

NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2023



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ASPIRE

BELIEVE

PERSEVERE

ACHIEVE

THANK YOU!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our families, pupils and staff for their hard work and support over the past week with the issues with our boiler. Staff worked incredibly hard on Thursday 2nd February to ensure all children were collected safely and that every child had access to remote learning during our unexpected school closure. We would also like to thank the children and families for being so understanding and completing the remote learning tasks each day.

THANK YOU!

LITTLE ACORNS STAY-AND-PLAY

On Tuesday 31st January, Little Acorns enjoyed their stay-and-play session with their family members. They enjoyed exploring the different activities that they have in nursery and sharing their favourites with their family members.



SHARING YOUR NEWS!

We would like to say a huge well done to Roy from Roald Dahl class who has competed in a motocross competition in Aberdeen, he came 2nd in both races. This means that he has qualified to compete in London.



We would also like to say a huge well done to Noah and Joey from Roald Dahl class who were awarded player of the match in their football matches at the weekend



We would also to say a big well done to Olivia in Jacqueline Wilson Class. Olivia took part in her first ever panto show, performing in St James Pantomime of 'Red and the Wolf Tales in the Hood!'



If you have any news about your child's achievements that you would like to share in our newsletter, please speak to your child's class teacher!

NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY

Remember to sign up to National Online Safety where you will be able to access all of 'Wake-Up Wednesday' online safety guides as well as lots of other interesting online safety courses. These courses and guides are extremely helpful in highlighting some of the dangers children are exposed to when using online platforms. For more information, scan the QR code and it will take you to our school's sign up link.



READING PLANET REVIEWS!

Following the successful introduction of our new Key Stage 2 reading scheme, we would like to use our weekly newsletter to help promote and share some of your children's favourite stories that they have read. Each week, we will be sharing book reviews that have been written by your children. Hopefully these reviews will inspire our children to read one of the books when they choose their next one.

Webster's E-mail by Hannah Whaly

This book is a fiction book all about a spider called Webster and his sister called Ivy. They take a picture one day and Ivy looked 'frightful' in it. Webster sends it to another spider., and yet somehow it ended up being sent to twenty others. Webster thought he was going to be punished for this. When his mother received the picture however, she saved it for a memory and she wasn't annoyed at all. They all, including Webster's mum, were laughing and giggling – a surprising reaction!

Evie and Maiya, Year 5



HAPPY HALF TERM!

Finally, we would like to wish all of our children, families and staff a happy half term holiday. May you have a wonderful week off and remember to stay safe.

School reopens on Monday 20th February 2023.

WEEKLY UPDATES

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Here are this week's attendance and punctuality figures. There is a proven link between attendance and achievement and it is therefore very important that your child attends school and is on time unless they are too unwell to do so. Our doors open at **8.30am** and close at **8.40am**.

Please see the information below for our whole school and class attendance for the week ending: 10/02/23.

Early Years and Key Stage 1:

CLASS	PERCENTAGE %	LATES
Elm	89.4%	2
Willow	95.0%	1
Kandinsky	97.5%	2
Matisse	93.3%	1
Lowry	93.5%	1
Van Gogh	93.3%	0

Key Stage 2:

CLASS	PERCENTAGE %	LATES
Anne Fine	91.4%	0
Roald Dahl	89.5%	4
JK Rowling	94.4%	2
J Wilson	92.9%	1
Elgar	94.4%	0
Mozart	97.0%	0
Beethoven	92.7%	1
Vivaldi	91.9%	2

Congratulations to **Kandinsky Class** and **Mozart Class** for having the **best attendance** this week.

Well Done to **Van Gogh Class, Anne Fine Class, Elgar Class and Mozart Class** for having **no lates**!

Our whole school attendance this week:

93.3%

COMMUNICATION SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

These are the letters, messages and website updates that have been sent out this week. If you have not received any of these letters, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact the office on **01274 639049**.

