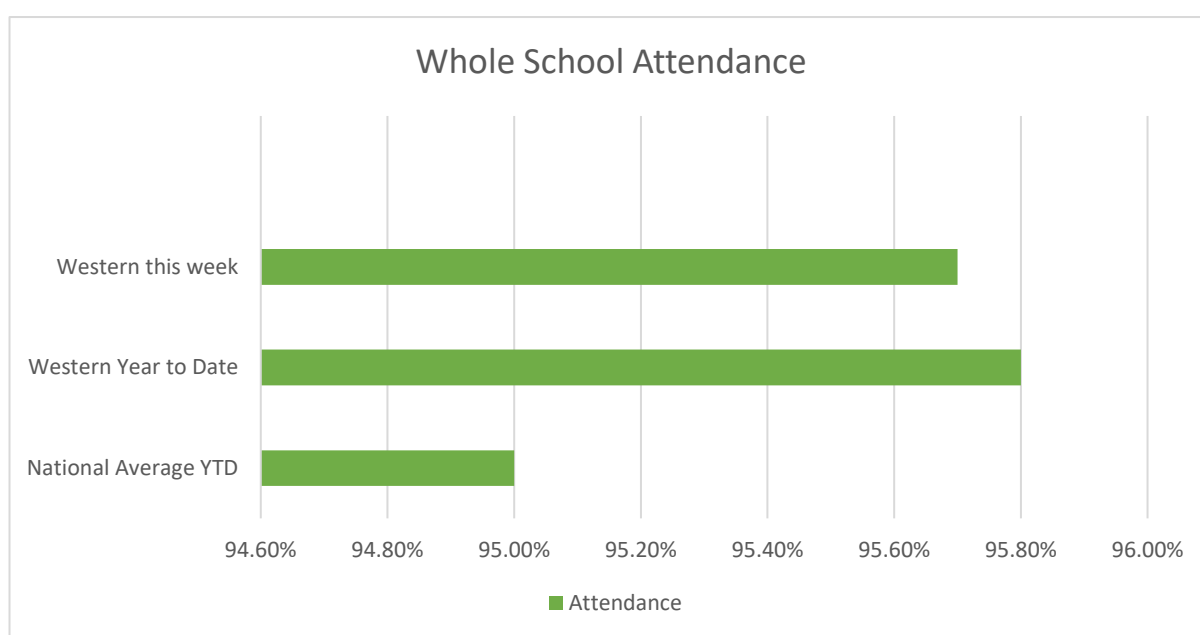


# Newsletter

*At Western, we aim to develop kind, ambitious, curious, confident and successful young people who are excited about their futures.*

Western Primary School Newsletter

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024



**PLEASE NOTE: SCHOOL WILL  
CLOSE AT 2.30PM ON FRIDAY  
22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH FOR  
EASTER!**



## Green Room

This week we turn attention to the signs of Spring and also Easter. We began our week by looking at different ways to paint and print-paint onto a pre-cut Easter egg. We also experimented with glue and glitter to make our egg super shiny.

We have enjoyed sorting the mini coloured eggs into colour and size order, counting them as we go. We have also looked at subitising chicks and also matching the number of chicks to the numbered egg.

We have enjoyed playing with water in the sensory tray, scooping and pouring into different containers.

At chat time we have spoken about the different animals we may see in the fields now and the beautifully coloured flowers that are popping up on the Stray and in the Valley Gardens.

Have a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to another busy time next week.









## Turquoise Room

This week our story has been 'The Bear Hunt'. The children have tried out lots of sensory activities that have replicated the different conditions in The Bear Hunt story including mud, grass and cornflour mix.

The children are also really enjoying retelling the story in their own words and we found a song that goes with the book too where the children have been having a go at joining in.

We have done lots of creative activities. Following the children's interest and suggestions, we made binoculars to hunt for the bear. The children have had fun playing with these.

We have been playing outdoors a lot this week. We are currently enhancing our little garden area and the children are thoroughly enjoying being in the sand. We also go into the big Early Years' playgrounds too.







## Purple Room



We are stepping into Spring this week with lots of Spring and Easter activities. We have been potato printing Easter Eggs, counting pastel coloured pom-poms into plant pots, threading mini Easter Eggs and creating loose parts onto larger eggs. We have made the most adorable chick cards, each one different as we chose our own resources and individually planned how we were going to carry out the task.



