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# FRIDAY FLYER

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WELCOME | OUR SCHOOL CHAPLAIN | LETTERS HOME | OUR SCHOOL PTA | YEAR 6 TO UPPER SCHOOL | SNACKS | PE DAYS | COMMUNITY

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## WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR



I am thrilled to welcome you to my first Friday Flyer as Headteacher of our fantastic school, Midhurst CofE Primary! It is an honour to lead this incredible community of children, parents and educators.

As always seems to be the case, nothing says 'Welcome Back To School' more than near 30° heat and bright sun! Our children have been FAB coping with the heat and as the week has gone on and as we have got to know each other better on the gate I have even – with your encouragement – taken my jacket off! Incidentally, one of my favourite, and most important parts of the day is meeting and chatting with you all at the gate. As we start our journey together, it is worth just spending some time to think on these things. As teachers, we are honoured to be entrusted with your children, supporting them every step of the way and helping them gain the skills to 'reach for the stars' as they move through life 'world-ready'. We do this together. We are a family of learners. I know I've learnt many new things this week and a lot of that is down to your continued support and you being there as central to your child's journey with us. Thank you for welcoming me so warmly and being there with us.

As we start our journey together, I want to share with you some exciting updates and highlights for our upcoming year.

**1. Our Commitment to High Expectations:** At Midhurst our commitment to high expectations is unwavering. We are dedicated to providing excellent learning that fosters not only academic achievement but also personal growth and development. We all learn in different ways and I have seen this week that our talented and hardworking team are ready to inspire, challenge and

support the needs of every one of your children on their school journey.

**2. A Focus on Innovation:** In today's rapidly changing world, we understand the importance of innovation and adaptability. This year, we are currently reviewing cutting-edge technology, curriculum enhancements, and creative teaching and behaviour approaches to ensure that every one of our children are well-prepared for the future. I have a wonderful Senior Leadership Team and moving forward Mrs Chance is taking a lead in reviewing Behaviour in the School, whilst Mr Ind will be leading a review of our curriculum. As always, we would love your input into these two vital aspects of our work so please feel free to be part of this review by emailing your thoughts to [lchance@midhurstprimary.co.uk](mailto:lchance@midhurstprimary.co.uk) or [sind@midhurstprimary.co.uk](mailto:sind@midhurstprimary.co.uk) In reviewing our curriculum we would love to hear from you if you feel you would like to be part of our teaching team in school. If you feel your work experience could further enlighten our teaching please do get in contact. If you're currently working at South Downs National Park perhaps you could come into school and talk to the children about eco matters. If you work in healthcare why not come into school and lead a maths lesson on weighing. If you work in hospitality why not pop by and lead a session on healthy eating? Have a think and let us know!

**3. Strong Community Engagement:** We believe that a strong school community is built on open communication and collaboration. Throughout the year, we will host various events, workshops, and opportunities for you to get involved in your child's education and in the life of our school.

**4. Safety and Wellbeing:** The safety and wellbeing of our children are paramount. We already implement rigorous safeguarding procedures and are committed to providing a supportive and nurturing environment where every child can thrive. We are currently reviewing everyone of our procedures to ensure this continues. I know you will all be asked to take part in this review in the coming weeks.

**5. Exciting Extracurricular Activities:** Beyond the classroom, we offer a wide range of extracurricular activities, including sports, arts, and clubs, to enrich your child's educational experience and foster their interests and talents.

**6. Parent-Teacher Partnerships:** We value the partnership between parents and teachers. Our doors are always open, and we encourage you to reach out to us with any questions, concerns, or ideas. Together, we can ensure the success of your child.

In closing, I again want to express my gratitude for entrusting us with your child's education. We are excited about the possibilities the new school year brings and look forward to the shared growth, achievements, and memorable moments that lie ahead.

Thank you for being a part of the Midhurst family. Here's to a fantastic year ahead filled with learning, growth, and success!

With every best wish!

Mark

## WELCOME!

On behalf of us all, it is a huge privilege to welcome our newest members of the family in Reception. I've had so much fun spending time with Reception and Miss Channon this week playing in the sand and reading stories. Who knew there was a book called 'Greg – The Sausage Roll'?

We welcome also, two new members of staff Mrs Apperley in Year 3 and Mr Jones in Year 6.

We welcome our new School Chaplain, Rev. Marcus. This is so exciting and after spending time with Marcus considering how we can best support both you and your children I know he is going to be an amazing part of our pastoral team. I'll let Marcus tell you for himself.

## A WORD FROM OUR NEW SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Hello all!

Just a very brief introduction from me: Marcus, the new vicar for Midhurst.

I arrived over the summer, and my family and I have just about settled in! Just as for you, this has been a busy week for us as we too settle into our new routines of school runs, working out dinner plans, frantically packing lunchboxes and the like.

I'll be a regular visitor to the school, and look forward to meeting you, the children, the staff, governors, and friends of the school in the coming weeks and months. I'm normally easy to spot: dog collar, unruly hair and a big smile!

