

8th December 2023

Upton Primary Newsletter

Upton upon Severn CofE Primary, Nursery and Riverboats SureStart Children's Centre, working together to support the local community



Our School Vision is to offer inspiration to young lives 'Anything is possible, we can all succeed'

Providing enriching experiences to foster aspiration 'To inspire ... To aspire'

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13)

BIBLE QUOTE

Matthew 19:14 - Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

CHRISTMAS AND THE COMMUNITY



Our Christmas tree, donated by the Upton Mayor Cllr Shirley Dobbin, has been bringing joy with its twinkling lights setting a very festive scene on the stage for the backdrop of our Christmas festivities. This time of year is a particularly special time for all our children and we ensure that throughout the school the understanding of the spiritual essence of the Christmas story is understood. On Thursday of this week Reverend Barry Unwin led the assembly to share how important it is that our children accept gifts freely and without any sense of having to repay. He explained to the children the bible quote that we have used for this week and how important their role is as children of God.

The children thoroughly enjoyed Reverend Unwin's assembly and everybody was most eager to participate.

As the excitement builds through school, the rehearsals for our Boogie Woogie Nativity saw the entire school be treated to the formal dress rehearsal today. This created a wave of excitement in every class and some teachers reported to me that they found the high level of excitement starting to build most infectious.

CAMEO SENIORS - UPTON BAPTIST CHURCH

On Tuesday our choir were invited to the Upton Baptist Church to sing at the Cameo Seniors Christmas lunch. The children sang lots of songs, both traditional carols and more modern songs,

with entertainment and enthusiasm. We love opportunities to take our children out in the community and this was a lovely occasion for our children to know they had brought some Christmas spirit to local people.



OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Operation Encompass is a very special process that supports any child or young person who may be impacted by domestic abuse. Domestic abuse can take many forms and on our website there is a link ([Help and Support for Families](#)) to the Worcestershire authority support network if you are impacted by any form of domestic abuse. If you feel you would rather not get help through this service and would like to have support from someone in school, you can book an appointment to see our named Operation Encompass lead (Mrs Julie Wills) via the school office.

Operation Encompass is a report that is generated by the Police if any child or young person is known by them to have experienced domestic abuse in any setting. In this way it means that the services all work closely together and are able to support the children in our care. Earlier today we sent out a parent letter by email to the whole school community. This can also be located on our website via the following link, together with further information: [Operation Encompass](#)

COVID-19 - UPDATED GUIDELINES

We are seeing an increasing problem throughout our school with Covid cases on the rise and also with cold and sickness bugs. Unfortunately the Covid increase has impacted both children and staff and we have had a significant number of absences throughout the last few weeks. I would like to remind parents that if their child is so poorly they require Calpol prior to coming into school to manage the day, our advice has been from our first aid team that these children are not actually fit enough to be in school. Covid -19 does present a very low risk to children and below we have added in the information for you regarding the current guidelines. There is no need for children to be absent from school if they are well enough to attend but it is those children who require medication to see them through the day that should be given the opportunity to fully recover prior to returning to school.

Can my child go to school if they have Covid-19 symptoms?

- As COVID-19 presents a low risk to children and young people, combined with high vaccination rates in the population, there are no longer specific rules relating to it in [schools](#), colleges, [childcare](#) and other education settings.
- Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to go to school, college or childcare.

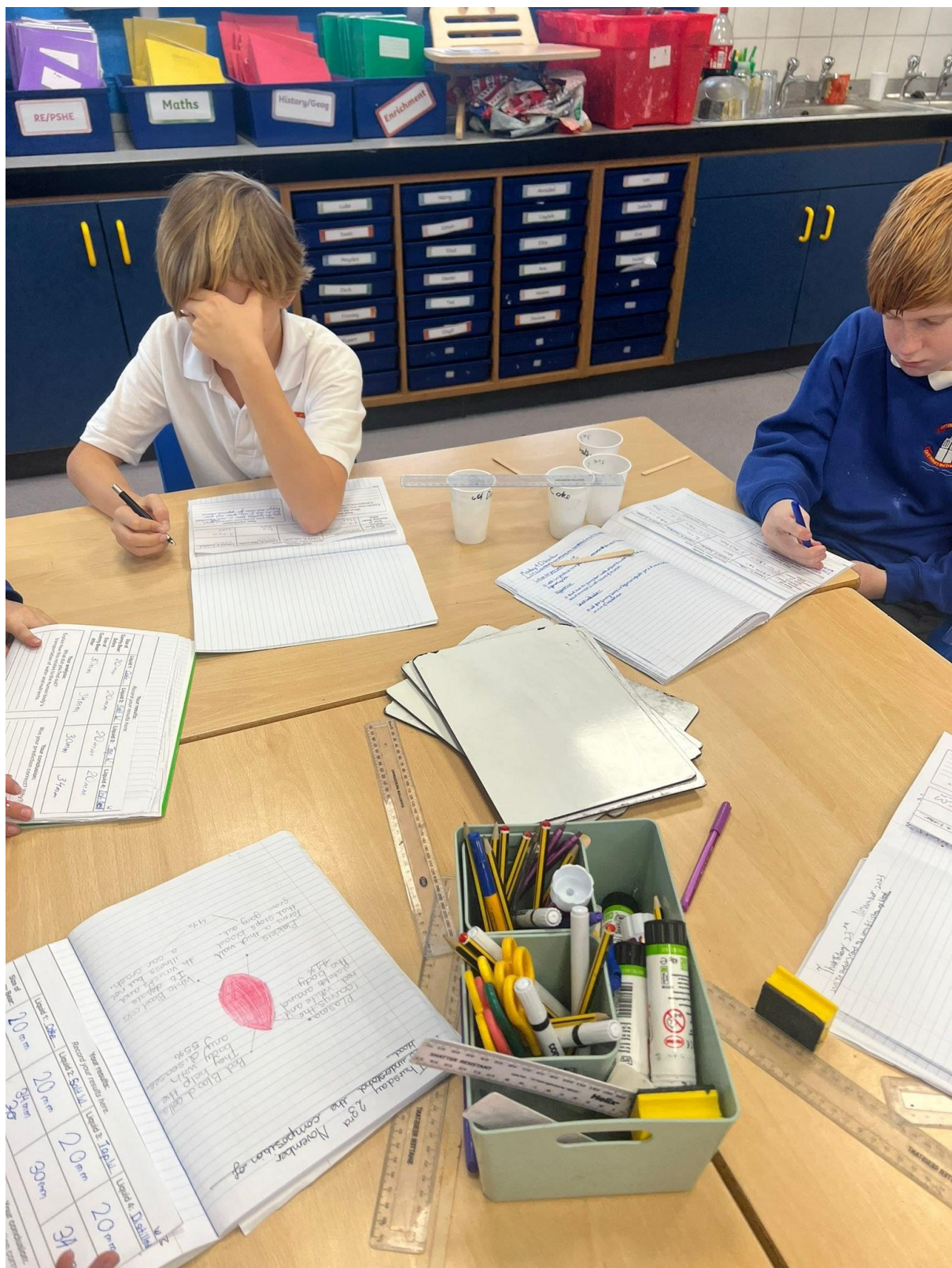
- However, those who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.
- It can be difficult to know when to seek help if your child is unwell. If you are worried about your child, especially if they are aged under 2 years old, then you should seek medical help.

