

Monthly SCC Newsletter

April 2023



Service Children's Network

Our termly meetings are open to both Headteachers and any other member of staff who act as 'Service Children Advocates' at your school or organisation. Please continue reading to find out what is in store for our Summer Term meeting!

Social Media



Please follow, like and share our new social media accounts.



servicechildrenschampion@northyorks.gov.uk



Contact us at our shared email address



Events



Month of the Military Child 2023

A big **thank you** to all of you who promoted our Photo Challenge with your school communities. We had lots of entries and can't wait to share them on our social media this month. We will also be visiting 6 children who submitted entries and were selected by our judges for special recognition.

Please feel free to share with us the ways in which your school community is celebrating the Month of the Military Child by tagging us in your social media posts.

Armed Forces Day for Children 2023

Capt. Andrew Green has been instrumental in organising this year's event and we are really excited after hearing some of the plans that have been put in place.

Schools have shared with us their plans to attend and we expect there to be just over **1000 children** taking part.

We will sharing further updates with you as soon as possible regarding timings, transport arrangements and other key information.

On the next two pages please see the forecast of events (TBC) for Armed Forces Day for Children 2023.

Scan this QR Code to access our Service Children Champion recommended books that could be shared with your parents this April



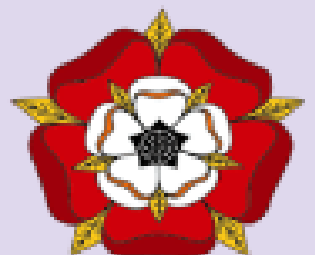
Save THE Date

**ARMED FORCES DAY
FOR CHILDREN**

WED | JUNE 21 | 10am
2023



**CATTERICK GARRISON
YPRES LINES**





ARMED FORCES DAY FOR CHILDREN

Proposed Activities

1.	The Scots Guards will be running an Infantry Weapons, camouflage and concealment, sniper stand.
2.	5 Medical Regiment will be running a practical 1st aid / 1st responder stand.
3.	1 Military Intelligence Battalion will be running a stand which challenges the children to problem solve.
4.	The Royal Artillery will be showcasing some large artillery pieces (big guns!), air radar and other cool kit.
5.	32 Engineer Regiment will be doing a mock minefield clearance exercise.
6.	521 Explosive Ordnance sqn will be running a bomb disposal stand.
7.	6 Royal Logistic Corps will be bringing some large trucks and fuel tankers.
8.	The RAF will be doing a space sentry, radar stand with VR headsets.
9.	The Royal Military Police will be doing a policing / personal safety stand.
9.	There will be Military Chefs providing food.
10.	Operation Ice cream will be there!

Get Involved...

Little Troopers gets ready to celebrate the 'Month of the Military Child'

April is the international month of the military child and charity Little Troopers wants military families and schools to join in the celebrations!

Head to the Little Troopers website to download and take part in fun activities with military children of all ages, helping them to reflect on how special it is to grow up with a parent in British Armed Forces. All the activities are dandelion-themed, the official flower of the military child - a plant that is strong and resilient and blooms anywhere the wind carries it.

At School

Little Troopers has created a special Military Child school pack with activities suitable for both primary and secondary schools. Help children reflect on their journey so far as a military child, make dandelion and lemon biscuits in class, read the dandelion poem together, do some mindful colouring or get the children to run their own assembly all about military life and the Month of the Military Child.

At Home

Families can choose to get involved in dandelion-themed art, recipes, colouring-in sheets and dandelion playdough. As a special gift, Little Troopers will be giving away a free seeded postcard featuring the Dandelion poem.

Little Troopers has organised three free live online events aimed at younger little troopers (under 10) during the month. Places for each event are limited, so families are encouraged to book early:

4th April: Rainforest Discovery with ZooLab

8th April: Creative art base

22nd April: Bake-a-long with Cookstars

There will social media giveaways throughout the month and Little Troopers will also be launching a special new book for pre-schoolers - watch this space!

The next edition of the Little Troopers Gazette will also launch in April. The free newspaper, which is printed twice a year, is packed with stories written by military children along with news, fun facts and other activities. Families and schools can now order free copies.

For more information and to get involved visit www.littletroopers.net/month-of-the-military-child



Get Involved...

Spouse Force Catterick

Spouse Force Catterick are organising regular meet & greets, events & opportunity workshops for military families. They are hosting a The Great Catterick Garrison Bake Off over the Easter holidays so please share this information with your school community so that they can reach as many people as possible especially those who have been recently posted to the area.



Spouse Force Website



ENTER HERE



The Great Catterick Garrison **BAKE OFF**

WEDNESDAY 12TH APRIL

CAST BUILDING - BEHIND ALDI

FREE ENTRY

Categories

- Mini Bake 0-5
- Junior Bake 5-11
- Spend £10 or less
- Spend £15 or less
- Spend £25 or less

**BAKE AT HOME DROP OFF FROM
12:30 FOR JUDGING AT 14:00**





servicechildrenschampion@northyorks.gov.uk



Contact us at
our new
email address



Events



Service Children Advocates

Do you currently have a member of pastoral staff who supports your Service children in school? We are hoping to work with these amazing 'Service Children Advocates' and host events where they can talk and share ideas. These meetings will be hybrid allowing your advocate to attend either in person or remotely and will be scheduled for the end of the school day to limit the time away from school where they are most needed. Watch this space!

Summer SCN Meeting

We are excited to say that Little Troopers, Reading Force and Spouse Force are joining us for our Summer meeting to talk about all the work that they do to support Military families and the ways in which schools can also access resources that can be use to support pupils.

Cambrai Primary School has kindly offered us a space for Service Children Network attendees to meet in person should you prefer to join the meeting in that way. It would be a good opportunity to share ideas and knowledge on support available for families. If you would like to attend in person please let Jess know in advance so we can let the office staff know who to expect.

The meeting will simultaneously run on TEAMS as well so that those colleagues that are further away geographically can still participate and not miss out on what is becoming a really vibrant and well-attended meeting.



Scan this QR Code to access a video which can be shared with Service Children Advocates at your school to explain the format of our termly meetings.





Our supporters



Updates



Armed Forces Covenant

As many of you will already be aware, the Armed Forces Covenant is **'a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly.'**

North Yorkshire Council was one of the first Local Authorities to sign the Covenant, and is also one of 16 LAs working with the MOD to improve the experience and outcomes of children of UK Armed Forces families (MODLAP). As part of the move to the unitary council, North Yorkshire has developed a new policy on the Armed Forces Covenant and action plans are currently in development to embed this policy in various different areas, from housing to education. See the policy here: [Armed Forces Covenant | North Yorkshire Council](#)

With the Armed Forces Covenant becoming enshrined by law in 2021, it is more important now than ever that we have a secure understanding of how we should uphold the Covenant through the direct work we do with our Service children and families. E-learning on the Covenant is available at [The Armed Forces Covenant - Induction \(covenantfund.org.uk\)](#) or for Local Authority colleagues, just search 'Armed Forces Covenant' on the Learning Zone.

Did you know?



Spouse Force have a large network of local businesses who are known as Spouse Force Champions, who help the Forces community by offering Work Placements in a number of different industries, as well as employment opportunities and business start-up mentorship.

Spouse Force is a great organisation who are working hard to support the wider family so please share their good work with your school community.

Date for your Diary
Summer Term SCN Meeting -
Thursday 18th May @ 10am
Teams or in-person
(Cambrai Primary School, Catterick)
CPD will focus on 'Family Support'