In phonics we have been focusing on rhymes and finding the rhyming pair. We are more confident to say if words rhyme or do not rhyme.

In Maths we have had an introduction to 3D shapes and have been talking about what we notice. We are very good at noticing where we have seen this shape in our environment. Our favourite 3D shape was the cone as we are BIG ice-cream fans in The Purple Room.

On Friday, the classroom was full of green activities as we enjoyed celebrating St Patrick's day.





## Reception

This week in Reception we have been continuing to use our writing book in phonics and we have been writing silly sentences with our AI generated images. Outside we made a giant seesaw to investigate heavy and light and we have been exploring using ink as an art medium.





## Year 1

We are nearing the end of our dinosaur topic and can't believe how quickly this half term has gone. It's been incredibly busy with lots of rehearsals, visits and of course, learning.

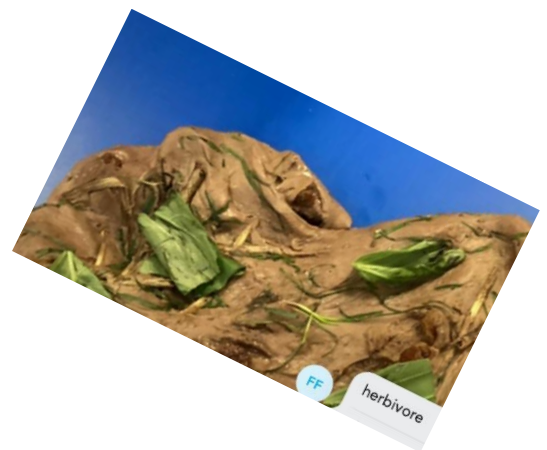
In DT this week, we decorated our dinosaur eggs using our designs from a few weeks ago. We ensured that we used the same colours and designs as planned and had lots of fun painting them.







In science, we participated in a very exciting experiment. Miss Wray and Miss Mead found some dinosaur poo in their gardens and needed some help to figure out if the poo belonged to a carnivore, herbivore or omnivore. We used all of our knowledge from the past few weeks on different animal eaters to help them decide.



Here are some pictures from last week's school trip to Leeds City Museum.





## Year 2

This week, Year 2 have delved into the history of Harrogate. We looked at pictures from some famous and interesting landmarks around Harrogate and we compared them with pictures of the same landmarks, but from the Victorian era. We really enjoyed speaking about the changes and we loved finding out about Harrogate Spring Water. We were amazed by the fact that it takes 1000 years for Harrogate Spring Water to filter through layers of rock before it reaches the point where it can be bottled.

