

EAST HUNSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

13th December 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Families

Dare I say it, but it has been a slightly quieter week this week, maybe it's the calm before the Christmas storm... However, in classes the learning has flowed, and Christmas rehearsals are well underway. Teachers' have also been processing your children's assessments and data in preparation for adapting their teaching and you receiving the termly reports which go out on Wednesday 18th December.

Assembly – performance poetry

On Monday, we had a creative assembly where the children performed a poem which they have been learning as part of our Oracy curriculum. We heard poems like: The Visitor by Ian Serrailier, Nut Tree by Julia Donaldson and Walking with my Iguana by Brian Moses. Learning poetry for us is a gift – something that the children can take with them forever. Can you remember any poems?

Y2 and Green class assembly

On Friday, it was the turn of Year 2 and Green class' assembly and WOW it was spectacular. From poems to dancing, speaking and singing, it was truly phenomenal. The talent of our children is remarkable and a highlight for me was a unique version of 12 Days of Christmas – expertly adapted by Miss Welch. Well done to all of the adults and children involved.

Christmas Fete

Thank you to everyone who came to our Christmas Fete! Once again it was brilliantly attended, and we raised a whopping £1600. Thank you our FEHPS, expertly led by Indy Jutla, for all of your hard work

in making such a fantastic event run so smoothly. As always, every penny will go towards improving the education and opportunities for your children.

Spring Present Pick

On Monday, three of our House Captains went to Spring Lane Charity to drop off all of the wonderful presents you donated to their present pick. Thank you everyone who made a generous donation and well-done House Captains!



Proud Points Post Box

Have you seen our new Proud Points Post Box? It is wonderful to see children post their golden tickets when they achieve their proud points. It is a special moment for us as staff, especially me, to celebrate children who consistently try their best and do the right thing. Our Proud Points has been a really successful initiative that we launched in September and complements our House Points brilliantly. Next week, we are holding our termly Celebration Assembly where we look forward to celebrating our children who have achieved their proud points but also celebrating other successes.

Reception & Blue Class meet Father Christmas

On Tuesday, our Reception children and Blue class visited West Lodge Rural Centre to see Father Christmas and meet the animals. They had a wonderful time and their behaviour was impeccable – I think they especially enjoyed choosing a present from Father Christmas' Toy Shed. Thank you to all of the staff that organised such a lovely trip.

Silent Disco

On Thursday, the children in our SU and Nest had a disco but not just any disco, a silent disco! It was amazing! Children all had the chance to dance and listen to the music of their choice in a safe and calm environment. It was a brilliant inclusive and sensory experience for all and the smiles shone throughout the school! A brilliant time was had by all (including the adults!)

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy Christmas shopping! *Ms Pennington*



VISIT OUR [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) TO SEE OUR [BOOK ADVENT CALENDAR](#)

All through December, leading up to Christmas Day, we will post a book which has a wonderful Winter or seasonal theme.



SU NEWS - BLUE CLASS

Blue Class have had a very busy term learning about lots of different festivals linked to the theme of 'Light.' We have explored many different learning opportunities relating to Diwali, Bonfire Night and now Christmas! After hearing the Nativity story in school we were lucky enough to visit West Lodge Rural Centre and take part in a real life Nativity play, complete with real farm animals. The children were very brave and took on the roles of a sheep, the star and an angel. We couldn't leave the farm without a visit to Santa in his workshop and he confirmed that everyone is on the good list - phew!



Merry Christmas
from Rachael and
the Blue Class Team



Please help us to raise funds for our **Quiet Shaded Area**

SUPPORTED BY CHANGE MAKERS

Scan me

Changemakers Project Playground

**THE CHANGEMAKERS
NEED TO RAISE
£2,500 BY
CHRISTMAS. PLEASE
SCAN THE QR TO
MAKE A DONATION.**

December Issue



This newsletter focuses on all the amazing events, clubs and groups that families, children and young people can access across the county that are free or affordable to attend.

