



# Newsletter

6th February 2026



Dear Parents and Carers of Greenleas School,

This week I enjoyed eating my lunch with children from Key Stage 2 at Derwent Road, who comprised Thomas, Spencer, Isla, Chloe, Freya, Ava and Kai. We were all very pleased that the sun had finally made an appearance after what felt like a month off. We talked about our favourite foods, which included 4 cheese macaroni cheese, pizza, sushi, curry, spaghetti bolognese and whether there could be such a thing as too much cheese.

The unsung hero of Sandpipers was Lillian, who came and enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate with me in my office on Thursday.

Our Hot Writes this week are from Maddie and Inaaya at Reception at Derwent Road and Kestrel Way.

Please see the attached flyer about the petition to keep Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre open. Currently the plan is to close the old Leisure Centre in Linslade once the new facility is available in April. This will not significantly increase the capacity across the town – more information is in the petition, for you to make up your own mind.

Don't forget to share your views about school uniform with your parent forum rep ahead of our next meetings. We've noticed quite a wide interpretation of school uniform, and this does not prepare children well for middle school where full, correct uniform is expected and checked every day. We are always interested to hear what you have to say, and particularly if you have ideas around how we can be more sustainable.

Please note we will be closing slightly earlier on the last day of term at 1.15pm on Friday March 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday July 17<sup>th</sup>. We are giving advance notice so that you have time to make collection arrangements if needed, as there will be no After School Club. This change is to bring us in line with other local schools and the middle schools.

With best wishes for the weekend.

Rebecca Clarke,  
Head Teacher



## Greenleas' Value of the Month for February is...

### Caring

Caring is not just about doing something. You can be caring with your thoughts and spend time with someone. You can be caring by giving someone a smile or a hug, especially when they really need it.

Sometimes, some people feel that caring means spending a lot of money that they maybe don't have. Homemade presents are cheaper and often appreciated more because you have been generous with your time and really thought about your gift.

Sometimes you might think that the person you want to share with already has a lot of things. Instead you could be caring and use your money to buy books for children in Africa, a goat for a poor family, donate some money to charity. All of these things are ways of showing that you care.

## Star of the Week

**Derwent Road:**  
Jack H  
**Kestrel Way:**  
Autumn F



## Tidy Tortoise

**Derwent Road:**  
Ducks  
**Kestrel Way:**  
Plovers



Click the icon to visit our school social media channels.



LO: To be able to write a caption (noun verb)

Spring 1 The Runaway Pancake

What am I going to do in the half term holiday?



Inaaya

FLYING flying

Name Inaaya

LO: To be able to write a caption (noun verb)

Spring 1 The Runaway Pancake

What is my new character doing?



Cat

PURINE

Name Maddie

Place2Be's  
**CHILDREN'S  
 MENTAL HEALTH  
 WEEK**



## THIS IS MY PLACE Art Activity

### INTRODUCTION

To celebrate Children's Mental Health Week 2026, Place2Be is happy to share an activity to explore this year's theme **THIS IS MY PLACE**.

Belonging is the feeling of being a valued part of the groups and places that are important to us. It means feeling cared for and comfortable to be ourselves.

This resource encourages children to explore their sense of belonging by creating a personal map, which can include places, groups, or activities or something not physical, where they feel they belong.

### ACTIVITY AIMS

- Increase personal sense of belonging and connection
- Foster understanding of belonging and its importance to wellbeing

### MATERIALS

- paper or card
- paint, crayons/pastels, coloured pens, or pencils

### OPTIONAL

- recycled paper (ex/ from magazines and newspapers)
- scissors
- string, glue, or tape

### ACTIVITY WARM-UP:

Before starting the main art activity, have a look through the categories below. It may help to jot down thoughts and ideas about where you experience a sense of belonging.

#### What does belonging mean?

Do you know belonging isn't felt from just one thing or one place. There are so many ways we can feel like we belong. See some examples below:

See some examples below:

- At Home:** with supportive family members/carers who know you well, even your quirks.
- At School:** in classrooms where ideas are shared, with teachers who believe in you, and among friends.
- In Activities & Special Interests:** that you enjoy and are passionate about ex: arts, maths, reading...
- In Communities:** religious or cultural groups, neighbourhood communities, online spaces or volunteer organisations.