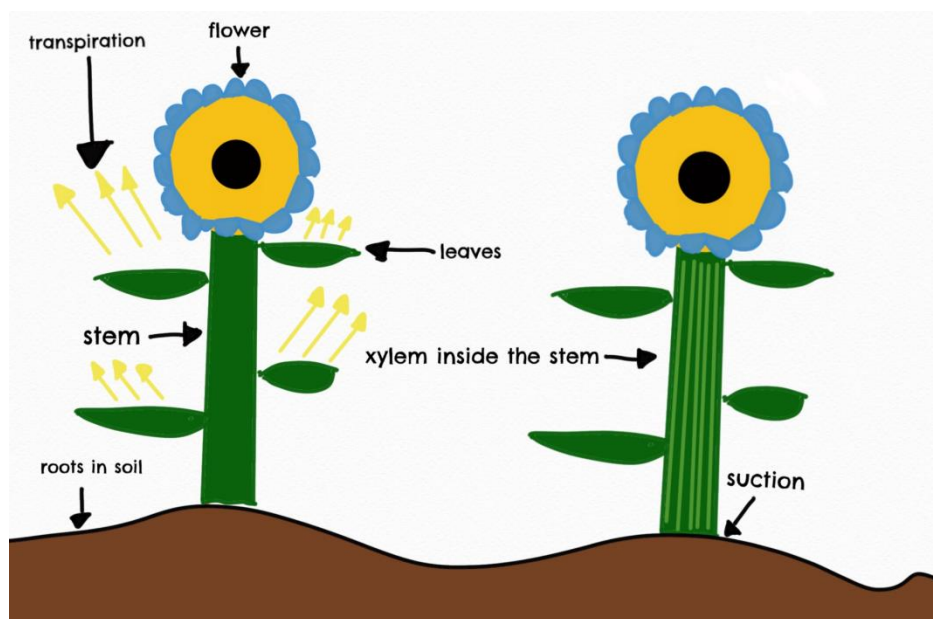
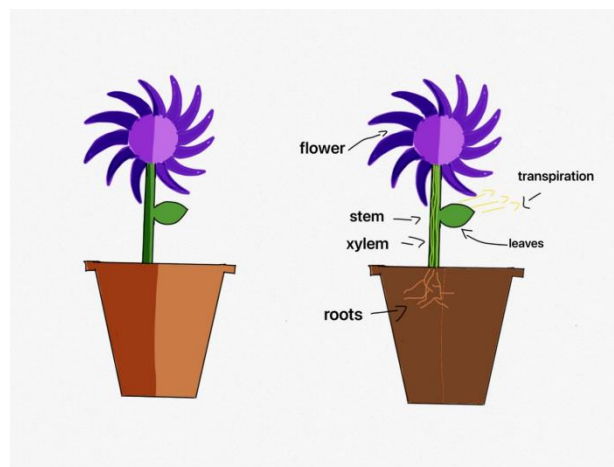
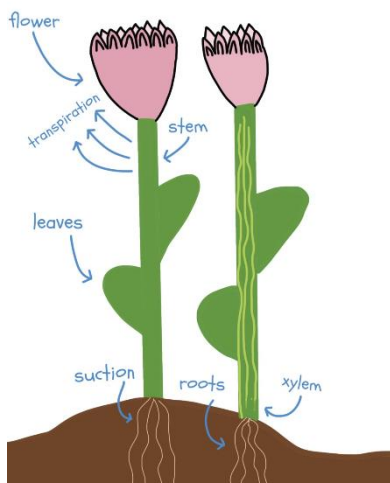
We continued with the theme of all things Harrogate and sketched some of the famous landmarks in our sketch books. We used our sketches to create a Styrofoam printing block and then experimented with layering different colours.

In Maths, we have been learning about capacity and volume. We estimated the capacity of a range of containers and then used measuring jugs to measure the capacity using millilitres and litres.



Year 3/4

In science, this week, we have been looking at how water is transported along the stem of a plant. We produced some fabulous, labelled diagrams of plants:





In computing, we have continued building Lego models and connecting them to our iPads, using WeDo2.0. We have been building glowing snails, spybots and cooling fans:



Year 5/6



In this  
investigation  
we were  
measuring in  
Newtons.

This week in year 5 / 6 we have been working on a letter to send to an earthquake specialist. His name is Professor Walker. In class, to build up to a really good formal letter, we looked at the sentence structure of a really impressive letter (that one of the year 5 / 6 teachers wrote) to see what we could use in our letter. The other day, we started to write our letter before we publish it.

In DT, we have been working with paper straws to build a small piece of playground equipment. There was one really annoying thing: it was that we weren't allowed to use tape. The glue wasn't that good so we all had to try our best with it. In the most recent lesson we got to use straws and pipe cleaners.

In science, we have been learning about friction. We explored air resistance by carrying out an investigation using paper spinners.

In assembly, some music teachers came in and played some pieces of music for us. They played: a flute duet, a cello, a toot (which is a mix of a flute and a recorder), a violin and the piano.



Department of Earth Sciences  
South Parks Road  
Oxford  
OX1 3AN

11<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Professor Walker,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Amelie, and I am a Year 5 student at Western Primary School. I recently learned about tectonics which I found really interesting. In our geography class, I have particularly been interested to learn about earthquakes. I thought it would be a fantastic opportunity to reach out to you with some questions.

One thing I find particularly interesting is how earthquakes and volcanoes are connected. According to what we have learned in class, the Earth's crust is made up of these huge puzzle pieces called tectonic plates. I was wondering if you could explain how these plates move and why they sometimes cause earthquakes or volcanic eruptions. It would be incredibly convenient for me to have a real expert like you help me understand this topic better.