[CLICK HERE FOR WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S NEWSLETTER](#)

Join our team

Assistant Site Supervisor

15 hrs per week
3pm - 6pm
Monday to Friday

Closing date 9am on 16th December

Finance Assistant

32 hrs per week

Applications closed

Specialist Unit TA

33.75 hrs per week
8.30am - 4.30pm
Monday to Friday

Applications closed

Admin Assistant

15 hrs per week
8am - 11am
Monday to Friday

Closing date 9am on 16th December

1:1 TA Mainstream

15 hrs per week
9.30am - 4.30pm
Monday to Friday

Applications closed

If you would like a tour of the school, please call the office on 01604 677970

We are expanding our team. Would you like to join us?

Click the link to visit our website and [download an application pack.](#)

Help bring Paddington Bear to Northamptonshire!



Would you like to be part of an exciting opportunity to bring a Paddington Bear statue to Northamptonshire as part of the Paddington in Peru promotional campaign?

This unique initiative provides one last chance for a new UK location to host the final Paddington Bear statue, celebrating the beloved character's adventures while showcasing local landmarks and cultural sites.

Where would you like to see the Paddington Bear statue? Could you imagine Paddington:





- Supporting local traders at the revitalised Northampton Market Square
- Whizzing around the iconic Silverstone racetrack
- Enjoying marmalade sandwiches at Daventry Country Park
- Exploring history at Sulgrave Manor

This is your chance to play a part in boosting our area's profile, attracting tourism, and celebrating our unique identity through Paddington's legacy.

How to take part

Could you write a creative message to Paddington, explaining why your chosen location in Northamptonshire would be the perfect setting for his next adventure?

Entries should include:

-  **Your name**
-  **Parent's email address**
-  **The location you'd like to see Paddington in**
-  **A short message to Paddington of no more than 100 words, telling him why this Northamptonshire place would be the perfect setting for his next adventure.**

Please submit entries via the official [Paddington in Peru campaign page](#) by **midnight on Sunday 5 January**, and help make Northamptonshire part of Paddington's exciting journey!

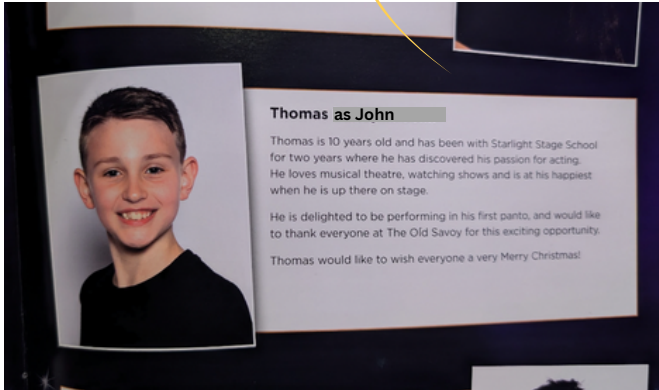




Our Panto Stars



Olivia, Freya and Thomas are all starring in Peter Pan at The Old Savoy (Home of the Deco Theatre) this Christmas. They have all be practising very hard learning their lines and attending lots of rehearsals. If you'd like to see them in action you can book tickets [here](#). Well done all of you for demonstrating the school value - Work Hard.



Thomas as John

Thomas is 10 years old and has been with Starlight Stage School for two years where he has discovered his passion for acting. He loves musical theatre, watching shows and is at his happiest when he is up there on stage.

He is delighted to be performing in his first panto, and would like to thank everyone at The Old Savoy for this exciting opportunity.

Thomas would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!



EHPS HOUSE POINTS TOTALISER

	Whittlewood	Harlestone	Everdon	Salcey
This week	163	135	115	131
Grand total	2037	1715	1931	1795



Apply for a school place

Is your child's 4th birthday on or before 31 August 2025?

