



The Roo-port: Spring 1 2026

Welcome

Welcome Back to Camp for 2026!

What a rainy beginning to the year we've had! We are genuinely grateful for the yurt during these past weeks and are truly impressed by the children's positive attitudes and resilience in facing the rain. It has been wonderful to welcome new faces to camp, in our Nurture Groups, John and Daniel joining our team of volunteers, and visitors from SCC Green Health and Wellbeing Team, and the Godalming Masonic Centre.

This half-term, we were lucky to have Dave and Daniel join us at camp to lead three thrilling Archery Roves. These adventurous days in the Top Meadow allowed us to explore new activities and unleash our inner Robin Hood! The sun even made a charming appearance for each Rove! A heartfelt thank you to Dave and Daniel for dedicating their time and providing us with such a fantastic and enjoyable experience.



Monday

This half term, we were delighted to welcome Burpham Junior School to Huckleberries for the very first time. The children have taken part in a wide range of activities designed to support emotional wellbeing and help them develop positive strategies for managing their feelings. We have had lots of fun exploring yoga, along with different relaxation and breathing techniques. Time spent with the goats and guinea pigs proved especially nurturing, with gentle brushing and cuddles helping to build connection, empathy and a sense of responsibility. They also loved meeting Otto the farm cat. The children also engaged thoughtfully in activities such as Malteser Mindfulness and Best Case Scenario, strengthening their self-awareness and emotional regulation skills. Despite facing some rainy days, the children showed impressive resilience throughout the half term. The progress they have made in confidence and self-regulation has been wonderful to see, and we have loved having them at Huckleberries.



Tuesday

This half term, Tuesday's nurture group has been focusing on recognising our strengths and understanding our value within a team and wider community, with a strong emphasis on belonging and feeling truly valued. The children designed their own group crest to represent what is important to them, celebrating their shared values and individuality. We enjoyed reading *The Magical Yet* and exploring why perseverance and resilience are such important strengths to build, before putting this into practice by learning how to light a fire using flint and steel – a challenge everyone tackled with determination. Working with Janine was another highlight as we made delicious blackcurrant jam using fruit harvested from the Huckleberries Garden. The group also showed fantastic courage and teamwork during off-site adventures in snow, ice and rain, even completing the longest ever Huckleberries walk around Cutmill Pond at just under 4km – a huge achievement that really impressed Heather and Jill.



Wednesday

This half term, Wednesday's nurture group has been focusing on building self-esteem and self-worth, helping the children to recognise just how important they are both individually and as part of a team. We spent time identifying our strengths and celebrating what each person brings to the group, designing a crest to represent our shared values and sense of community. The children also created a strengths web, building a powerful visual representation of how everyone's contributions connect and support one another. Working with Janine was a lovely hands-on experience as we tidied the beehives and planted pansies ready to provide food for the bees in the months ahead. Together, the group developed their own charter, exploring rights and responsibilities and understanding the importance of having their voices heard. One of the highlights of the half term was the archery rove with Dave and Daniel - a truly adventurous afternoon where everyone showed determination in trying something new and we watched confidence grow with every arrow shot.



Thursday

This half term, Thursday's Wild Learning Group has followed a similar theme, developing emotional literacy around self-esteem, self-worth and a sense of belonging. The children designed a group crest to represent who they are as a team and explored important conversations about human rights and the responsibilities we all share in helping those rights to be met for ourselves and others. A real highlight was taking part in the archery rove with Dave and Daniel, which brought out everyone's adventurous side. We were incredibly impressed with how well the group listened to feedback and put it into action - the improvement in archery skills was striking, and it was wonderful to see the pride in everyone's achievements. We also enjoyed several off-site walks exploring the local area and learning about lichen and moss from James. A big focus this half term has been conflict resolution and understanding how to manage our actions and emotions when situations make it hard to stay "green."