WEBSITE UPDATES:	National Online Safety - 10 Ways Gaming Can Support Positive Outcomes
LETTERS:	09/02/2023 - Attendance Letter 09/02/2023 - Author's Visit
MESSAGES VIA PARENTAPPS:	

SPOTLIGHT ON SEND

(SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

Each half-term, I write a section on our school newsletter to keep parents and carers of pupils on the SEND register 'in the loop' about all things SEND related. I highlight support available in school and also resources and workshops available in the local area. This half-term, I am shining the spotlight on neurodiversity.

Mrs White
Assistant Head/SENDco

Keep updated with all things SEND at Swain House. Click [here](#) or scan the QR code.



Bradford Local Offer

The Local Offer brings together information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families.

<https://localoffer.bradford.gov.uk/>



Parents' Evening

Parents Evening was on Tuesday 17th January. At the meeting, you will have been updated on the progress your child is making and any additional support that is in place. Their termly targets are listed on the Pupil Mentoring sheet.

If your child has an IEP (Individual Education Plan), you will have been given a copy at the meeting. The class teacher has written the IEP and set targets for your child to work on this term. We would really appreciate it if you could support your child at home with their targets. If you need any support or resources for this, please speak to your child's class teachers.

Pupils who receive speech and language support in school have their own bespoke plan. When the therapist assesses your child, she will write a new plan. These targets will be worked on regularly at school. A copy of the plan will also be sent home so you can also support your child with these targets.

Upcoming Dates:

**13th - 19th March 2023 -
Neurodiversity Week**

**16th March 2023 –
Young Carers Action
Day**

**2nd April 2023 –
World Autism Day.**

What does neurodiversity mean?

"Neurodiversity" is a common term that's used to describe differences in the way people's brains work. The idea is that there's no "correct" way for the brain to work. Instead, there is a wide range of ways that people perceive and respond to the world, and these differences are to be embraced and encouraged.

neuro – To be of nerves or nervous system

diversity – A range of different things

There are a number of neurological conditions that come under the umbrella term of 'neurodiversity' - such as: Autism, ADHD, Dyspraxia and Dyslexia.

Click [here](#) to find resources that can support children with neurological conditions.

Did you know?

Lots of famous and successful people have neurological conditions:



Greta Thunberg
Autism



Emma Watson
ADHD



Walt Disney
Dyslexia



Daniel Radcliffe
Dyspraxia



**Neurodiversity
Celebration
Week**

13 - 19 March 2023

MENU W/C 20/02/23

Swain House Primary School

Week
Commencing

7th Nov, 28th Nov, 9th Jan
30th Jan, 20th Feb, 13th Mar

MENU Week 2

MON

Choose from...

- Meat Lasagne
- Halal Lasagne
- Cheese Pasta Bake

Desserts...

- Cornflake Tart
- Freshly Prepared Fruit

TUE

Choose from...

- Fruity Chicken Curry
- Halal Chicken & Spinach
- Mexican Burrito

Desserts...

- Decorated Fruit Jelly
- Freshly Prepared Fruit

WED

Choose from...

- Halal Roast Chicken Breast
- Vegetable Roll
- Roast Gammon

Desserts...

- Plain Sponge
- Freshly Prepared Fruit

THUR

Choose from...

- Cheese & Tomato Pizza

Desserts...

- Butterfly Buns
- Freshly Prepared Fruit

FRI

Choose from...

- Fish Fingers
- Vegetable Pakora
- Salmon Fish Fingers

Desserts...

- Chocolate Sponge
- Freshly Prepared Fruit

Suitable for



A selection of additional options e.g. sandwiches, jackets etc. will be available each day



City of
BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

For full allergen & nutritional information
go to the FM School Meals App:
<https://schoolmeals.bradford.gov.uk>

REMINDERS

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club opens at 7.30am at a cost of £2.50 each per day or at 7.45am at the cost of £2.00 each per day. Children from Nursery to Year 6 can attend.

If you would like to book your child into Breakfast Club, please use ParentPay.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our After School Club is available until 4pm at a cost of £2.00 each per day.

If you would like to book your child into After School Club, please use ParentPay.

EXTRA CLUB

We also offer an Extra Club service that runs until 5.30pm at a cost of £4.00 per day.

If you would like to book your child into Extra Club, please use ParentPay.

Please can you ensure that Extra Club places are booked and paid for in advance - by Monday morning. This ensures registers are accurate and places are booked and guaranteed.

If you have any problems booking any of our before or after school clubs, please contact Miss Armitage, one of our learning mentors.

DIARY DATES

ANY NEWLY ADDED ITEMS WILL BE IN BLUE

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday	20/02/23	8.30am	School Reopens
Thursday	23/02/23	2.30pm	Elgar Class Assembly
Friday	24/02/23	All Day	Simon Hunt Author Visit
Tuesday	28/02/23	2.30pm	Van Gogh Class Assembly (Rescheduled)
Thursday	09/03/23	2.30pm	Holi Assembly - Kandinsky Class
Thursday	16/03/23	2.30pm	Anne Fine Class Assembly
Thursday	23/03/23	2.30pm	Wesak Assembly - Lowry Class
Thursday	30/03/23	2.30pm	Easter Assembly - Mozart Class

COMING UP NEXT HALF TERM

SPRING TERM ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thursday	23/02/23	2.30pm	Elgar Class Assembly
Tuesday	28/02/23	2.30pm	Van Gogh Class Assembly
Thursday	09/03/23	2.30pm	Kandinsky Holi Assembly
Thursday	16/03/23	2.30pm	Anne Fine Class Assembly
Thursday	23/03/23	2.30pm	Lowry Wesak Assembly
Thursday	30/03/23	2.30pm	Mozart Easter Assembly

AUTHOR VISIT

On Friday 24th February, we will have a very exciting visitor in school. Simon Hunt, the author of 'Delilah Rose the Bogey Princess' will be in school sharing stories and working with our children. All pupils from Great Oak Nursery to Year 6 will get the chance to work with Simon. He will also be selling copies of his book at the end of the school day where you can purchase a signed copy. To preorder your copy, please complete the slip at the bottom of the letter that was sent out this week. If you need another letter, please ask your child's class teacher.



EASTER CRAFT WORKSHOPS



COMMUNITY NEWS

The Mammoth and the Moonstick - book signing



Local author Simon E. Wilkinson will be signing copies of his exciting new children's book, *The Mammoth and the Moonstick* at **Keighley Market on Saturday 11 February between 11am and 1pm.**

The book aimed at children aged 8 and above, follows the adventures of young time traveller Tom Lennox, who is based on Simon's own grandson. In a distant galaxy, a shivering planet is home to long extinct ice creatures. No one has ever been to this remote place – except Tom: who finds a woolly mammoth and her calf trapped by hungry wolves inside a dark mountain cave.

Half-Term at the National Science and Media Museum

SCIENCE+ MEDIA MUSEUM

Lots of activities to get involved in at the National Science and Media Museum during the February Half-Term Holiday including:

- WonderLab
- Cafe Scientifique
- Yorkshire Games Festival
- Space Half Term Family Fun
- Stephen Hawking at Work



**FREE HALF TERM
ACTIVITIES
11-19 FEBRUARY**

BRADFORD
DISTRICT
MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

 **City of
BRADFORD**
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
bradfordmuseums.org

NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY

This week, our 'Wake Up Wednesday' guide from National Online Safety is all about '10 Ways Gaming Can Support Positive Outcomes'.

