



Frewen College Newsletter

Spring Term - February 2023

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Dear Parents

Here we are at the end of another half term!

This has been the half term when covid-19 has finally arrived at Frewen. In late January we had around a third of students off school, as well as a number of staff - not all due to covid, but in addition to the usual winter ailments. Attendance has have since improved, but we are still not back to "normal, and are hoping that the half-term break will provide a chance for everyone to recover and come back stronger than ever, ready for the longer days and warmer months that are to come.

I would like to thank all parents for your sensible approach to this, and for helping to keep not only your own child, but the school community, safe.

I know that some students were worried about their child's absence affecting their attendance figures, and that Local Authorities, for example, would be alarmed. I would like to reassure parents that, if a child is absent through illness, and the school is informed, this is not a problem. We do have to submit attendance data to the LA, and they do scrutinise it, but it is unexplained or unauthorised absence that would concern them, and this is rare at Frewen.

On other matters - on 31st January we received the call form Ofsted telling us that they would be arriving to inspect our boarding provision later that morning. This inspection lasts three days, and happens approximately once a year, but always comes when we least expect it. In this case, our new Head of Boarding, Hannah Lewis, had been in place for six days, so it was a case of baptism by fire - but Hannah and her team, with the support of other key staff, rose to the challenge and the inspection went well. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank everyone who contributed: Hannah and her team, but also other staff, parents and students. We are still awaiting the report, but I will share the outcome and publish the report on the school's website as soon as we receive it.

I wish you all a happy half-term holiday!

Nick Goodman
Principal

Prep School by Sally Welch

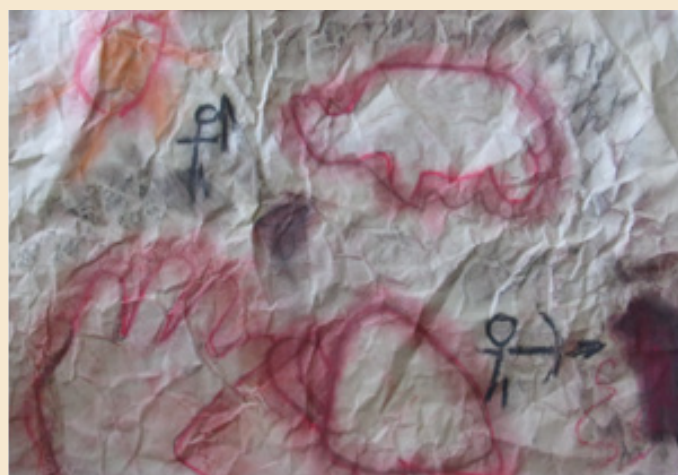
School Stone Age Experience

Prep School have had a busy term learning about the Stone Age. As a stunning start to our topic, we visited Hastings Museum and what a time we had! During our Stone Age workshop, we were able to handle primary sources of evidence, dating back over 2 million years! We compared the dress of a stone age child to that of one today and played Stone Age themed games. It was a great way to enrich our knowledge and has helped us with our topic work throughout the term.

Following our visit, Blue and Green Class have written a newspaper report. Green Class based their report on the book 'Stone Age Boy.' We made replica Stone Age artefacts from playdoh and explained to our friends the importance of our objects to Stone Age people. Blue Class used Skara Brae, the Neolithic Stone Age settlement, as inspiration for their report. Red Class have written instructions inspired by the book, 'How to wash a Woolly Mammoth!' They have also created beautiful Stone Age cave paintings, using chalk, pastels and charcoal as part of their mark making topic in art lessons.

Mental Health Week at Frewen Prep

"To end our week, which had a focus on mental health, we have all worn our favourite clothes."



Stone Age cave paintings

Prep Badminton Brilliance!

