



Dear parents & school community,

Welcome to this newsletter packed with information and spotlighting initiatives such as our mission to harness the outdoors as a powerful tool for education. With this in mind our recent focus for professional staff development has been the many benefits of outdoor play.

Sarah, our trainer began by asking staff to reflect on '*what did outdoor play mean for us growing up*' – it was so interesting to hear about the many adventures staff had as children & how they felt it impacted them. Staff chattered enthusiastically about being outdoors all day, building dens or playing rounders on the green. We then considered how our own children play now and how different this has become; not only with electronic devices but safety concerns and lack of outdoor areas.

So, in this spirit we committed to providing our learners with increased opportunities for outdoor play. A stimulating outdoor environment is a great resource to teach essential life skills, boost confidence and enhance well-being.

Heritage House School Newsletter

June 2026



It has been delightful to see how play has been promoted during break and lunch times. Indeed, many parents and carers have commented on the creative use of materials at pick up time. Playgrounds are now filled with colourful designs using chalk!

We have purchased bamboo sticks, chalk, skipping ropes, parachutes sensory items and much, much more. It is lovely to see these encouraging and supporting play each day. New lanyards worn by staff outdoors are designed to engage learners to play.

On June 16th we will be inviting you all to a TEAMS event to hear about the wonderful power of play and being outdoors. I do hope you can join – links will be sent out when we return to school.



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In other developments and continuing the theme of outdoors we have two horticultural visits scheduled in June and July 2026. Firstly, from Chesham in Bloom on the 17th of June - and then an RHS delegation as we support Chesham's bid for Town in Bloom.

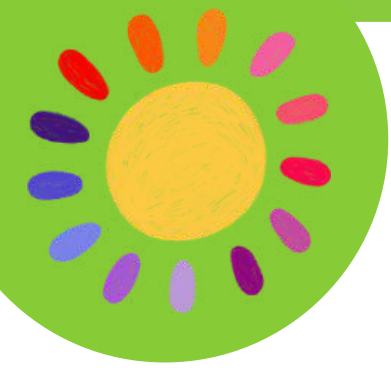
Our school grounds are certainly bursting with life & colour with an array of beautiful flowers. In addition, our vegetable patch continues to provide fresh produce to our café.

Learners have embraced all aspects of gardening and are busy making our school (horticulturally) shine!

We look forward to welcoming everyone in our school community, back on Monday 1st June.

Jacqueline





Outside Play



The Muddy Play Programme

Staff Professional Development

Sarah, founder of Muddy Puddles, focused on the benefits of outdoor play and how we can further develop our outdoor learning here at our school.

Following this inspiring day we have continued to develop outdoor learning opportunities for all learners, as well as purchasing the open-ended play resources recommended by Sarah.

Developing our learners' skills when playing is a focus from early years, right through to 6th Form. We are very excited to share this knowledge and skills with families. In this newsletter I hope you will find lots of information and ideas on play.



Let's Play



Developing Skills

It is recognised that play is the key foundation to all learning; sparking an interest and realising we can discover things for ourselves.

The first step into play is through shared attention over an object of interest for a minute or two, building up to the supporting adult modelling a play sequence, for example building a tower of blocks to knock down while showing delight and excitement!

Of particular importance is to consider learners' interests and sensory needs and what is important to them. To encourage engagement, the supporting adult needs to model a sense of awe and excitement.



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Love to Learn



New experiences

Our learners are having so much fun exploring new play equipment...





Have Fun!



Go with the Flow

Initially interactions will be short and adults should model play without an expectation that their learner will join in. Language should be kept short and simple and the use of your voice to relay excitement and enjoyment will clearly communicate that this interaction is a fun and positive thing to do!

Repeat these play interactions regularly - a familiar routine and play sequence will encourage your learner to dive into the world of play.

We will be sharing our developments with parents in an online workshop. Please join us as we share information on play skills and what the next steps are in this important journey,

Tuesday 16th June at 10am - TEAMS link to follow



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YES
You can!

Keep it going...

Jump into the magic of Play!

You can't feel silly enough when you're having fun. Here are a few photographs of learners having fun outdoors. Do send in photographs of your time outside... and it's going to be sunny!



Way to go!



Bravo!



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Rainforest Saturday 13 June

Celebrating David Attenborough

Our theme is based on the amazing David Attenborough's broadcasting career as we celebrate all things under the canopy of the rainforest – **what will you dress up as?**

Fly like a tropical bird, flutter around as a beautiful butterfly, swing among the trees like a monkey, or would you like to be a strong, protective tree?

