

Wallace Fields Junior School Newsletter

7th March 2025

KEY DATES AFTER HALF TERM

- British Science Week including Photography Competition
- Monday 10th March 2025
 - Selected Year 5 and Year 6 Swimming Lesson
 - Extra Training at Lunchtime for Girls Football Squad.
- Tuesday 11th March 2025
 - 12.15pm 3.00pm Year 3 and Year 4 Epsom and Ewell Rugby Match at Priest Hill. Email sent to selected.

- Year 5 Music Assembly will be held at 2.45pm. Parents of selected musicians have been invited by email.
- Wednesday 12th March at 8.45am Year 4 Ufton Court Medications Meeting in the school hall.
- Thursday 13th March 2025
 - Green House Mufti Day
 - Year 5 to bring empty plastic 2 litre bottle, digging trowels and gardening gloves
- Friday 14th March 2025
 - 3.45pm 4.30pm Girls and A team Boys Football Home Match v St Martins.
 No training for B team. See SPOND.
 - 7.30pm PTA Tribute Party Night

Click Here¹ for Upcoming Events Click here² for School Calendar and to Subscribe to Calendar

Head's Update

Garden Room Official Opening

Tuesday 4th March 2025 marked the official opening of our new **Garden Room**. This marks the near completion of a development that has been made possible through the inspiration and hard work of the senior team and the PTA. Our old computer suite was becoming a redundant area as the children now work primarily on Chromebooks (mini laptops) in class for computing and tech sessions. The computers were stripped out a little while ago and ideas started brewing for how to use this space effectively and creatively. The answer came from the special needs lead Mrs Elliot who was keen for a creative special needs space and the deputy head Mrs Day who was keen on a breakout space that could have multiple uses including group work, phonics and calm activities. Over the last year or so these ideas crystallised into a sensory space themed in a garden or green space and the room was divided into two halves to create a formal meeting room, thereby making two rooms that could be opened out into one big room when needed.

The PTA have worked admirably to raise funds through a wide variety of events including the fireworks, discos and collections and the partition was put in over the summer break along with the necessary fire doors etc. The meeting room has a formal table and chairs (upcycled, not new) and a screen for meetings. The Garden Room grew into a green space with various

¹<u>https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/events</u>

²https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/calendar

sensory objects, lights and artificial foliage. there is also a standard screen in the comfy zone and a very large screen in the main tabled area.

On Tuesday the PTA, governors, parents and children met in the Garden Room to mark this occasion. The choir sang a special song (unrehearsed) that will be sung again on our Celebration evening and the School Ambassadors Freddie and Edith (Year 6) presented the aim and creation of the Garden room. Thanks also to Mrs Koppa for the donated cakes.

Many of the children have already had a sneak peek at the Garden Room so do ask them about it, however if here are some photographs of the event to give you an insight.

If you like the work you have seen in the Garden Room, please do consider donating to our School Fund to help contribute to the work completed. Our wonderful PTA kindly paid for the soft furnishings (£3,600), though the whole project cost about £20,000. Contributions can be made via Scopay - under *WFJS Voluntary Contribution* at the bottom of your Scopay screen <u>https://www.scopay.com/wallacefields-jun</u>. Thank you in advance.

See below more information about the event.

Art Exhibition at The Horton

My thanks to our art lead Mrs Curran (4C) for organising, setting up and promoting our very own Wallace Fields Juniors Art exhibition at The Horton Arts Centre³. Thanks to Mrs Dave who helped set up the pictures at the beautiful chapel sited near to David Lloyd in Epsom. Please do take time out to go along and have a look. The work is by children from all years and selected for the exhibition. Parents/ carers do have the opportunity to purchase the children's work and this will cover the cost of the frames and the exhibition venue. The artwork can be collected from around 3.30pm. The chapel closes at 4pm.

Proud of Year 6 - Junior Citizens

Feedback from the staff at the Junior Citizens event this week was extremely complimentary and positive about the Year 6. They see a wide range of schools and are interacting with high numbers of Year 6 children from across the borough. They were very impressed with the behaviour of the Wallace Fields Junior children and commented on how polite, friendly and engaged they were. The staff at the Grandstand said the Year 6 asked very important and interesting questions and really shone out as an exemplar school amongst the others. This obviously makes us very proud of them as they represented the school so well, interacted fully and this also reflects the great support that you give us from home in terms of how to behave in public and to make the most of visits and opportunities.

