

FEBRUARY 2026

NEWSLETTER



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been delighted this half term to spend a considerable amount of time at Stocklake Park School, working alongside the teaching staff and getting to know students and families in greater depth whilst Rhonda is away from school.

There have been many highlights of this half term, and it has been a real privilege to see them up close at Stocklake. My personal highlight was the Vache Baroque group that came in to work with students. This immersive, musical experience worked so sensitively with our students, of all abilities, it really was a joy to behold. We had many wow moments throughout the two days they were with us, including responses from students not seen before, and genuine delight and engagement from just about everyone. We will be keen to work with them again, including a visit to Booker Park, where I would anticipate a similar response. We also had some great fun with a visit from an ice hockey team MK Lightning (thanks to Maisie for organising this), as well as taking part in the RSPB bird watching event, and Safer Internet Day over the course of this week. We have a similarly packed schedule for next half term.



Our School Business Director, Steve Parkinson, will be leaving the Federation at February half term. His input as a school business professional has been unrivalled in my experience leading schools, and we will miss his expertise. He has overseen the maintenance and significant development of many aspects of school life outside the classroom, including all things related to premises and facilities (encompassing a number of new builds and plans for further development as well as the significant job of maintaining our buildings and pool in great condition), human resources (with extensive reworking of computerised systems for greater efficiency), marketing (covering communications), catering, health and safety, admin and payroll. Steve's commitment to his work has been unrivalled and we wish him all the best as he goes on to carry on work within the SEND field, switching across to working with a charity.

Wishing all children and young people and their families a very enjoyable half term break.

Bradley

Enjoy our newsletter offering this time around and please do give us feedback for how you might like to see it develop. Please send all feedback to either office@bookerpark.bucks.sch.uk or office@stocklakepark.bucks.sch.uk



Bradley Taylor
Principal





Booker Park

Message from the Head of School

This half term we have been really pleased to welcome some new people to the team at Booker Park. We have new teachers, Alison and Julie, who have joined us and they are loving getting to know their classes and are excited about all that is to come in the weeks ahead. We are also thrilled that our swimming teacher Nic has joined us. Unfortunately, there have been some challenges around the pool and the engineers have been out to investigate this, and we look forward to the pool being in more consistent use moving forwards.

We have missed Jo Berry, Deputy Head, over this term, and are delighted that she has now returned to work, albeit initially on a phased return basis. Jo should be back to being full time before the end of the next half term.

As ever there has been fantastic learning happening in classes, and class staff are continually reflecting on the strategies and approaches to best ensure that children are engaged and making progress. We had feedback from parents towards the end of last year about their children not getting on school trips often enough, and some hadn't been on a trip at all during their time at Booker Park. We are focusing on this in our school development plan. Our intention is for each class to go out on a trip every term, and we are making progress with this although we aren't quite there yet with it.

Last week we all enjoyed a curriculum wow event around the theme of "Mix, Make and Magic". There was a lot of exciting learning and sensory exploration that took place. You will have an opportunity to see photos and resources related to this at our next parents' evening, which is on Wednesday 25th February.

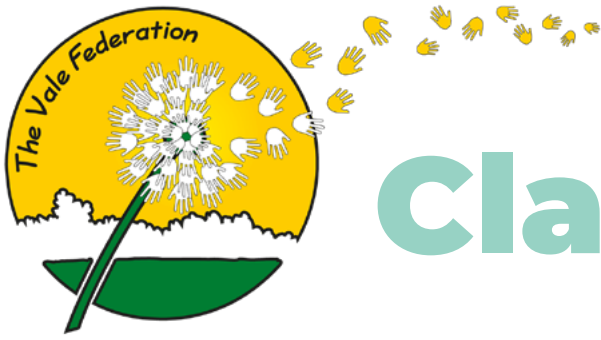
Thank you all for what you continue to do to support your child's learning and development, and for communicating with us openly and clearly.

