



Friday 28th April 2023

Dear parents,

I am writing at the end of week two term 5, in the midst of budget setting - the year seems to be flying by ! I am writing with the usual round up of news and information,

Kent police - Youth questionnaire

Kent police have contacted the schools within Aspire to ask if we could promote a link to a questionnaire which is for young people. The information we have received is below together with a link to the survey, if your child would like to complete it.

Good afternoon,

I am contacting you to ask if you would be able to please share this information within your school community and students – via email, parent mail, social media and good old fashioned notice boards.

This is on behalf of the Police Crime Commissioner who funds some work within schools. To ensure the commissioned services are as up to date with trends and opinions of young people and to make sure their messaging is accurate and consistent, I would ask that this be shared and encouraged with young people from years 5 right through to college age to look at and complete.

Attached is a leaflet with the QR code, there is also an A4 poster that could be put up in school and lastly a link below.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/YouthSurvey2023/>

Thank you for your assistance

Many thanks
Jodie Hobbs

Schools coordinator - Kent Police



Shaun the sheep Art Trail



We have received some information regarding the Shaun the sheep trail which has been organised by the Heart of Kent Hospice. Please see below

We wanted you to be one of the first to know that, after the success of 'Elmer's Big Heart of Kent Parade' in 2021, we're pleased to announce the launch of the Learning & Community Programme aspect of our new art trail for 2024, with none other than the fabulous family favourite - Shaun the Sheep!

The new trail will see up to 50 large individually decorated Shaun sculptures placed around the parks, town centre and river walks in Maidstone and the surrounding areas. And just like in 2021, there will also be little Shaun sculptures which will form the Learning and Community

Programme, designed to engage children and adults alike by encouraging them to join in this ewe-nique event and get creative.

We're delighted to be partnering again with Wild in Art, the leading producer nationally and globally of these spectacular art events, Aardman, the world-famous, award-winning studio based in Bristol and creator of the cheeky and lovable character Shaun the Sheep and Maidstone Borough Council who will be the Official Presenting Partner for the trail.

We would love to invite Aspire to join our flock of little Shauns and join Shaun in his Maidstone adventures next summer.

We hope you agree that Shaun the Sheep is a great choice and will build upon the success of Elmer. Shaun is cheeky and mischievous, and surrounded by his farmyard friends he lives life to the full – the care we provide to patients and their loved ones lets them know they are never alone, as we support them to have the best quality of life for as long as they live.

For more information about Shaun in the Heart of Kent, follow the trail on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @shaunheartkent. To ensure you keep up to date with all the latest news and updates visit www.shaunheartofkent.co.uk.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With very best wishes

Karen

Karen Newton-Anker
Community Partnerships Manager
Heart of Kent Hospice
Preston Hall, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7PU
Tel: 01622 792200 ext 369
www.hokh.org

Things to do over the May Day weekend in Kent

The Kent Messenger has written an article to give information about things to do in Kent over this bank holiday weekend.

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/whats-on/news/join-in-the-may-day-celebrations-285688/>

This morning on my commute to school from the coast I drove past the field which was being prepared for the Merton Vintage Show - looks like a great event to be part of !

Just out of interest I looked up why we have a May Day holiday - it is apparently linked to workers rights - this is a summary of what I found out

In 1890 the May Bank Holiday became associated with International Workers' Day as the Second International organised a day of protests

in support of an eight-hour working day. After that the 1st May was linked with protests and became an official holiday in 1978.

This year of course we have an extra bank holiday, Monday 8th to celebrate the King's coronation.

Wishing you all happy three day bank holiday weekends

I can be contacted at exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk during working hours with questions and queries

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher