

February



## February 2024 Newsletter



The Forum School

# Upcoming Events in March

1<sup>st</sup> – St. David's Day & Zero Discrimination Day

3<sup>rd</sup> – World Wildlife Day

7<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day

8<sup>th</sup> – International Woman's Day

10<sup>th</sup> – Mothering Sunday

11<sup>th</sup> – Common Wealth Day

15<sup>th</sup> - Red Nose Day

16<sup>th</sup> – Disabled Access Day

17<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick's Day

20<sup>th</sup> – International Happiness Day

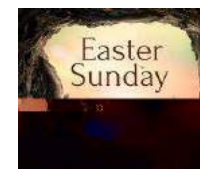
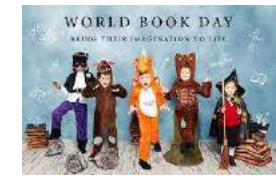
21<sup>st</sup> – International Day of Forests

24<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday

27<sup>th</sup> – World Autism Acceptance Day

29<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday

31<sup>st</sup> – British Summertime & Easter Day



International Day of Forests

# Upcoming Events in March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26	27	28	29	01	02	03
				Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes St. David's Day Zero Discrimination Day TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	World Wildlife Day
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes	Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes School Council in the theatre.	World Book Day Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	International Woman's Day Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	Mothering Sunday
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Common Wealth Day Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes	Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes	Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Red Nose Day Building Bug houses, seed feeders & wind chimes TFS Cinema - Theatre	Disabled Access Day Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena	Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	International Day of Happiness Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena Start of spring	International Day of Forests - Bark rubbing, woodwalk and tree planting Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	Palm Sunday
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena Holi Festival	Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	World Autism Acceptance Week Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena	Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting - indoor arena Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	School Holiday Good Friday TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	British Summertime 10.30 - 15.00 Easter Treasure Hunt at the Station £2 per child Easter Day



## The Forum Stars are back!

Shout out a staff member that has gone above and beyond for a young person, yourself, your team or the school.

Email [Forum.Stars@cambiagroup.com](mailto:Forum.Stars@cambiagroup.com) with a sentence about why a colleague is amazing and they'll be entered into a draw. There will be 3 winners. 1 from Care, 1 from Education and 1 from everyone else! The winners will receive a £10 Love2Shop voucher and Employee of the month for your department!

## Upcoming Birthdays

March

Claire Hughes  
Karen Holt  
Nin Halford  
Adrian Gyles



Happy  
Birthday



## Training Opportunities

We are eagerly looking for staff members across all departments to train in;

Lifeguarding  
Trampoline  
Climbing Wall

This training would be paid for by the company and would look great on your CV.

Please let Melissa McCarthy know if you are interested.





## Moments



Jit & Kieren cooking their evening meal.



Jit has been busy in kitchen baking his valentine special cake, He puts lots of effort into this and with some guidance and patients from adults, He baked these delightful cakes

# Activities

Litter picking at Badbury Rings



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# Student Council

Pupils have an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.



Riley officially opening the Polling station for student council.





## NOMINEES FOR EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Alice Bagwell  
Steve Lee  
Yadu Kulambil  
Soniya Joseph  
Arun Sajeev  
Leeshma Matthew  
Rani Viyayan  
Dan Pitt  
Claire Legg  
Mel McCarthy  
Yadu Kulambil

Megan Wood  
Vanessa Lloyd  
Ann Xavier  
Nick Stevens  
Stimina Chandy  
John Lane  
Deepa Mathew  
Jemma Grove  
Julie Walker  
Mark Rogers  
Arun Sajeev

