



CASSIOBURY JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER No 12

Friday 5th December 2025

Dear Families,

Messages from Miss Sherry..

Gosh it is busy in school! We had a fantastic music assembly yesterday with the recorder group, the orchestra and the school brass band! Year 5 and Year 3 are sharing the hall for rehearsals whilst Year 6 are cooking. Year 5 and 6 have had cricket tuition as well as the swimming lessons. All this and assessments too. It has been lovely showing Year 2 parents around the school all ready for next year. My office is full of a growing number of hamper items although we are grateful for more so that we have a great hamper offering for the raffle.

I have spoken to the whole team about how this can be an exciting time but also a little dysregulating and to be aware of trying to keep some routines. Next week is even busier and some children may benefit from some quiet time too.



Our Year 5 Christmas Choir this week!

What an experience! Well done to our Year 5 Christmas Choir this week – they sang beautifully to the Warner Bros. Tenants and Executives and were all given a goodie bag. Thank you for representing the school and also a thank you to Jessie's Mum who kindly donated some Santa hats for the children to wear – just magical!

For more photos, please visit <https://www.cassioburyjm.herts.sch.uk/gallery/>

Christmas Postbox is open!

Just a reminder that our post box is available to the pupils until Monday 15th December 2025. Please ensure that the children have written the child's name AND class as it is difficult to deliver cards that have not been addressed correctly. Thank you!

Thank you to our Year 4 parents and carers

Thank you to our Year 4 parents and carers who volunteered their time to help with the Anglo Saxon Day on Tuesday – the children, staff and parents had a lovely time and thank you to those who contributed to this event.

DSPL9 Parent, Carer and Family Newsletter

Please see the link for this week's newsletter - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1v7BkGuFj4LEw1IHE_0tOKzM8Y3wqWUZK/view?usp=sharing

DSPL9 – Workshops

Please see the flyers below regarding the workshops organised by DSPL9.

Online Safety Newsletter – December 2025

Please see below the online safety newsletter for December 2025.

The Snowman – Watford School of Music – Youth Orchestra

The Watford School of Music – Youth Orchestra are performing The Snowman Live in Concert on Sunday 14th December 2025. See flyer below for more information..



Eco Council Message

This week some of our School's Eco Council children have taken part in planting trees near Yr3/4 playground. A huge well-done to the school's Eco Councils for their enthusiastic participation in the tree-planting day. We worked with a zero carbon eco footprint company who donated the trees and provided the manpower.

Free December workshops for Mums, Dads & Carers

See flyer below for more information.

Creative Minds Art Club

Please see the poster below regarding the Creative Minds Art Club for the Spring Term 2026. Please book directly with the club.

Mock Transfer Tests 11+

Please see the Mock Transfer Tests flyer for the Spring Term. To book, please contact Mock Transfer Tests directly.

Navigating the Storm - workshop

Please see the flyer below regarding the free workshop for parents and carers next Tuesday 9th December 2025.



✦ You're Invited to a Magical Afternoon of Fun! ✦

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to invite you and your families to a very special Comedy Magic Show, proudly presented by the Watford Association of Magicians — and hosted as a fundraiser for our School Association (CSA).

This exciting live show will feature talented magicians competing in a fast-paced, comedy-filled performance that promises plenty of laughs and jaw-dropping magic for all ages.



Monday 30th December 2025



3:00pm – 5:00pm



The Henderson Hub, High St, Abbots Langley, WD5 0AR



Tickets: £5 each (all ages welcome – recommended 3 to 93!)

Every ticket sold helps support school projects, activities, and resources for the benefit of our children — so by coming along, you'll be enjoying a fantastic family event and supporting our school at the same time.



Expect comedy, creativity, brilliant magic, and a wonderfully festive afternoon out during the school holidays!

Tickets are limited, so we recommend booking early to avoid disappointment.



Scan the QR code on the poster to secure your seats today.

Thank you for your continued support — we look forward to seeing you there for an afternoon of laughter and magic!

Warm regards,

The Cassiobury School Association Team

Special Mentions

3 Alder - Rico R - for sharing his knowledge and making lots of helpful contributions in our maths lessons this week which focused on angles and **Wiam B** - for being a positive role model during our nativity practise, ensuring that she is listening and singing well.

3 Apple - Zak B - for always being ready to learn and for showing kindness towards others - keep it up! **Anaahat K** - for being resilient with her learning and for taking pride in her work - well done!

3 Ash – Maariya H - for trying hard to improve the presentation in her books - keep it up! **Louis M** - for his brilliant command, question and exclamatory sentences in English this week - well done!