³https://thehortonepsom.org/

THIS WEEK

Stars of the Week and Believe Awards



This week's Stars of the Week were nominated in assembly - they create an excellent role model for their fellow peers through their efforts and commitment by following the school values. Only one pupil per class is nominated each week in our Celebration Assembly every Friday. All of the Stars of the Week receive a certificate and five house points for showing one or more of the school BELIEVE values - Brilliance, Enthusiasm, Learning, Inspiration, Equality, Vision and Every pupil matters. Well done to this week's winners.



The Believe Award is presented to those children who show all of the school values including brilliance, enthusiasm , learning, inspiration, equality, vision and every pupil matters. These children are all round excellent individuals with a willingness to do their best, work with others, approach tasks with vigour and achieve real progress. This is not simply an academic award but more of one of improving and showing willing, teamwork and resilience. They are children who are kind to others and work well in a team whilst understanding that there is a reason for everything we learn and do in school. They are outstanding individuals who deserve this recognition. The Believe Award is only awarded once a month and is worth ten house points. Congratulations to this month's winners.

Opening of the Garden Room

We are delighted to formally open the brand new Garden Room this week with special guests- Mrs Clayton and Mr Barker, our school Governors and our fantastic PTA representatives.

Our school ambassadors, Edith and Freddie, made a heart-warming speech and cut the ribbon to rapturous applause, to formally open The Garden room. We were all very proud.

The PTA spoke passionately about their time in office and as this comes to a close, they are asking for more volunteers and a small team or individual to take the helm from September. They are still willing to run the fireworks event and will always be on hand in the background for advice and help. Anyone wishing to get involved or steer the PTA ship- please do reach out to Jade or Kelly and let them know. Without the PTA- projects such as the astro pitch, outdoor classroom, new library and garden room will not become a reality.

We would like to thank Mrs Wilson for her garden inspired cake designs especially donated to the opening event, as well as two sensory fish tube donations for the nurture space, within the garden room and Mrs Koppa, who baked homemade cakes for everyone. They were delicious!

A final few thanks goes to Mrs Elliot for her design inspirations and Mrs Boddy for endlessly researching cheaper options to make the room budget friendly.

Finally, thanks to the PTA and all parents, who contributed at the tea parties for this space and made our dream become a reality. Thank you to the Alexandra Park Cafe who supplied some of the delicious cakes.

We will use this beautiful space for nurture time, small group work, cosy reading, 1:1 reading and intervention as well as break out time for those who need a calm and nurturing space to cope with daily life in school.

See some photos below and for more photos from the event click here⁴.

⁴https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/news/2025-03-05-grand-opening-of-the-garden-room









Wallace Fields Junior School Celebrates Book Week

The children and staff all had lots of fun during our Book Week. There was lots of cosy reading, trips to the library, sharing books and recreating 'book in a box'.

Thanks to Mrs Hernandez for reading her favourite book to the children and sharing their passion for reading with the children.

There were some fantastic and very creative costumes on Thursday and the selection of book characters was truly inspiring.

The World Book Day £1 token was handed out to children in class and can be used for children's use at local bookshops.

For more photographs of this event please look on the Wallace Fields Junior Schools website news page by clicking here⁵.

⁵https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/news/2025-03-07-another-amazing-book-week









PTA Second Hand Book Sale

Thanks to the PTA for running a second hand book sale on Wednesday 5th March 2025 and to all those parents who donated books. For anyone who forgot their £1 donation for the book sale you can pay online here until Monday night 10th March 2025:

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wfjspta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=95731

Year 5 Suffragette Talk

A huge thank you to Mrs Hernandez, our school STEM ambassador, who came in to talk to the children about the importance of the suffragette movement. The children listened very well and asked lots of thoughtful questions.



Book Week - Writing Competition

As part of Book Week, the children have had the opportunity to write an adventure about our school guinea pigs, Chocolate and Cream. All children have selected a style of writing (such as story, graphic novel, comic book, poem, etc) and are writing the adventures of Chocolate and Cream! Teachers will select their favourite pieces and enter them into a competition for children to win a prize. Winners will be announced in celebration assembly next week and shared in the next newsletter.



