



Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 10th MARCH 2023



Loving Learning Together



Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had another great week in school, culminating in a wonderful morning in the snow on Friday. They all made some really lovely memories—and it was so useful for Year 1 & 2, who are learning about the Antarctic this half-term!



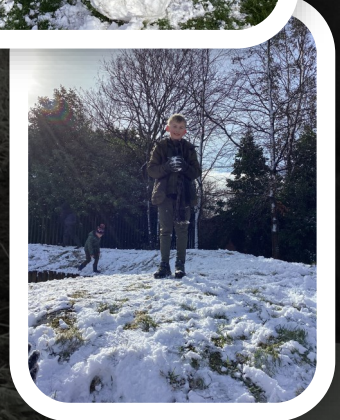
Thanks to Ronnie's mum for the photo

There were so many photos that I've included more on the next page, but this one, taken by one of our parents, is one of my all-time favourites! It sums up the joy and wonder of learning through experiences and friendships. The curriculum and classroom are important of course, but so is seizing the opportunity to just enjoy childhood.

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Friday Fun in the Snow!



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Just one important reminder this week...

Picking up

Please be aware that whoever is picking up children must be at least 14 years old. We cannot let children leave school with anyone younger than 14, even if an adult relative is waiting nearby.

For more news, make sure you're following us on Twitter @AshKnotty

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Internet Safety

Internet safety is not something we should only think about during E-safety week but rather it should be at the forefront of our minds whenever we (and our children) are online. The poster below highlights some key safety features of iPads. Please take some time to ensure your child is using the internet safely. If you have any concerns about your child's online use, then please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about iPADS

Apple debuted the first iPad in 2010, kickstarting the tablet market, and it remains the best-selling tablet to this day. Although Apple doesn't offer a child-specific version, iPads are hugely popular with youngsters due to their ease of use and endless choice of apps. There's a selection of models, with different-sized screens and distinct features – including the standard iPad; the iPad Air; the iPad Pro; and the iPad mini. Thankfully, they all offer parental controls so you can regulate how your child uses the device – and how long they spend on it.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PHYSICAL DAMAGE

While some tablets (such as the Amazon Fire Kids editions) come with rugged shock-proof cases, iPads aren't built for rough and tumble. They're also more expensive than most other tablets, and any damage your child's iPad suffers could be costly to repair. Buying a child-friendly case and screen protector for the device could be a wise move, especially if it's being used by younger ones.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Like most digital devices, tablets have the potential to become quite addictive. You might find your child spending too long staring at their iPad, which could lead to irritability, mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks. If this happens, be sure to visit the built-in screen time settings and ensure you limit how long they're able to spend on the device each day.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT 18 CONSIDERED

Even if it would never occur to your child to go searching online for age-inappropriate sites, apps or information, there's always a possibility that something unexpected – perhaps a video that auto-plays or content incorrectly suggested by an algorithm – could appear on their tablet and upset them. You can help prevent this by adjusting the content settings (see our 'top tips' section below).

SIRI SUGGESTIONS

The parental controls built into iOS (the fundamental operating system of Apple devices) enable you to block access to most age-inappropriate content – but your child could potentially still bypass these restrictions (either accidentally or deliberately) by using Siri, Apple's voice-activated digital assistant. To avoid this, toggle the 'Ask Siri' functions to 'off' in the iPad's settings menu.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Before letting little ones loose on an iPad, it's a good idea to set up Family Sharing, as this lets you utilise the parental controls to manage exactly how your child is able to use the device. You can do this fairly easily by going into the iPad's settings; once there, you'll be able to add an existing Apple account (if your child already has one) or set one up from scratch.

APPLY SOME LIMITS

The 'Downtime' function allows you to tell the iPad to lock itself at certain periods (at mealtimes or before bed, for instance), while 'App Limits' removes access to certain apps once they've been used for a specified length of time each day. The iPad can display a reminder when these limits have nearly been reached, letting your child mentally prepare for the end of their gaming or viewing time.