We have been practising badminton in P.E classes this term and the children have thoroughly enjoyed it. So, when we were invited to attend an Inter Schools badminton tournament on Tuesday 7th February, the children were very keen to participate. We entered two pairs: Finn and Raydan and Herbie and Ethan. They had a fantastic time, showed great sportsmanship and came away with first and second places! Finn and Herbie were also commended for being a valuable player. We are so very proud of both teams, who can be seen above, delighted with their certificates.



Boarding by Hannah Lewis

This half term seems to have flown by! It seems like only yesterday that boarders arrived back in house, reconnecting with friends after the Christmas holidays.

This term, due to chilly weather and dark nights, most of the fun and games have taken place indoors. The students have spent chilled out evenings enjoying colouring, doing jigsaw puzzles, making up dances, baking, watching movies and playing Nurf gun wars. With an increased number of students choosing to stay for the weekend, the Houses have felt busy and full of energy! Weekend trips have included and old favourite, Gravity indoor trampolining, as well as shopping trips, Duckpin Bowling and creating yummy fruit skewers with the chocolate fountain.

Looking ahead to next term we are looking forward to better, lighter weather to get more use out of our fabulous grounds during the evenings, as well as moving forward with some exciting ideas



This weekend we went Duckpin Bowling! Smaller lanes, smaller pins, smaller bowling balls... heaps of fun! Disclaimer: no ducks were harmed during this activity!!



English

by Rebecca Lowe

Functional Skills

Earlier this year, Ms Taylor-Wade's Year 10 English group sat their Functional Skills Level 1 qualifications, and I am delighted to say that they all passed both the reading and writing components first time round. Well done to everybody involved!

Our annual book review competition took place in February where a huge number of our students discussed a book that they have recently enjoyed. Staff joined in as well and together we have created a reading wall. The selection was wide and varied and we hope that it will inspire the Frewen reading community.

This half term we have also been exploring diversity in literature, celebrating books from different communities, races and religions. We are very keen to expand our non-fiction provision so if you have an area of interest or a book you would like to be available in the library, please do let me know.



Annual Book Review - Reading wall

LAMDA

It's been a busy few weeks in the English department with a large number of students preparing for their LAMDA public speaking qualifications. It's always amazing to discover the wide range of interests and hobbies that our students engage in outside school, and the exciting places they have visited.



As ever, if you have any questions about English, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



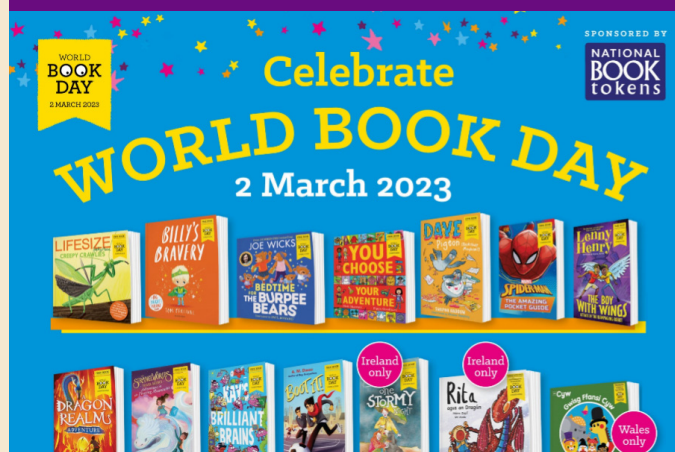
World Book Day

On March 2nd we celebrated World book Day. Launched in 1998, by Prime Minister Tony Blair at the Globe Theatre, this annual charity event celebrates books and reading.

Book tokens were given out to students in English lessons. These one-pound tokens can be exchanged for books at many UK bookshops. We still have tickets left over if anybody would like a couple more. Spending just 10 minutes a day reading and sharing stories can make a crucial difference to future success and it is fun for all involved.

The World Book Day website also has a link to free audio books that might help engage more reluctant readers.