Please come dressed up as your favorite rainforest species or if you would like us to provide a simple dress-up costume to have fun in the parade, come wearing green, brown, black or something colourful.



Mufti Day
Friday
5th June!



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DON'T FORGET

Heating Food

Please note the Handling Food Safety guidelines prohibit us from re-heating food in school.

Learner Absences

Please inform the school office on the first day of any learner absence as early as possible, as well as Transport. Transport are not obligated to pass messages to the school.

School Uniform

Please could you ensure all of your child's uniform, swimming clothes and personal items are clearly labelled with your child's name. Uniform is mandatory - school sweatshirt only. If your child needs them, please also send in clearly labelled spare clothing along with any other personal care items.

Punctuality

School opens at 8:50am, please note that arrivals any time after 9am are recorded as late.

Appointments

When possible, medical appointments should be scheduled outside of school hours. If your child will be absent due to a medical appointment, you must inform the office and provide a copy of the letter/screenshot of appointment confirmation for our records.



DON'T FORGET

Diarrhoea & Vomiting

Following the Health Protection Agency advice, if your child is sick with diarrhoea and/or vomiting, please keep them at home for at least 48 hours following the last bout of either.



REMEMBER:

Learners will not be able to swim for two weeks following a bout of sickness or diarrhoea.



See some useful links below on staying healthy this spring...

- **Education Hub Blog:** Reducing the spread of illness this winter: Seven steps to healthier schools and higher school attendance – a helpful blog for parents and staff.
- **HS Guidance for Parents:** Is my child too ill for school? – a useful resource to help parents decide when children should stay at home.
- **Preventing and Controlling Infections Guidance:** Includes advice on vaccination, ventilation, and good respiratory hygiene.
- **A-Z of managing Infectious Diseases:** Practical guidance on managing specific illnesses.

Active In The Community

Inclusive Cycling sessions are back!

Running in Aylesbury and Marlow, these sessions enable individuals of all ages and abilities to enjoy the benefits of cycling using adaptive cycles. Family members, carers, and friends are welcome, and each booking allows two guests to join for free.

[Click here to book your space](#)



INCLUSIVE CYCLING

With a wide range of adapted cycles from; Trikes, quads, wheelchair carriers, hand bikes and tandems, there is something for everyone!

Marlow

Saturdays
12:30 – 2:30pm
Little Marlow
Athletics Track

Aylesbury

Sundays
11am – 1pm
Stoke Mandeville
Stadium Track

To find out more and to book, please visit our website:

<https://www.activeinthecommunity.org.uk/inclusive-cycling/>

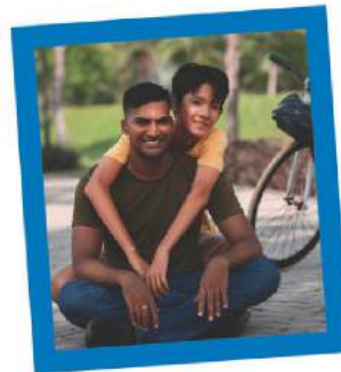
or contact Amelia: Amelia.Evans@aitc.org.uk, 07399748803



**Buckinghamshire
Council**

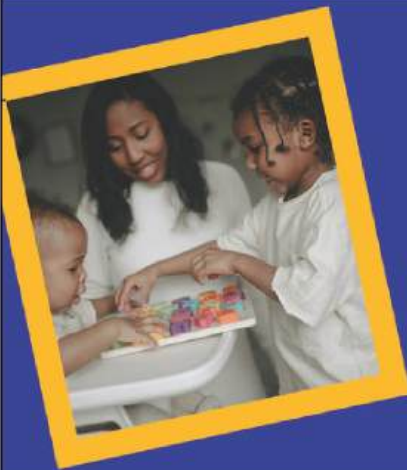


Autism Early Support®



The Parent's Portal by Autism Early Support

Introducing a free online support tool for Buckinghamshire families, supporting the needs of children and families in relation to neurodivergence.



The Parent's Portal by AES is an online resource that contains:

- Resources to watch and read, available 24/7
- Parent support groups
- Live workshops
- Discussion forums



**Scan the QR code to register or visit
portal.autismearlysupport.org.uk/bucks-registrations**

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