Music Projects to Celebrate Book Week

You can also watch some of the videos of the Music projects children have been working on in preparation for celebrating book week. Year 6⁶ have written and performed raps and Year 4⁷ have composed and performed music to help bring a picture book to life. (Year 3 and Year 5 projects will be online shortly).

Horton Arts Festival

Wallace Fields Junior School is so excited to conclude its 'Autumn Leaves' exhibition at The Horton. Selected works are on display, at The Horton **until Saturday the 8th of March**. Parents of children whose artwork is on display have been emailed. Thank you so much to Mrs Dave for helping Mrs Curran framing and mounting the artworks.

⁶<u>https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/news/2025-03-04-year-6-write-and-perform-book-week-rap</u> ⁷<u>https://wallace-fields-junior-school.schudio.com/admin/news/view/100250</u>

Artworks may be collected on the 8th March from 15:30. Please inform Mrs Curran when you take your child's artwork so that it may be ticked off on a list. Remaining artwork will be bought back to Wallace Fields and may be collected from the school from the 10th of March.









Year 6 Junior Citizen Scheme

"At Junior Citizens, we had lots of fun learning practical skills and meeting people from different emergency services. My personal favourite was doing the CPR to the tune of Baby Shark." Edith, School Ambassador

"It was very funny going to Junior Citizens in our fancy dress costumes. The Police Officers running the event kept trying to guess who we were dressed up as. Also they said we were the best school they had had over the two weeks of the event." Freddie B, School Ambassador For more photos go to our website news page by clicking here⁸.



Next Week

Green House Mufti Day - 13th March 2025

Well done to Green House who have won a mufti day on Thursday 13th March 2025 for winning the most house points in the first term of spring. Green House can wear their own clothes ideally including something in their outfit to match their house colour to celebrate the victory. Many congratulations to Green House!

British Science Week Photography Competition

This year we will once again be hosting a scientific photography competition to celebrate British Science Week on the week commencing 10th March 2025. Ideas for photos can be found using the following link, but we encourage the children to try to be original: <u>https://www.st-peters-sittingbourne.co.uk/entries-2/</u>

The photos will be celebrated by the school and the entries will displayed for all to see in the main hall. This year's British Science Week theme is: Change and Adapt. The children could use this as inspiration for their own photo or choose something entirely different; the choice is theirs! If your child would like to take part, they can upload their photo; a brief description of the science seen; and their name and year group. Each class will have a Google Classroom assignment that has been created (this will appear online Friday 7th March 2025 at 3:30pm). **The deadline for entries will be: Monday 17th March 2025.** Happy snapping!

Some of children's entries from last year below:

⁸https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/news/2025-03-07-another-amazing-book-week



PTA











COMING UP and REMINDERS

We are celebrating Maths Day on Friday 21st March 2025!

Wallace Fields Junior School will be celebrating maths with an exciting Maths Day on Friday 21st March 2025. We will have a celebration assembly first thing where some children will be awarded prizes for their participation and effort on Mathletics. The whole school will then be engaging in fun and exciting maths activities including maths orienteering, MoneySense workshops and creating a Wallace Fields Junior School Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) avatar. We are very proud of the children's enthusiasm and progress in their maths throughout the curriculum and this is a day for us to celebrate all their wonderful efforts in maths! Thank you for your continued support and engagement with the online maths programmes and for supporting your child with their maths learning. Please see the posters created by Olivia (5S) and Emily (5H) that promote some of the activities we have planned for the day!



Parent / Teacher Meetings Dates for Your Diary

Please make a note in your diary about the Parent / Teacher Meetings and a letter will be sent out early next week with how to book your appointment slot.

• Monday 24th March 2025 - Parent / Teacher Meetings Evening Face to Face 3.30pm - 6.30pm

• Tuesday 25th March 2025 - Parent / Teacher Meetings Virtual (Online) 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Please note that our SENCo Mrs Elliot will be available at a separate table on Monday's face to face meetings, so parents can sign up in person on the day to see her if you have any additional questions regarding your child's SEN and SEN provision within school.

Help Us Get Free Books for School!

During the week of 24th March 2025 we are holding a Scholastic Book Fair. The children love choosing a book at the fair, which is also an important fundraiser for the school. Our last fair raised over £1,100, which we spent on class reading books and fabulous new library books. All children will have the opportunity to see the books at the fair in school. They will bring home a wish list and an order form should you wish to purchase any of the books. There is no obligation to purchase the books on their wish list.