Marianne



**Marianne
Murphy**

Head of School

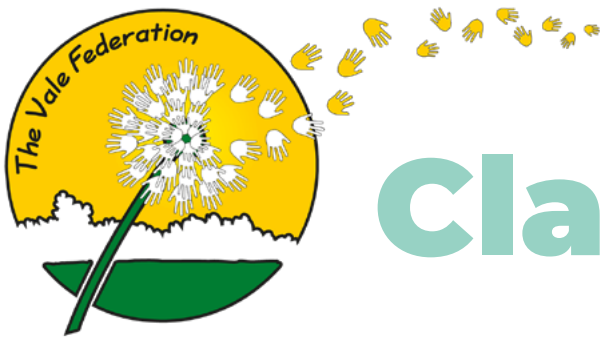


Class Updates

Skylark Class

In Skylark Class, in this first part of the term the children have been learning about cold and hot temperatures. They had a range of warm and cold activities to explore. Their favourite was ice, and they enjoyed eating it mostly, but we also included different items to use and engage with.



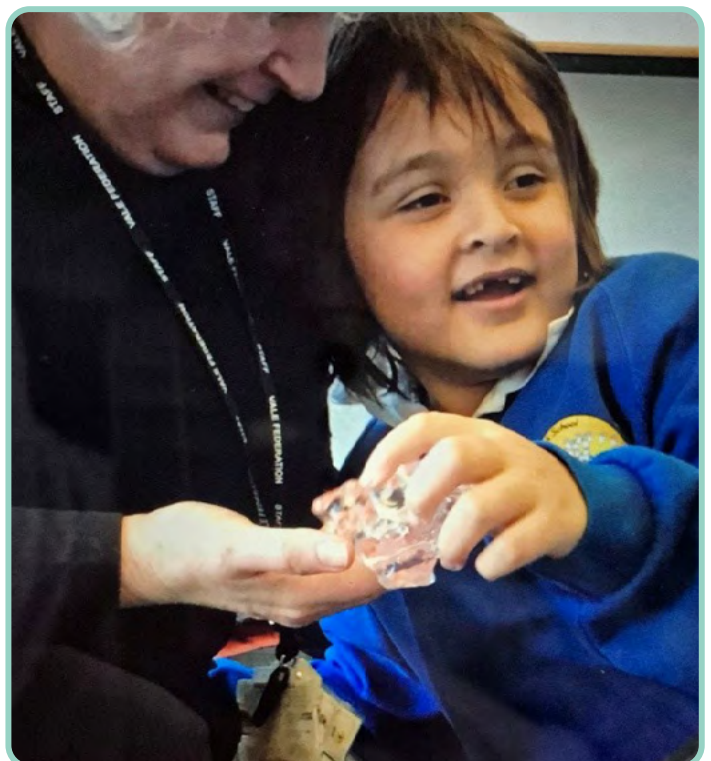
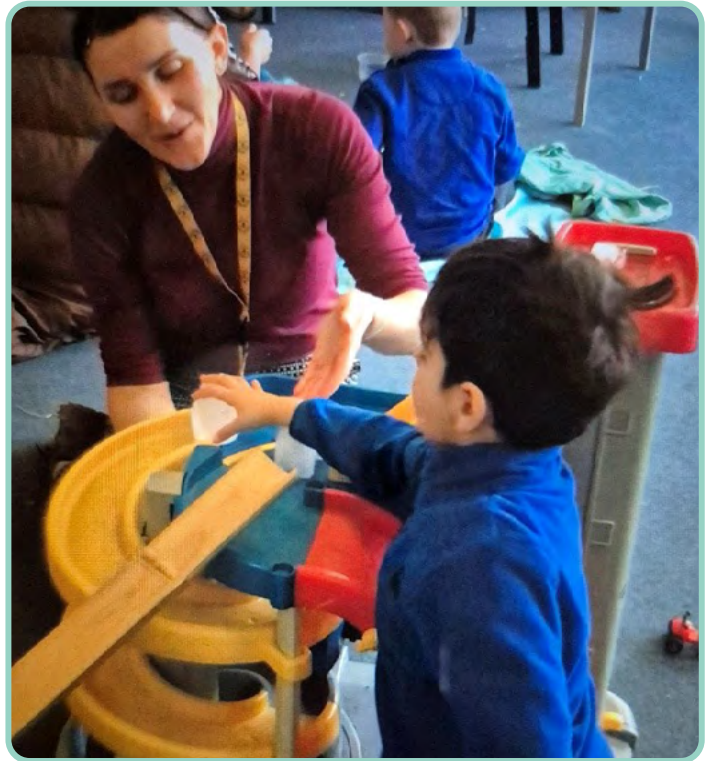