- With Friends:** those special people who truly understand you, make you laugh, and stand by you.
- Within Yourself:** feeling comfortable to be you and accepting yourself as you are.
- Within the Environment and Universe:** being outdoors or looking at the stars to feel belonging not only with other people but all that exists on our planet and beyond, good times and difficult ones.

### WHAT ARE MAPS?



Maps are used to outline and describe different parts of the world. Maps have lines, colours, and symbols that help us understand important things about places and where to find them. We might notice things like countries, cities, mountains, rivers, or deserts on a map.

### Fun Fact

Using available materials, create a map showing all the places, groups, and activities that help you feel like you belong.

Your map could look like one you've seen before with real places, or it could be completely imaginary with unusual features and outlines.

#### 1 Draw the main outline of the land and what it looks like:

- Is it an island surrounded by sea or does the land cover the whole page? Maybe it is shaped like something you like (for example an island in the shape of a bird)
- Perhaps it is completely imaginary and out of this world (such as candy clouds)

#### What is the environment like:

- Does it have one big city or are there many villages and towns?
- Are there mountains, forests, lakes, volcanoes, beaches, etc?

#### 2 Using your choice of words, colours, symbols and patterns, add everything that gives you a sense of belonging to your map.



Your map can be as simple or detailed as preferred.

#### Examples:

- A couple of pillows and books for that cosy corner of the library where you like to read
- The stage in the school hall where you feel proud, and confident
- Game consoles, sports balls, math symbols or musical notes etc. for activities you like
- Friendship bracelets representing you and your friends
- Plants and animals or somewhere outside where it's nice to be in nature
- Buildings where you meet with others or a place of worship
- Vehicles that take you to important places such as that bus or a train to meet with family, a day out or a fun trip you took with family or friends, or somewhere you feel completely relaxed such as a special walk or park.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. Where would you most like to be on your map today?
2. If you met someone who feels left out, where is the first place you'd like to bring them on your map to help them feel like they belong too?

More resources from Children's Mental Health Week:  
 Visit: [childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk](http://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)  
 or scan the QR code.





# Birth to 5 years

## YOUR TIPS FOR A HEALTHIER SCREEN TIME

'Studies have shown that too much screen time can cause babies and toddlers to **learn fewer words** and have **slower language development**. Excessive use of screens is also being strongly linked to **behavioural difficulties** in very young children.'



0 - 24 months



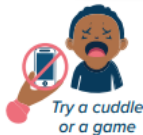
2 - 5 year olds



Bigger is better



Watching lots of short videos is being linked to concentration difficulties in children.



Try a cuddle or a game



Phones, tablets and computers should not be in any child's bedroom overnight.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 NO screen time** between birth - 24 months except for video chatting with family and friends.
- 2 30 MINS screen time.** Children aged 2 - 5 years old should not be on screens for more than 30 mins per day.
- 3 BIGGER screens.** If your child is ready to play a short game then try to use a larger screen like a tablet or computer screen. These cause less visual strain than a phone.
- 4 AVOID** using a device to settle your child down. Evidence shows this makes their anger and frustration worse in later life. Instead try a book, a game outdoors, or just a cuddle.
- 5 \*SLEEP HYGIENE.** Under 5s should not use a screen for at least 2 HOURS BEFORE BEDTIME, to aid their natural sleep pattern.

\*'SLEEP HYGIENE' is a term used for healthy habits and behaviours that help support a good night's sleep.

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS FOR SAFER SCREENS

Accepted by NHS England  
Mental Health Leads

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SCAN ME

## School Nursing Health Clinics

We are pleased to announce that we are offering health clinics for parents/carers. You can make an appointment via the school or if you prefer, just drop in for a chat. These clinics will be staffed by your school nursing team at your child's school.

All are welcome to attend.