I herald from South Wales but have spent the last 5 years ministering in inner city Portsmouth. Before doing the 'church thing' I spent 20 years in the finance industry. My wife is a GP, my daughter is about to sit A-Levels (eek!) and my son a typical football-mad teenager.

I'll be looking to pick up where Dave and Beth have left off and look forward to exploring with the school how the parish church can best support the children in understanding this strange thing we call 'the world'.

I look forward to meeting you soon!

Marcus

## LETTERS HOME

As it is the start of the new term, during next week you will be receiving a lot of extra information and forms to complete – with the exception of our Reception children who have already provided much of this already. This includes a new contact form for you all to complete and return. You could argue that this is duplicated information, but family situations do change along with mobile numbers, and it is a vital part of our Safeguarding that we have the most up to date details in school so please help us to keep your child safe.

I would also ask you to speak to our amazing office team about any new medical issues or allergies we need to be made aware of.

All children will be bringing home an Acceptable Use document for you to read, discuss with your child and return to school signed. This is centered around our expectations regarding using the internet and our policy on digital images and video in school.

If your child is in Year 3 you will also receive a copy of the Home-School Agreement. This is an agreement that all children and parents sign when they join our school in Reception, however we feel it is important to revisit this as your child moves into Keystage 2 at the start of Year 3, particularly as your children have a better understanding of the school and our expectations. We would welcome you spending some time with your child reading through the agreement before signing and returning them to school.

## OUR SCHOOL PTA

We have an amazing Parent Teachers Association, chaired by the wonderful Sophia Santon – Mummy to Ava in Year 3 and Max in Year 6. The work of the PTA is vital to the school and supports and strengthens opportunities for every one of our children by fund raising activities and social events. I would encourage you all to experience the wonderful world that is 'Midhurst PTA'. Why not get involved? It is a super way to become even more involved in your child's school journey. To that end we currently have a number of vacancies on the PTA committee -

Vice-Chair  
Secretary  
Social Secretary

If you wish to consider any of these roles please drop me an email to find out more. We will be holding our Annual PTA AGM on 6.30pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October so please do attend and have a say in the great work our PTA do in support of your children.

## YEAR 6 – IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Parents of children in Year 6 should now have received an email from us with information from WSCC about how to apply for a place in Secondary School. We are aware that this information can feel overwhelming, especially as your child has only just entered Year 6, however it is crucial that you read this carefully and ensure that you have made your application by the deadline of October 31<sup>st</sup>.

We are very happy to support you in this process if you would like. If you would like to speak to us please contact either myself or our amazing SENDCo and Parents Liaison, Mrs Chance. On [mjefferson@midhurstprimary.co.uk](mailto:mjefferson@midhurstprimary.co.uk) or [lchance@midhurstprimary.co.uk](mailto:lchance@midhurstprimary.co.uk)

## SNACKS

We do appreciate that our children can become hungry between breakfast and lunchtime and as such they are welcome to bring in their own healthy snack to eat at morning playtime. Children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are provided with a piece of fruit or veg, but this scheme does not extend to our older children. Please do encourage children to bring in a healthy snack to eat at morning break.

Whilst I am on the subject of Healthy Snacks, I would like to touch on the never-ending issue of Prime Energy Drinks, or any other energy drinks for that matter. Although there are no health risks to children associated with drinking 'Prime Hydration' the drink does contain a high level of electrolytes. Electrolytes aren't recommended for children unless they are unwell or at risk of dehydration. Another form of the drink, 'Prime Energy', contains around 200mg of caffeine for every 330ml and as a result is not recommended for children under the age of 18. As a result, the school has taken the decision to ban all forms of the Prime drink. Children should therefore not bring it to school as part of their lunchtime drinks.

Other drinks that are not allowed in school include all fizzy drinks and all other energy drinks.

For lunchtime children are allowed to bring squash, fruit juice, milk, milkshakes, smoothies or flavoured water.

We still encourage children to bring additional water in a bottle to drink in class during the day.

## PE DAYS

Please send children with their PE Kit on the following days

Year 1	Monday and Wednesday
Year 2	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 3	Monday and Thursday
Year 4	Tuesday and Friday
Year 5	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 6	Tuesday and Thursday

## COMMUNITY



Midhurst Foodbank (as part of the Chichester Foodbank) is a local charity, part of the Trussell Trust, which distributes emergency food to local people experiencing short term financial challenges. Our school is working in partnership with the charity to ensure that this service is available to our families should you need support at any time.

The school is a registered voucher distributor for the Midhurst Foodbank, enabling families to access a voucher to be exchanged for supplies issued via delivery by the charity's distribution centres in the town. The intention is that this food and basic needs package will ease the short-term pressure, while longer term support can be sought through appropriate agencies.

Vouchers can be accessed by meeting with either myself or Mrs Chance. If you feel that this is a service you would like to access, please contact the school office by phone or email to make an appointment. You can be assured of our full support and discretion in this area.

## OUR WONDERFUL NEW BENCHES



This week we were gifted some wonderful new benches from Seb Chadwick and his family. They have spent the summer painting them to provide two new areas for children to go at playtime.