I'm also curious about the tools and equipment scientists use to study tectonics. I read about seismometers and wondered how they work. Additionally, could you share some of your experiences in the field? It would be so exciting to hear about your adventures studying the Earth's dynamic forces. I am familiar with some basic concepts, but hearing from a professor like you would add a whole new level of understanding.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I appreciate the opportunity to connect with someone as knowledgeable as you. I look forward to your reply, at your earliest convenience.

Yours Sincerely,

Amelie

Western Primary School Cold Bath Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 0NA  
01423 502731 office@wps.rkt.co.uk www.westernps.co.uk  
Headteacher: Mr T Broad

Learning Trust Alliance Teacher Training Teaching School Hub  
Red Kite Learning Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales.  
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This is the example  
letter that we had to  
find: good vocabulary,  
good sentence  
structure and sentence  
starters.

#### 11.3.24 Letter Introduction

Dear Professor Walker,

✓ I hope that you are getting well. My name is Charlotte and go to Western Primary School in Harrogate - I am a year 6 pupil. The reason that I am writing this letter to you because I am familiar with your work. I am wondering if you could answer some of my questions that I have about earthquakes and tectonic plates. This is because I want to have a deeper understanding in this topic.

3.2.4 When we were learning about how an earthquake forms, I found it really interesting. I am wondering why tectonic plates are always moving. I do know that when two tectonic plates collide they carry on moving (which causes earthquakes). I know about when they crash together it causes an earthquake however how do the plates separate?

I think this is the perfect opportunity to ask how seismometers

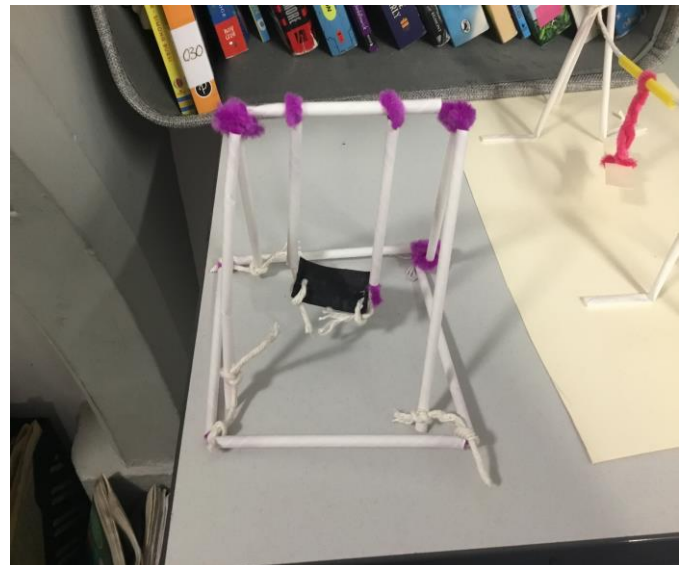
According to what I work. I do know that they are used to measure how powerful an earthquake is. Also, let's say you put a very powerful earthquake, how would you have to construct that country? I know that there can be strong earthquakes but what is the most powerful earthquake that you have measured?

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter. I look forward to reading your response at your earliest convenience.

Yours Sincerely,  
Charlotte

This is  
the one I  
wrote.

This is the  
swing that  
me and Freya  
did.



By Charlotte and Poppy



### **Y5/6 NETBALL CLUB**

This week, Group 2 played their first match on the full-sized court. Whilst it took some time to get used to the different positions and where you were allowed to be on the court, after a bit of practice, they soon got the hang of it!

Our netball ninjas this week were Daisy and Audrey who impressed us with their attitudes, commitment and skill!

REMINDER: Next week is our final session.

Thanks to everyone from Group 1 and Group 2 for their attendance and support!

Miss Riddle and Mrs Howes





## A BIG BIG THANK YOU TO THE P.T.A.

who have bought each class some wonderful resources and games .  
. . which the children love as you can see!



## **PTA News**

We may have been quiet in terms of communications recently, but we've been busy in the background, thinking of and planning lots of fun ways to bring our wonderful community together and raise money for the school. We also had our termly PTA planning meeting (minutes attached). Watch this space for information coming soon.



Since the last preloved clothing sale, we have found ourselves inundated with Reception child sized clothing. In the hope that the weather will start to improve after the Easter break, there will be a bag of summer dresses available by the Reception gate for anyone to help themselves to after school today!

