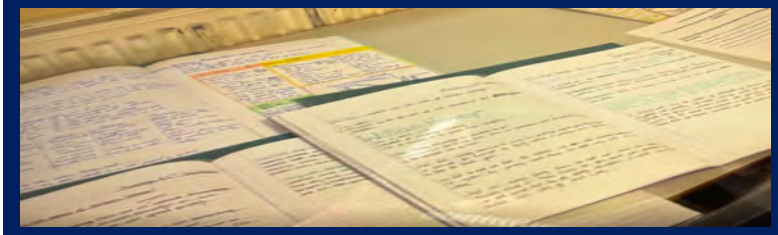
# Foxford Focus

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October 2025

## Update from the Headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers, and Students



**As we approach the half-term break, I would like to extend my thanks for your continued support and commitment to our students. This half term has been full of energy, achievement, and a strong sense of community across the school.**

**We were delighted to welcome so many families to our recent Open Evening, where we proudly showcased our vibrant learning environments. Our community spirit has truly shone through in recent weeks as you can see from this edition of the Foxford Focus.**

**Beyond the classroom, a wide range of extra-curricular activities continues to enrich student life. Meanwhile, our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils are receiving focused support as they prepare for their upcoming exams.**
**Year 7 students have settled in extremely well and we are looking forward to celebrating their first full term with us at Foxford.**

**Students have been busy experimenting in our science laboratories, using their talk tactics in all lessons, using their purple tricky words in theory and practical lessons and practicing their essay writing techniques. These skills go along with our 6 Ambitions: Aspirations, Achievement, Oracy, Impactful Teaching, Digital Creativity and Reading.**

## Calendar

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday 17 November | Flu vaccinations (All years) |
| Monday 24 & Wednesday 26 November | Say Yes to Learning Conference – Year 9 |
| Thursday 4 December | Year 11 Parents Evening |
| Friday 5 December | Training Day |
| Wednesday 10 December | Creative Technology Winter Showcase |
| Thursday 18 December | Sixth Form Taster Day |
| Thursday 18 December | Christmas Lunch |
| Friday 19 December | Christmas Jumper Day |




We also celebrated our second Annual Rewards Evening where over 100 students were awarded certificates and badges for academia, representing the school in sports teams, being a school ambassador and so much more.

It has been a busy and rewarding half term, and we look forward to building on this momentum after the break.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term and looking forward to the lead up to Christmas.

Mrs Gallagher
Headteacher / Deputy CEO

Mr Jordan
Associate Headteacher

## Say Yes to Learning Conference – Key Stage 3

This term, students across Key Stage 3 took part in our Say Yes to Learning conferences, which continue to build on Foxford's Inclusive Classroom and Impactful Teaching ambitions. The programme reinforces the importance of oracy through our CODE learning behaviours: Challenge, Ownership, Dialogue, and Engagement.

At Foxford, we define oracy as learning through talk, learning to talk, and learning to listen. These principles underpin the Say Yes to Learning sessions, helping students to express themselves clearly, engage respectfully with others, and build confidence in communicating their ideas.

For our Year 7 students, the focus was on Cracking the CODE. They explored what it means to be a great learner at Foxford through discussion, reflection, and team-based challenges. Lessons about effort, resilience, and growth mindset were brought to life through the story of Marcus Skeet – "A True Symbol of Challenge" – who exemplifies perseverance and determination. Bespoke sessions were also delivered for 7Z, giving students opportunities to develop teamwork, confidence, and communication skills in smaller, supportive groups.

Year 8's conference, Uniform or Unique, centred on the themes of fairness, belonging, and identity. Students engaged in lively debates and enquiry questions such as "Do school uniforms do more harm than good?" They developed their understanding of fairness through discussions on Rights vs Responsibilities, Equity vs Equality, and Fairness in Real Life. This was followed by planning and delivering their own Public Service Announcements on how schools can ensure uniform rules remain inclusive while maintaining pride and belonging.

Across both year groups, more than 400 students took part in this term's Say Yes to Learning events. Feedback shows that students are developing stronger confidence in oracy, alongside a deeper understanding of the CODE principles that underpin successful learning. The sessions also supported our wider personal development work, helping students to articulate their ideas clearly and engage in meaningful dialogue around belonging, respect, and voice.