The 'Buddy Bench' is a place for children to go at playtime if they have no one to play with and the 'Safe Space' bench was designed for children who need a little space at playtime and would like to be left alone.

Seb will be leading an assembly for the children very soon, training everyone up on how to use them and what to do if you spot someone sat on them.

Thank you to Sebastian and his family for such a wonderful idea. Keep your eyes peeled for our fabulous new benches around the school.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Date	Event /Activity	Details
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Years 1 & 3 PE today	Don't forget your PE kit
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Year 2, 4, 5 & 6 Aspire football club Years1-6	Don't forget your PE kit 3.30-4.30
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Year 2 PE today	Don't forget your PE kit
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Years 3, 5 & 6 PE today Year 3 & 4 visit from South Downs National Park	Don't forget your PE kit 9.30-12
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Year 4 PE today	Don't forget your PE kit
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Years 1 & 3 PE today <b>Bikeability (Year 6)</b>	Don't forget your PE kit <b>All week</b>
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Year 2, 4, 5 & 6 Year 2 trip to Beaulieu Aspire football club Years1-6	Don't forget your PE kit Please be in school for 8.30 in school uniform, with packed lunch, drink and a coat.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Year 2 PE today	Don't forget your PE kit



Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> Sep	Years 3, 5 & 6 PE today	Don't forget your PE kit
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sep	Year 4 PE today Years 3 & 4 South Downs walk	Don't forget your PE kit Non-uniform, comfy clothes for walking, sensible shoes, light coat, packed lunch, drinks and a bag.



**Midhurst Rother College**  
The best in everyone™  
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### Open Evening

Wednesday 20 September 2023

6.00 - 8.00pm

### Drop-In Mornings

Tuesday 3 October & Thursday 12 October 2023

9.30 - 11.30am



### Please come and hear about:

- Grammar Stream for the most able
- Music and Drama performances
- Residential visits to places in Europe and further afield
- Extensive clubs and enrichment offers

t: 01730 812451  
e: sarah.banbury@mrc-academy.org  
w: www.mrc-academy.org

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# MESSY CHURCH

Sunday 17th September

3pm-5pm

Join us for lots of fun harvest themed crafts, games, food, singing and stories!

This is a free event for Primary school age (ish) accompanied by an adult.



MIDHURST  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## How to get your FREE TICKETS:

Scan the QR code to book tickets for the event/s you'd like to attend, or go to [madhurst.co.uk/whats-on](http://madhurst.co.uk/whats-on)



Thank you to MADhurst for facilitating bookings.

Tickets required for all events except live music and fairs (table bookings may be required for restaurants).

For more information: [visitmidhurst.com/whats-on](http://visitmidhurst.com/whats-on)

# FREE EVENTS IN MIDHURST SEPTEMBER SATURDAYS

**2 September**  
FARMERS' AND ARTISAN MARKET

**9 September**  
OUTDOOR CINEMA » SING 2 and ELVIS

**16 September**  
FOLD OUR TOWN » origami event  
LIVE MUSIC » at venues around town

**23 September**  
GET ACTIVE DAY » BMX display team, face painting, rollerblading and more  
VINTAGE FAIR » artisan makers and vintage finds

**30 September**  
FAMILY FUN RUNS » 5k and 2k



everyone ACTIVE



#loveMidhurst

## FREE EVENTS IN MIDHURST SEPTEMBER SATURDAYS

» **Sat 2 September » FREE ENTRY**  
Farmers' and Artisan Market

9am-2pm » At Market Square and The Old Library, Midhurst.

» **Sat 9 September » FREE ENTRY**

Outdoor cinema at Market Square, Midhurst

Bring your chair and/or blanket - sit back and enjoy!

1pm » Kids' karaoke with singer Lizzie Haynes - come join in!

2pm » Film: **SING 2** (2021) The ultimate dance-along film.

6pm » Kick-start the evening with live act Suspiciously Elvis.

7pm » Film: **ELVIS** (2022) by Baz Luhrmann - immerse yourself in the iconic world of the King.

» **Sat 16 September » FREE ENTRY**

'Fold our Town' and live music

11am-3.30pm » 'Fold our Town' at The Old Library, Midhurst. Create a wonderful origami installation inspired by Midhurst. Fold and decorate your own house, car or local landmark.

7pm onwards » Great live music from around the world in the restaurants and pubs across Midhurst.

» **Sat 23 September » FREE ENTRY**  
Get Active Day and Vintage Fair

11am-4pm » Get active at The Grange Centre, Midhurst. BMX bike display team (every hour), slack lining, face painting, rollerblading, table tennis and more...

To book call **01730 815285**.

Organised with Everyone Active

10am-4pm » Midhurst Artisan Makers and Vintage Fair at Market Square.

» **Sat 30 September » FREE ENTRY**

Midhurst 5k (12+) and 2k (5+) family fun runs

10am » Runs start at The Wharf and finish at St Ann's Hill. 2 hours' free parking at The Grange - facilities and café open until 2pm. Under 12s must be accompanied.

Organised With The Midhurst Millers



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