4 Hawthorn – Thieran Y - for always showing kindness and helpfulness around the classroom and **Aritri G** - for working hard at decimals in Maths.

4 Hazel – Zara G-P -for her excellent contributions in all lessons and for consistently asking thoughtful questions that strengthen her learning.

4 Holly - Zackariah E-B - for working hard with his writing and reading his paragraph aloud to the class beautifully and **Raeya P** - for actioning her feedback thoroughly and asking questions when she is unsure.

5 Pear – Joshua W and **Aizah H** for learning all the songs and for their enthusiasm in our Christmas Concert rehearsals.

5 Pine – Esha A - for realising that a maths problem needed further information and using her analytical skills and **Leo G** - for his work with the eco-council helping plant trees and taking the lead.

5 Poplar – Maadhav C, Charlotte J, Reya R - for exemplary behaviour and effort whilst rehearsing this week. Well done!

6 Beech – Meher S - for her focus and resilience in Maths this week when using formal written methods and **Abigail J** - for putting in effort and concentrated thought into her writing this week.

6 Maple - Reyansh D - for his engagement and thought provoking questions during the reading of our guided reading text 'Once.' **Aryanna K** - for her focus and resilience in Maths this week when using formal written methods.

6 Oak – Layla A and Haytham K - for focused work and enthusiasm in sharing their creative ideas in English.

Thank you to..

Ruqaiyah H and Hadi M – 6 Oak – for being excellent Office Monitors this week – thank you!

Well done to..

Sofia B – 3 Ash – for playing the piano to the whole school in Singing Assembly this week – well done.

Farong L – 4 Holly – for playing the violin to the whole school in Singing Assembly this week – well done.

Simran S – 6 Maple – for playing the flute to the whole school in Singing Assembly this week – well done.

Zakariya A – 6 Maple – for playing the clarinet to the whole school in Singing Assembly this week – well done.



Kyle P – 5 Pine – last month Kyle had been given a special mention that he had won the Hertfordshire Futures Tour trophies this season. This also led to him winning the order of merit for 2025. This success for Kyle has resulted in him being mentioned in the recent publication of the Hertfordshire Golf Magazine for 2025 – well done!

Ayd M-C – 3 Ash - has passed stage 2 at swimming and will be commencing stage 3 next – well done!



The School Band, The School Orchestra and The School Recorder Club

– what an amazing array of musical talent you displayed to the whole school in assembly yesterday – well done on your commitment and we hope you continue with your musical journey next year – well done!



Darcie F – 3 Alder - was a triple badge winner at a Pony Club event. The 3 badges represented Points of Tack, Horse Behaviour and Field Kept Ponies – well done!

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Sherry and the School Office Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER 2025	
8 th	Year 3 & 4 Pantomime – see separate correspondence
9 th	Year 5 & 6 Pantomime – see separate correspondence
10 th	Year 5 Christmas Concert for ALL Year 5 children – 6pm – School Hall – see separate correspondence
12 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
12 th	Christmas Jumper Day / Festive Outfit Day / Christmas Dinner Day / Christmas Hamper Draw Day
15 th	Year 3 Nativity Dress Rehearsal to whole school and Year 2
15 th	Year 3 Nativity PM performance – doors open 1.45pm and prompt start at 2pm
16 th	Year 3 Nativity AM performance – doors open at 9.30am and prompt start at 9.45am
19 th	Autumn Term 2025 ends at 1.05pm
JANUARY 2026	
5 th	Inset Day – school closed
6 th	Back to School for the Spring Term 2026
13 th	6 Maple & half of 6 Oak (surname A to K) visit to Bentley Priory Museum, Stanmore – see separate correspondence
14 th	Year 5 visit to Rickmansworth School performance – AM – see separate correspondence
15 th	6 Beech & half of 6 Oak (surname L to T) visit to Bentley Priory Museum, Stanmore – see separate correspondence
16 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
19 th	Watford Foodbank collection week for Harvest
FEBRUARY 2026	
4 th	Young Voices 2026 – Year 6
6 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
16 th – 20 th	Half Term
MARCH 2026	
6 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
12 th to 17 th	Book Fair – open to parents and children
19 th	Year 3 Science Workshop
23 rd	Year 6 Ben Kinsella Trip – 6 Maple
24 th	Year 6 Ben Kinsella Trip – 6 Oak