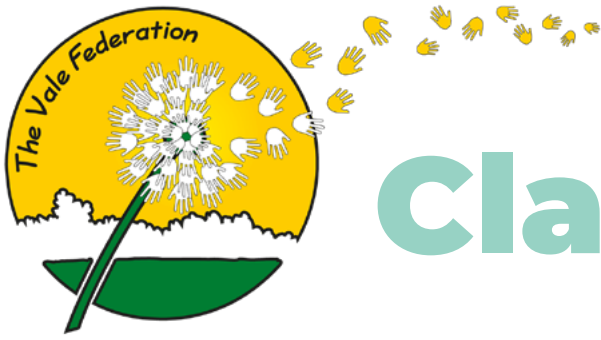
Class Updates

Goldfinch Class

Goldfinch class have been having a lot of fun exploring different sensory activities through the topic 'Mix it, Make it, Investigate it!'. The children have had opportunities to explore a variety of exciting materials including ice, frozen yogurt, jelly, warm and cold rice and cornflour mixed with water. Colour mixing has been a magical experience! The children have explored different coloured ice cubes melting to create patterns on paper. We have also used pipettes to add food colouring to coloured water, for example yellow water with drops of blue added and shaken to make green, or blue and yellow paint mixed to make green.

The children have enjoyed playing with fake snow during our sensory story about 'The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud', finding animals hidden in the snow and sprinkling it or throwing it in the air and watching it flutter to the ground. We had great fun when we explored objects that float and sink. The children always enjoy water play, but investigating objects that float has been very exciting. We have pushed floating objects under the water and watched them pop back up! Also, mark making activities in flour, shaving foam or gloop have been explored with excitement. The children have used their hands, fingers or tools such as paintbrushes or lollipop sticks to make marks. We are looking forward to exploring more exciting activities.



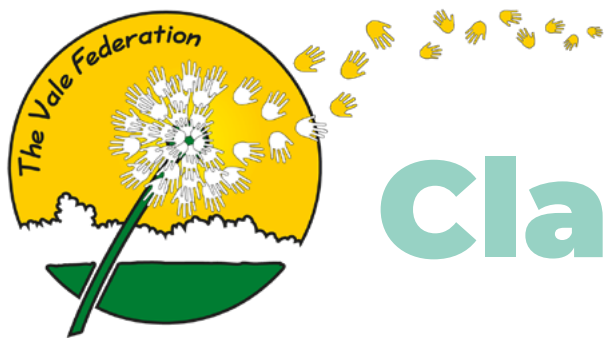


Class Updates

Owl Class

Owl class has been learning about Elmer in Learning Through Stories. They have explored colours and patterns, experimenting with ice painting and using a variety of different colours to decorate their template of Elmer.





