



huckleberries

a place to be me

The Roo-port: Autumn 1 2026

Welcome

What an incredible half term! It's been full of memorable days with the children, wonderful visitors and of course, our very special announcement that Sir Brian May has become our Patron. This has been extraordinary for our small charity, and it validates the needs of each of the 400+ children who have come through our gates. Having Sir Brian standing alongside us will help us shine a brighter light on our children, and also tells them loud and clear that they matter! And it matters to matter, especially when you've spent much of your life feeling unseen or unheard. Thank you Brian, for believing in us.

Feeling part of something bigger, ran through the whole term. Joining the water vole re-introduction programme holds a special place in our hearts. It was a joy to be part of this conservation project, and our children wholeheartedly embraced the aftercare of these wonderful mammals. Thank you to SWT, RWCT, Hamptons, and other partners for inviting us to be part of it, and for all your hard work. Around basecamp, I've felt very proud of the warm welcome our existing children extended to our new joiners this term. Our culture is strong, and it was incredible to see Huckleberries values being role-modelled so authentically. Thank you children ❤️.

That sense of belonging extended beyond our own community too, as we opened our gates to 11 school SENCo's and Head teachers across 2 open afternoons, and on the last day of term, hosted the SE Care Farms Network cluster group meet-up, a chance for regional care farmers to connect and share our work and experiences. As we all know, it feels good to belong. Warmest wishes, Bev x

Monday

Monday group have had a wonderful half term! It has been fantastic watching the children settle in, build meaningful connections, and flourish across many different activities. From fire lighting and tuning into nature and stillness on our mindfulness sound walk, to using real tools in the woodwork and clay studio, their creativity, focus and practical skills have been impressive. We also spent time reflecting on our own and each other's strengths, and it was wonderful to see the children recognising positive qualities in themselves and their peers.

Beyond their achievements, there is a sense of community growing across the group. Whether sharing chats over lunch, choosing to play together in their 'me time' or helping one another master a new skill, the children look out for each other, offering encouragement and support. We are very proud of everything they've accomplished this half term!

We've also been delighted to welcome our new volunteer, Lesley, who has been a fantastic addition to our Monday afternoons. We're really looking forward to working with her on some exciting projects after the half-term break. Have a restful break, Tamzin & Jo.



Tuesday

This half term, Team Tuesday has loved welcoming many new faces to our group. We have explored a whole host of activities, discovering all the wonderful opportunities available here at camp. Our afternoons have been filled with creativity, from painting and collage to learning how to use tools safely while designing and making our very own wooden cars. Racing our finished creations was great fun! We have also discovered the mindfulness of sewing and have been so impressed with how quickly everyone has picked up these new skills, showing patience and perseverance along the way. During our nurture mornings, we have explored themes of belonging, staying present and recognising our individual strengths, thinking about what makes each of us special and the important part we play in our community. One of our highlights was walking to Fox Hill in the sunshine, taking our time to notice the little details along the way and appreciate the world around us. It has been a lovely half term of new friendships, new experiences and growing confidence, and we look forward to seeing what next half term brings. Have a restful break, from Heather, Tamzin and Jill.



Wednesday

Wednesday's nurture group got off to an incredibly exciting start this half term by helping with the reintroduction and release of water voles into the River Wey. It was fascinating to learn about these special animals and support the team who have worked so hard to make this project possible. We have also made the most of the beautiful autumn sunshine, enjoying yoga in the Bluebell Woods, relaxing in the hammocks and taking a wonderful sound walk, giving ourselves time to slow down and be present. Our creative side has flourished too, as we were introduced to woodworking and designed and built our own wooden vehicles. We have loved seeing the ingenuity, creativity and resilience shown by everyone as they worked through challenges to bring their ideas to life. On a rainy afternoon, we cosied up in the yurt to learn embroidery, experimenting with different stitches to create beautiful bookmarks while practising mindfulness and finding calm through making. Alongside all these adventures, we have spent time recognising our individual strengths and thinking about what each of us brings to our Huckleberries community. We have begun setting personal goals to work towards over the next half term and look forward to seeing everyone's confidence continue to grow. Well done, from Bev, Leia and Jill



The Mayor of Waverley invites you:

CHARITY QUIZ



At Borough Hall, Godalming

Ready to put your trivia skills to the test? The Mayor of Waverley, Councillor David Munro, is inviting you to join us for a fantastic evening featuring a charity quiz, amazing raffle prizes, and plenty of fun. Bring your favourite nibbles, grab a drink from the bar, and help raise money in support of Huckleberries Charity.

Tickets: £15 per person or £75 for a table of 6

Scan the QR below to access the booking page
or [click here](#)



 Friday, 13 November

 7:30pm - 10:00pm

 Borough Hall, Godalming, GU7 1HY

 Free parking available

 Fully accessible venue



Waverley
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Thursday

This half term, our Thursday group has grown back up to six children, and it has been wonderful to see everyone settle in and friendships blossom so quickly. Early in the term, we rolled up our sleeves and got stuck into sprucing up camp. Putting up a new perch for the chickens in the stables and building our new fire square were fantastic team efforts, and it has been lovely to see all the groups benefiting from our hard work. We have also enjoyed time whittling, carefully crafting our own forks and butter knives, and putting them to the test when we cooked delicious waffles with plenty of chocolate spread! Another exciting milestone was our first afternoon in The Studio, where we explored the world of clay and began making our own pots, ready to continue after half term. It is such a joy to have this wonderful bespoke space for creativity. The children have also started designing and building their own moving vehicles, and we have been so impressed by their willingness to try new things and step outside their comfort zones. This bravery was evident when we visited the bees with Janine. Alongside these practical adventures, we have spent time recognising our individual strengths and thinking about what we each bring to our community, helping to deepen our sense of belonging. Teamwork was in full swing when we worked together to create an amazing marble run in the construction area - a brilliant example of what we can achieve when we share ideas and work as a team! We are excited to see where this team will go, Bev and Jill.



Friday

Our Fantastic Friday group have flourished this half term. The children displayed great care and pride whilst rehoming 32 water voles to the river Wey. We measured and chopped vegetables then meticulously followed the map to their temporary pens to feed them. We often look out for them, and listen for a 'plop' in the water when taking our lunch to the river. Good luck water voles!

Friendships have strengthened during quiet moments, often up a tree, as our group do love to climb, and we've honed our listening skills, and experienced stillness during sound walks, and sketched what we could hear.

We've continued to learn about each other, growing in curiosity, and have made a point of sharing our own observations of our peers' strengths, celebrating this before home time. We've christened our new woodwork studio by designing and creating our very own wooden cars, where the children encouraged and inspired each other in equal measure; some creations are fully painted and decorated whilst others remain elegantly rustic. Friday children are full of fun, and laughter can often be heard around camp. We've recently welcomed a new member to our group who is reigniting our love for imaginative play, mud pies a plenty. Well done, from Jo & Leia



Wild About Huckleberries

This half term at Wild About Huckleberries, we have enjoyed a whole host of delicious cooking, getting creative, spending time with our favourite animals, and being outdoors. The children have been busy around the campfire making everything from beans on toast, cheesy pasta, ham and cheese toasties, to dippy eggs, French toast, and even sugar apples! Our dippy eggs were served in the perfect little clay egg cups, which we have been carefully making over several weeks. We have also enjoyed getting hands-on in the construction area, making wooden spinning tops and practising our whittling skills. Autumn has brought plenty of inspiration for creativity too, with some beautiful leaf art, and games of conkers, all alongside quieter moments relaxing in the hammocks, sharing cuddles and conversations with the guinea pigs, and hanging out with the goats. We have loved seeing all the fun, creativity and connection this half term has brought, and we are already looking forward to more adventures next term. A little reminder that the evenings will be getting darker, so please remember to bring a torch or head torch and wrap up warm!

Thanks for being awesome, Jill and Charlotte



**Wild About Huckleberries
Forest School**
Fulbrook Lane, Elstead

Tuesdays (term-time)
3.45 to 5.15pm

£12 per session (paid half termly)
Concessions available* for FSM eligible children, and siblings

Sign up to immerse your 5-11 year old in nature & the outdoors, & experience the therapeutic benefits of our animals at Huckleberries Nurture Farm

Activities include: seasonal nature art, crafts & learning, bushcraft, wild games, den building, exploring, caring for our goats, ducks, chickens & guinea pigs. Qualified Forest School leaders.

All welcome - Book your place at www.huckleberries.org.uk

*email for details: info@huckleberries.org.uk

Upcoming Dates

- Monday 19th October - Half Term (2 weeks)
- Monday 2nd November - Autumn Term 2 Starts
- Tuesday 3rd November - Wild About Huckleberries Starts
- Thursday 19th November - 7pm Parent/Carer Community Social (free but book online)
- Monday 7th December - Staff Training - NO SESSION
- Tuesday 8th - Friday 11th December - Showcase Week (details to follow)
- Tuesday 8th December - Last Wild About Huckleberries for 2026
- Monday 14th December - Rearranged Monday Session (from 7th December). Showcase (details to follow)
- Tuesday 15th December - Christmas Holidays Start
- Monday 11th January - Spring Term 1 Starts

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

www.huckleberries.org.uk

Can you help?



Huckleberries Helping Young People Thrive



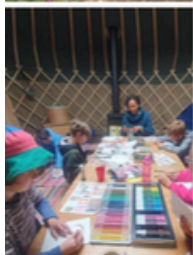
Support Our Work

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

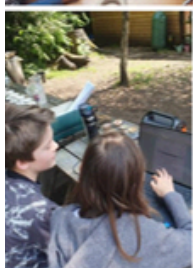
As a small charity, every donation makes a meaningful difference, helping us reach young people who are often overlooked and struggling.



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/1UN3GVD1IMYWQ?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

Employee of the Month

This half term our coveted Employee of the Month title is awarded to Phantom. Phantom is Jill's dog and he has had the joy of visiting Base Camp a few times this half term.

Whilst he may not be trusted with chickens, he is wonderfully entertaining and very affectionate with the humans.

His highlight was working with the Monday children on identifying their strengths (and his!).