Friday

This half term, Friday's nurture group has been exploring their sense of belonging while recognising and using their individual strengths. They created wooden strength mobiles, developing resilience along the way, and demonstrating some impressive whittling skills! They had a fantastic time with Mel, collaboratively creating a rather surreal story featuring a rancher named Ray, a military hero, a horse called Woody, and a dog and guinea pig who parachuted out of a plane in 1898. It was full of imagination, exploration, and historical fun. Their rainy-day yoga session with Mairead, ended with a wonderful relaxation rolled up snugly in blankets in the yurt, however, the highlight of the term had to be the archery Rove with Dave and Daniel, where they truly excelled, closely followed by the excitement of discovering a large frog, and the sensory experience of bravely holding it in their bare hands.



Wild About Huckleberries

Wild About Huckleberries returns after half term! Sign up via our website:
www.huckleberries.org.uk/wild-about-huckleberries/

Upcoming Events

- Monday 16th - Friday 20th February - Half Term
- Tuesday 24th February - Peer Support Evening (Yurt). Please book online at www.huckleberries.org.uk/events/
- Week Beginning Monday 23rd March - Showcase Week, dates and times TBC
- Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April - Easter Holidays
- Monday 13th April - Summer Term Starts

Check our website for further information and to book onto an event or Wild About Huckleberries. www.huckleberries.org.uk

Employee of the Month Jet



Jet has been incredibly brave over the last couple of months during his cancer treatment. We have missed seeing him at camp, but were overjoyed to welcome him back whilst on a treatment break, for a few hours last week. Jet is our hero!

Don't forget...



Timings of the day
9:15am - 2:45pm



Please drive and park carefully, being considerate to our neighbours.



Please bring a morning snack and a filling packed lunch.



Water bottle.



Wear warm clothes (layers work best) and waterproof shoes/ boots.



Pack a waterproof coat and trousers, hat and gloves.



Bring spare clothes to change into, especially woolly socks!

Books wanted

Our children have asked to create and manage their own Huckleberries lending library, so we are seeking books to stock it. If you have any great books for ages 6 to 12 years that you'd like to donate, we would welcome them.

Follow us



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Can you help?



Huckleberries Helping Young People Thrive



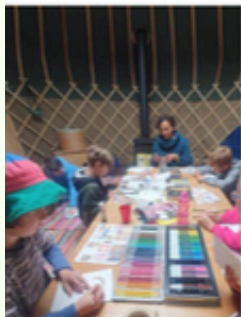
Support Our Work

As a small, local charity our programmes rely on:

- Donations
- Volunteers
- Community Partnerships
- Grant Funding

By Supporting Us You Help To

- Provide skilled, compassionate staff
- Grow a strong, supportive community
- Maintain our outdoor learning spaces
- Feed and care for our animals
- Enable our Charity to grow and serve more children



How to Get Involved

Donate via Go Fund Me

As a small charity, every donation makes a meaningful difference, helping us reach young people who are often overlooked and struggling.



Contribute to our Amazon Charity wish-list

Our Amazon Charity Wish List is a list of items that we need to directly support our work, which you can purchase and have shipped directly to us. Please take a look at our list: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1UN3GVD11MYWQ?ref_=wl_share

Sign Up to Huckleberries Discovery Directory

We're always happy to hear from anyone who wants to support our work. We have two great ways to get involved:

Wild Learning Centre Skill Sharing List

Join our list of volunteers who are happy to be contacted when a young person needs support with their projects. If you have a skill, such as woodworking, marketing, mechanics, art or anything else, we may reach out to you to see if you can offer advice or guidance. This will be done alongside Huckleberries staff via Microsoft Teams, telephone or in person.

Regular or Ad-Hoc Volunteers

Offer your time regularly, once a month, once a week or on an ad-hoc basis, to support projects that align with your skills. This could include anything from leatherwork, crochet, sewing, engineering, animal care, novel writing or other areas where you can inspire and assist young people in small groups or one-to-one, to develop their passions.



For More Information

Call: Bev Cook (CEO) 07979 856851 Visit: www.huckleberries.org.uk