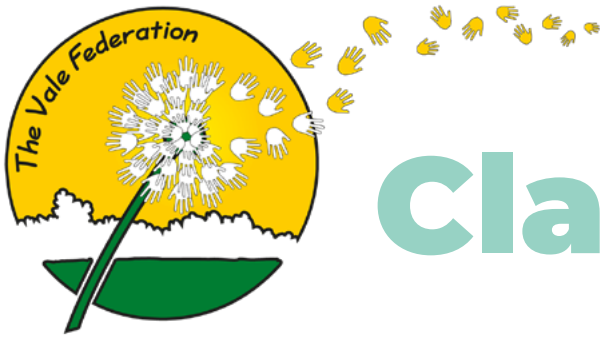
Class Updates

Webster Class

Webster class has had a very active half term, getting out and about in the local community.

For English topic work, we visited the Heritage Centre at Stoke Mandeville Stadium to find out about the Paralympics, which is all linked to the research we have done about Tani Grey-Thompson (Thompson class). While we were there, we had the opportunity to go up into the gallery in the main sports hall and watched a brilliant game of badminton. For PE, we have been looking at the job roles and facilities found in the local leisure industry, and we had a fantastic visit to Pegasus gym and Aqua Vale gym. We have also been exploring different cafés in the local area.



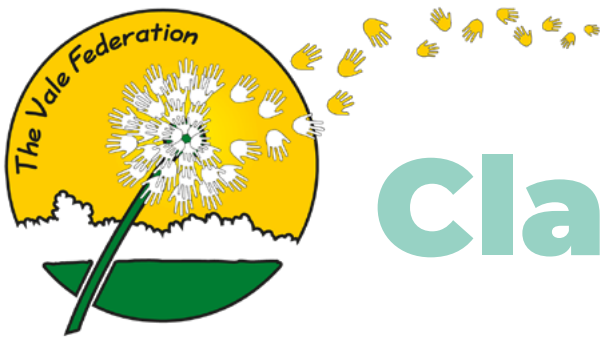


Class Updates

Davis Class

Davis Class have had a fantastic and adventurous spring term exploring our exciting theme, 'Let's Go on a Hunt!'. Throughout the term, we have been fully immersed in a range of functional and proactive activities. In English, we have been creating poems using engaging objects such as tents, binoculars, and footprints to inspire our poetry work. In Creativity, we have been exploring the artist Andy Goldsworthy, hunting for natural materials to create our own artwork. This included making music shakers using rocks in bottles, collecting leaves and flowers, and using clay to create a beautiful landscape sculpture on canvas. Our learning has extended beyond the classroom too, as we've been out in the community exploring local parks and equipment, as well as visiting the shops to hunt for ingredients during our food exploration sessions. We've had such a fun and busy spring term, and we can't wait to continue our adventures when we return!





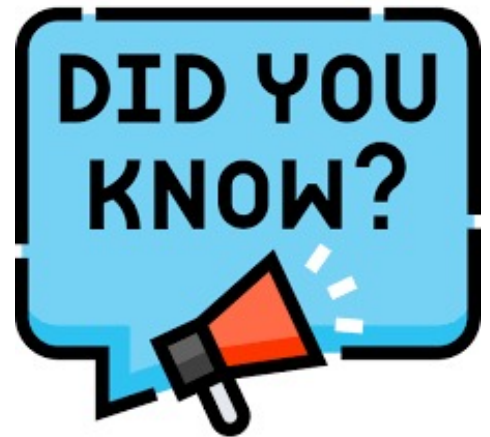
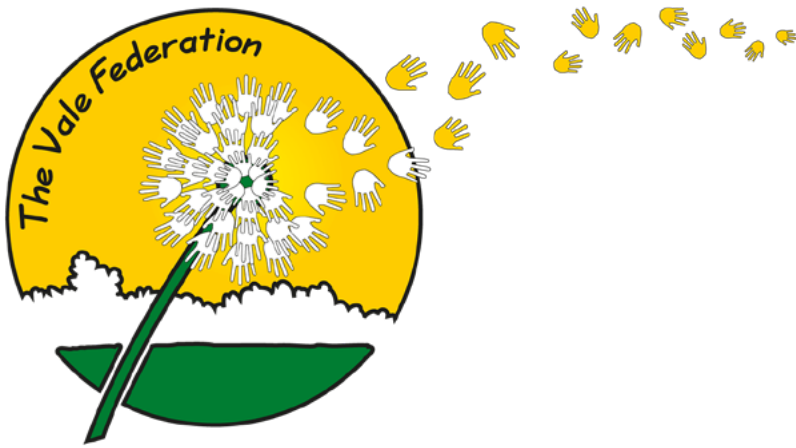
Class Updates