It's time to apply for a Reception place

Application Deadline: 15 January 2025

www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions

SCHOOL TRANSITION INFORMATION

Reception Places September 2025

For children who turn 4 from 1st September 2024 - 31st August 2025

Online Applications close • 15th January 2025 - Midnight

National Offer Day • 16th April 2025

Who's been brilliant this week

You Are Brilliant!

W:B 9/12/24

Freya P for being Super Kind!

Sit out the Net and our yr6 helpers for a brilliant Silent Disco!

EVERY ONE for an Amazing fete. Especially FEHPs!

Marcel, Dorothy & Freya P. for dropping off the Spring Lane presents. Well done.

Reception + Blue Class - What fantastic behaviour on your trip to the farm - we were all so proud of you. Mrs York + Mrs Heavens

Sarah for coding and creating our new reports.

Indy - for all your fundraising

Eden-Mae for great helping!

The amazing Change Makers that attended the fayre and helped on the chocolate stall. Mrs Welch

Amelia, Dorothy Lexi & Nora for being fantastic helpers

Year 3 musical stars: Eva PB, Heath, Kayla & Laura

Mrs Landeman for helping with so much, fetes trips and plays... and the choir.

Sarah H for all of your support with Geography, even when you are super busy

Be Kind. Work Hard. Believe.



How many can you complete during the Christmas holiday?

Have you started a scrapbook to document your activities?



Great Hunbury Primary
My friends

Name: _____

My 70 THINGS TO DO

East Hunsbury Primary School

What's coming up this

Christmas?

NOVEMBER

27

Walk in Wednesday
Christmas theme
8.30 - 9am

NOVEMBER

29

Mufti for Christmas
Hampers

NOVEMBER

30

Hunsbury Library
Festive Fair
11 - 4pm. EHPS Choir
singing 2 - 2.30pm

DECEMBER

4

The Nest to
Riverside Hub

DECEMBER

7

Christmas Fair
School Hall
10am - 1pm

DECEMBER

10

Reception & Blue
to West Lodge
Rural Centre
All day

DECEMBER

12

Nest/SU
Silent Disco
All day

DECEMBER

16

Reception Nativity
10 - 11am
2 - 3pm

DECEMBER

17

Whole school Christmas Party
Day with disco. Christmas
jumpers and party clothes can
be worn. Donations will not be
requested.

DECEMBER

17

Yr 1 Carols by
Twinklelight
6 - 7pm

DECEMBER

17

Christmas Lunch

Book on School Grid by
9am on 6th December

DECEMBER

18

Yr 6 Carols & Crafts
with parents

2.30pm - 3.30pm

DECEMBER

20

Super Special Secret
Performance 9am

Whole School

Attendance News

Whole school average attendance this week was

93.52%

We are aiming to be at **96% +** every week.

	Weekly Attendance	Year Group	Weekly Attendance
Reception	91.58%	1	96.60%
2	92.45%	3	97.41%
4	92.41%	5	93.83%
6	90.52%		

Walk in Wednesday dates

29.01.25	Walk in Wednesday 3 - Reading	08:30-9:00	Classroom
12.03.25	Walk in Wednesday 4 - Easter Crafts	08:30-9:00	Classroom
07.05.25	Walk in Wednesday 5 - Reading	08:30-9:00	Classroom
18.06.25	Walk in Wednesday 6 - Science	08:30-9:00	Classroom

BE KIND

WORK HARD

BELIEVE

#weareEastHunsburyPrimarySchool #wearebrilliant



E-Safety & Wellbeing



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

- MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY**
Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Limiting screen time, enabling parental controls and encouraging children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behavior.
- PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS**
The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Clean flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors and fire extinguishers are in hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.
- CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS**
More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to road rules. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.
- BEWARE OF ALLERGIES**
Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross-contamination, whether labeling and lack of allergen options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognize dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.
- PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS**
Cold weather and seasonal incursions can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, stressors out of season and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasize hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.
- STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD**
Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distraction driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can compromise road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drink under the influence.
- MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS**
Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if misused. Trayed wires, tapping Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place flames in small flame jars of heat and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.
- SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS**
Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and inspecting packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.
- ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE**
Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.
- DRINK RESPONSIBLY**
Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modeling responsible behavior in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Top Tips



Monitor digital activity



Prevent the spread of illness



Maintain safe decorations



Set boundaries for gifts

[Click here for more information](#)

What you need to know?