Parents and accompanied children are welcome to view and select books in school at 3.30pm - 4.30pm on Monday 24th March and Tuesday 25th March 2025.

Parents coming into school can pay cash, use a QR code available at the fair or take home an order form to order online.

Children can also bring cash (in a named envelope to be handed to their teacher) into school and purchase books during their class visit on either Monday or Tuesday.





Recyclable Items Needed for Sculpture on 28th March 2025

On Wellbeing Day (28th March 2025) children will be creating a sculpture which will be used to represent sustainable living. Certain recyclable items will be needed for the sculpture. Therefore, please may we ask that children in each year group bring the following items for the 28th March 2025.

Children can hand the items in to their class teachers.

- Year 3: Soft drink tin lids
- Year 4: Plastic milk bottle caps
- Year 5: Corks made from wood
- Year 6: Plastic packets

Annual Easter Egg Competition

The annual Easter Egg competition is underway again! Please see the details below.



Sports Fixtures Coming Up

We have lots of exciting sports fixtures coming up including the following:-

- Tuesday 18th March 2025 4.00pm 6.00pm Netball Tournament at Rosebery School.
- Tuesday 25th March 2025 3.45pm -4.30pm Year 3 Year 4 Football Home Match v Cuddington Croft
- Friday 28th March 2025 1.15pm 3.00pm Girls Year 5 and Year 6 football at Auriol Juniors
- Friday 25th April 2025 1.15pm 3.00pm Girls Year 3 and Year 4 football at Auriol Juniors
- Friday 23rd May 2025 1.15pm 3.00pm Mixed Year 5 and Year 6 cricket at Auriol Juniors

Playhouse Music Festival

Parents/Carers of the Playhouse choir have now been emailed to confirm which evening they will be performing and with more details of the event.

- **Performing on Tuesday 25th March 2025** are: Year 6: Aurelia, Betty, Cara, Hannah, Heidi, Isla, Lalana, Maya, Sophie and Year 5: Chloe, Eliana, George, Leena, Marta, Reema, Rose, Thea.
- **Performing on Wednesday 26th March 2025** are: Year 6: Alexandra, Amelia, Anna, Celine, Clarissa, Edith, Ela, Felicity, Kate, Sabina and Year 5: Anna, Bea, Ella, Grace, Mai, Nandika, Sophia.

Tickets for both nights went on sale on Tuesday 18th February 2025 on the **Epsom Playhouse website.** There is obviously big demand for these so it is advisable to book early if you wish to watch the performance. Click here⁹ to buy tickets.

YEAR 3

Year 3 Trips 2025

There are two more trips for Year 3 pupils this year, to Butser Ancient Farm and to Wisley Gardens, which will complement and extend their classroom studies.

On 27th March 2025 we go on a day trip to **Butser Ancient Farm**, Hampshire, to enhance their work in the classroom and discover more about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. The trip will involve the children learning more about their history topic by completing an archaeological excavation, having a site tour and experiencing some activities that would have happened in the Stone Age including chalk carving.

On 6th June 2025 we visit **Wisley Gardens** to support science studies on green plants. The children will be inspired to garden and enjoy hands-on experiences with plants in Wisley's wonderful surroundings. They will learn how being a gardener supports biodiversity and can have a positive environmental and personal impact.

To cover the cost we need to ask for **a voluntary contribution of £51 per child**, which can be paid via the Scopay website. If you wish you can pay your donation in **two instalments** £26 before the Butser Farm Trip and a further £25 before the Wisley Gardens trip. The cost covers the coaches for both trips and entry to Butser farm. We will treat payment as permission to take part in the trip.

If your child currently qualifies for Free School Meals or have any financial difficulties there may be **financial assistance** in paying for this trip or arrange for you to pay in smaller instalments, please contact the school office.

Year 3 Music Performance Assembly Dates Reminder

Year 3 Performance Assembly is to be held on Tuesday 20th May 2025 2.45pm. Auditions in lesson on Monday 12th May 2025. Parents of children selected to perform will be invited to attend.

⁹https://www.epsomplayhouse.co.uk/shows/epsom-and-ewell-schools-music-festival-2025

YEAR 4

Year 4 Residential to Ufton Court - Medical Meeting Reminder

If your child has any dietary allergies, requires to take any medication or are required to take preventative medicine i.e. inhalers, travel sickness tablets on the trip, please attend a brief individual meeting on:

Wednesday 12th March at 8.45am in the school hall.