Coming up when we return to school after the break, we have the Year 1/2 Party. This will be held at 3:30pm on 18 April in the school hall. Tickets will be £5 and will go on sale soon.

Finally, did you know we have a Volunteers WhatsApp group? We always receive great offers of help from the members of this group, which we are so grateful for.



If you'd like to get sneak peeks of the ideas we're having for fundraising events and activities, or if you yourself want to volunteer to help us, please scan the above QR code using the camera in WhatsApp to join our group. We can't wait to hear from you!



## **PTA meeting – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**Attendees:** Ruth Cotterell, Anna Slatcher, Helen O'Mara, Lisa McMahon, Kirsten Stewart

### **Budget update**

Since September 2023, the PTA has funded as follows:

- £50 per class for stickers etc (£850 total)
- £1000 for playtime provisions as requested by Mrs Coatesworth
- £4000 towards coaches

NB – this is more than has been raised in the same period so unfortunately not sustainable without a renewed focus on promoting the PTA and support from the school.

The PTA were disappointed that there has been very little in way of acknowledgement of the coaches money on the school trips letters. For example "£10 of this trip has been funded by the PTA thanks to your generosity" Also, no noticeable reduction in costs. Mrs Stewart was not aware of this donation despite organising the Saltburn trip.

Mrs Stewart commented that the £50 per class was generous and sufficient.

There has been a new request for £156 for water play equipment for EYFS. This was agreed.

### **Year 1 and 2 disco - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 3.30 - 5pm at school**

We need to ask the school to send a Save The Date (Action RC)

We already have 6 volunteers for this event. Need to ask Miss Ward how many we need in total (Action RC)

Disco is already booked (£220)

Price per ticket needs to be confirmed. Price will include drink and snack (Action RC)

### **Year 5 and 6 disco - July, date tbc - at HGS**

Need to ask Mel if this will be possible again and choose a date (Action RC)

We already have some volunteers but need more. Sarah Goodfellow has offered to send out a message to Y5 (Action RC)

We need parent volunteers from Y6. Ask Sarah Robinson (Action RC) Then set up a mini committee.

Disco to be booked after date confirmed.

### **Summer Fair - July, date tbc, at HGS**

Need to ask Mel if this will be possible again and choose a date (Action RC)

We already have some volunteers but need more.

Agreed to change the format from last 2 years and make it into a Family Picnic

Low entrance cost (Maybe £1 per person)

Bar, ice cream van, Coffee (?), family sports games - football, rounders, dodgeball, tug of war

Suggest that we do the tombola at school on a Friday afternoon

### **Fundraising ideas**

- Raisins - each child gets a box of raisins and is asked to fill it with pennies over Easter hols. Class who raises most money gets extra playtime. (Action - RC to ask school)
- PTA cookbook (Action - Helen to look into costs)
- Christmas cards (action - Lisa to find supplier)
- Sunflower growing competition (Action - Anna to contact B&Q for sunflower seeds)
- Sponsored walk (Could this be tied in with the Summer fair?)
- Tea towels (Action - RC to ask Callie if she'd like to manage this)
- Craft workshops - to run afterschool by TAs (who would be paid) but then charge parents childcare costs to cover it/make a profit.
- Quiz night in Sept, Oct

# Awesome Eats



Come along and enjoy a day full of various activities including cooking.

Stay and eat what you have cooked.

**£25** per child  
school years 1-7

Free places available if eligible  
for free school meals

Contact 01423 521667 for more information and to book.

Wednesday 27 March and  
Wednesday 3 April,  
8.30am - 4.30pm

Jennyfield Styan Wellbeing Hub,  
Grantley Drive, Harrogate HG3 2XU

jennyfieldwellbeinghub@brimhamactive.co.uk  
f Jennyfield Styan Wellbeing Hub

BRIMHAM  
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TOGETHER

Department  
for Education



Enchantica's  
Rising Stars

20%OFF

## Creative Dance & Musical Theatre all summer term

Come join us for the launch of our new dance-based class 'Creative Dance'! As a launch celebration we are offering 20% off these classes and our Musical Theatre classes for the summer term!