## Year 8 - Tech She Can

This term, 25 Year 8 female students continued their *Tech She Can* journey, building on the foundations they began in Year 7. The focus of this session was Tech in Retail, with students exploring how companies like Amazon use technology throughout the buying and shipping process.




Through interactive activities, including a Kahoot quiz, students deepened their understanding of the role technology plays in everyday business operations.

These students will continue to take part in a session every half term, broadening their awareness of careers in technology and encouraging more young women to aspire to STEM and tech-related roles.

## Year 7 Cognitive Ability Tests

This Half Term, all Year 7 student have completed Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT4) from GL Assessment. The data from these assessments is compared to students sitting the assessments nationally, across over 250,000 data sets. CAT4 testing provides a rounded profile of student ability, to allow us target support, provide the right level of challenge, and make informed decisions about their progress. Reports indicate strengths and weaknesses across four batteries:

**Verbal Reasoning** – the ability to express ideas and reason through words is essential to subjects with a high language content, and the most obvious skill picked up by traditional assessment.

**Non-verbal Reasoning** – problem-solving using pictures and diagrams; skills which are important in a wide range of school subjects, including maths and science-based subjects.

**Spatial Reasoning** – the capacity to think and draw conclusions in three dimensions, needed for many STEM subjects, but not easily measured by other datasets.
Quantitative Reasoning – the ability to use numerical skills to solve problems, applicable well beyond mathematics.

We are using the data returned from the assessments to compare and ratify the KS2 SATs scores they received at the end of Year 6. This comparison will allow us to set accordingly, provide the right level of support and identify students who need additional support in achieving their potential.

## Reading at Foxford

Foxford has begun this academic year with all things READING! Not only do we know that reading for pleasure helps our well-being, but it is crucial to support understanding and success in our subjects. That is why our reading culture is so important at Foxford School.




This year we have launched our new Foxford Reads @ Tutor Time. Not only will students be exposed to a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, but they will learn key reading and oracy strategies to help them develop their own views and perspectives. This takes place weekly during a dedicated timeslot in tutor time.

Since the relaunch of our library during summer term, we have seen an incredible increase in the use of the facility. We are currently interviewing for our very own student librarians and reading ambassadors. Our library is open during break and lunchtimes daily.

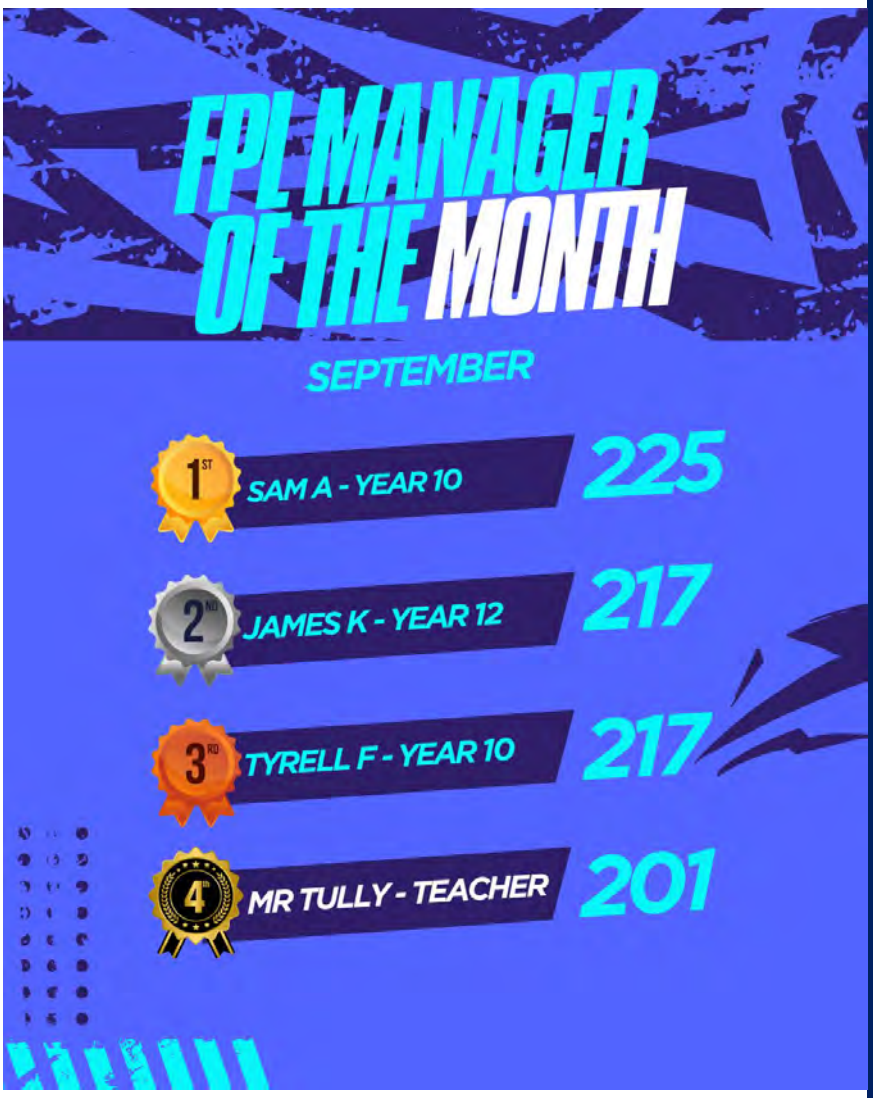
We have launched the **BBC 500 Words Competition** and is open for entries! Students must submit their stories by **Friday 7 November** to the English Office.