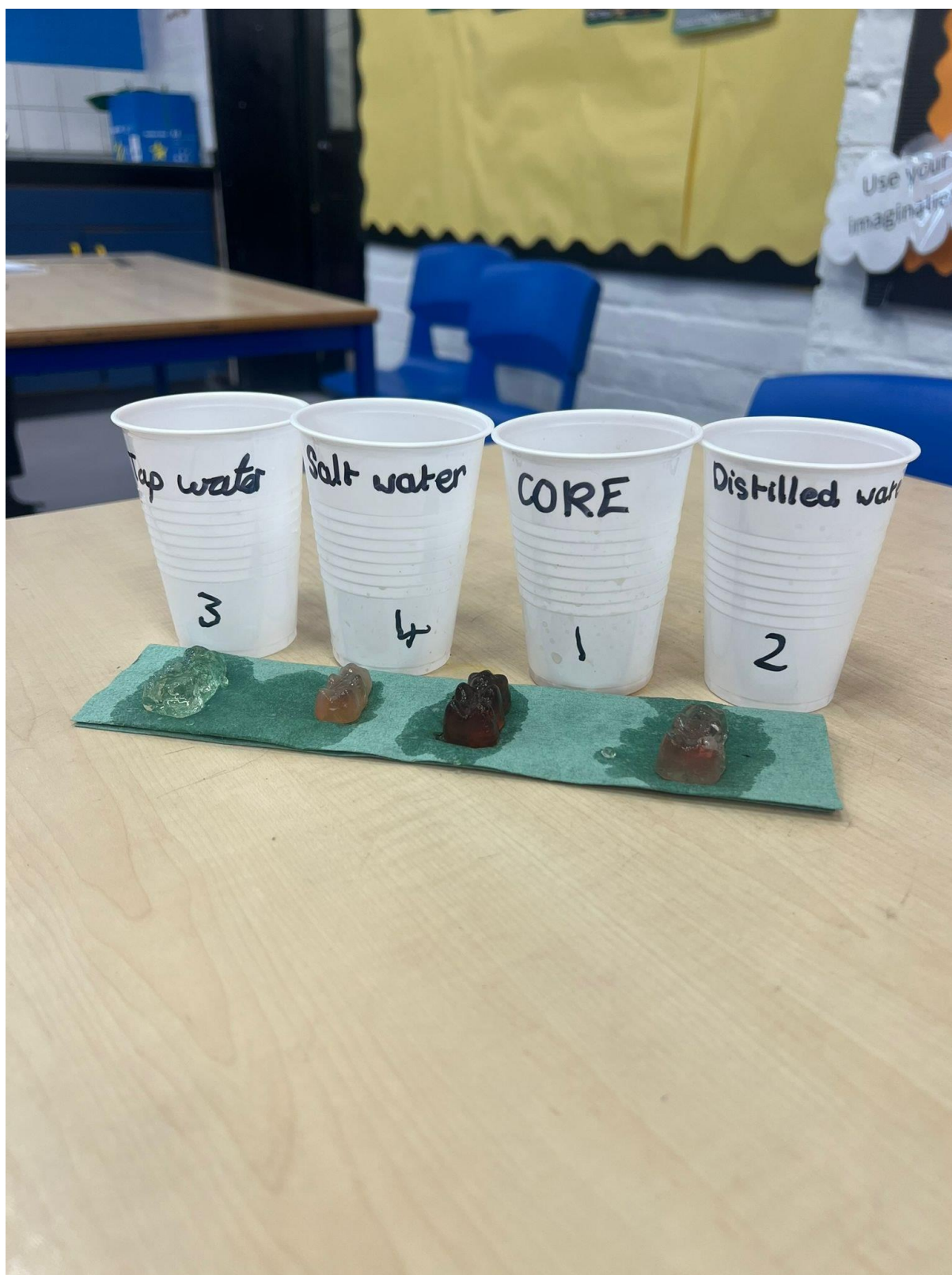
The UKHSA has also published public health guidance on [living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19](#).

YEAR 6

SCIENCE

In science this week Year 6 have been learning about osmosis and how nutrients are absorbed into the blood stream and carried around the body. They conducted an experiment so see the effects of different liquids on absorption into gummy bears. It was interesting to see that full sugar coke absorbed most, increasing the bear's size by a significant amount. They concluded that high sugar products are absorbed rapidly by the body to be used as instant energy.





ber
nutrients are
the body.

it in different

y bears in the
stilled water
d and the gummy
ber and coke

to be n and put in
out water, coke,
tap water and
over 24 hours.

Your results:

Record your results here.

	Liquid 1: Coke	Liquid 2: distilled	Liquid 3: Tap water	Liquid 4: Seawater
Size of Gummy Bear: Before	20mm	20mm	20mm	16mm
Size of Gummy Bear: After	31mm	33mm	32mm	25mm

Your analysis:

