



# Spring 2 - Newsletter - 15/01/2026

## Message from Mrs Sherwood

Thank you so much to all those parents who came into school last Thursday to support our RE day. The children really enjoyed hearing about a range of religions and cultural customs. We all enjoyed tasting the different foods that would be eaten during religious festivals! Thank you also to Mr Reg Bailey, our RE governor for visiting and talking with the children. A big thank you to Miss Brown for all her hard work in organising what was a very interesting and educational day.

Mrs Bell who reads with Year 3 every week has been awarded a 10-year service award for volunteering with the 'School Readers' group. We presented Mrs Bell with a certificate from 'School Readers' and flowers from the school. Mrs Bell was very grateful and told us that she loves coming in to listen to the children reading and the presentation was a lovely surprise.

## PTA News

As an addition to the events that we advertised last week, we are pleased to announce that we've added a new event in April. We have teamed up with Glazed Creations to bring you an adult-only painting evening. More details will be shared very soon, so please keep an eye out.

We would also like to say a huge thank you to everyone who ordered their child's creations on Christmas cards and gifts. Thanks to your support, we raised £212.00 through Xmas4Schools — which is amazing.

Thank you all so much for your continued support.

## NURSERY ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Our admissions process opened on 1st October for children born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023. Please visit our website and view the admissions page for further information, link below:

<https://icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk/about-us/admissions/>

## RECEPTION & MIDDLE SCHOOL PLACE ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

**TODAY IS THE DEADLINE TO APPLY.**

Parents of year 4 children should visit [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) to apply for their child's place at King James Academy Royston or alternative education settings for September 2026.

Parents of Nursery children should apply for their child's reception place by visiting [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions).

## What's on

### Thursday 15.01.2026

Deadline for applying for Reception school places and Middle school places for September 2026.

am - Year 4 Recorder Club

3.15-3.45pm - Year 3 Recorder Club in the school hall

3.15-4.15pm - Lab Tots in Dove class

### Friday 16.01.2026

pm - Year 4 Eagle class swimming

3.15-4.15pm - Kings & Queens Chess Club in the literacy room

3.15-4.15pm - It's Your Cue Drama Club in Eagle class

### Monday 19.01.2026

Learning logs return to school

3.15-4.15pm - RTFC Gymnastics Club

Tuesday 20.01.2026

3.15-4.15pm - RTFC Multi Skills Sports Club

Wednesday 21.01.2026

Guitar and Piano lessons

3.15-4.15pm - Outdoor Project Club

### Thursday 22.01.2026

am - Year 4 Recorder Club

3.15-3.45pm - Year 3 Recorder Club

3.15-4.15pm - Lab Tots in Dove class

Friday 23.01.2026

pm - Year 4 Eagle class start swimming

3.15-4.15pm - Kings & Queens Chess Club in the dining hall

3.15-4.15pm - It's Your Cue Drama Club for Year 4s in Eagle class

<https://icknielwalk.herts.sch.uk/news-dates/calendar/>

## Vacancy - Cleaner

We have a vacancy for a cleaner to join our dedicated and friendly team as soon as possible.

We need a cleaner (early morning or afternoon or early evening) during term time for two hours and fifteen minutes each day, some additional holiday cleaning will also be required.

The rate of pay is £12.65 per hour.

At Icknield Walk First School we take the safety of our children very seriously and all applicants will be thoroughly vetted and will be subject to DBS checks, internet searches, health checks and references. You will be asked questions about safeguarding children in your interview, and you will receive regular safeguarding training while you are working with us.

Previous cleaning experience would be an advantage but not essential.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon, Friday 23rd January 2026.

We reserve the right to interview and appoint before the closing date should the right candidate apply. Please apply early to avoid disappointment.

For more details, please contact the school office on 01763 243392 or email [admin@icknielwalk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@icknielwalk.herts.sch.uk).

## Vacancy - Midday Supervisory Assistant (MSA)

Please come and join our team! We have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisory Assistant to work from 11.55am to 1.15pm, Monday-Friday. The rate of pay is £12.65 per hour. Tasks include supervising the children during their lunchtime and play in all weathers. First aid training will be given to applicants if they do not hold a current certificate. Previous experience of working or volunteering in school would be an advantage but not essential.

At Icknield Walk First School we take the safety of our children very seriously and all applicants will be thoroughly vetted and will be subject to DBS checks, internet searches, health checks and references. You will be asked questions about safeguarding children in your interview and you will receive regular safeguarding training while you are working with us.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon, Friday 30th January 2026.

Please email [admin@icknielwalk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@icknielwalk.herts.sch.uk) for further information and an application form. We reserve the right to interview and appoint before the closing date should the right candidate apply. Please apply early to avoid disappointment.

## Therfield First School - Finance vacancy

Therfield First School currently have a finance vacancy for 14 hours per week. The hours are very flexible, to apply follow the link below:

[https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,finance-officer\\_110223.htm](https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,finance-officer_110223.htm)

# BeeZee Bodies



**Changing habits keep you healthy...all year long!**

Our free Beezee Families programme is here to help you feel healthier and happier as a family.



**Top Tips to brave those winter mornings**

**Keep hydrated:** This is a sure-fire way to get our bodies fired up in the mornings. A fresh glass of water will give your body the boost it needs to start the day.

**Breakfast:** There is a reason it holds the title as the most important meal of the day! Make sure little (and grown up) tums don't leave the house empty, it's important to have a good healthy breakfast to give our bodies the energy they need.

**Sleep:** Its important no matter your age to get enough sleep and sticking to regular sleep patterns can help support this.

**Healthy lunch boxes**

Keeping school lunch boxes interesting can be a challenge at the best of times so we appreciate how hard it is to make sure they are kept healthy too.

But healthy doesn't have to be a chore, it can actually make life much easier!