This is a national competition encouraging young people to have fun with creative writing. They can make us laugh, cry or be transported to an imaginary world- wherever their creativity takes them. This must be a story that is their original work and is no more than 500 words.

# The First Ever Staff and Students Fantasy Premier League Kicks Off!

The first ever Staff and Students Fantasy Premier League launched this season and it's already proving to be more than just a game. From swapping tips in the corridors to friendly chats over the weekend results, the league has sparked new conversations, unexpected alliances, and a shared sense of community between staff and students. It's a chance to connect, compete, and bond over the beautiful game — no matter your FPL experience level.

## 🏆 Manager of the Month – September 🏆




September delivered plenty of twists, bold captaincy calls, and a few heartbreakers — but rising above them all was Sam A in Year 10, who claims the September Manager of the Month crown! With a commanding 74 points in the latest gameweek, Sam surged to 225 total points, holding firm at the top of the table. It's been a consistently strong run, combining sharp transfers and smart captaincy choices to fend off challengers.

Close behind is James K in Year 12 (217 points), climbing the ranks thanks to a solid 72-point gameweek. Meanwhile, Tyrell F's (Year 10) squad slipped to third after a more modest 66 points this week — still very much in the title conversation.

Further down, Ms Fitzgerald deserves a shoutout after posting a massive 78-point haul, one of the highest of the month. Let's not overlook Daijan C (Year 10), who's side exploded with 83 points, the best gameweek total in the top half — a sign of things to come?

As we head into October, it's still all to play for. Will Sam hold onto the crown, or will the chasing pack close the gap?

### Top 3 students in September

1. Sam A (Year 10) – 225 pts
2. James K (Year 12) – 217 pts
3. Tyrell F (Year 10) – 215 pts

### Top 3 staff in September

1. Mr Tully (4th) – 201 pts
2. Mr Durbin (6th) – 198 pts
3. Mr Bell (8th) – 189 pts

# Year 7 – 100 Hours Celebration




This half term saw us celebrate our Year 7 cohort completing their first 100 hours at Foxford. The event marked a positive and successful start to secondary school life, recognising excellent behaviour, attendance, and engagement across all tutor groups.