[World Book Day Audiobooks](#)



Science

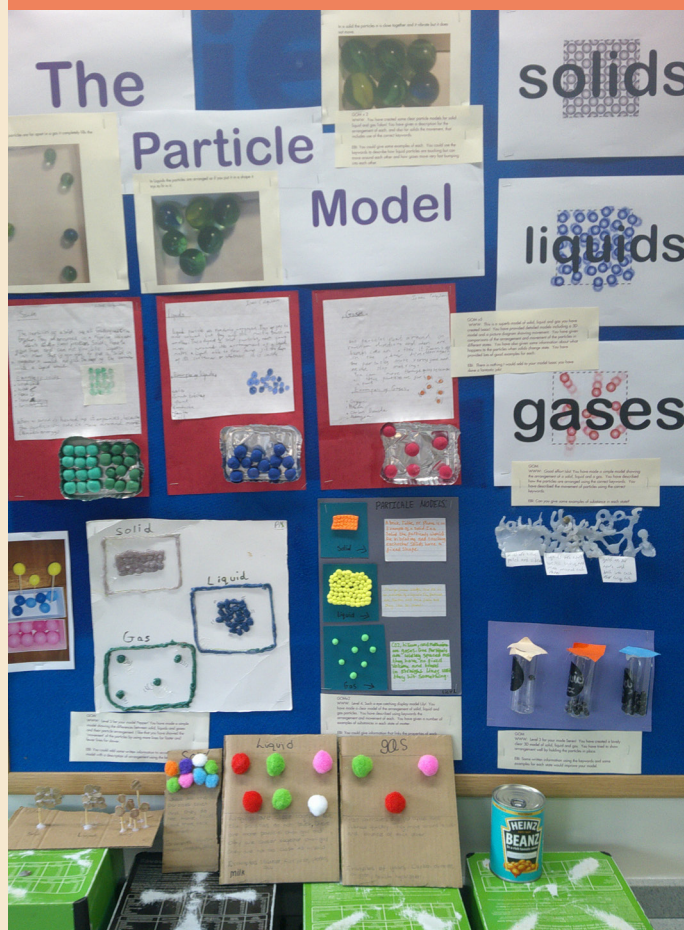
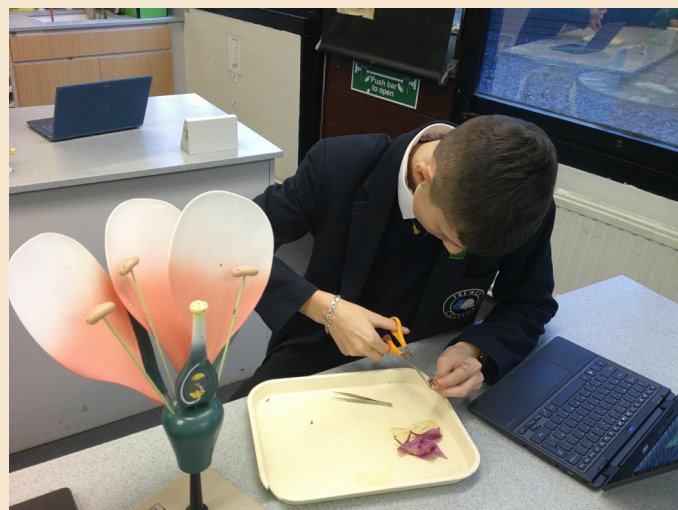
by Scott Wassell

Welcome to the first science newsletter of 2023!

The year 7s have been showing their creativity with their representation of the particle model. Ms Cardinale was so pleased with the work she put on her board.

The year 11 entry level cohort have been working on the transport system in the human body, so they had a chance to dissect a heart. Enire was the consummate surgeon, showing precision and delicacy.

