



## **Welcome to the October Housing Newsletter**

There is a lots going on over the half term with free lunches for school children for families that are worried about affording food for children over the half term. Half term sports are back with Football & 3 Sixty Dance Academy. Download the poster to stop unwanted knocks on the door at Halloween.

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# Little Lunch Club

Monday 23  
October until Friday  
27 October 2023.



## Little Lunches

FREE nutritious, freshly made children's lunches are available daily from Projects Store, for school-aged children from low-income families living in Winchester City and District, who receive free school meals. These are also available for families who are worried about affording food for their children throughout the Half Term. Just ask Projects' Staff for the Little Lunch Club menu. Want to stay and play? Kids craft activities available. No need to book. Available Monday 23 October until Friday 27 October 2023. Just ask staff for a Little Lunch Club menu.

Projects Store & Kitchen 6 Middle Brook St, Winchester SO23 8BQ

**Special dietary requirements?** Use link below to direct message Projects Café ahead of your visit and they'll happily cater to your needs.

[www.instagram.com/projectsstore](https://www.instagram.com/projectsstore)

**Can't get to Projects?** No problem! Families from participating schools\* can collect a food parcel from their school instead from 18 October. Each parcel contains ingredients for 10 x Little Lunches. Yum!

\*Sun Hill Jr. School, Kings Worthy Primary, Weeke Primary, Stanmore Primary, Winnall Primary, Bishop Waltham Jr. School

# WINTER SWITCH ON

Don't get caught out this summer, get ready for winter and check your boiler!



## Switch on your heating

Don't get caught out this summer, get ready for winter and check your boiler! Every October we see an increase in the number of boiler breakdowns. This is usually because when the system has been inactive for a long period, such as during the summer months, the boiler can lose its internal pressure.

We want to make sure you're ready for winter, so we're asking you to test your boiler now. Our contractors are less busy over the summer months, so we can deal with any issues faster now, than we can when demand is high in October/November.

**We would ask you to test your heating system following steps 1 – 7 below:**

1. If you have a pre-payment meter, make sure your gas meter has credit on it.
2. Turn your time clock heating control to “constant” or “24hr”.
3. Turn your wall thermostat up, so your heating switches on.
4. Turn all your radiator valves open to maximum.
5. Run the heating for 15 - 30 minutes and check your radiators are all getting hot.
6. Check for water leaks on radiators.
7. Turn room thermostat back down and reset your time clock back to how it was previously set.

If your heating system doesn't come on or develops a fault as part of these tests, please raise a repair via the on line portal [My Winchester Tenancy email](#) or by calling 01962 848 400

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## October Half Term Football & 3 Sixty Dance Academy

This October, Winchester City Council in partnership with ActiveMe 360 and Cyclife Aquila Nuclear are providing football and 3SIXTY Dance Academy sessions at various locations across the Winchester district. If you want to keep active, make new friends and have fun during half term, then why not book on to one of our sessions.

The football and 3Sixty Dance Academy will be running at various sites across Winchester. For 5-13 years, from 24 October – 27 October, for £2 per session.

To book football click [here](#) and 3Sixty Dance Academy click [here](#)

For further information [visit the website](#)

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## Jobs Fair

### Plenty of advice and opportunities on offer at district jobs Fair

Those seeking employment and career development can explore new possibilities and options at Winchester City Council's next [Jobs and Opportunities Fair](#).

The free fair, run in partnership with Winchester Jobcentre, will take place at Winchester Sport and Leisure Park on Thursday 23 November 2023 and district residents are invited to attend between 10am and 1pm.

A range of employers will be represented including Peter Symonds College, Sparsholt College, Hampshire Police, the University of Winchester, South Central Ambulance Service, Hampshire Cultural Trust and the Nationwide Building Society, alongside organisations offering support such as Community First, the National Careers Service and Winchester Citizens Advice.

Training opportunities, CV advice and information and support about the rise of the cost of living will also be on offer.

Winchester Sport and Leisure Park can be reached on foot or bike via pedestrian and cycle links from the city centre, via National Cycle Network 23 and Domum Road. It is also serviced by the Winchester Park & Ride service; the bus stop for the Leisure Park is located on Barfield Close and is

just a couple of minutes' walk from the entrance. There will be parking on site for disabled visitors, otherwise, attendees are advised to use the Barfield or St Catherine's [Park and Ride](#) car parks.

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## **Fabric of Winchester**

Join us for a FREE Community Sewing Day as part of St John's Winchester 'The Fabric of Winchester'.

We're inviting residents to share in the joy and creativity of storytelling through a Community Sewing Day, hosted by St John's, Winchester, where you'll have the opportunity to stitch or sew your very own quilt 'block' for inclusion on a Memory Quilts.

Never sewn before? No problem! Volunteers and expert sewers will provide valuable guidance, and sewing machines are also available for use on a first come first served basis.

### **How will it work?**

The Community Sewing Day is broken into back-to-back two-hour sessions, though if you find yourself needing more time towards the end of a session, you're welcome to stay for longer (dependent on capacity restrictions).

Community Sewing Days are a chance for the community to come together, so refreshments are available at all sessions, and a friendly face to welcome you.

On hand to help will be resident 'Memory Artist', [Katy Rundle](#), who can guide participants in the translation of their ideas into a distinct block design. Members of the Wessex Quiltmakers and textile students from the School of Art will also be on-hand to assist with any technical or artistic questions.

### **What should I bring?**

A small selection of fabric, threads and sewing materials will be provided, but attendees are advised to bring anything they have at home to the sessions. Any donations of materials or sewing kits to the project will also be much appreciated, as they will enable those with limited supplies to participate in the project.

The Community Sewing Day is free to attend but registrations are essential.

Click [here](#) to register for the Community Sewing Day.

For further information visit [The Fabric if Winchester website](#)



## **Halloween stay safe!**

Happy Halloween! Follow these simple tips to keep you and others safe. If you don't want trick or treaters to knock at your door, download [this poster](#) to let them know.

Follow these tips to stay safe:

- Keep all fancy dress costumes away from naked flames
- Use LED candles in pumpkins – they don't blow out and they are much safer



- Burns and scalds last a lifetime. Remember if clothing does catch fire, stop, drop and roll until the fire is out
- In an emergency cool any burns with large amounts of water and get urgent medical assistance

Find out more [here](#):

Stay safe this Halloween - follow these simple [tips and tricks](#) to keep the night a real treat:

Please respect those who display 'no trick or treat' signs

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## Know what to do in the event of a fire

Knowing what to do in the event of a fire and understanding how to reduce fire risks at home will keep you and your neighbours safe, and potentially save your life.

Please report any concerns about fire safety in your home in the following ways:

- Visit [www.winchester.gov.uk/fire-concern](http://www.winchester.gov.uk/fire-concern) (if you don't have an account simply use the guest option)
  - Phone Housing on 01962 848 400
  - Email [housing@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:housing@winchester.gov.uk)
  - Talk to a tenant representative from TACT – call the Tenant Involvement Team on Freephone 0800 716 987
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## My Winchester Tenancy

It's never been easier to access our services at the touch of a button, saving you time waiting on the phone.

You can now access the following services:

- Check your account balance
- View and print rent statements
- Report a non-urgent repair
- Check repair appointments
- Make payments
- Update your personal information
- Send and receive messages

Click [here](#) to register for this quick 24/7 service.

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If you have any comments on this newsletter or any suggestions on what you would like to hear about please contact us by [email](#)

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