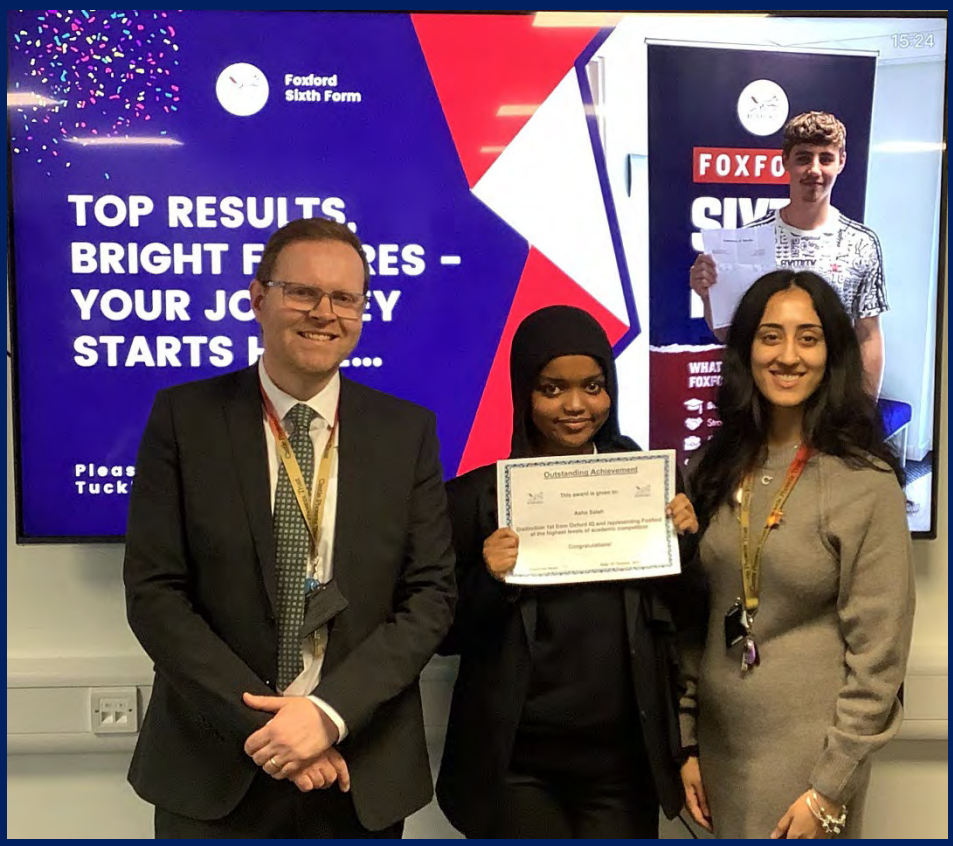
The celebration assembly showcased key achievements, "Zero Heroes" who were recognised for their outstanding behaviour, and several students achieved 100% attendance during their first 6 weeks. Each tutor group nominated their own "Tutor Stars" for effort, attitude, and contribution to school life. The celebration included a lively Year 7 Quiz, giving students the chance to test their knowledge of Foxford life and reflect on their first weeks at school.

The 100 Hours celebration was a fantastic opportunity to highlight the commitment, enthusiasm, and positivity shown by our newest students, setting the tone for a successful year ahead at Foxford.



# Asha Shines Bright: Oxford Scholarship Awarded for Exceptional Political Philosophy Essay

A huge congratulations to Asha in Year 10, who has been awarded a prestigious two-week scholarship to the Oxford IQ Academy, where she will study Philosophy, Politics, and Ethics.




This opportunity was granted in recognition of her outstanding achievement in an essay competition, in which she attained a First-Class distinction for her thought-provoking essay titled *"Do you think Chairman Mao would have been proud of the China of today?"*.

Her work demonstrated exceptional critical insight, intellectual maturity, and a nuanced understanding of modern political philosophy, earning her commendation from the selection panel.

Well done Asha, we are really proud of you- clearly a student with a bright future ahead. You are a credit to your family and to the school.