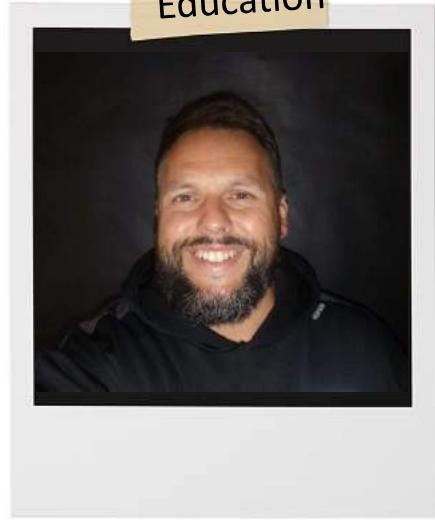
*Keep Up the  
Good Work!*



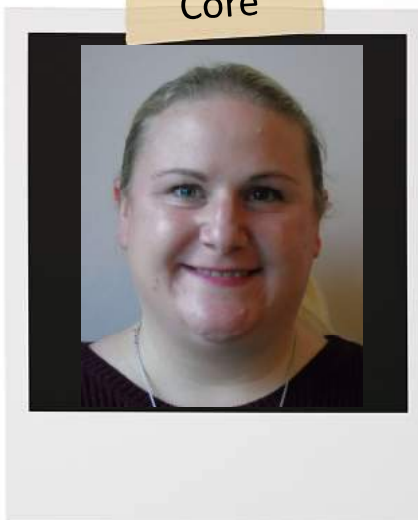
CONGRATULATIONS – EMPLOYEE'S OF THE MONTH!



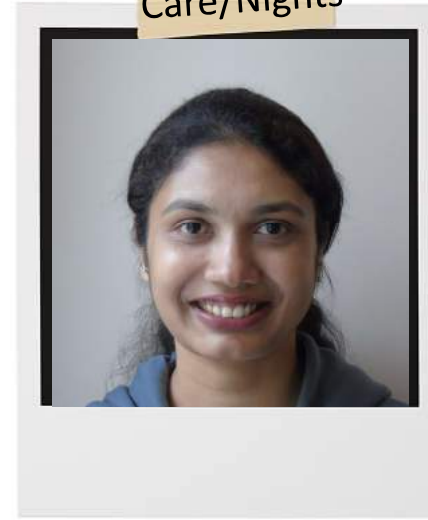
Education



Core



Care/Nights





## And the Winners Are...

Thank you all so much for taking part in the Raffle for the Ducks and Drakes cancer Trust Ball!!

Drum roll please....The winners are...

**Georgia Strowbridge & Hattie Higgins!!!** You have both won 2 tickets each to the Ball!

We made £67 from the sale of the tickets and all money will go directly to bowel cancer patients and their families in Dorset!!  
If you would like to learn more about the charity, please contact Becky Howorth.

**On the night there is a raffle with many wonderful prizes;**

**Teddy Rocks Weekend tickets for 2 people**  
**Golf days**  
**Spa days**  
**Gritchie Brewery tour**  
**Langhams wine tasting (for 20 people)**  
**Meal vouchers**  
**Hampers**  
**..... and loads more**

**See Becky before 23 Feb for a raffle ticket**  
**Only £1 per ticket!!**



February 20<sup>th</sup> – March 15<sup>th</sup>

Building bug houses, Making seed feeders, Making wind chimes.

## OUTDOOR LEARNING!

### Building Bug houses

Students will resource their own materials and design and create a bug house or hotel. Students will decide which bugs they would like to have in their house or hotel. They can name their house or hotel and collect such materials as moss, branches, twigs, mud, sand etc.



### Making seed feeders

Students will chose their materials to make a bird feeder from, they can chose toilet rolls, pine cones or plastic bottles.

They can they go for a woodland walk, around the school grounds or near their classrooms to decide where to hang their bird seed feeder.

### Making wind chimes

Students can chose how to make their wind chimes by using different materials. They can explore the different sounds they make and plan and build their models adding any extra materials until they are satisfied with the outcome. They will then chose an area in the sensory garden or dream tree to hang it.





## TFS WISHING TREE!



The wishing tree is starting to come together slowly.

The more beautiful things we have on it the better.

Any wishes the young people may have can be added too!