STOP ACCIDENTAL SPENDING

To empower your child with an increased sense of freedom on their device (without giving yourself something else to worry about in the process) you could enable the iPad's 'Ask to Buy' feature. Whenever your child tries to download or buy an app, game or product, the iPad sends you a request to approve (or deny) it. This option only becomes available if you've set up Family Sharing.

SET CONTENT AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS

The parental controls can stop the iPad from displaying explicit or age-inappropriate content (in apps like iTunes and Safari, for instance) when your child is signed into their account. You'll also be able to restrict the capacity to download and install apps, and you can specify permissions which prevent children from changing the iPad's privacy settings once you've selected them.

TRACK IT DOWN

Just like the iPhone, Apple's iPads have 'Find My' software to help you locate your child's iPad – or indeed, any linked Apple devices that have gone AWOL, including phones, watches and AirPods. If you enable 'Find My' in the settings menu, it will display the last known location of an iPad that's been mislaid, as well as giving you the option to lock a missing iPad that you suspect has been stolen.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of Tech Tablet! The Inquirer, Carly knows a thing or two about technology, journalism, editing and consulting.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety @national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.03.2023



What have we been learning?

Nursery

Sorry... photos next week



This week in nursery we continued to look at the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We retold the story using puppets and we sequenced the story using picture cards . We made porridge and some of us enjoyed eating it !! Then we read the story of the Magic Porridge Pot.

In Maths we looked at number patterns and number sequencing to 5. We looked at dice patterns and we practised saying how many dots we could see without counting .

We sang some of our favourite number Rhymes- One Big Hippo Balancing and 5 Brown Teddies sitting on the Wall.

In our phonics lessons we sang the Jolly Jingles and looked for objects beginning with the letter c .

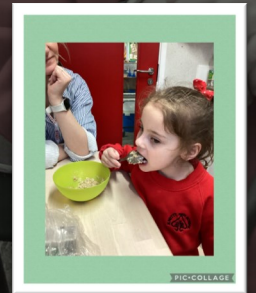
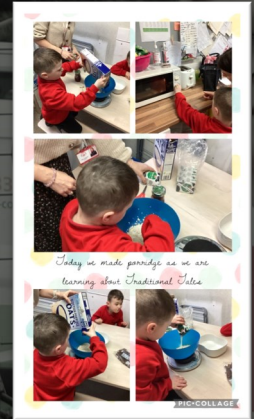
We talked about the noises farm animals make and had fun making the noises ourselves. We learned the BSL signs for all the different farm animals .

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What have we been learning?

Reception



This week, Reception have started their new topic on Traditional Tales. We received a letter from the Giant from Jack and the Beanstalk asking us to help find the gold that Jack stole from him. They all wrote 'Wanted' posters to help catch Jack in return for 'riches' (chocolate) from the giant.

The children made porridge just 'right', just like from Goldilocks and the Three Bears. They enjoyed golden syrup, jam and sultanas in their porridge and talked about what they liked or didn't like. We have also started to write sorry letters to the 3 bears from Goldilocks for breaking their chair, eating their porridge and sleeping in their bed! The children have shown great imagination with this. We have been impressed with their attitude to learning again this week. Thank you Reception.

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What have we been learning?

Year 1



Year 1 have had a busy week in school.

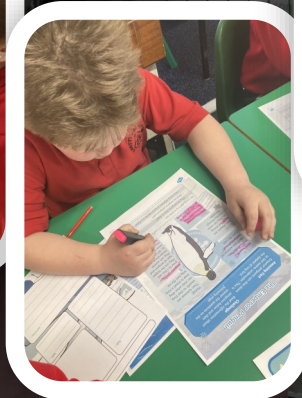
In English the children have been practicing their ability to label when learning about Scotts Base. In Maths we have been learning about finding the difference between two numbers and counting backwards on a number line. In communities and diversity we have been learning to locate the seven continents on a world map and put the continents in order from biggest to smallest. The children have been learning about the four countries in the UK and their capital cities. In PE we have been focusing on more ball skills. The children also learnt about the Easter story and more farm animals in Spanish.

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What have we been learning?

Year 2



This week Year 2 have been busy continuing to investigate Captain Scott and his journey across the Antarctic!