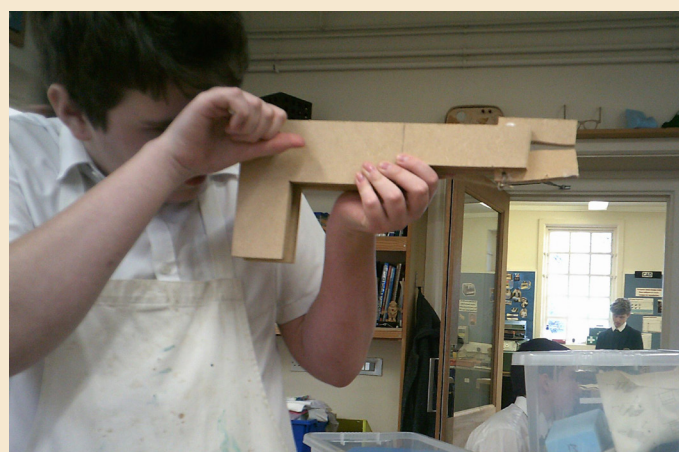
The year 8s have had a couple of topics covered this term. Starting off with plant reproduction. We did a lily dissection to reveal the reproductive system of a flowering plant. They have just began looking at combustion which start with lighting icing sugar, messy but fun!



Design & Technology by Marea Saunders

In Y7, 8 and 9 students having worked on textiles projects this half term have been learning how to hand stitch, use a sewing machine and a key skill for life ironing. The Y7s have built their own Spin Art Machine and used it to decorate fabric to create their own small cushion. While in Y8 students have been learning about the batik decorative technique, using it to design and create their own fabric which they will use to make a small draw string bag. The y9s are in the process of completing a cushion cover which has a design that incorporates e-textiles, a circuit which has lighting included.

In Y10 the students having be learning about mechanisms and have used this to work in small groups to develop their own litter pickers. They are also in the final stages of completing their laminated salad servers concentrating on high quality finish. They will shortly be ready for students to take home and be fully tested at home.



Y11 students have till the end of this term to complete the manufacturing and evaluating of their design proposal for their GCSE. Students are required by the exam board to select one of the published themes to base their final project on. This year the projects vary from a water feature to aid concentration while working or studying at home and chicken bird feeder to prevent boredom while caring for animals.

PE

by Jo Hambleton

Interhouse Football

This term we hosted our first interhouse competition and the sport was Football. The house system has been building and we thought it would be a lovely opportunity for some interhouse sport. We are planning on running different sports throughout the term.

Starting this term with Football, the event was divided into two tournaments one for KS3 and one for KS4.

Firstly KS3 The 3 houses lined up, chanting loud and proud from Oaks, Navy and Lions. Match 1 ended with Lions winning 2-0 against Oaks. Match 2 Oaks v Navy with some good sibling rivalry between Rufus and Scarlett. 2 swift goals scored by Arthur and Ronnie meant Oaks we up 2-0 and secured the win. For the final match Navy v Lions. A lovely goal from Yanni took Lions into early lead. Navy found it hard to defend and the game finished 3-0. Final result with 2 wins were LIONS!!

Well done to all those who took part and supported.

Well done the Scarlett, Cameron, and Ava for being awarded the Fair play awards and Baker, Oscar and Rufus getting the players award.



KS4 The hyper and tension for these long-awaited matches was unreal. Oaks were the firm favourites as we started. All teams came ready and raring and with low numbers it meant most of the house had to get involved!

First match was Navy v Lions and a lovely even match with some great chances but neither team could quite finish the job, so it ended 0-0. Match 2 was Navy v Oaks. Navy came out determined and really held off the dominate Oaks for most of the match until finally conceding a goal. Zac scoring again in quick succession before the final score ending 3-0 to Oaks. The final match Oaks v Lions. The tension was building and players ready for the final game. It was a really competitive first 10 min with neither team scoring. Lions began to gain momentum and confidence in holding off the mighty Oaks. Suddenly Lions snuck past the defenders and scored! Oaks had fire in there bellies, they were not going down without a fight and quickly equalised bring it to 1-1.