## A time to change

Welcome to February's edition of **Learning Matters**. I always associate this month of the year with rugby union's Six Nations tournament. That meant, as an Irishman, most of my life has been spent being comfortable with losing. Lately, I find myself in the strangely unfamiliar position of watching a winning team. February also marks the middle of the academic year, which is the perfect time to take stock of how the year has been going with

your classes. Enough time has passed for you to make a good appreciation of what's gone well and what hasn't, but there is also enough time left for you to make meaningful changes and see the impact those changes make in the spring and summer terms. Better weather and longer days also helps sustain the energy needed to carry out those changes. Take some time to seek out advice from colleagues on those quirks of teaching is

that, unlike rugby, it is a team game that you do largely by yourself and rarely do you every get to see your colleagues in action. Make time to see them teach, and ask them about why they are doing what they are doing. Ask them into your class to help you with then things you want to improve. And then invite them back in later to see how you're getting on. I hope the latest edition gives you some ideas to get you started.

Jarlath O'Brien  
Cambian Regional  
Education Lead (South)

Edition 5  
February 2024

### Inside this issue:

Is it time to drop Drop Everything and Read?	2
Restraint and seclusion in England's schools	2
'Being well' and 'doing well'	2
Hill House School using 'I Am' digital stories	3
It is not only young boys who are affected by ADHD	3
Addressing emotionally-based school avoidance	3
Safeguarding update	4
Sharing Best	5

## Contributors wanted

I have been with Cambian over a year now and am getting out to more lovely schools outside of my patch here in the south. There is some very interesting and innovative work going on in our schools and colleges—for example, I saw some

stunning animal husbandry work at **The Forum School** lately—and I would like to see more of that showcased here in **Learning Matters**. Contributions need not be long; just enough to give colleagues a flavour of what you're doing and a

way of contacting you to learn more. Encourage colleagues to contribute too via blogs, conference slides, YouTube videos, book reviews or articles of your own. Contributions to [jarlath.o'brien@caretech-uk.com](mailto:jarlath.o'brien@caretech-uk.com).

## Message from Jemma

I am in my third year of university completing my BSc Honours degree in Psychology which I will be completing in May. As part of my degree, I am conducting a research project looking into the relationship between connectedness to nature, physical activity and life satisfaction with positive wellbeing.

After gaining permission, I am able to share my survey with you all. I wanted to share my survey with you as I feel your knowledge and experience will help gain valuable insight for my research project. Please note, that my research project is my own and separate to my role at TFS, therefore there is no mandatory requirement to fill out my questionnaire. Only if you want to.

The survey questionnaire for my research project that takes approximately 5 minutes to complete. All information collected is **anonymous** and cannot be linked to any individual. An outline of the project, consent requirements, withdrawal rights, and privacy policies are included at start of the questionnaire.

If you would like to take part in my survey please follow the link below:

[https://openess.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cHcyCuUESShp1Cm](https://openess.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cHcyCuUESShp1Cm)

If you would like more information or if you have questions regarding my project, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for reading and considering to take part in my survey, it's very much appreciated.





## Farewell message

Dear all,

Thank you. What can I say, what an amazing group of learners and staff.

Each and everyone one of you cares and each and everyone of you has my respect.

The Forum School will forever have a place in my heart, in a professional way of course.

Thank you for the presents, cards (from the learners), kind words and the memories.

There is so much talent, passion, potential and good things happening at the Forum School and I sincerely wish you all the very best.

Kind regards,

Sophia





## Staff Discounts

<https://www.bluelightcard.co.uk/>

Discount service for the emergency services, NHS, social care sector and armed forces - [£4.99 for 2 years](#)

Members of the Blue Light community can register for access to more than 15,000 discounts from large national retailers to local businesses across categories such as holidays, cars, days out, fashion, gifts, insurance, phones, and many more.

<https://discountsforcarers.com/>

Carer & Care Worker Discounts – [sign up for free](#)

Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers for Carers & Care Workers.  
For care assistants, live-in carers, those that care for loved ones, and everyone in between.

<https://www.discountsforteachers.co.uk/>


Teacher & Education Staff Discounts – [sign up for free](#)

Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers for Teachers & Education Staff.  
For teaching assistants, headteachers, administrators, and everyone in between.