**Creative Dance:** An adventure of maximum expression through dance via a variety of styles to all your child's favourite songs. This class focuses on fun energetic movement, spatial awareness, coordination and control, breath work, warm up and cool down practice and much more.

**Musical Theatre:** Combining dance, singing, acting and physical theatre with connecting movement to lyrics, and memorising skills ready for the final performance.



Booking:  
<https://bookwhen.com/enchanticasworkshop>



Enchantica's  
Rising Stars

## FREE well-being Workshops for kids!

Looking for FREE activities this Easter holidays?  
Well look no further!

To celebrate the launch of our NEW well-being program for families we are hosting a FREE taster day on Wednesday 3rd April. There are workshops available for babes in arms up to year 6. Join us for our 'well-being Wednesday' taster day before the summer term begins.

**Location:** Enchantica's Workshop  
**Day:** Wednesday 3rd April 2024  
**Timeslots from:** 10:00am onwards  
**Ages:** Preschool to Yr 6 / ages 0-11yrs

See reverse for class info >>>

Booking:  
<https://bookwhen.com/enchanticasworkshop>



## Enchantica's Well-being Wednesday FREE Workshop Schedule - 3rd April

- 10:00 - Suzie beats (Pre-schoolers / ages 0-3 yrs) \*
- 11:00 - Rising Stars (Preschool&Reception / ages 3-5) \*
- 1:00 - Rising Stars (Yrs 1 & 2 / ages 5-7) \*
- 2:00 - Musical Theatre (Yrs 3-6 / ages 7-11) \*\*
- 3:00 - Creative Dance (Yrs 3-6 / ages 7-11) \*\*
- 4:00 - Musical Theatre (Yrs 1 & 2 / ages 5-7) \*\*
- 5:00 - Creative Dance (Yrs 1 & 2 / ages 5-7) \*\*

All sessions will last approx. 45 mins

- \* Parents invited to participate with their little ones
- \*\* A showing will be held at the end of workshop for parents to watch

### About the classes:

All classes have a strong well-being focus and feature yoga, dance, creative movement and mindfulness activities. They encourage children to bring their own ideas to life, manage difficult emotions, improve focus and self-esteem, try new things and develop lots of confidence along the way.

**Suzie Beats:** Join Suzie and puppet Beatie for a learning adventure for preschool children and their grown ups to enjoy together.

**Rising Stars:** A combination of drama, stories, singing, yoga and mindfulness create an immersive learning experience teaching children to shine bright.

**Musical Theatre:** Combining dance, singing, acting and physical theatre with connecting movement to lyrics, and memorising skills ready for the final performance.

**Creative Dance:** An adventure of maximum expression through dance via a variety of styles to all your child's favourite songs. This class focuses on fun energetic movement, spatial awareness, coordination and control, breath work, warm up and cool down practice and much more.

Book your FREE taster session here:  
<https://bookwhen.com/enchanticasworkshop>



Qualified Teacher Trained with the Forest School  
Authorising & 1250

**Fun & Creative Outdoor Activities for children aged 5 - 11**

**Easter Holidays**  
9.30 - 3.00pm

Tuesday 26th March  
Wednesday 27th March  
Thursday 28th March  
Thursday 4th April  
Friday 5th April

£30.00 A session

Wootton House  
Wootton Lane  
Wootton  
LS17 0AW

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Arts & Crafts
- Cook your lunch
- Water & Mud play
- Exploring nature
- Playing Games
- Bushcraft

**Bookings:-**  
@Carol 07428994577  
Weetonforestschool@gmail.com

**HHCC's**  
**It's a Knockout 2024**

Join HHCC for an action packed, fun filled day to remember!

**TEAMS OF 10!**

**SUNDAY 30 JUNE 2024**  
10AM - 3PM  
HARROGATE RAILWAY ATHLETIC F.C., HG2 7JA

**£25 per person**

This inflatable games arena is full of wacky games, inflatable obstacles and not forgetting the foam!

Or set up a virtual donation page on the HHCC website!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
01423 557408  
HDFTHHCC@NHS.NET  
WWW.HHCC.CO.UK

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**SUNDAY 30 JUNE 2024**  
10AM - 3PM  
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**It's A Knockout**  
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Food Stalls • Face Painting  
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Policies  
Help Children  
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Sexing