Please enter the school via the school office. All medication, including return travel sickness pills, must be clearly named and handed in with written instructions to school at this meeting. We cannot accept medicine at any other time as full instructions must be given in a face to face meeting. The only exception to this are antibiotics, which can be handed in on the Wednesday morning.

Year 4 Music Performance Assembly Dates Reminder

Year 4 Music Assembly will be held on Tuesday 29th April 2025 2.45pm. Auditions in lesson on Wednesday 23rd April 2025. Parents of children selected to perform will be invited to attend.

Year 4 Music Composition and Performance

Click here ¹⁰to watch the videos of 4C and 4K music composition and performance based on a picture book.

YEAR 5

Year 5 Music Assembly - Tuesday 11th March 2025 2.45pm

There were lots of keen performers for the Year 5 Music assembly and the parents/carers of those selected to perform next **Tuesday 11th March** 2025 have been contacted by email. Hopefully parents/carers are able to come along to watch their performance.

Year 5 are celebrating British Science Week

On Thursday 13th March 2025, the children in Year 5 will be getting their hands dirty and going outside for their science lesson to celebrate British Science Week. Please could they bring in an **empty plastic 2 litre bottle for their science lesson**. If they have them already, **any digging trowels and gardening gloves** would also be very useful for the for the activity!

¹⁰https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/learning/music





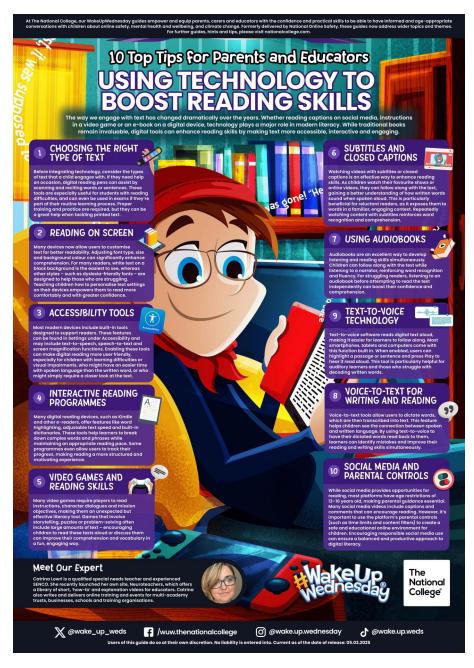
YEAR 6

Year 6 Music Composition and Performance

Click here^{11 12}to watch the videos of 6H and 6G rap composition and performance in preparation for Book Week

¹¹<u>https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/news/2025-03-04-year-6-write-and-perform-book-week-rap</u>¹²<u>https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/learning/music</u>

SAFEGUARDING and WELLBEING





Click here¹³ for More Information About Safeguarding at Wallace Fields Junior **School**

CLUBS

Spanish and Science Clubs

Mrs Hernandez will have contacted parents already but the last week of Spanish Club and Science Club will be on Thursday 13th March 2025. There was no Spanish and Science Clubs this week (Thursday 6th March 2025) due to Book Week and then Mrs Hernandez is going on the Year 4 trip before breaking up early for Easter.

Extra Football Training for Girls at Lunchtime on Monday 10th March

On Monday 10th March 2025 the girls football coach Tim Dowdeswell would like to run an extra training session at lunchtime for the Girls Football Squad in preparation for a match. It is PE kit day for Year 6 but Year 5 will need to get changed. Please bring football boots, shin pads and football kit. The girl footballers will go for an early lunch.

Junior Adventure Group Wrap Around Care



Secure Your Wraparound Care This Spring!

As we kick off a brand-new half-term, we're excited to welcome children back to our Ofsted-registered wraparound clubs for more fun-filled adventures!

This Spring, our Adventure Programme is packed with special themed days and exciting activities designed to spark creativity, curiosity, and boundless energy!

Here are some of the special days we may celebrate in the coming weeks at our clubs:

Shrove Tuesday - 4th March

Introd lessay - threating the set of the

He World Book Day - 6th March

Children can dress as their favourite literary characters and bring stories to life through crafts and imaginative projects in our Creative Inventors category. A magical celebration of books, creativity, and storytelling!