It is noted: This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

10 WAYS GAMING CAN SUPPORT POSITIVE OUTCOMES in Children and Young People

Gaming, of course, is phenomenally popular with children and young people. In 2021, for instance, more than three-quarters of teenagers played online games, with almost 70% of primary school aged children doing likewise. If enjoyed in moderation and supported by a healthy routine (staying hydrated, good sleep habits, taking breaks and so on), gaming can actually benefit a person's mental health. As long as we stay alert for potential risks, games can be much more than what we see on the surface: they can be a way to socialise, an avenue for creativity and a route to solving problems. Check out our top ten tips on how gaming online can sometimes work to your child's advantage ...



THE FEEL-GOOD FACTOR

Gaming is so popular because at the base level, it's enjoyable for the player. Succeeding in any game or contest releases dopamine in our brains: the 'feel-good' chemical that makes us happy or excited. Those emotions can be incredibly beneficial for mental wellbeing – as long as young players don't become reliant solely on playing video games to make themselves feel happy.

ACHIEVEMENT & PRIDE

A sense of achievement is incredibly important to all of us and can be particularly valuable to someone who's feeling unhappy or distracted. It's easy to get caught up in our thoughts, which can sometimes take a negative turn. So even achieving something small – like finishing a difficult level in a Mario or Sonic game – can feel like conquering Everest and give us renewed optimism.

SOCIAL SALVATION

Gaming can be an incredibly social activity. When playing online with trusted friends, what usually start out as chats specifically about the game can often develop into conversations about school and life. Even if they've had a bad day, simply knowing that a friend is there, on the other end of their headset, can provide young gamers with a sense of security and some welcome laughs.

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

In many online games, teamwork is crucial to winning. Often, people who are struggling with their mood tend to feel like they fail or let others down a lot. Working as a team with trusted friends or family in a game can reinforce a young person's self-importance: striving for a common goal and succeeding together can remind them that they're an integral part of something bigger.

REAL-WORLD RELATABILITY

Because many major releases are shooting or action games, when some people fear "gaming" they think of guns, explosions and violence. What's less recognised is how many titles explore relatable issues such as overcoming anxiety or coping with grief. These games allow young players to understand their emotions more deeply and realise they aren't alone in how they might be feeling.

A DIGITAL COMFORT

Video games can provide a reliable constant. No matter what happens in school or between friends, playing a favourite game is something that youngsters can look forward to all day and can help them de-stress. Let's not forget, games are fun – and, when approached safely, an interactive activity in which the player has a degree of control over what happens next can feel immensely reassuring.

PROBLEM-SOLVING PRACTICE

It can be difficult for young people to handle the feeling that nothing is going right or that their problems are insurmountable. Gaming can help alleviate that by presenting challenges to be overcome, either solo or alongside trusted friends. Defeating a powerful monster or solving a tricky puzzle reminds young gamers that even the most daunting obstacles can be faced and conquered.

THE GREAT ESCAPISM

A certain amount of escapism is fabulous – allowing us to temporarily park some stress while exploring a world other than our own. For children, gaming can be like reading a novel or watching a film: a moment in the day when the fantastical becomes real, firing their imagination and immersing them in a story. Who wouldn't want to venture to the stars? Or battle monsters to save the planet?

TRIED & TRUSTED

There can be reassurance in repeating tasks. It often promotes a controlled outcome, which is ideal when life feels overwhelming or out of control. Replicating an experience, such as playing the same level of a game over and over to perfection, gives the player a sense of control and familiarity: it's like listening to a favourite song that always makes you feel happy or confident.

ENCOURAGING CREATIVITY

Inventiveness is a huge part of many modern games: in Minecraft and Roblox, for example, players regularly dream up amazing structures or new ways to play. Using our imagination to create something (whether digitally or physically) is massively beneficial for the brain: that's why Lego is sometimes used in the medical sector as both a stress reliever and a brain injury rehabilitation tool.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer who specialises in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. Author of 15 guidebooks for children on games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft, his work has also been published in the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247.



National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/consult/condocs/childrens-media-use-and-attitudes-report-2022.pdf>

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