3 minutes on the clock, who was going to win? A free kick for Lions just beyond the halfway line meant Harrison had his chance. I wonderful perfectly executed kick that sailed into the net took Lions into the lead. 2-1

WOW the last minute of the game seemed the longest for Lions, could they hold off Oaks! As the final whistle blew Lions screamed and all celebrated. With a draw and win they had snatched the Interhouse trophy from under the Oaks noses.

It was a wonderful afternoon and a real treat to watch some of our talented student play. Well done to everyone who was involved and took part. You did yourself proud

Thank you also to Mr Baxter for being Referee and the PE teams for helping with the event.

PE**by Jo Hambleton****Brighton and Hove Albion SEND Football Tournament.**

Well done to the KS3 and KS4 Boys Football teams who took part in the Brighton and Hove Albion SEND Football Tournament. Both teams travelled to Burgess Hill to take part against other school for a fast-paced indoor tournament.

Both the KS3 and KS4 teams finished 3rd overall and we were really proud of them. We are excited to see how the girls get along at their tournament in March.

Well done to all those involved and also Mr Baxter for coaching the teams.

Table Tennis Table

It has been fantastic to see the installation of our new outdoor concrete Table Tennis Table. This is for all students to use during break and lunchtimes and it has been pleasing to see a variety of students enjoying this now the weather is starting to become a bit brighter.

Brighton and Hove Albion SEND Football Tournament.

KS3 and KS4 both placed 3rd overall, and we were extremely proud of them!!



Art by Duncan Stangster

On Wednesday 8th February, year 7 spent the afternoon at Hastings Museum and Art Gallery, which houses a large collection of historical artefacts as well as artwork from all around the world. Students were able to observe and photograph objects of interest from displays linked to North America, dinosaurs, local history and even stuffed animals! The aim of the trip was to be able to collect visual research that will eventually inform large scale observational studies, with a specific focus on tone, pattern and colour.



Catering by David Quye

22nd January 2023

Happy Chinese New Year everyone - year of the rabbit

Chinese New Year celebrations were in full swing at Frewen, with a fabulous Chinese banquet, complete with fortune cookies, spring rolls and decorations! A delicious homemade dinner of smoked salmon and avocado sushi was served in the evening to the boarders, as well as dim sum and much more! Dessert was Panko Bananas with Green Tea Ice Cream.



News from the Gardens

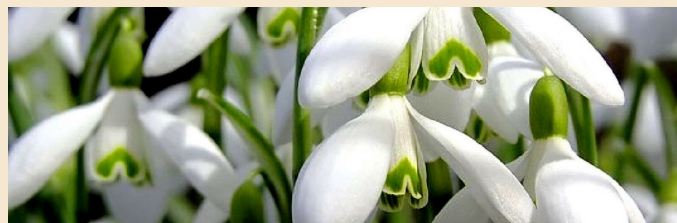
by Daniel Le Cornu

News from the Gardens - after a very busy winter battling snow and floods!

Parkland Work

New beech trees (*Fagus sylvatica*) have been planted in the parkland to begin a long-term project to replace the very mature trees on the beech tree avenue. This project will be extended to the oak tree avenues in the next year. There are many ancient trees on the Frewen College site, and it is a unique collection, including the arboretum. The Chestnut walk (behind the playing field) is one of the oldest on the site. It is a habitat for wildlife and many bat species. I recommend viewing from a distance and to avoid walking directly under these ancient trees. Well worth a look though!

As reported in the last newsletter we had started work in the parkland to clear brambles and invasive Turkey Oak (*Quercus cerris*), this work has now been largely completed and the parkland has been opened up! Hopefully many snowdrops (*Galanthus nivalis*) bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non scripta*) and wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) will return to the parkland floor now the light is able to stream through.



The next step is to give the brambles one final cut back using a rough-cut mower (Atilla). During the summer months the grass will be allowed to grow and any wildflowers establish, in the long term the parkland should become a mix of trees ancient and new and a wildflower meadow. Paths will be cut through the meadow to allow safe passage through the trees and meadow.