Note age ratings



"Free" isn't always free



Monitor in games comms



Check specs before buying

[Click here for more information](#)

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be heading under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing these risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

- TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS**
Look for the age ratings when you buy a game or app. In the UK, these are shown as a number in a triangle. The higher the number, the more restrictive the content. All reputable download stores have a game or app rating, so you can check the suitability of a product before you buy. For more information, visit www.bbc.com/news/health-1-48888888.
- FREE ISN'T ALWAYS FREE**
The games market has changed recently to reward users, but there are still many free apps and games that require you to pay for content or in-app purchases. There can be hidden costs and you may not be able to set a budget for in-app purchases. Agree a budget for in-app purchases and make sure children can't purchase items without your permission.
- DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING**
It is not ideal to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases. If you do, you should disable in-app purchases. Check on what's authorized to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.
- APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO**
Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings. Check the age rating for your child's device. If you're unsure, you can check the age rating for the app. These ratings aren't inflexible, however, we've seen 12-year-olds buy adult games with an age rating of 18, for example.
- LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW**
There are many apps that are perfectly legal but people watch football matches, pay without paying for pay or EU phone regulations for using work phones is rare, but they can lead to risky behavior. Watch for malicious links. Watch for children installing unwanted apps with "freemium" or "spartan" in the name.
- IN-APP REGISTRATION**
It's common for apps and games to ask users to register with their details like email address, date of birth and other information. You might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to any app and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not limited by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.
- STAY UPDATED**
Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which the developer can use to add new features but also provide critical security improvements. Updates are often sent to users automatically, usually because they don't understand why they're updating or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's device periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION](#)

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BELIEVE

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Activity	Time
DECEMBER		
16.12.24	Reception Nativity	10.00 - 11.00am 2.00 - 3.00pm
17.12.24	Year 1 Carols by Twinklelight	6.00pm - 7.00pm
17.12.24	Christmas Party Day (Christmas Jumpers and Lunch)	All Day
18.12.24	Year 6 & Red Christmas Carols & Crafts	2.30 - 3.30pm
JANUARY		
16.01.25	Census Day (Reception - Yr 2 please order school lunch)	
28.01.25	Yr 6 SATs Information meeting	4.30pm - 5.30pm
29.01.25	Walk In Wednesday Reading	8.30am - 9.00am
29.01.25	Yr 3 trip to Oxford Museum of Natural History	All day
FEBRUARY		
03.02 - 07.02.25	Childrens' Mental Health Week	
07.02.25	FEHPS Family Bingo Night	5.30pm - 7.30pm
11 & 12.02.25	Year 6 Parents' Evening	3.50pm - 6.30pm
14.02.25	Year 3 & Purple Class Assembly	9.30 - 10.30am
MARCH		
5 & 6.03.25	Mainstream Parents' Evening (not Yr 6)	3.50pm - 6.30pm

05.03.25	SU Parents' Evening	3.50pm - 6.50pm
05.03 - 07.03.25	Bookfair	After school
12.03.25	Walk In Wednesday Easter Crafts	8.30am - 9.00am
17.03 - 21.03.25	Neurodiversity Week	
21.03.25	Chocolate Mufti	All day
21.03.25	Odd Socks Day for World Down Syndrome Day	
28.03.25	Year 1 Class Assembly	9.30am-10.30am
29.03.25	Easter Cafe	11.00am-1.00pm
APRIL		
02.04.25	Autism Awareness Day - Wear Blue (No Charge)	All Day
02.04.25	SU Show	10.00am-11.00am
22.04 & 23.04.25	Earth Days	All Day
MAY		
07.05.25	Walk In Wednesday Reading	8.30am - 9.00am
12 - 15.05.25	Yr 6 SATS	Mornings
15.05.25	Endangered Species Census Day	
22.05.25	Year 4 Spring Assembly	9.15am - 10.00am
22.05.25	Reception Sports Day	10.15am - 11.45am
22.05.25	Year 6 Sports Day	1.30pm - 3.00pm
23.05.25	Year 5 and Yellow Class Assembly	9.30am - 10.30am