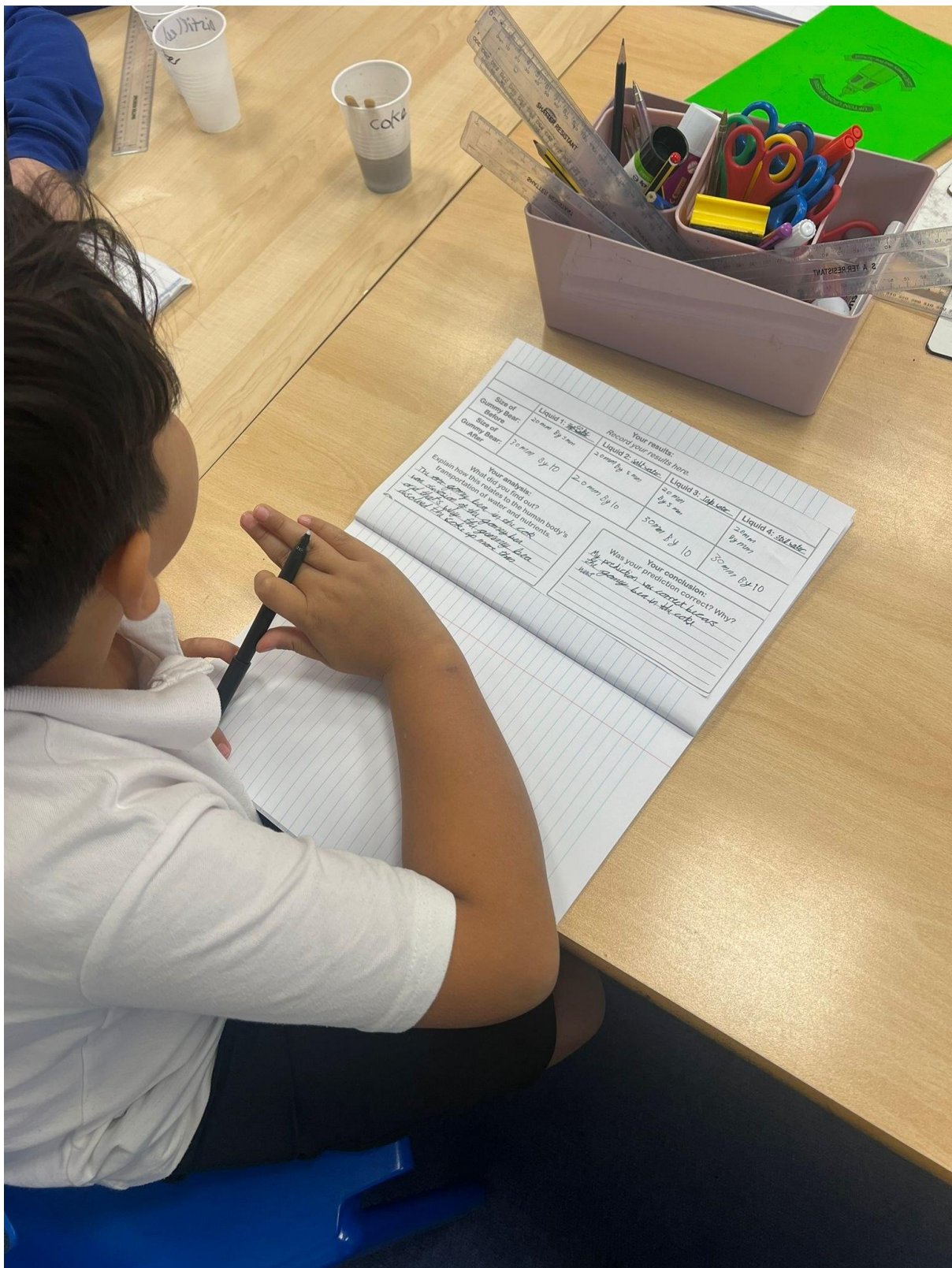
What did you find out?

Explain how this relates to the human body's transportation of water and nutrients.

The gummy bear in the salt water

Your conclusion:

Was your prediction correct? Why?



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (DT)

Year 6 have really enjoyed their DT project this half term. They were tasked with making a Christmas waistcoat for a teddy. The children have really enjoyed learning how to design, plan, cut and sew to create a lovely waistcoat. They finished the project with a catwalk parade showcasing their work. Next they will be evaluating their waistcoats to see how they could improve them for next time.



<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/oq4UWW0NY3eetC2G#content=hHE5eVV31m4wtt>

























COMMUNITY NOTICES

FINAL CLINICS FOR NASAL FLU VACCINATION

The Worcestershire Immunisation Team have a final catch-up clinic which will be taking place on **9th December 2023 from 9.00am to 1.00pm** in **WORCESTER** and **KIDDERMINSTER** for those parents that have missed the opportunity to consent for the vaccination. This is to be offered to all children from **Reception to Year 11 (ALL SPECIAL SCHOOL STUDENTS)**. These final clinics will be by **APPOINTMENT ONLY**.

The flu nasal spray will NOT be accessible after the **15th December** from any provider/service, so this will be the final opportunity to administer the flu nasal sprays/IM this year.

The exact location of these clinics will be told to the parent/carer upon booking.

THE BIG AMBITION

As The Big Ambition response has been amazing from all nursery, primary and secondary schools across England the closing date has been extended to **Friday 19th January 2024** to allow even more children the chance to have their say. This will give children and young people an extra month over the festive season to take part in 'The Big Ambition'.

Children and parents can complete the survey here:

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

It only takes 5-10 minutes and can be completed in assemblies, form times, PSHE or in other lessons in the run up to Christmas or when you come back in January.

'The Big Ambition' provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell policy makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election.

Let's make sure that the children and young people of Worcestershire are represented in the results.





A healthy start for
a brighter future



Are mealtimes stressful?

Is your child's fussy eating taking its
toll? Would you like to have more fun
and less nagging?

If you answer yes to this, would you like to...

- Feel more confident as a parent?
- Reduce mealtime stress?
- Encourage your family to be more
active/healthy?
- Help reduce screen time?



Come along to our free group for parents/carers...

Where: Sunshine Family Hub, WR14 3SW

When: Friday 19th January 2024 for 8 weeks (excluding half term)

Time: 9.30-11.30am

For more information or to book a place please contact Louise Moriarty on 07793803501

Or louise.moriarty@actionforchildren.org.uk