24 th	Year 3 St Luke's Church visit
25 th	SEND Support Plan Meetings after school
26 th	Year 6 Ben Kinsella Trip - 6 Beech
27 th	Spring Term 2026 ends @ 1.05pm
APRIL 2026	
13 th	Back to school for the Summer Term 2026
17 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
MAY 2026	
4 th	Bank Holiday
8 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
25 th – 29 th	Half Term
JUNE 2026	
5 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
JULY 2026	
3 rd	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
23 rd	Summer Term 2026 ends @ 1.05pm
SEPTEMBER 2026	
1 st	Inset Day – school closed
2 nd	Inset Day – school closed
3 rd	Autumn Term starts
OCTOBER 2026	
23 rd	Author Visit – Paterson Joseph visiting – see School Gateway
26 th – 30 th	Half Term
NOVEMBER 2026	
27 th	Occasional Day – school closed
DECEMBER 2026	
18 th	Autumn Term 2026 ends at 1.05pm
JANUARY 2027	
4 th	Inset Day – school closed
5 th	Spring Term 2027 starts
FEBRUARY 2027	
15 th – 19 th	Half Term
MARCH 2027	
24 th	SEND Support Plan Meetings after school
25 th	Spring Term 2027 ends at 1.05pm
APRIL 2027	
12 th	Summer Term 2027 starts
MAY 2027	
31 st – 4 th June 2027	Half Term
JUNE 2027	
25 th	Inset Day – school closed
JULY 2027	
21 st	Summer Term 2027 ends at 1.05pm
22 nd	Inset Day – school closed

Online Safety Newsletter

December 2025

AI Chatbots and companions

A simple search of "AI Chat" within the App store highlights the number of AI apps already available, many are rated as 18+ so it is important to speak to our children about them and the risks associated with them. Examples of AI chatbots that your child may have heard of are Character.AI (18+) and My AI from Snapchat (13+).

What are the risks?

- Over reliance on AI companions, for example they may replace 'real life' friendships or over reliance on using them for homework or problem solving.
- Exposure to inappropriate content.
- Privacy/data risks.
- Misinformation as not all information shared is correct and can be biased.

How can I protect my child?

- Check age ratings of any apps or websites that your child accesses.
- Discuss the risks of AI chatbots with them and have open conversations about why they may be using them.
- Set up appropriate parental controls on their devices/ broadband.
- Chat to your child regularly and ensure your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/newsroom/blogs/ai-chatbots-and-companions-risks-to-children-and-young-people>

New Technology

As some children may be receiving new technology or related games at Christmas, here is a quick reminder of the importance of setting up appropriate parental controls.



Games/Consoles

- Check age ratings: look at the PEGI rating of any new games. *Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check to see if it has any communication elements.*
- If a game does allow your child to communicate with others, then adjust or disable the settings as appropriate to your child.
- On the device itself, set up applicable controls such as restricting spending limits. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for popular devices here:

Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>

PSS: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>

Nintendo Switch: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-2-Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-2873385.html>

Tablets/Smart phones

Set up parental controls on the device to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Furthermore, remember to check any apps your child requests to check that they are suitable for their age. Follow the links below to find out more:

iPhones/iPad: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/105121>

Android Device: <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

The Safety-First Smartphone

The Other phone is a new smartphone, which includes "SafetyMode" software. The software automatically blocks nudity, profanity, and bullying language in real time. You can find out more here: <https://otherphone.co.uk/>.

Smart Phone Free Childhood also list some alternatives that you could consider here: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/alternatives>.

Please note, that the inclusion of these models does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. While these devices may provide a 'safer' alternative to traditional smartphones, there are still potential risks associated with children using any type of phone.

Roblox

Following a recent ITV investigation*, which found extremist content on Roblox, we thought we would provide a reminder of what you need to be aware of. Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Players can either create games or play games that other users have created. It is free to download (however subscription options and in game/app purchases are available) and can be played across numerous devices. **A lot of the content is user generated, which means not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play.** If your child is playing Roblox, it is important to monitor what your child is accessing and set up appropriate parental controls. **PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance label, this is because it is considered a platform with a huge level of user generated content.**

What should I be aware of?

Game content – as mentioned, users create games so the content/themes may not be appropriate for your child. Roblox label content based on the type of content rather than by age. The labels are Minimal, Mild, Moderate and Restricted.

Chat Facility - Players can chat with each other (users under the age of 13 need parent permission to access certain chat features though). You can turn communication off completely or add restrictions, such as only able to communicate with friends.

Virtual Currency - Players can buy Robux (their virtual currency) to buy in-game upgrades or accessories.

How do I report abuse and block users?

This article outlines the different reporting facilities:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/203312410-How-to-Report-Rule-Violations>

What else can I do?

Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and remind your child that if anything is worrying them, then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/roblox>

(*Source: <https://www.itv.com/news/2025-11-14/mosque-attacks-and-far-right-skins-roblox-teens-exposed-to-extremist-content>)

Signal Private Messenger

Signal is rated as 13+ on the App store. It is a messaging app, where users can text, send voice messages and photos plus participate in group chats and calls. There are no parental controls currently available. As with all messaging apps, the risks can include bullying and viewing inappropriate content. Find out more here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.12.25. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership or copyright in the content of the linked materials.

Discord

Discord is a social networking app originally designed for gamers but is now used by lots of different people to **chat to each other online.** The minimum age to access Discord is 13. The App store rates it as 17+.

Discord is made up of servers, which are spaces for groups to chat, upload files and share images etc. Anybody can set up a server, and they can either be public or private. Users can video call and send direct messages to other individuals or groups. Children who play online games such as Fortnite may use Discord to chat whilst playing the game (**rather than using the game's own chat facility**). In-app purchases are available through Discord's subscription service called Nitro.

How can I make it safer?

Discord have created a Family Centre, which provides further information about what Discord is, as well as information about different safety settings available:

<https://discord.com/safety-family-center>

As always, we would encourage you to chat to your child to see why they use Discord and ensure that they know how to block users and what to do if they see any inappropriate content. It is important to be aware that Discord does include video/voice calling which cannot be filtered. **Discord is used by an array of users and therefore adult content can be found on Discord as well as inappropriate language.** Discord have produced this article, which answers frequent questions: <https://discord.com/safety/360044149591-answering-parents-and-educators-top-questions>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version:
<https://www.knowsleydcs.org.uk/deceember-2025-primary/>

Navigating the storm

Free workshop for parents and carers

For many parents, managing their teenager's behaviour can prove a particularly challenging time when raising children. This workshop aims to give parents effective strategies to identify and respond appropriately, so that they are better equipped to help their teen navigate and regulate their emotions during times of extreme distress or otherwise.

When

Tuesday 9th December 2025

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Online via MS Teams



Scan Me!

To book your place:

- **Please scan our QR code to use our online referral form**
- **Or call Lesley on 020 4522 8701**

We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk

Funded by
Hertfordshire
County Council



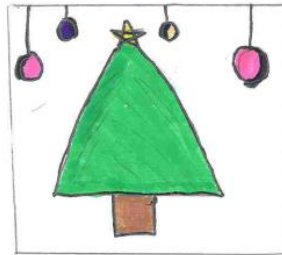
Family Lives is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 3817762. Registered charity No. 1077722.
Registered address: The Annex York House, Salisbury Square, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 5AD

How to have an eco-friendly Christmas?



What is happening in the world?

For many years, people have been buying real trees for Christmas which is destroying the planet due to deforestation. This is not good and needs to stop. Read on to find out more about how to have an Eco Friendly Christmas.



What can and what do people do?

People now are starting to use reusable Christmas trees for their homes. This is an amazing contribution to help the Earth. So what do you think? Are you going to help the Earth this Christmas?

How can we help Earth at Christmas?

We can help Earth at Christmas by using reusable Christmas trees (trees which aren't real). This is so that people don't have to chop down trees every year for others. You can also make your own wrapping paper to wrap your presents. Wrapping paper wastes trees which harms the Earth so use efficient methods to help Christmas stay Eco-Friendly every year!

By Ruqayyah Hussain
Class = 6.01k

Gift bag magic

Gift bags can be reused for the next Christmas that is coming. If you have a gift bag from last year, you can reuse it, put your gifts you want to give, and give it to someone else! That way, you can save trees and money too!





Dear Colleagues

Apologies, we made an error on dates in the booking form for our December workshops which are coming up very soon. Workshops are open to all mums, dads and carers in Hertfordshire and are fully funded by Herts County Council:

All Feelings Matter

- Wednesday 10 December 9.30am – 11.30am
- Wednesday 10 December 7.00pm – 9.00pm

[Please click here for the poster....](#)

Communication

- Thursday 11 December 9.30am – 11.30am

[Please click here for the poster....](#)

There are two more workshops in January.