JUNE

02.06 - 13.06.25	Yr 4 Multiplication Check	
w/c 09.06.25	Yr 1 Phonics Check	
11.06.25	SU Sports Morning	9.30 - 11.30am
16.06.25	Class photographs	All day
18.06.25	Walk In Wednesday Science	8.30am - 9.00am
25.06.25	Yr 4 to National Gallery	All day
26.06.25	Sports Day Year 1	9.30 - 11am
26.06.25	Sports Day Year 2	1.30 - 3pm
27.06.25	Sports Day Year 3	9.30 - 11.00am
27.06.25	Sports Day Year 4	1.30 - 3.00pm
28.06.25	Whole School Summer Fayre (Country dancing & Maypole by Years 2, 5, Purple & Yellow)	10.00 - 1.00pm
30.06 - 03.07.25	Yr 5 Bikeability	
30.06 - 04.07.25	Careers & Aspirations Week	

JULY

04.07.25	Reception & Blue Class Assembly	9.30 - 10.30am
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04.07.25	Brilliance Exhibition	TBC
08.07.25	Music Gala	5.30pm - 7.00pm
09 - 11.07.25	Yr 3 Residential Everdon	
10.07.25	Sports Day Year 5	9.30 - 11.00am
15.07.25	Yr 6 Leavers' Performance	6.00pm - 7.30pm
16.07.25	Yr 6 Leavers' Performance for toddlers to attend	5.00pm - 6.30pm
17.07.25	SU Yr 6 Leavers' Assembly	9.30am-10.30am
21.07.25	Year 6 Leavers' Party	7.00pm - 9.00pm
22.07.25	Mainstream Yr 6 Leavers' Assembly	10.00 - 11.00am

St Benedict's Church NORTHAMPTON Come join your church celebrations
'real reason for the season.'
Further information can be found on our website.

Saturday 30th November 11am – 3pm
 Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 1st December 7pm
 Official switching on – Christmas Tree Lights

Sunday 8th December 3.30pm -5pm
 Family Fun event

Friday 13th December 7pm
 Christmas Choir concert



Sunday 15th December 10am
 Confirmation/Family service with Bishop Debbie

Tuesday 17th December 7pm
 Beer & Carols (The Collingtree Pub – NN4 0UE)

Wednesday 18th December 7pm
 Carols round the Christmas tree

Sunday 22nd December
 Christingle service – Briar Hill 3:30pm
 Lessons & Carols – St Benedict's 6pm

Christmas Eve 24th December
 Christingle service – St Benedict's 3:30pm
 Midnight Mass 11:30pm



Wednesday 25th December

Christmas Day
 10am Family service

www.stbenedictschurchnorthampton.uk

Mobile 07564 605275 (voice only, do not text)

vicar@stbens.uk or admin@stbens.uk

Parish of Briar Hill, Camp Hill, East, West
 Hunsbury & Hunsbury Meadows.

December Kindness 2024

SUNDAY

1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others

MONDAY

2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are

TUESDAY

3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment

WEDNESDAY

4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about

THURSDAY

5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely

FRIDAY

6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find

SATURDAY

7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today

8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member

9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead

10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them

11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank

12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today

13 See how many different people you can smile at today

14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one

15 Say hello to your neighbour and brighten up their day

16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to

17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you

18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving

19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated

20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need

21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you

22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed

23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness

24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh

25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!

26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature

27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat

28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy

29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people

30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why

31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2025



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together