Turing Class

This half term in Turing Class has been full of curiosity, discovery, and joyful learning. Our fantastic students eagerly took part in Vache Baroque, immersing themselves in music and movement, and also enjoyed the Big Garden Bird Watch, where they observed nature closely and learned about the birds and bird sounds around them.

Our topic, 'Let's Go on a Hunt', inspired plenty of exploration and hands-on learning. Children investigated their surroundings, followed clues, and developed their problem-solving skills through fun and interactive activities. In Maths, they explored numbers using practical resources, making learning engaging and accessible. Story time captured their imaginations, while cooking activities and sensory play encouraged learning through touch, sound, and movement. Throughout the half term, the children showed wonderful enthusiasm, teamwork, and growing confidence. They worked cooperatively with teachers, supporting one another and celebrating each other's successes. It has been a joy to see their independence flourish and their love for learning shine through each day. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved this half term!





We offer exclusive hire of our soft play centre!

Soft Play - 3 hour hire time

Mon - Fri (school holidays only) £110 +VAT

Sat & Sun £122.50 +VAT

Additional hours on request

Capacity: up to 20, Maximum number of children on the equipment at one time is 5. No children over 8 years old

Includes: Exclusive Use/Toilets/Tables & Chairs

For further information please contact
facilitiesbookings@thevalefederation.com

PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2026

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult

BILLS

Kids eat free Monday 17th - Friday 28th Feb

BREWDOG

Kids eat free this Feb Half Term

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 under 16s get free breakfast daily with 1 adult!

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat FREE from 10th to the 16th of Feb 2026.

CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Kids eat FREE during all school holidays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PREZZO

Kids eat for £1 from 6th Jan to 11th February 2026.

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

PIZZA HUT

Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

TURTLE BAY

Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

ZIZZI

Kids eat free all day Feb 16th - 20th 2026

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Discounts

for young people with SEND



There are various schemes and charities which can help save money if your child has an additional or special need.

Max Card

[Max Card](#) is a national, local authority-commissioned discount initiative for looked after children and children with additional needs aged 0 to 19 years. The scheme enables families to visit hundreds of attractions across the UK at a free or discounted rate.

[Sign up](#) to the Disabled Children Register to receive a card for free.

Merlin's Magic Wand

[Merlin's Magic Wand](#) offers magical days out at Merlin Entertainments attractions such as Legoland, Sea Life Centres and Madame Tussauds. They welcome applications on behalf of children aged 2 to 18 years with a confirmed serious illness/long term illness, disability or disadvantage.

CEA Card

[CEA Card](#) enables a disabled cinema guest to receive a complimentary ticket for someone to go with them when they visit a participating cinema.

Access Card

The [Access Card](#) translates your disability/impairment into symbols that highlight the barriers you face and the reasonable adjustments you might need. It then informs providers quickly and discreetly about the support you need and may gain you access to things like concessionary ticket prices and complex reasonable adjustments without having to go into loads of personal detail.

It costs £15 for three years.

For more local and national discount schemes visit the [Discounted sport, entertainment and travel page](#).



Foodbanks

and food sharing

Here is a list of Foodbanks in Buckinghamshire. To get a foodbank referral and vouchers speak to your Family Centre, Health Visitor or Social Worker or local Citizens Advice office.

You can also use the [Trussell Trust's website](#) to find its 400-strong network of Foodbanks.

