

"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE." JOHN 14: 6

# Weekly Newsletter



## Around the school!

It has been another fantastic week here at Roger de Clare - our penultimate one before the half-term holiday! We have enjoyed beginning our Take One Picture Project, looking closely at the chosen picture - A Muse by Cosimo Tura.

Thank you to those who have sent reading pictures into school to mark National Storytelling Week! We will be displaying them on our Facebook page. Next week, we still have more to celebrate with our 'Come as Yourself Day' to mark the end of Children's Mental Health Week.

Looking ahead to next half-term, EYFS have a plea for any parents or grandparents who work in a job helping people for their topic: 'People who help us'. In previous years they have welcomed, a firefighter, a cook, secretary, nurses, paramedics, police, a farmer, health visitor, dentist, midwife, vet, school crossing patrol, to name a few! They would be delighted if anyone would like to come and talk to the children about their job! If you think you can help, please get in touch with the EYFS!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. *Mrs. Woods*

## Holiday food vouchers

**Message from the Local Authority to those in receipt of benefit-related free school meals.**

Since December 2020, the Local Authority has been able to provide supermarket vouchers to families, supported through government funding streams. From October 2021 onwards, this was funded through the Household Support Fund, a national programme from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) designed to help households with the cost of living.

The government has now confirmed that the Household Support Fund came to an end in 2025. Unfortunately, this means we will no longer be able to issue vouchers to children who are entitled to benefit-related free school meals for the holiday periods.

We understand that this change may be difficult for some families, and we want to reassure you that support is still available. If you feel you may need additional help, we encourage you to visit the Hertfordshire County Council 'Cost of Living Support' pages on the council website, where you can find information about a range of services and assistance options.

**Message from Mrs Woods:** If you are facing financial difficulty, please do look at the website listed above, or come and talk to us.

## Events coming up!

A reminder of our additional activities over the next week:

**Children's Mental Health Week** - Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February. As part of this, we will be organising a 'Come as Yourself Day' on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February. We are encouraging everyone to wear an outfit which makes them feel most comfortable, confident, and like they truly belong — whether that's cosy clothes, cultural dress, favourite colours, or something totally unique. Celebrate what makes you, you!

**Online Safety Day** - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February

We are also delighted to be participating in **The National Gallery's** Take One Picture Project again and look forward to sharing out art work with you at parents evening.

**School disco** on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - £4 entry  
Session 1 (Nursery and Reception) 4-4.45pm  
Session 2 (Years 1 and 2) 5-6pm  
Session 3 (Years 3 and 4) 6.15-7.15pm



## Next week at a glance MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY- FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

**MONDAY: CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK**

WORSHIP FOCUS: LEARNING

MINI-MAKERS LUNCHTIME CLUB - REC

BROWNIES LUNCHTIME CLUB - REGISTERED BROWNIES ONLY

HOCKEY LUNCHTIME CLUB - ALL

HOMEWORK CLUB 3.30-4.30PM

NINJA WARRIOR CLUB\* 3.30-4.30PM

**TUESDAY: TIGER CHEER LUNCHTIME CLUBS**

MULTI-SPORTS LUNCH CLUB - ALL

VOLLEYBALL CLUB\* 3.30-4.30PM

**WEDNESDAY: MINI-MAKERS LUNCHTIME CLUB - Y1-4**

TAG RUGBY LUNCH CLUB - ALL

GYMNASTICS CLUB\* 3.30-4.30PM

**THURSDAY: ATHLETICS LUNCH CLUB - ALL**

LEGO CONSTRUCTION CLUB\* - 3.30-4.30PM

**FRIDAY: NON-UNIFORM DAY: COME AS YOURSELF DAY**

NO FUNKY FRIDAY - LUNCHTIME DISCO

PTFFA SCHOOL DISCO - SEE ABOVE



## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Superstar Sports now run all extra-curricular sport activities, as well as Construction Club. Club details and booking links for next term can be found here or see QR code at the end of the update.

Monday Ninja Warrior Club: <https://pbbl.uk/4496HXv>

Tuesday Volleyball Club: <https://pbbl.uk/4a07ZI2>

Wednesday Gymnastics Club: <https://pbbl.uk/3KfyPLD>

Thursday Lego Club: <https://pbbl.uk/4axU8sG>

Homework Club runs every Monday. Please email the office to let us know if your child wishes to attend.

Mini-Makers information has been emailed home.

Please find links to clubs run by Tiger Cheer

Reception, Yr1 and yr2:

Roger De Clare Lunch club Registration Form reception, Yr1 and 2

Yr3 and 4:

Roger De Clare Lunch club Registration Form Yr3 and 4

## Dates for the Spring term:

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> -Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February: Children's Mental Health Week

Friday 13<sup>th</sup>: Come as Yourself Day! Wear whatever clothes express you!

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February: School Disco

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February Half-term

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February: School re-opens to all pupils

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March: Parents Consultations (letters sent out 30.1.26)

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Special Ladies Day

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March: Mothering Sunday

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March: Year 2 Trip

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March: PTFFA Egg Hunt

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March: Easter Service at St. Mary's for children from Reception to Year 4

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March: School closes for Easter break at 1.15pm

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April: All children and staff return for the Summer Term

# Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

# FREE



**1 day Champion course** designed specifically for school professionals working with 8 to 18 year olds.

## You will learn:

- An understanding of common mental health issues and how they can affect young people
- The ability to spot the signs of mental ill health in young people, and guide them to a place of support
- Knowledge and confidence to advocate for mental health awareness
- Skills to support positive wellbeing

<b>Friday 21 Nov 2025</b> 9.30am to 4pm	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER	School Professionals	Parking available on site
<b>Friday 5 Dec 2025</b> 9.30am to 4pm	Hertfordshire County Council, Robertson House, Stevenage, SG1 2FQ	School Professionals	Parking available on site
<b>Friday 23 Jan 2026</b> 9.30am to 4pm	Peartree Spring Primary School, Stevenage, SG2 9GG	Parents/Carers	Parking available on roads near venue
<b>Friday 6 Feb 2026</b> 9.30am to 4pm	Springmead Primary School, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 2HB	School Professionals	Parking available on roads near the venue
<b>Friday 27 Feb 2026</b> 9.30am to 4pm	The Hub, Fleetville Junior School, St Albans, AL1 4LW	School Professionals	Parking available on site
<b>Friday 6 Mar 2026</b> 9.30am to 4pm	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER	School Professionals	Parking available on site

**2 day First Aider course** suitable for everyone who teaches, works, lives with or cares for 8 to 18 year olds.

## You will learn:

- An in depth understanding of young people's mental health and factors that affect wellbeing
- Practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues
- Confidence to reassure and support a young person in distress
- Enhanced interpersonal skills, such as non judgemental listening
- Knowledge to help a young person recover their health by guiding them to further support
- How to engage with parents, carers and external agencies
- How to support a young person with a long term mental health illness to thrive
- Tools to look after your own wellbeing

<b>Thursday 6 &amp; Friday 7 Nov 2025</b> 9.30am to 4pm	Peartree Spring Primary School, Stevenage, SG2 9GG	School Professionals	Parking available on roads near venue
<b>Thursday 15 &amp; Friday 16 Jan 2026</b> 9.30am to 4pm	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER	School Professionals	Parking available on site

To book your place please email [schoolsmh@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsmh@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

**Places are limited to two representatives per education setting**