Booking

There is one online booking form for all workshops using this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/dTwHKe8yaM> or QR code





The Watford Association of
Magicians
proudly presents:
The Kids' Competition

Magic Show

December 30th 2025

3pm-5pm

Fun for ages from 3-93

All tickets £5 each



The Henderson Hub High St. Abbots Langley. WD5 0AR

For KS2 students
in
Yr 3 to Yr 6

£12 per class (Pay in
advance for the term)

All material will be
provided



CREATIVE MINDS ART CLUB

After School Art Club at
Cassiobury Junior School

Monday 3.20-4.30pm

You will:

- learn painting and drawing techniques
- use a variety of medium
- create your own fantastic artwork

To book please contact
Namita Jain via email at
njain212@gmail.com or via
phone at 07976967824

*Hurry up, spaces are
limited!*



Mock Transfer Tests 11+

When a helping hand is all you need



11+ After School Club

Enrol Now For January Classes

Yr 4 class & Yr 5 class

Monday 3.15pm – 4.30pm

- Considering tutoring for the 11+?
- MTT runs After School Classes for Yr4 & Yr5
- Qualified teachers & experienced TA in each class.
- Structured proven programme for the SW Herts Tests
- Discounted rate for Cassiobury families

To enrol, use the QR code below and complete the enrolment form

www.mocktransfertestests.co.uk

enquiries@mocktransfertestests.co.uk Tel:: 07785 770801



Winter Timetable

Upcoming Healthy Families Programme Dates - Hertfordshire (Starting w/c 26th January)

Mondays

In Person (Morning)

 Starting 26th January

 10am - 12noon

 High Trees Family Centre,
Broxbourne, EN10 6AE
(c/o Hertford Regional
College, Broxbourne
Centre)

Tuesdays

Online (Morning)

 Starting 27th January

 10am - 11.15am

 Online

Wednesdays

Online (Morning)

 Starting 28th January

 10am - 11.15am

 Online

Wednesdays

Online (Evening)

 Starting 28th January

 5.30pm - 6.45pm

 Online

All programmes run for 8 weeks with a break.

Free crèche facilities available for in-person sessions.



Beezee
in Hertfordshire

Find out more:

 01707 248648

 herfordshire@henry.org.uk

 www.henry.org.uk/hertfordshire





FOR PARENTS & CARERS

HEALTHY FAMILIES: RIGHT FROM THE START

FREE 8-SESSION PROGRAMME

**SIGN UP
TODAY!**

Helping families give their little ones the best start in life.

A unique programme supporting parents and carers of children aged 0–5 to:

- Build skills to support your parenting journey with confidence.
- Discover simple fun ways to keep your little ones active.
- Explore healthy meals and snacks that work for the whole family.
- Create family routines that support a balanced, happy lifestyle.
- Strengthen family bonds and make everyday moments special – together.

Programme details:

Upcoming programmes start

the week commencing 26 January 2026:

- **Mondays** (in person): 10am–12 noon, Broxbourne
- **Tuesdays** (online): 10am–11.15am
- **Wednesdays** (online): 10am–11.15am or 5.30pm–6.45pm

Find more details and book your free place at www.henry.org.uk/hertfordshire.



You'll also receive a **FREE** toolkit packed with resources to help you along the way.

© HENRY 2024. All rights reserved.

Find out more:

- ☎ 01707 248648
- ✉ herfordshire@henry.org.uk
- 🌐 www.henry.org.uk/hertfordshire



Beezee
in Hertfordshire

In partnership with:



Our **FREE 12 week in-person and online programmes**
start on week commencing 19th January 2026



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
BOREHAMWOOD Aberford Park Community Centre, WD6 1PN 4:30 - 6:30pm	WATFORD Holywell Community Centre Chaffinch Lane, WD18 9QD 5:30 - 7:30pm	STEVENAGE Oval Community Centre SG1 5RD 5:30 - 7:30pm	WALTHAM CROSS St Joseph's Church 204 High Street, EN8 7DP 4:30 - 6:30pm
** NO SESSION **	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Hobletts Manor Junior School HP2 5JS 5:00 - 7:00pm	HATFIELD Birchwood Avenue Primary School, AL10 0PS 5:00 - 7:00pm	** NO SESSION **
ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm	** NO SESSION **



hrt.maximusuk.co.uk

Sign up today!

@ BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648



Our programmes are for children above their ideal weight, see our website for more information.

24-0547



Our online group sessions start on:

Date: Wednesday 28th Jan 26 & weekly after

Time: Starts at 6pm and ends at 7pm

Ready to make a change?

The first step starts with you

Join our **FREE** 8-week health and wellbeing programme. It's made with the help of young people, for young people. This is a chance for you to talk about topics that matter to you.

Achieving Goals

Body Image

Communication

Exam Stress

Motivation

Physical Activity

Relationships

Self-Love



Sign up for your
FREE PLACE
today



hrt.maximusuk.co.uk

@ BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648



Our programmes are for 13 to 17-year-olds, see our website for more information.

24-0882