Aylesbury - Store House

[Storehouse](#) helps anyone in need by providing food and other items like furniture and clothing to people on low incomes, benefits or who are in temporary hardship.

Areas covered: Aylesbury Vale area.

Referral or voucher needed.

Aylesbury Foodbank

[Aylesbury Foodbank](#) provides three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to people with a voucher or referral.

Areas covered: Aylesbury.

Referral or voucher needed.

FoodCycle Aylesbury

[FoodCycle](#) Aylesbury welcomes anyone to attend as a guest and enjoy a FREE hot meal. No need to book. Just turn up on the day!

Come and enjoy company and conversation with others from your local area over a delicious meal, prepared with care by FoodCycle volunteers.

Areas covered: Aylesbury and the surrounding areas.

No Referral or voucher needed.

Berryfields Community Store

Berryfields Community Store is open each Thursday morning from 10.30am for anyone in a financial crisis. For a £5 donation, you can choose 25 items of food including fresh meat, vegetables and household items (depending on available stock).

The address is Roman Park, Sir Henry Lee Crescent, HP18 0YT. For further information please contact

help@romanparktrust.org.uk.

Areas covered: Aylesbury

No referral or voucher needed

Beaconsfield - Hope Community Drop-in

[Hope Community Drop-in](#) is a drop-in service where local people referred by doctors or social services can receive an emergency food package. The drop-in runs every Friday at the Holts spur Youth Club building from 8:45 am to midday.

Areas covered: Beaconsfield and neighbouring villages.

Referral or voucher needed.

Burnham - Care and Share Food Distribution Project

Burnham Health Promotion Trust (BHPT) [Care and Share food distribution project](#) is a collaborative community initiative which offers pre-filled food bags and a voucher to buy fresh fruit and vegetables.

Voucher needed.



Foodbanks

and food sharing

Chiltern - Chiltern Foodbank

Chiltern Foodbank provides three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to people with a voucher or referral.

Areas covered: *The Chiltern District and nearby surrounding areas such as Wendover.*
Referral or voucher needed.

Chesham Community Fridge

Chesham Community Fridge distributes free surplus food that is good to eat to anyone who comes to the Fridge. There is no referral or voucher needed. Chesham Community Fridge is open Wednesday and Saturday mornings in the yard behind Broadway Baptist Church, Chesham.

Areas covered: *Chesham.*
No referral or voucher needed.

High Wycombe - One Can

One Can provide free, nutritious food parcels to those deemed 'in crisis' by their partner organisations.

Areas served: *High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas.*
Referral or voucher needed.

Wycombe Community Fridge

Wycombe Community Fridge shares food locally with anyone and everyone regardless of income or means. No referrals are needed.

No referral or voucher needed.

Wycombe Food Hub

Wycombe Food Hub collects crates of unsold food like bread, fruit, vegetables, chilled and frozen foods every week from supermarkets, farms and shops. The products are then made available to people unable to buy food.

No referral or voucher needed but food is available for a small donation.

Milton Keynes - The MK Foodbank

The MK Foodbank provide food parcels that can be picked up from one of their serving sessions located around the city. Clients can receive a food parcel 5 times within a rolling 12-month period.

Areas served: *Milton Keynes.*
Referral or voucher needed.

Thame Food Bank

Thame foodbank provides emergency supplies of essential food items to those in the community who are struggling financially.

Areas covered: *Thame.*
Referral needed.

Wendover

- Wendover Free Church Foodbank

Wendover Free Church Foodbank provides food parcels for the local area.

Areas served: *Wendover and neighbouring villages.*
Referral or voucher needed.

Wing Foodbank

Areas covered: *Wing*
No referral needed.

Not in Buckinghamshire but nearby

Rickmansworth Foodbank

Rickmansworth Foodbank provides food parcels for the local area.

Areas served: *Rickmansworth and nearby towns and villages.*
Referral or voucher needed.