

Christmas

Term News

REVIEW OF THE TERM

We have enjoyed a very busy and productive term. Thank you to all the staff and learners for their hard work. We hope you enjoy reading some of our highlights below along with reminders regarding Centre life.

The Centre will be open on Thursday 28th December as a hub and warm space for our families to use. There will be activities available for children as well as food and warm drinks, as well as access to the food bank. Please do make use of the Centre during this time. Karen Rackley will be opening up the centre from 11am-2:00pm. If you have any questions or would like further information regarding this please contact info@desc.herts.sch.uk

You should have received a copy of

your child's end of term report and an updated timetable as part of your recent learner review meeting. If you have not received this or have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's Link Mentor in the first instance.

Term starts for all learners on Thursday 4th January 2024. We look forward to seeing everyone back in centre.

Thank you to everyone - learners, families, and staff - for making DESC a place where Respect, Aspiration, and Resilience continue to grow to support all to 'Be the Best you can Be'. Wishing you all a peaceful and restful holiday season.

All at DESC

Subject Reports

PE have enjoyed a variety of activities off site this term. From Ivanhoe Beacon, to Dunstable Downs, Squash and Pickleball, Learners have enjoyed engaging in new experiences. Thank you to Chris and Sharon for making this all possible.



CENTRE REMINDERS

Absence

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential if learners are to make good progress and to gain the appropriate skills to equip them for life. Lateness and absence are recorded, monitored and followed up.

If your child is going to be absent for any reason please contact the Centre on the number below:

Barncroft Campus
01442 2 47476 Option 2

If we have received no explanation for your child's absence, we will telephone parents/carers to ascertain the reason for absence.

Reminder

We are a non-smoking and vaping Centre. Any smoking or vaping related materials brought onto site will be confiscated. This policy extends to Centre trips and transportation to and from Centre. For further information please see our Smoking and Vaping Policy on our website.

The Hair and Beauty group enjoyed a trip to the EXCEL for the International Hair and Beauty Exhibition earlier in the term. They enjoyed meeting with Professionals from the industry, trying new products and learning more about the sector. Thank you to Sharon for organising and Keeth for supporting the trip.

Thank you to Viv, Munira, Sharon and Amie for making **Haloween** a Spooktacular event! From decorations and themed food, fun was had by all. Thank you to all involved.



English Trip to London Dungeons: The English department took four year 11 learners to the London Dungeon on Monday 4th December. They thoroughly enjoyed being whisked away back to London's most perilous past and were certainly frightened during the interactive experiences, preferring to

hide behind the teachers and avoid being the centre of attention! Following the dungeon experience, we walked along Southbank, admired Big Ben, The Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey, then enjoyed a long walk back to the station.

CENTRE REMINDERS

Damage to Site

We work really hard to ensure we keep our Centre in good working order. During the course of the term we have experienced a number of instances of damaged to the Centre and destruction of equipment. Learners have been reminded that any damage caused may result in a request of contribution towards repairs. Please can we ask for your support in reinforcing the need to respect our surroundings and equipment with your child.

Key Dates

Wednesday 24th January: Centre will be closed from 12:30pm. All transport will be arranged for learners to be collected from 12:30pm. There will be no lessons taking place in the afternoon.

Warm Space

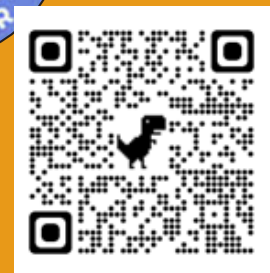
'Warm Space' with Karen and Co will be open for all families to join us on December 28 between 11.00am and 1.30pm for brunch and activities.

Useful Information and contacts for the holiday period

Samaritans - immediate support for any issues at all



Sandbox Project – advice and guidance for any mental health concerns



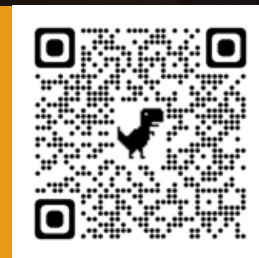
Report Remove – help to remove nude or inappropriate pictures of young people



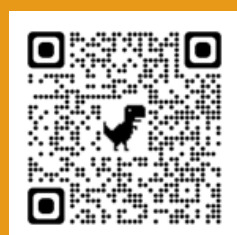
Nude image of you online?
We can help take it



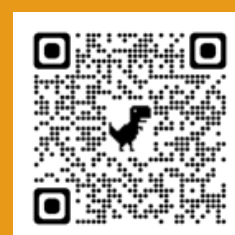
Fearless – reporting a crime or details of a crime anonymously



Talk to Frank – honest information about drugs



Brook – Sexual Health and Wellbeing experts



Useful Information and contacts for the holiday period

Careers

All the HOP Apprenticeship information that I sent through is found here: [APPRENTICESHIP AND T LEVEL ONLINE CAREERS FAIR FOR PARENTS AND CARERS](#) (hopinto.co.uk) if it's possible to turn it into a small advert / info section that would be great.

College Links

[West Herts College](#)

[Oaklands College](#)

Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Workshops (January-March 2024)

Workshops are open to all young people & parents/carers of children and young people who attend a school or are registered to a GP in Hertfordshire. A referral is not needed to access a workshop.

All workshops are currently being delivered online via Microsoft Teams. For more information about what each workshop covers and to book a place onto a workshop, visit the Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Eventbrite page: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-school-nursingservice-hertfordshire-33494371787>

Workshop	Date & Time
Emotional Wellbeing (For Young People 11-16) A workshop focused on adolescents managing their own emotional wellbeing and things parents/carers can do to help.	Thursday 25 th January 10am-12pm Monday 4 th March 6-8pm
Supporting Adolescents with Self-Esteem A workshop focused on adolescents improving their self-esteem and what parents can do to support.	Wednesday 10 th January 6-8pm Tuesday 19 th March 6-8pm
Supporting your Child's Self-Esteem A workshop focused on parents/carers supporting their child to improve their self-esteem.	Thursday 8 th February 6-8pm
Supporting with Sleep Difficulties A workshop supporting children and adolescents with managing their sleep difficulties and how parents/carers can help.	Tuesday 13 th February 10-12pm
Supporting your Child's Resilience A workshop focused on parents/carers supporting their child to improve their resilience.	Monday 15 th January 10-12pm Wednesday 27 th March 6-8pm
Developing your Child's Emotional Literacy A workshop focused on parents supporting their child with developing emotional literacy.	Tuesday 9 th January 6-8pm Friday 9 th February 10-12am Thursday 21 st March 6-8pm
General Emotional Wellbeing and Regulation Tips for Parents A workshop focused on parents supporting their child's general emotional wellbeing and emotional regulation.	Tuesday 23 rd January 10-12pm Monday 12 th February 6-8pm Monday 11 th March 10-12pm
School Transitions A workshop supporting children and adolescents with managing school transitions.	n/a
Exam Stress A workshop supporting children and adolescents with managing exam stress.	n/a

To access the recorded **Emotionally Based School Avoidance Webinar** please visit: <https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services-and-referral-information/our-services-a-z/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-service/>