Fruit is a great way to give little ones a boost of energy and if bought in packs will generally last the whole week and keep costs down too. A satsuma, banana or small handful of grapes will add a tasty (and vibrant) addition to their lunch boxes.

**Fresh air fix**

It's tough during the colder months to find ways to get our much-needed Vitamin D.

Fresh air is a great way to improve both our physical and mental well-being and even short bursts of outdoor time can make a big difference.

Try swapping the car or bus for a short walk from time to time or get the little ones wrapped up and outside for a quick play in the park.




**Want more healthy lifestyle support?**

Check out our website to find out how we can help your family.\*

\*Our courses are designed for families with children aged 5 and up

Scan here or Click the link



[hrt.maximusuk.co.uk](http://hrt.maximusuk.co.uk)

# Events in and around Royston and other useful information

## Supporting Dads with Protective Behaviours

For Dads & Male Carers

Online course starting February 2026




**Thursday evenings**

5 Feb—26 March  
7.00pm—9.00pm  
(excluding half term)

**Are you looking for strategies and new ideas to help improve family life?**

**This fully funded 7-week term time course can help you to:**

- Understand what may be influencing your child's behaviour
- Understand how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together
- Respond to a range of feelings e.g. anger, frustration, anxiety, stress and worry
- Improve communication to build better relationships

**For eligibility and to book your fully funded place please use this link or the QR code**

<https://forms.office.com/e/AhqfPIUW6T>  
or email: [enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk)



Funded by Hertfordshire County Council



Families Feeling Safe Protective Behaviours Services has been funded through HCC to provide Families Feeling Safe programmes across Hertfordshire. We deliver Protective Behaviours training for professionals and provide programmes and workshops to children and their families. [www.familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk](http://www.familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk) E-mail: [enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk)

# Supporting Families with Protective Behaviours

For Mums, Dads & Carers

Online courses  
starting  
February 2026



**Wednesday  
mornings**  
4 Feb—25 March  
9.30am—11.30am

Or

**Wednesday  
evenings**  
4 Feb—25 March  
7.00pm—9.00pm

Are you looking for strategies and new ideas to help improve family life?

This fully funded 8-week term time course can help you to:

Understand what may be influencing your child's behaviour

Understand how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together

Respond to a range of feelings e.g. anger, frustration, anxiety, stress and worry

Improve communication to build better relationships

Build on your own and your child's strengths

Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe

For eligibility and to book your fully funded place please use this link or the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/AhqfPJUW6T>

or email: [enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk)



Please like us on Facebook for further updates @familiesfeeling-safe

Funded by  
Hertfordshire  
County Council



Families Feeling Safe Protective Behaviours Services has been funded through HCC to provide Families Feeling Safe programmes across Hertfordshire. We deliver Protective Behaviours training for professionals and provide programmes and workshops to children and their families. [www.familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk](http://www.familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk) E-mail: [enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk)

## Make a Difference in 2026 Volunteer with Home-Start!

### Want to change lives in your community?

We're looking for passionate people to join us in three vital roles:

*Family Support Volunteers* - Offer a helping hand and a listening ear to local families.

*Fundraising Volunteers* - Help us raise the funds that keep families thriving.

*Trustee Volunteers* - Shape the future of Home-Start with your skills and experience.

Our next Family Support Volunteer training begins this February – your chance to make a real difference!

Be the support a family needs to thrive, and discover how helping others can transform your own life too.

To find out more or to sign up to our course you can visit our website: <https://www.hsrsc.org.uk/home-start-volunteer/>


Alternatively feel free to email: [admin@hsrsc.org.uk](mailto:admin@hsrsc.org.uk) or call: 01763 262262

We would love to hear from you!

## Easy Fundraising - help us while you shop

# Raise funds for us for **FREE**

with  **easyfundraising**





Join as our supporter today at:  
[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause)  
Just search for:  
**Ickniel Walk First School PTA**

8,000+ retailers will donate to us whenever you shop with them



**Start at the easyfundraising website or app** → **Click out to where you'd like to shop** → **Checkout: prices are exactly the same!** → **The retailer sends a % of your spend to easyfundraising** → **They pass it on to us :)**

**Plus, you'll get...**

-  Exclusive retailer offers
-  Competitions
-  A warm feeling inside!

Over **£60m** raised for UK good causes

**£0** extra cost to anyone

Please remember to use [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) when you do any of your online shopping.

Over 8,000 retailers including eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos and M&S will donate to Ickniel Walk First School PTA for FREE when you use [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to shop with them.

Want to know more, [see this handy intro](#)

These donations really help us and all you have to do is use [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) when you're ordering the things you'll be buying anyway.

## Weblinks that can help you

[NSPCC](#) - Online safety.

[Smartphone Free Childhood](#)

[Angels Support \(ASD & ADHD\)](#)

Herts CC [Relationship advice](#)

[Families Feeling Safe](#)

[NESSIE - Positive Mental Health](#) - Lots of talks and courses to help you and your child with their mental health.

[Supporting Family Links](#) - Promoting Strong Family Relationships with children up to the age of 12, lots of online courses to help.

Herts CC Cost of living resources - [cost-of-living-flashcard \(thegrid.org.uk\)](#)

North Herts Family Support Services - [www.hertsfamilycentres.org](#)

[www.supportinglinks.co.uk](#) - Workshops/training courses for parents/carers of children (up to age 25).

BeeZee Bodies - [www.beezeebodies.com](#)

[North Herts Special Provision updates - look here for SEN and Behaviour support](#)

[Free School Meals](#)

[Neurodiversity Support Hub](#)

Lumi Nova - Fun digital therapy for childhood anxiety - <https://luminova.app/>

Mind Hertfordshire Network - <https://www.withyouth.org/>