The bushcraft students are progressing fantastically with the building of an iron age roundhouse, from just a few of the uprights to start the structure to completed walls (using wattle). The next step will be to plaster the walls with daub (a mix of straw and clay). All of the materials to construct the roundhouse have been sourced onsite (hazel, willow, laurel, straw, clay, conifer) and nothing has been brought in!

A fantastic achievement!



News from the Gardens

by Daniel Le Cornu

Bird watching hide

We have repurposed a garden shed as a bird watching hide and this will be placed in the parkland in Spring, site tbc! It will be fitted out with a bench and table, binoculars and a sightings book.

Meadows for 2023

We are still in the process of establishing more annual and perennial wildflower meadows on the site. The parkland will be the site of a huge new perennial wildflower meadow. In the last year the site has been prepared for sowing. Preparing the ground involved removing the top layer of the most fertile soil, this was carried out using a mini digger, the site was then sprayed off to control the most invasive weeds (nettles, bindweed and horsetail), the soil is now clear and ready for seed sowing at the end of April. Once established the meadow will be a rich habitat of at least 30 different plant species and will be a haven for insects and mammals. So many of our meadows have been lost over the last 70 years and it is very difficult to re-establish these delicate ecosystems, hopefully ours will be a success!

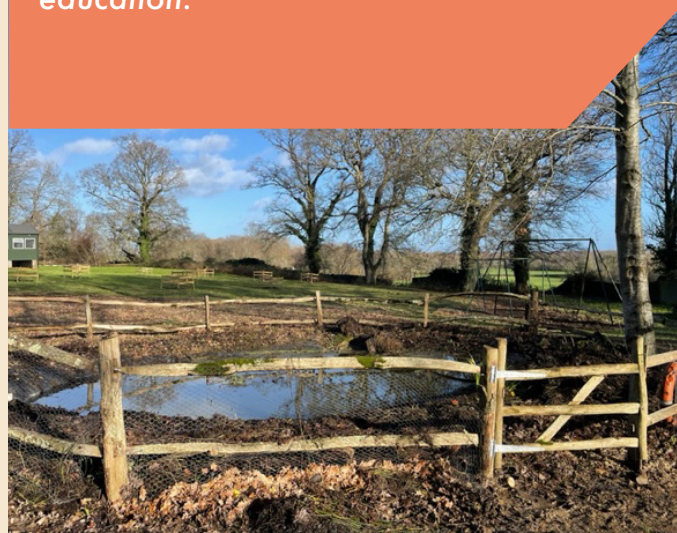
The little wildlife pond has been cleared and restored. The water was filled with rubbish, weeds and leaves and after a few days of cutting back and dragging out the mess the water is now clearer. We spotted frogs and toads and hopefully frog spawn will be seen very soon. The fence has been repaired to make the area safe.

The next step in this project will be to build a dipping platform to access the water for science and conservation projects.

It may look a little like the photo.....