In Geography, the children looked at different animals and where they live in the world and why! We talked about the equator and reasons why some animals live closer to the equator and others live further away. We had a fantastic afternoon researching Penguins and writing our very own fact files with the information we found!

In English this week we thought it would be fun to make Comics all about Captain Scott's journey. We spent Monday looking at features of a comic and then we created them on Tuesday! The classroom has never been so quiet! The children were so focused on what they were doing!

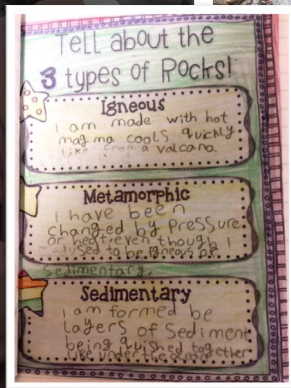
We had amazing efforts from Arabella, Penny and Hanis who all went home and made their own Comics afterwards! We enjoyed reading their comics about the adventures of trapped princesses and sisters taking part in gymnastic competitions! The art work was also amazing!

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What have we been learning?

Year 3



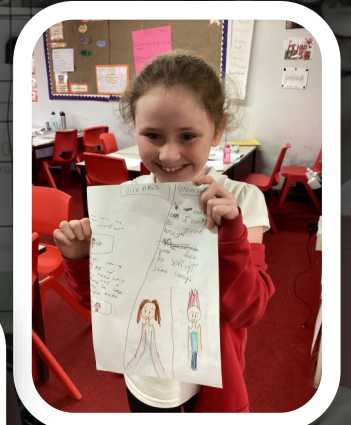
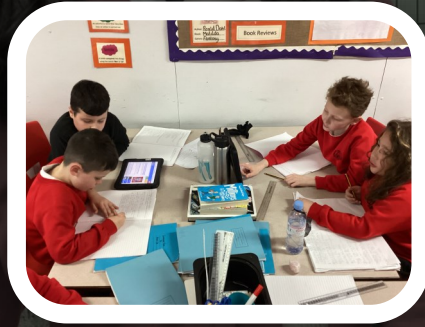
It feels as though the weeks are flying by in Year 3 this term. We have been busy reading 'Pebble in my Pocket' all week and the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the story. This has led nicely into our science topic of rocks and we have been learning all about the different types of rock and how they are formed. Luckily for us in Y3, Mrs Cartwright has a secret (not so secret) stash of rocks and we were able to handle and explore them in order to deepen our learning. In English, we've been continuing our topic on issues and dilemmas by looking at the story 'Millions' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce. The children loved this, especially the part when they got to pretend they had found a suitcase of money, just like the characters in the story, and got to decide what to spend it on! In maths we have been working hard on our current topic of length, and a big thank you to everyone for working so hard on TT rockstars at home! Finally, we enjoyed an extremely cold forest school lesson on Thursday afternoon...and of course SNOW DAY on Friday. Phew!

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What have we been learning?

Year 4



Every week so far has been an absolute belter this term, this week has been no different. We have been mega busy in Year 4, we have done everything from swimming to hockey, to discovering a massive suitcase filled with money right after reading the book Millions - what are the odds! We then set about spending a sum of that money or at least worked out what we could spend our newly found money on! It was a difficult decision to make but we decided in the end that we probably shouldn't spend the money as it wasn't ours. In Maths, we have been exploring perimeter and how to measure the distance around a shape. The week also ended in pure bliss when we woke up on Friday and the field was coated in snow that was as soft as Savannah and Lottie's dogs! What a day and a perfect way to end the week. Who doesn't love a snow day? Rumour has it, even Mr England smiled that day!

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What have we been learning?