A British Science Week - W/C 10th March

During British Science Week, children will explore the wonders STEM through exciting activities in our Brain Boosters categor They'll dive into interactive puzzles, games, and experiments.

B Red Nose Day - 21st March

We note note bay - 21st marin Time to get silly for a good cause! Children will tell jokes, take part in wacky games, and enjoy fun-filled activities from our Adventure Programme, all while raising awareness and spreading kindness.

¹³https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/our-school/safeguarding

Mother's Day - 28th March Through activities in our Creative Inventors category, children will get imaginative and handcraft beautiful origami flowers to show love and appreciation for their mums and mother figures.

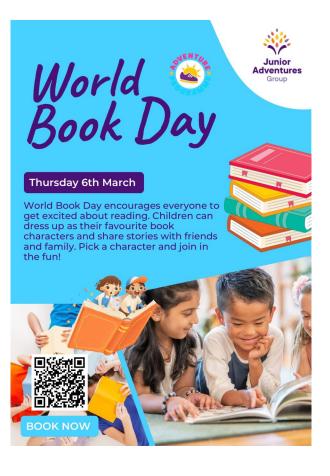
April Fools' Day - 1st April Expect harmless pranks, silly surprises, and cheeky fun! Children will enjoy jokes, tricks, and giggles in a playful celebration of laughter and mischief!

Don't let your child miss out on this springtime adventure! Secure your spot today:

her: ③ Parent Support:

? FAQs: Find answers here Payment Options:

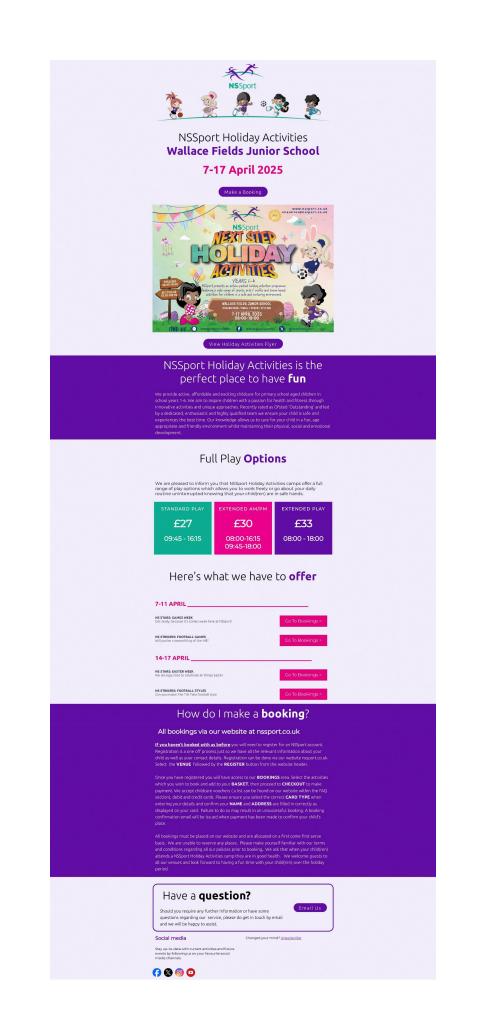
Come join the fun with JAG today!



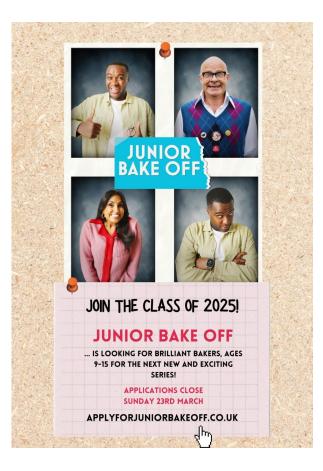




Easter Holiday Club



COMMUNITY



EPSOM RDA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WEEKDAY SESSIONS

Can you spare a few hours per week to help our charity? Learn new skills | Meet new people | Make a difference

If you enjoy working as part of a team and using your own initiative, we would love to hear from you!

Epsom RDA provides both children and adults with physical and learning disabilities, the opportunity to improve their health and wellbeing through the therapeutic power of horses. Training is provided for all.

Minimum age for volunteers is 14 years.

You don't need previous experience of horses, riding or working with disabled people.

IT'S WHAT YOU CAN DO THAT COUNTS

SCAN ME



www.epsomrda.org.uk/volunteer volunteer@epsomrda.org.uk | t: 01372 743690