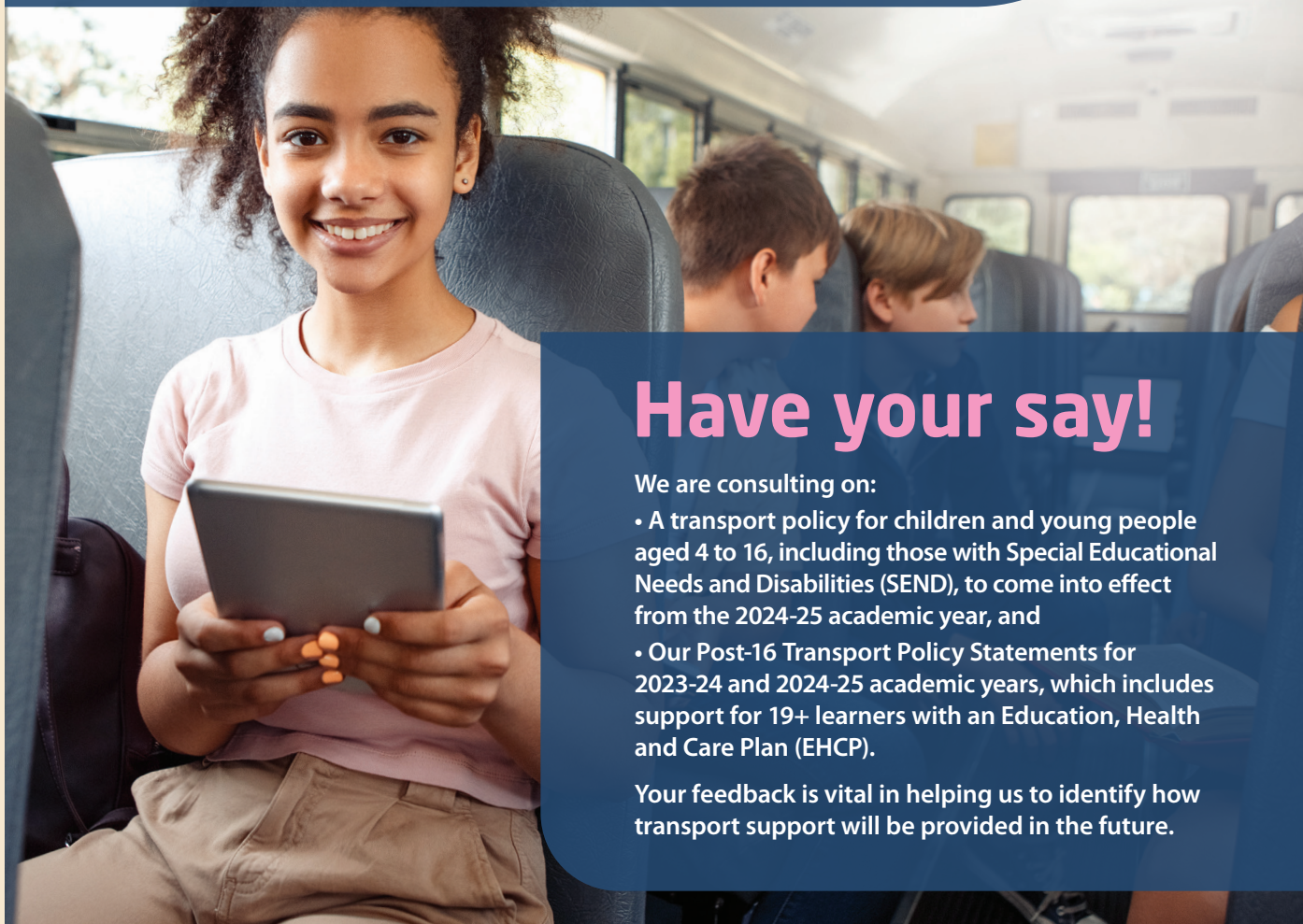


All of these projects are part of a conservation led approach to horticulture around the site, with an increasing number of meadows, removal of invasive plant species to improve biodiversity and planting native hedging across the site boundaries. Hopefully all these projects can be used in conservation and science education.



Home to School and Post-16 Transport for Mainstream and SEND Pupils

Public Consultation



Have your say!

We are consulting on:

- A transport policy for children and young people aged 4 to 16, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), to come into effect from the 2024-25 academic year, and
- Our Post-16 Transport Policy Statements for 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic years, which includes support for 19+ learners with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Your feedback is vital in helping us to identify how transport support will be provided in the future.

Consultation closes 21 March 2023

Find out about our proposals and tell us your views.

Visit: www.kent.gov.uk/schooltransportpolicy

For queries or to request hard copies of the consultation material contact us at schooltransportconsultation@kent.gov.uk or call 03000 418796. For alternative formats or languages, please email alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk or call 03000 421553 (text relay service 18001 03000 421553). Both phone numbers go to answer machines, which are monitored during office hours.

