THE FA'S NEW 'FUTURE FIT' 3v3 FORMAT
- FUN, DEVELOPMENT-FOCUSED FOOTBALL
- TRAINING & MATCHES ON 3G PITCHES
- FA QUALIFIED COACHES
- TASTER SESSIONS 6-7pm FROM TUESDAY 05 MAY
- £2 PER WEEK 'PAY TO PLAY'

Hove Park Lower School 3G
Hangleton Way
Hove BN3 8AA

For more info contact:
Rob | 07966 224301
secretary@hoveparkcolts.com



[tinyurl.com/
littlefolkceilidh](https://tinyurl.com/littlefolkceilidh)

TICKETS FROM £6
Under 1s go free!

9 MAY 2026

2:30pm

Ropetackle Arts Centre
Shoreham

Come and dance, skip and twirl your way through a joyful family ceilidh, designed especially for young children and their grown-ups.

Recommended ages 0-7

**Live Traditional
Irish, English,
Scottish & Eastern
European Music**

**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED FOR
DANCERS, OR JUST SIT BACK, RELAX
AND ENJOY THE LIVE MUSIC.**



LITTLE FOLK CEILIDH



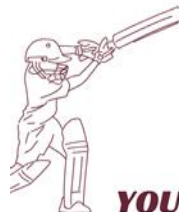
ST PETER'S CRICKET CLUB WOMEN AND GIRLS

Summer training April - September

Girls 8+: Mondays 5.45-7pm

Women SOFTBALL: Mondays 6-7pm

Women & 14+ girls HARDBALL: Mondays 7-8pm



YOUR FIRST SESSION IS FREE!

Whether you've never picked up a bat or already love the game

Everyone is welcome

email: StPetersWG@outlook.com

St Peter's CC, Preston Park Veleldrome, Brighton

APRIL / MAY	
MONDAY 27th	
TUESDAY 28th	
WEDNESDAY 29th	- Year 2 St Patrick Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 30th	
FRIDAY 1st	- Year 4 Swimming - Year 1 school trip to Arundel Castle 2pm Smartphone Free parent meeting in hall.
MAY	MAY – MONTH OF MARY
MONDAY 4th	Bank Holiday – school closed
TUESDAY 5th	- Year 3 - Greek Man workshop - Reception Bikeability
WEDNESDAY 6st	- PGL Marchant Hill TEAMS meeting with parents at 3.45 pm - Year 5 St Josephine Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 7th	Reception Bikeability
FRIDAY 8th	- Year 4 Swimming - Year 3 and 4 PTA film show after school - Reception Bikeability
	MAY – MONTH OF MARY
MONDAY 11th	- KS2 SATS Assessments during the week (Monday – Thursday) - Mental Health Awareness Week
TUESDAY 12th	
WEDNESDAY 13th	- Year 5 St Josephine trip to Rampion Wind Farm Visitors Centre - Year 5 St Oscar Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 14th	Year 5 St Oscar trip to Rampion Wind Farm Visitors Centre
FRIDAY 15th	- Year 4 Swimming - Mental Health Awareness Day to mark the end of Mental Health Awareness Week
	MAY – MONTH OF MARY
MONDAY 18th	
TUESDAY 19th	
WEDNESDAY 20th	- Year 4 St Cuthman Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 21st	PTA uniform sale after school – items between £1 and £2
FRIDAY 22nd	11am Mary Mass for all, followed by 12.15pm family picnic on the field
HALF TERM Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May Outdoors Project Holiday Club on school field	
JUNE	

HALF TERM
Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May
Outdoors Project Holiday Club on school field

JUNE	
MONDAY 1 st	
TUESDAY 2 nd	
WEDNESDAY 3 rd	- Year 4 St Lewinna Forest School - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School - Years 2 - 6 Workshops ahead of Refugee Week
THURSDAY 4 th	Years 2 - 6 Workshops ahead of Refugee Week
FRIDAY 5 th	
MONDAY 8 th	Year 1 (and some Year 2) Phonics Screening Test week
TUESDAY 9 th	
WEDNESDAY 10 th	6.20pm welcome meeting for new Reception (Sept 2026) parents - Year 3 St Martin Forest School - Year 1 St George Forest School
THURSDAY 11 th	
FRIDAY 12 th	
MONDAY 15 th	- Refugee Fortnight - Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (15th – 17th)
TUESDAY 16 th	Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (15th – 17th)
WEDNESDAY 17 th	- Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (15th – 17th) - Year 3 St Cecilia Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 18 th	Good Shepherd celebration for some members of RE Council TBC
FRIDAY 19 th	- PTA Summer Fair - New Reception Starters Teddy Bear’s picnic 10.15am – 11.15am
MONDAY 22 nd	Year 2 Beach School
TUESDAY 23 rd	Class photos with JP Photographic
WEDNESDAY 24 th	- Year 1 St George Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm - Year 4 Beach School
THURSDAY 25 th	- First Holy Communion Mass and breakfast for children in Year 2, Year 3 and 4 - TBC - Year 5 School Trip to Deers Leap
FRIDAY 26 th	
JUNE / JULY	
MONDAY 29 th	Year 6 Sussex Police Visit
TUESDAY 30 th	New Reception storytime sessions. Group A 10.15am – 11.15am and Group B 1.20pm – 2.20pm
WEDNESDAY 1 st	Sports Day sessions for KS1 (parents welcome) 9.15am – 10.15am Reception 10.30am – 11.30am Year 1 1.30pm – 2.30pm Year 2
THURSDAY 2 nd	First Holy Communion Mass and breakfast for children in Year 2, Year 3 and 4 - TBC
FRIDAY 3 rd	- Reserve date for Summer Fair - Year 6 Transition Day - Newman festival
MONDAY 6 th	
TUESDAY 7 th	
WEDNESDAY 8 th	Sports Day sessions for KS2 (parents welcome) 9.15am – 10.45am Year 3 and 4 1.15pm – 2.45pm Year 5 and 6
THURSDAY 9 th	- Year 3 Beach School - PTA uniform sale after school – items between £1 and £2
FRIDAY 10 th	- Year 5 Beach School - Year 6 leaver’s disco 3.15pm – 4.30pm (children only unless parent helpers) – TBC
SATURDAY 11 th	Faith In Action awards for Year 6’s in FIA. Arundel Cathedral. 3p – 4.30pm
MONDAY 13 th	Year 6 dress rehearsal to school
TUESDAY 14 th	Year 6 show to parents. 1.30pm – 3pm and 5pm – 6.30pm. Please sign up via the office.
WEDNESDAY 15 th	- Year 6 St Maximilian Forest School am - Year 6 St Benedict Forest School pm - Year 6 leaver’s disco 3.15pm – 4.30pm (children only unless parent helpers) – TBC
THURSDAY 16 th	
FRIDAY 17 th	9.15am Year 6 Leavers Mass and picnic - Last day of term – school closed for summer
MONDAY 20 th	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
TUESDAY 21 st	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
WEDNESDAY 22 nd	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils