

## Headmaster's final message



Happy Easter Parmiterians – adult and child alike – and welcome to my last introduction to our half termly update. As ever, at this time of year, Years 11 and 13 students are at the forefront of my mind and I wish them well as they approach their GCSE or A Level examinations. They deserve

the very best and I know that their efforts will be well and truly rewarded this summer. Good luck to each one of them and I hope they secure the destination of their choice as they continue their exciting life journey onto the next stage of their education and development.

Of course, Year 11 and Year 13 are not alone in the dedication they have brought to their studies this past half term, as such a work ethic has been evident across all Year Groups. Yet, as will be evident from the pages of this newsletter, all our Parmiterians have found plenty of time to dedicate to the wider life of our school.

### So much Sporting Success!

Having spent Mothering Sunday following a live-feed from the National Badminton finals in Milton Keynes, it seems only fitting to start with a huge 'shout out' to our Badminton team who came second in the country. You will read more about this phenomenal achievement in the Sports update and my congratulations go to each one of the boys in the team. Whilst a National final is certainly worth a special mention, our successes in District and Regional finals across such a range of sports is also worth celebrating and I do hope you will take the time to read the updates. Congratulations to all the students involved and my heartfelt thanks go to the dedicated PE staff at our school.

### So many concerts – home and away!

Seven years ago, my first ever Parmiter's "event" was the Leavers' Concert in 2018. It seems fitting that my last – in post – was the Leavers' Concert on Wednesday night. The concert was sensational, with such high quality instrumental and vocal performances. My highlight though, was School Captain, Michael Tawfik's glowing tribute at the end to our Music Department and staff. It meant the world to those amazing colleagues who have created such a wonderful culture of encouragement and support across their department. No wonder that our musicians, alongside our sports boys and girls, really grow and flourish at Parmiter's.

You'll notice the tag line "home and away" – which is to acknowledge that, like our sports teams, our musicians travel far and wide to share their talents and fulfil my clarion call of "World Domination". I had the privilege of joining choir members at an Evensong at King's

College Chapel in London and our musicians also graced the stage at the Royal Albert Hall.

My own favourite moment was singing a Van Morrison song, that I have known and loved since I was 17 years old, with the fabulous 'Frontier' band at the 'Turn It Up' student-led concert. The memory, along with the personalised hoodie presented to me, will be treasured for ever.

### World Languages and Book Weeks

"World Domination" naturally involves embracing languages from across the globe, as well as the breadth of literature across all cultures. Naturally, Parmiter's does both. My thanks to the Modern Foreign Languages Department and the leadership team in the Learning Resources Centre for arranging a variety of special events and competitions to celebrate Language and Reading. Most schools might celebrate on a particular day but, at Parmiter's, we celebrate by the week. Of course, what fills me with greatest pride is to see so many students engage with the activities and in particular those older students who encourage, mentor and support their younger peers.

### Model United Nations

My most memorable day this past half term – even topping Van Morrison! – was accompanying Mr Adaci and 25 students to the London School of Economics where they participated in the Model United Nations conference and series of debates. There is an accompanying article about this event within the pages of this newsletter but I did want to draw your attention to it. The MUN is an exceptional opportunity for our most confident students to pit their wits against the most confident students from so called "elite" schools, such as Eton, and the best and brightest from the Independent sector. Of course, in doing so, our students discover that Parmiterians can more than hold their own among the best and brightest from any school however privileged their backgrounds might be. Our MUN programme is yet another example where I am blessed to work with a colleague (and there are so many at Parmiter's) who is happy to give up weekends and free time to provide amazing opportunity for our children.

### Retirement reflections

Which is, of course, a good starting point for my reflections on retirement. I have been overwhelmed over the past few days by the kindness and generosity of warm wishes from parents, carers and students. The generosity has also been shown in the gifts I have received, most notably the laptop, which I am looking forward to "master", bought with the collection organised by the Parents' and Carers' Association. On Friday there will be the ceremonial handing over of keys and Chromebook, so having a laptop of my own and not one that is hogged by my wife, will enable me to

## Headmaster's final message

stay in touch with the school and continue some virtual contact when I can't keep up face to face.

I still can't help feeling like a bit of a fraud. It has been an absolute pleasure and privilege to have been the Headmaster of this amazing school for the past seven years. Apart from some difficult financial decisions and challenging times (like Covid!), which I won't miss, my job essentially entails wandering about the terrific school and enjoying the sights and sounds of so much inspirational teaching and enthusiastic learning – what's not to love about that? I attend Drama and Dance productions, concerts, sports fixtures, exhibitions, debating competitions etc, etc of such high quality – none of which I play any part in producing or helping with and then, after the applause and congratulations have died down, I have parent and carer after parent and carer thanking ME! It is all thanks to my amazing colleagues – I just got incredibly lucky to work with them.

I have had the chance to thank the awesome and crazily committed staff body and the completely adorable student body in person. However, aside from the members of the Parents' and Carers' Association Committee, I haven't had the chance to properly address the parent and carer community. So... I shall take this opportunity to thank every single parent and carer of any student who has attended Parmiter's over the past seven years.

THANK YOU for choosing this school.

THANK YOU for sending such wonderful, well rounded, humble, yet super smart, young people to make my job such a delight and inspire my staff to be the best versions of themselves.

The media portrayal of young people has often been detrimental but it seems to have become even worse over the past seven years. Yet, my experience of your children is that young people are as fine, if not finer, than any generation of young people there has ever been. We should be incredibly proud of each and every one of them and shout that pride from the roof tops. They are incredible, and that is why I greet the future with such confidence.

Nemo sibi nascitur!



M Jones  
Headmaster

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**Summer term starts on :**  
Tuesday 22 April 2025  
(Week 2)



## Farewell!

The end of this Easter term is significant for our school as we bid farewell, not only to our Headmaster, but to other members of staff who have devoted a significant part of their career to Parmiter's.

**Mr and Mrs Dolamore** are both retiring. Mr Dolamore has been our D&T technician for the past 4 years, supporting the D&T department in the preparation of resources for practical lessons and maintaining all the machines and equipment. Mrs Dolamore has been a Science Technician since June 2001 and, most recently, the Lead Technician with oversight of the Science prep rooms and technician team - that's nearly 24 years of preparation for thousands of practicals! Mr and Mrs Dolamore's children were both students at Parmiter's, so the school has been an integral part of their lives for many years. We wish them both a long and happy retirement.

We have known, for some months, that **Mr Jones** would be retiring at Easter 2025 and, as the governors and school have been busy planning for the appointment and arrival of his successor, Mr Jones has been equally as busy planning for his retirement! He has made no secret of the fact that he plans to travel as much as possible and has booked a fabulous trip to America that starts when the rest of us will be returning to school for the new term!

Mr Jones has been an outstanding Headmaster who has led the school through some significant times; constant financial challenges, a hugely successful Ofsted inspection and the unprecedented Covid Pandemic, to name but a few. His boundless energy and enthusiasm for all things Parmiter's has further embedded us as an admired institution in the local community and beyond. He leaves with our eternal thanks and very best wishes for a long, happy and healthy retirement. Once a Parmiterian .....



It is often said that no one is irreplaceable but .... what are we going to do without **Mr Redmond**?

Mr Redmond is retiring from Parmiter's after 39 years. It's no exaggeration to say that he is a true Parmiter's legend, you cannot go anywhere without bumping into people who know him, have been taught by him, are related to or know somebody who has been taught by him. Over the years he has enjoyed a great relationship with the Old Parmiterians from Bethnal Green and Garston alike and has been integral in upholding the strong bond between the London and Garston schools.

As well as inspiring thousands of students of all abilities in the wizardry of mathematics, Mr Redmond's involvement in life at Parmiter's has extended far beyond the classroom. Coaching rugby, initiating rugby for girls at Parmiter's, accompanying the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, supporting the Parents' Association events and activities and accompanying extra-curricular activities and trips, locally and overseas. However, as much as we will miss his dulcet Welsh tones, it is Mr Redmond's kindness, good humour and generous, charitable nature that we will miss most of all. He has always been an advocate for those who need a little extra help and the first to lend a hand or to offer help with any charitable activity. He has emptied shops of cookies for cookie sales, driven minibuses filled with clothes, food and other items collected in school for charity, and represented Parmiter's at countless remembrance events.

Mr Redmond has forged long-lasting, genuine relationships with students and their families which have meant so much to many Parmiterians. We will miss him at Parmiter's and wish him the very long and happy retirement that he so deserves.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we bid farewell to this term of change and eagerly await the rejuvenating Easter break, we would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the entire Parmiter's Parents' and Carers' Association (PCA), to express our heartfelt thanks to each one of you. The unwavering dedication and the tireless efforts of our volunteers and supporters, continues to enrich our children's educational journeys at Parmiter's. This term has been a shining example of what we can achieve together.

### Farewell to Mr Jones – A Fond Goodbye

At the Leavers' Concert on 2nd April, we came together as a community to celebrate not only the talents of our students but to bid a heartfelt farewell to **Mr Jones**, who is retiring after many years of dedicated service. His impact on the school has been immeasurable and he will be sorely missed by students, staff, and parents alike.

With the support of the Parmiter's family, the PCA was proud to present **Mr Jones** with a beautiful laptop and accessories as a retirement gift, so he can document and share his next adventures. We hope he enjoys this next chapter as much as we have enjoyed having him as part of our story.



### Welcome to Mr. Smith – A New Chapter Begins

As we say goodbye, we also offer a warm welcome to Mr Smith, our new Head of Parmiter's School. We look forward to supporting him in this new role and to seeing how our community continues to grow under his leadership.

### Events We've Proudly Supported This Term

- 1- Author Visit** – Joe Craig, writer of the Jimmy Coates series, will be visiting Parmiter's later this year, thanks to PCA funding.
- 2- Elevate Programme Workshops** – We funded high-impact sessions to enhance student study skills, motivation and exam readiness.
- 3- Leavers' Concert** – PCA supported refreshments for over 200+ attendees.

### Upcoming Events – Get Involved!

- **Next Second-Hand Uniform Sale** – Saturday **10th May** reach out at: [pa@parmiters.herts.sch.uk](mailto:pa@parmiters.herts.sch.uk)

### Next PCA Meeting Dates for Your Diary

- Wednesday 8th May 2025 – any questions just reach out at: [pa@parmiters.herts.sch.uk](mailto:pa@parmiters.herts.sch.uk)

To our fantastic Parmiter's community – thank you. We wish you all a peaceful and joyful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming you back next term, as we embark on this new chapter together with Mr Smith at the helm.

Warmest regards,

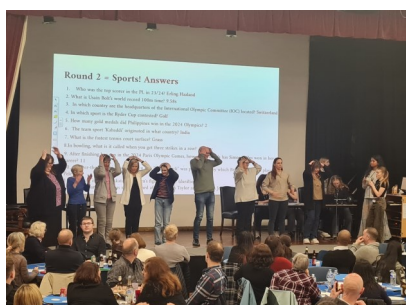
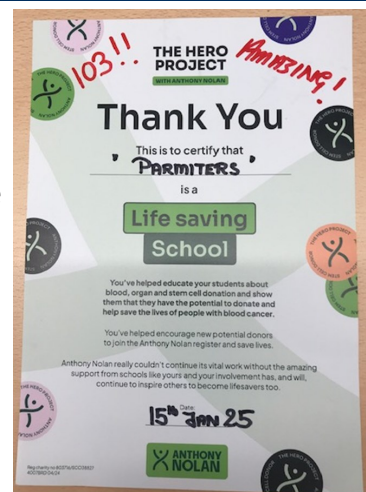
**Greg Longmore (Chairman) & the Parmiter's Parents' and Carers' Association Team**

"Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end."  
— Seneca

## Anthony Nolan

Each year, Anthony Nolan volunteers visit Parmiter's to deliver an assembly and run a recruitment drive, as part of their Hero Project. The charity's aim is all about matching people with blood cancer and blood disorders, who need a stem cell transplant, with incredible strangers ready to donate their stem cells. Every day the work of the Anthony Nolan charity offers four people another chance of life.

The charity was absolutely blown away by the support of our students again this year and, we beat our previous total, with 103 students coming forward in January 2025. The students wishing to participate, register their details and do a simple cheek swab which is then analysed back in the Anthony Nolan laboratories. Their records are then added to the ever growing database of possible lifesaving donors.



## Enterprise Teams

Over the past 6 months, the two Year 12 Enterprise Teams have been working hard to raise money for the KDM Foundation and Charlie's Gift, two local charities who support children with life limiting illnesses, and their families. The teams' fundraising efforts culminate in their big events at the end of the six month project which, this year, were a Quiz Night and a Race Night, both of which were very successful. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the teams' ventures.

We estimate that this year, the teams have each raised over £5000 for their respective charity, which is a huge achievement!



## Food bank Challenge for Lent

Sixth Form Students completed the lent Food Bank Challenge. Each form group had volunteer representatives who coordinated the collection of a wish list of products provided by Watford Food Bank. These generous donations will help many families from the local area during the spring school holidays.



## Model United Nations

The Parmiter's MUN club capped off an excellent term with our final conference of the year; the annual London Youth MUN Conference held at the London School of Economics. This is the second largest conference held in the UK and was attended by a large number of the most prestigious private and state schools across the South East. 25 students from Years 9 to 13 took part and we had our most successful ever conference. 11 of our students won individual awards at the closing ceremony which was held at the prestigious Shaftesbury Theatre.

This was a real team effort, with students in each year group winning awards. As the school that achieved the most individual awards, we were then also awarded the 'Best Delegation' prize which was a testament to just how far the club has come in the short space of time it has been running.

With such a large number of students now regularly involved in MUN across Key Stages 3 to 5, this will, hopefully, just be the beginning for us!

**Mr Adaci**



## Hackathon

On Wednesday 5th March we hosted our first ever Hackathon event at Parmiter's, inviting local schools including Queen's, Rickmansworth, Watford Grammar School for Girls and Merchant Taylors to compete. The Hackathon comprised a combination of different coding challenges that required the students to use a variety of languages such as Python, JavaScript and SQL.

We were delighted that the home team from Parmiter's came out on top, narrowly beating second place Merchant Taylors' by only 2 points!

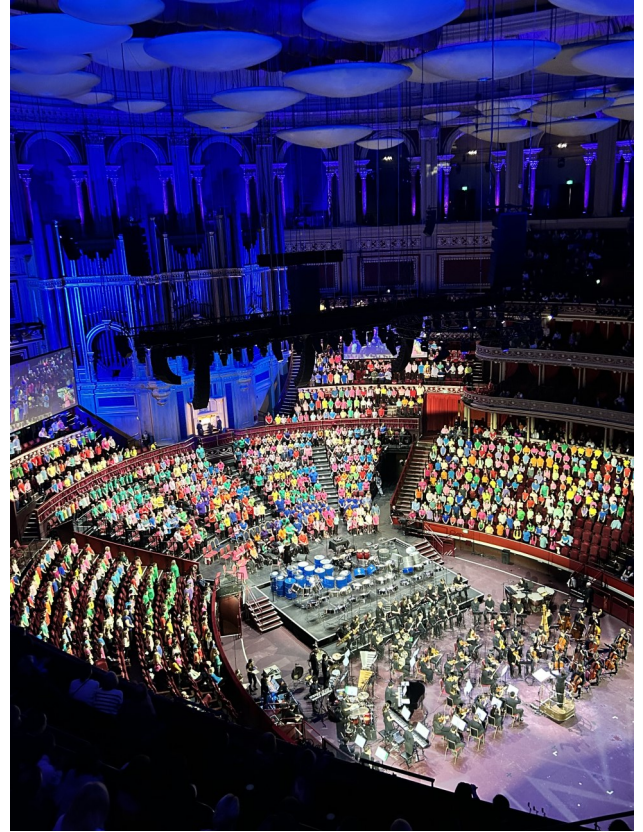
We hope that the event will become an annual fixture and look forward to hosting again next year!

Congratulations to Milan Gudka, Harry Stewart, Chris Knowlson, Adrain Agache and Huxley Din-Ross (pictured left)



## Royal Albert Hall

A group of 46 student singers travelled to the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday 23 March to take part in the Hertfordshire Schools' Gala. It was uplifting to be part of this fabulous event, alongside other Hertfordshire secondary and primary schools.



## Spring Leavers' Concert



The Leavers' Concert was a little earlier in the school calendar this year but this had no effect on the quality of the performances which were, as ever, superb. The audience of parents, carers, staff, governors and Headmaster's guests was treated to an eclectic mix of music from students from all year groups. Naturally, the Year 13 leavers stole the show. Proudly wearing their leavers' button holes, they finished the evening with a secretly rehearsed performance of 'National Express' by The Divine Comedy, as a tribute to Mr Bates and the music department. A bespoke tribute to each leaver was delivered by Mr Bates and he wished each and every one of them a happy and successful future on behalf of us all.

Greg Longmore, Chairman of the Parents' and Carers' Association, presented Mr Jones with a gift from the parents and carers who had contributed towards a special retirement collection.

What a fantastic start to 2025 it has been in the world of Parmiter's Houses! As always, it has been an absolute pleasure to see so many students and staff involved with House competitions and challenges.



### House PE/Drama:

#### Performing Arts Show Poster/Programme

Students were challenged to create a design for the Performing Arts Show poster/programme. Having received many fabulous designs, the winner chosen was Year 8 student, Lex, of Renvoize House. Well done, Lex!

### House Challenge: Random Acts of Kindness

In celebration of Random Acts of Kindness Day 2025 on the 17th February, we encouraged the entire school community to spread some cheer. Everyone was given the opportunity to send an

anonymous, kind message to anyone in the school and we are pleased to announce that we received 1,367 messages! The House with the most messages was Mayhew, in 2nd place was Beven, in 3rd place was Woolley, in 4th place was Carter, in 5th place was Lee and in 6th place was Renvoize. Thank you for being part of this challenge and thank you for your wonderful words of kindness.



### World Book Week

Throughout World Book Week, students across the school took part in daily challenges as well as working towards completing an activity passport. Well done to Mayhew who accrued the most House Points for both the daily challenges and the activity passports! In second place was Lee, in third place was Woolley, in fourth place was Renvoize, in fifth place was Carter and in sixth place was Beven.

### Languages Week

During Languages week, students took part in an array of challenges and events, including Duolingo competitions for both staff and students. The student Duolingo competition in Welsh was won by Arjun Giri (Renvoize) and the staff competition in Gaelic was won by Fabienne Ellis (Carter). Both winners earned 25 House Points!

### House Science Poster Competition

In March, the Science department celebrated 'British Science Week' by challenging students to create a poster for a nationwide Biology competition. Congratulations to Year 8 student Maya (Woolley) and Year 7 students Premal (Carter) and Trishna (Beven) for winning the competition!

### House English: Poetry By Heart Competition (KS3)

This competition was linked with a National competition that encouraged students to learn a poem by heart and perform it to their peers. The standard of performance was incredibly high, with an overwhelming number of enjoyable interpretations. Congratulations to all who took part, all who were placed, those that were commended and especially to Year 7 students Jaden of Woolley House and Clem of Mayhew House, Year 8 students Insha and Soham, both of Woolley House and Year 9 student Bertie of Beven House and Nathan of Renvoize House who won this competition. All of the winners earned House Points for their respective Houses and have been entered into the National competition, with a chance to perform at Shakespeare's Globe - we wish you the best of luck!

### House Fantasy Sport: Football & F1

This term also saw the launch of a fantasy F1 league, which members of the Parmiter's community can join via [fantasy.formula1.com](https://fantasy.formula1.com) and the league code is C6W4TSGUI02. Results will be shared on a regular basis. This is on top of the Premier League Fantasy Football league, and the managers of the month for January, February and March are as follows: January - Mr Redmond (Lee), February - James Beasley (Mayhew) and March - Jed Wiseman (Woolley).

### House Easter Egg Hunt

Another impressive turnout for this year's Easter Egg Hunt, which saw Year 8 students Arjun (Renvoize), Charlie (Woolley), Freddie (Woolley) and Mark (Woolley) solve the clues and work out the anagram the quickest.

### Regular Competitions

As ever, there are regular ways of winning some all-important House Points for your Houses. Every Friday, Mr Perkins emails the Houses Quiz of the Week, with the House with the most participants winning 10 points, and second place winning 5. You can also take part in the Park Run every other Friday. We also award House Points to students who only gain achievement points across the term - these are our 'zero heroes'.

### Coming Up

There will be many competitions and challenges launched next term including **House Chess**, **House History** and the infamous **Sports Day**.

### Current Standings

And finally, at the end of this half term, we are delighted to announce the current standings are as follows... \*drum roll, please\*

BEVEN	2227
CARTER	1828
LEE	1923
MAYHEW	2950
RENVOIZE	1789
WOOLLEY	2589

Congratulations to Mayhew who are holding strong at the top of the leaderboard!

We would like to thank you for all of your efforts so far, and we look forward to what the final term will bring in the world of Parmiter's Houses.

Ms O'Malley & Mr Perkins

## Boys' Football – A Season of Success!

It has been an outstanding season for our boys' football teams, with both the Year 9 and 1st XI squads crowned District Cup champions after two fantastic finals. Their hard work and teamwork have truly paid off! Meanwhile, our Year 10 boys secured a spot in the County Plate final with a thrilling 5-4 victory in the semis. The final will take place on 19th May, and we wish them the best of luck as they aim to bring home another trophy. Well done to all our teams on these incredible achievements!



## Netball Success – Triple Champions!

Our netball teams have dominated the District tournaments this season, with three squads bringing home the trophies! The 9A, 10A, and 10B teams all triumphed in their respective competitions, showcasing skill, determination, and teamwork. Their hard work throughout the season has truly paid off, and we are incredibly proud of their achievements. Congratulations to all the players and coaches on this fantastic success!



## U16 Boys Badminton – National Finalists!

Our U16 boys' badminton team achieved an incredible feat, reaching the National final after battling through thousands of teams. In a thrilling championship match, they were narrowly beaten by Reading School in a contest that showcased skill, determination, and sportsmanship. Finishing as the number two team in the entire country is an astonishing achievement, and we couldn't be prouder of their hard work and dedication. Well done, team!



## Hockey – A Historic Moment!

This half-term saw a historic first for Parmiter's, as our boys' hockey team made their debut in the East of England competition. They played with enthusiasm and passion, securing some great wins in their first-ever tournament. Meanwhile, our U14 girls' team were unstoppable, going unbeaten and claiming the East of England title! A fantastic achievement for both teams – well done to all the players for their dedication and success!



For Accompanied Children  
& Any Adults

Children's Crafts

Hot Lunch

Totally  
Free

Life  
With God  
at All Saints

Pop-Up Cafe

12-2pm  
Thursday  
10<sup>th</sup> April

All Saints  
Church Hall  
All Saints Crescent  
Garston WD25 0LU  
office@allsaintslife

Pop-Up Cafe

Herts  
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Do you need someone to talk to?  
Our Herts Haven Cafe is open for  
anyone aged 10-18.  
Drop by and get the support you  
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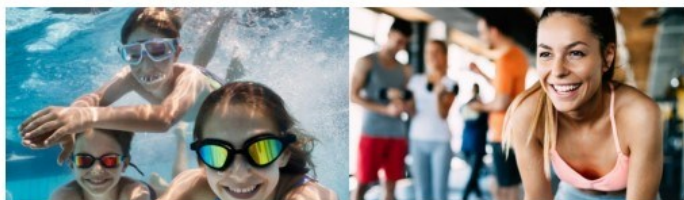
Mondays 3:30pm - 8pm

Watford Palace Theatre,  
20 Clarendon Road,  
Watford, WD17 1JZ



T: 0208 189 8400  
W: www.withyouth.org

Mind  
Hertfordshire  
Network



Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April

UNDER 19'S FREE\*  
GYM & SWIM

South Oxhey Leisure Centre

FREE GYM\*\* - Mondays & Tuesdays  
10:30am - 11:30am  
11:30am - 12:30pm  
FREE SWIM - Mondays & Tuesdays  
13:00 - 14:00pm  
14:00 - 15:00pm

William Penn Leisure Centre

FREE GYM\*\* - Wednesdays & Thursdays  
10:30am - 11:30am  
11:30am - 12:30pm  
FREE SWIM - Wednesdays & Thursdays  
13:30 - 14:30pm  
14:30 - 15:30pm

Watford Leisure Centre - WOODSIDE

FREE GYM\*\* - Mondays & Wednesdays  
14:30 - Free Junior Induction  
15:30 - Free Gym Session (11-15yrs)  
16:30 - Free Gym Session (16-19yrs)  
FREE SWIM - Mondays & Wednesdays  
Main Pool - 10:30 - 11:30  
Main Pool - 13:00 - 14:00  
Main Pool - 14:00 - 15:00  
Teaching Pool - 14:30 - 15:30

All sessions are bookable on the  
Everyone Active App.

\*Terms and conditions apply.  
\*\*Applicable to Three Rivers District residents only.  
\*\*\*U19's need to book a gym induction and 16yrs+ can do an online induction.

EVERYONE CAN KEEP ACTIVE IN THE HOLIDAYS

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LOTTERY FUNDED ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Herts Inclusive Theatre  
presents

Sat 26<sup>th</sup> April  
11am - 7pm

Sun 27<sup>th</sup> April  
11am - 6pm

Enrich  
festival

TICKET  
★★★★★  
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at  
WATFORD PALACE THEATRE  
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Join us for a joyful showcase of performances from  
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