<https://www.carerscarduk.co.uk/discounts-for-carers>

Your carer ID card unlocks access to a wide range of online discounts, savings, benefits, perks and offers, for carers. - [£8 for 2 years](#)

Our team constantly work on creating partnerships with big name brands so that we can provide carers with discounts on all aspects of life, from food to fashion, fitness to electrical, technology to travel, home utilities to entertainment and much more





## Staff Discounts Continued

<https://carers.org/grants-and-discounts/carersmart-discount-club>

Joining is simple and free. And once you're a member, you'll be able to benefit from a wide range of offers, including:

- Cash back on shopping from numerous high street retailers
- Reductions on insurance renewals
- Discounts on holidays and travel arrangements
- Reduced price lifestyle activities
- Free and discounted legal advice services

<https://www.frontlinestaffdiscounts.co.uk/>

Frontline Staff Discounts is FREE to all Members, we charge no fees to join & never will

We aim to save you and all of our members as much money as possible on all of your purchases online.

<https://www.teacherperks.co.uk/>

Free membership for school staff and schools to access incredible perks from high street brands and edu-suppliers.



# Shout Outs!

*Shout out to Yadu, for your help and encouragement regardless how the weather was, did made the day even more enjoyable for everyone involved.  
Thank you!  
Mel McCarthy*

*Shout out to Ann, for your help and encouragement regardless how the weather was, did made the day even more enjoyable for everyone involved.  
Thank you!  
Mel McCarthy*

*Shout out to Mark Rogers, who is my eyes and ears on site. Mark is responsive and pro-active, with all things medical on site and has been really helpful with a piece to the wider company with regards to medication management.  
Thank you, you do a great job!  
Dawn Storey*

*Shout out to Vanessa, for being so helpful this week. You have supported new staff and provided them guidance and role modelling. You have supported our new young person to engage in education daily and also supported him to communicate to the independent visitor regarding his wishes and feelings. Thank you  
Mel McCarthy*

*Shout out to Soniya, for your help and encouragement regardless how the weather was, did made the day even more enjoyable for everyone involved.  
Thank you!  
Mel McCarthy*

*Shout out to Nick, for your help and encouragement regardless how the weather was, did made the day even more enjoyable for everyone involved.  
Thank you!  
Mel McCarthy*

*Shout out to Stimina, for your help and encouragement regardless how the weather was, did made the day even more enjoyable for everyone involved.  
Thank you!  
Mel McCarthy*

*Shout out to Arun, for your help and encouragement regardless how the weather was, did made the day even more enjoyable for everyone involved.  
Thank you!  
Mel McCarthy*

*Shout out to Leeshma, for your help and encouragement regardless how the weather was, did made the day even more enjoyable for everyone involved.  
Thank you!  
Mel McCarthy*



## A message from Mel

What another busy month we have had at The Forum School 😊

It has been great to see all of the ways that you are working towards capturing the views, wishes and feelings of young people. There has been the student council, where all young people participated. It was lovely to see young people voting for their fellow classroom students. Young people are participating in making the school grounds theirs and the wishing tree has started, I have also seen young people planting flowers around the grounds.

While we are doing all of this amazing work, we need to ensure that we are evidencing the voices of young people in our daily recordings and this is an area for focus this month.

To support the above we have sourced ELKRAN training for adults that care to become champions of young peoples voices and support the use of ACC devices. An all staff email has been shared and we are looking for participants. This is also an accredited course and will look great on your CV.


We also have the NEST project where we have been provided further communication tools from the company and this is being lead by teacher Saba Gilani and Catherine Fisher consultant speech and language therapist.

We have had our young people progress review meetings this month and there has been so many positives that have come from these. Collectively as Education, care and therapy we have reviewed all young peoples EHCP's and care targets so we can all work together to support and maximise outcomes and progress.

There has been some exciting activities taking place with education supporting young people to utilise the gym in the community. There has also been litter picking expeditions in residential where are young people are taking pride in the area in which they live.

Easter holidays are fast approaching and so is the summer break. Please ask your young people if there are any days out or holidays they would like to book so we can plan ahead and make this happen.

Thank you to you all again for your ongoing hard work and support for the young people 😊



*Thank You!*