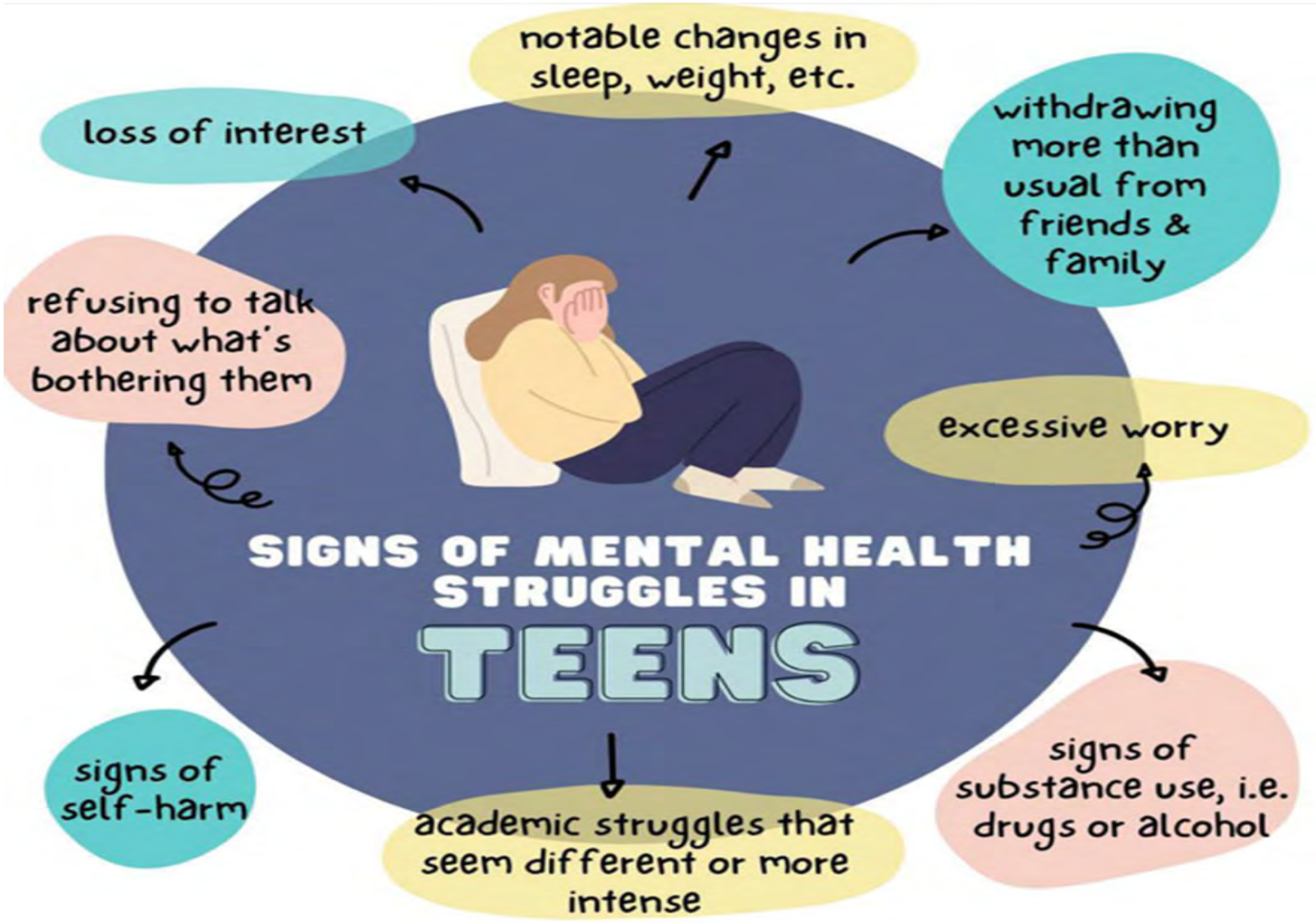
## Coventry Building Society Workplace Visit

We recently took 40 students to the Coventry Building Society Head Office for an inspiring workplace visit. Students had the opportunity to network with professionals, explore a variety of career roles, and take part in a guided tour of the workplace. They also learned about the organisation's values and ethos and participated in a Money Management Challenge, which encouraged them to reflect on what motivates them, as well as the essential needs and priorities they may seek from a future job role.




The visit helped students develop key employability skills such as communication, problem solving, and task management—valuable experiences to support their future career journeys.

# FOXFORD WELFARE NEWSLETTER
# Autumn Edition
# YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH




## Support for a young person with depression and anxiety

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/depression-anxiety-mental-health/

Our Top Tips:

- Talk about stress or worries: create a safe space to discuss anything that might be keeping them up at night
- Establish a consistent sleep schedule, encourage children to go to bed and waking up at the same time every day
- Limit screen time before bed: Turn off TV's, phones and tablets at least an hour before bedtime
- Watch what they eat and drink: Avoid caffeine and energy drinks
- Spend quality social time with friends and family, connect with others in person as well as on online
- Join a club.
- Encourage children to reach out to others and ask for help.




# PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) OCTOBER HALF TERM 2025

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



## ANGUS STEAKHOUSE
Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

## ASDA
Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

## ASK ITALIAN
Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

## BELLA ITALIA
Children eat for £1 with any adult main

## BILLS
Kids Eat Free weekdays, 27th - 31st October 2025

## BREWDOG
1 Kid eats free with 1 adult. Scotland 13th - 17th Oct
England & Wales 27th - 31st Oct

## BURGER KING
From 13th Oct – 2nd Nov, Kids Eat Free (via app)

## CHIQUITO
Kids eat FREE Daily 27th - 31st October

## COCONUT TREE
Kids eat FREE Daily Mon 27th Oct - Sun 9th Nov 2025

## DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES
Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

## FARMHOUSE INNS
2 Kids eat free From Mon 6th – Fri 17 Oct
(Scotland) & Fri 17th – Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales),

## FLAMING GRILL
1 Kids eats free, Mon 13th - 20th Oct (Scotland) &
Mon 20th – Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales)

## FUTURE INNS
Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

## GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS
Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

## HARVESTER
Kids eat for £1 until October 31st 2025 via App

## HUNGRY HORSE
2 Kids eat for £1 From Mon 6th – Fri 17 Oct
(Scotland) & Fri 17th – Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales),

## IKEA
Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

## LAS IGUANAS
Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

## MARCO PIERRE WHITE
Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

## MARSTON PUBS
kids eat for £1 during the october half term

## MORRISONS
Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

## PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM
Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

## PREMIER INN
2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

## PRETO
Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

## PUREZZA
Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

## SA BRAINS PUBS
Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

## SIZZLING PUBS
Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

## TABLE TABLE
2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

## TGI FRIDAYS
Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

## THE REAL GREEK
Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

## TRAVELODGE
2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

## WHITBREAD INNS
2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

## YO! SUSHI
Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

Violet Project

*We won't shrink away from Suicide or Self-harm*

Violetproject.co.uk

# SAFE SPACE

## COVENTRY TEENAGER SUICIDE BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Safe Space is a support service for those aged 15-19* to get support, share experiences, and connect with others who've lost someone to suicide



**For further information**

*Over 18's may be offered adult group

info@violetproject.co.uk
03301 33 32 31

WWW.COVENTRYMUSIC.CO.UK

COME AND JOIN OUR

# HALF TERM MUSIC WORKSHOP

**MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER**
**10AM – 3PM**

**ALBANY THEATRE, ALBANY ROAD, EARLSDON, COVENTRY, CV5 6JQ**

**SCAN ME**

**TO SIGN UP**

- COME AND HAVE FUN WITH THE COVENTRY MUSIC STAFF!
- WORKSHOPS CONSISTING OF SINGING AND SAMBA, KEYBOARDS, COMPOSITION AND MUSIC THEORY
- AS WELL AS "HAVE A GO" AT DIFFERENT INSTRUMENTS.
- WORKSHOPS ARE MORNING 10-12PM OR AFTERNOON 1-3PM.

**AGES 7+**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STAY ALL DAY, PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH AND DRINKS AND ADD ANY ADDITIONAL NEEDS ON THE SIGN-UP FORM.
WE WILL SUPERVISE THE CHILDREN IN THE FOYER BETWEEN 12-1PM AS THEIR LUNCH BREAK

Coventry City Council
THE ALBANY theatre
HEART OF ENGLAND music
COVENTRY Music
Supported using public funding by
Department for Education
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

WWW.COVENTRYMUSIC.CO.UK

COME AND JOIN OUR

# STEEL PAN

## MUSIC GROUP

**MONDAY**
**4.30 – 5.30PM**

## EARLSDON METHODIST CHURCH



- HAVE FUN
- MAKE FRIENDS
- MAKE MUSIC
- LEARN NEW SKILLS



**SCAN ME**

TO SIGN UP

**AGES 7+**

Coventry City Council

HEART OF ENGLAND music
The Music Hub for Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull

COVENTRY Music

Supported using public funding by
Department for Education
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

# October Half Term Timetable

COVENTRY FAMILY HUBS

## 27th - 31st October 2025

Scan the QR code or visit www.coventryfamilies.co.uk to view the full timetables and to make a booking.

**Find out about the FREE activities, workshops and sessions for children, young people and their families in Coventry during the October half term holidays.**

**We are looking forward to meeting you!**

**Contact Us on 0800 887 0545**



*Activities are correct at the time of print. Please see social media for updates. Follow your local hub on facebook.