The School Nursing team help support your child's health throughout their school journey. Clinics will encourage the early interventions/ advice that you may need to ensure your child is able to reach their full potential.

We look forward to meeting you.



Please click the link to view an animation explaining our service and how to contact us <https://vimeo.com/840387234/0a3c6c32db?fl=pl&fe=sh>

Central Bedfordshire

## Petition to Protect Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre

**URGENT CALL**  
We're so close but we need you!



We urgently need **141 more signatures** to secure a full council debate

**Deadline: 17 February 2026**  
**SIGN • SHARE • ACT NOW**

Every signature truly counts



Visit the Central Bedfordshire Council website  
→ Search for Live E-Petitions  
→ Protect Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre

# Derwent Road Lunar New Year Party

Join us at after school club for our Lunar New Year celebration! Friday 13th February, 3:30-5:30pm. We will be enjoying craft activities, trying lucky Chinese New Year foods and more!

Please book your sessions as usual via the app to secure a space.

Kestrel Way PTA

# Mother's Day Surprise room

Children will have the chance to choose a gift for someone special this Mother's Day.

£5 per gift paid via the Gateway app

Payments will need to be made by Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March for gifts to be chosen on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Available to all year groups, including pre-school and pre-reception

## Raise funds for us for FREE

with easyfundraising



Join as our supporter today at:

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause)

Just search for:

PTA Greenleas School, Kestrel Way

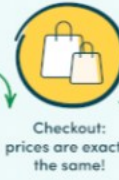
8,000+ retailers will donate to us whenever you shop with them



Start at the easyfundraising website or app



Click out to where you'd like to shop



Checkout: prices are exactly the same!



The retailer sends a % of your spend to easyfundraising



They pass it on to us :)

Plus, you'll get...



Exclusive retailer offers



Competitions



A warm feeling inside!

Over **£60m** raised for UK good causes

**£0** extra cost to anyone



30/01/2026

Dear all,

**Easyfundraising.org.uk**

The PTA have managed to sign up to the [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) website and create an account that all of you would be able to follow and support, should you wish.

What is it?

Over 8000 retailers have gathered together to support charities by providing a small amount of funds every time someone who is an easyfundraiser purchases items from a retailer via their site or app.

How it works...

You can either download their app or access their website. You can identify which charity you wish to support and then select the retailer you wish to use and continue shopping as usual.

You can sign up as either an individual or as a business who wishes to provide their support. There is no extra cost to yourself and the retailer will donate money based on your spendings, to the charity of your choice.

Where can I shop?

Over 8000 online retailers are involved. These include: Amazon, John Lewis, Tesco, Sainsbury, Morrisons, Asda and more!

Want to know more? Don't hesitate to reach out ☺

PTA at Greenleas School, Kestrel Way

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Just search for:

PTA Greenleas School, Kestrel Way

8,000+ retailers will donate to us whenever you shop with them



Start at the easyfundraising website or app



Click out to where you'd like to shop



Checkout: prices are exactly the same!



The retailer sends a % of your spend to easyfundraising



They pass it on to us :)

Plus, you'll get...



Exclusive retailer offers



Competitions



A warm feeling inside!

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**£0** extra cost to anyone

Greenleas School PTA, Kestrel Way, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, LU7 4WZ  
ptakw@greenleas.net | Charity Number: 1194655



Greenleas School is delighted to welcome author and illustrator

# Yuval Zommer

to our school

## 12th March 2026

**book**

Book Leighton Buzzard  
3 High Street Mews, LU7 1EA  
fb/insta: @bookleightonbuzzard

DERWENT ROAD PTA

# EASTER SHOW

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH

3.30-5.30

£8 PER CHILD

Reception - year 4

We have invited a theatre company to bring their Easter show to school! This will be an event for children only, straight after school. The children will have a drink and snack in their classrooms, before the show in the hall. Collection will be from the hall, via the school reception. Any questions please email [PTAfrogs@hotmail.com](mailto:PTAfrogs@hotmail.com)

Please inform us of any allergies your child has in the comment section when booking. Spaces are limited. Booking will close once we reach capacity.

*Thank you for  
Your support*