Year 5



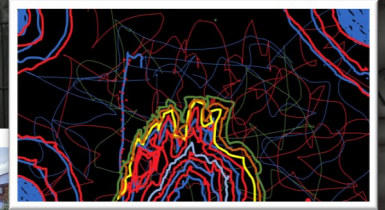
In Year 5, we have been learning about and writing an explanation text. In Science, we have been learning all about light and they have used their knowledge to write an explanation text which details everything they have learnt. In Maths, the children have been securing their understanding of what we have learnt so far during our fraction unit and moved onto ordering fractions with different denominators. Year 5 have been very skillful using their knowledge of equivalent fractions to help with this. They should be so proud of themselves, as fractions are tricky, however they have all worked really hard and clearly developed their understanding. This week was our last session of Chess. The children have really enjoyed learning how to play chess and have now learnt all of the pieces and can confidently use them when playing a game of chess. During Music, Year 5 listened to the rhythm and pitch of an old school hip-hop song and started to learn it. The children really enjoyed this and even used the glockenspiels to find the rhythm. In Forest School, we looked at art work in the style of Charles Darwin, the children recreated observational drawings from things they saw in our forest school. Year 5 have had an amazing week and even managed to have some fun in the snow.

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What have we been learning?

Year 6



This week has been all about sharpening our fractions skills (we counted thirteen different fraction skills alone that we need to master) and also being able to identify different phrases and clauses within sentences. Did you know that a chunk of a sentence without a verb is called a phrase - but if it contains a verb, it's a clause?

In P.E. we have been flexing our creative muscles. The children were given some equipment and asked to create some different skill drills and games. They came up with some truly tricky and entertaining ideas! In Art, we looked at Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama. She uses art to express her mental health and to share a sense of wonder. Her installation of thousands of mirrors and lights in different rooms around the world was really magical and inspiring. The children then created their own art using PowerPoint - I've included some examples in the pictures above.

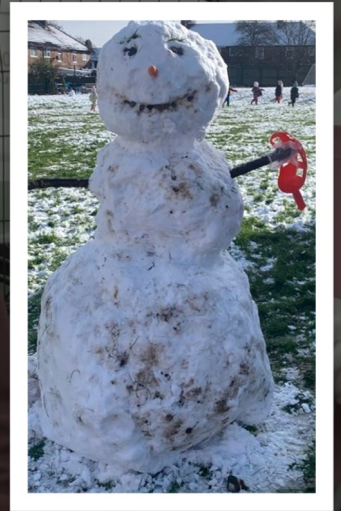
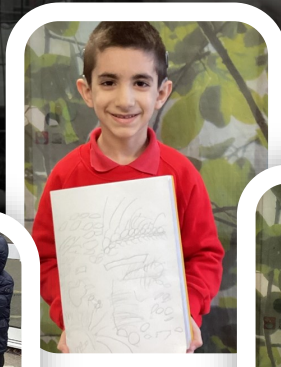
Our hard-working week was capped off by a giant snowball fight on the field! Poor Mr Houghton was besieged by thousands of small children, all out to get him. Maybe the waterfight after SATs will be different? Revenge is a dish best served cold...and wet?

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What have we been learning?

DRB Key Stage 1



This week in KS1 DRB, we have thoroughly enjoyed our role play activities which were based on our ORT book 'The Journey'. We had lots of fun getting into character and using all the new vocabulary introduced in our BSL sessions.

We were able to demonstrate the range of emotions the family felt on their journey. They started off being excited and happy but soon got bored, fed up and angry as they hit diversions, traffic jams and then ended up getting lost! Our favourite part was getting the family in and out of our improvised car!

We used our problem solving skills to build this vehicle and it did the job perfectly! .

We have also been doing some observational drawing of plants by looking at the photographs we took in Forest school. We carefully looked at the detail of leaves and included some mini beasts too!

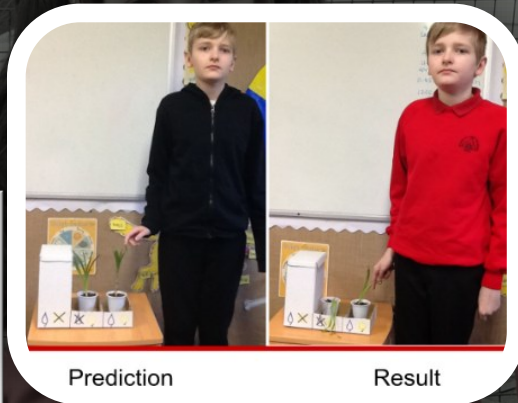
Keeping possibly the best until last..... We found the perfect weather to become intrepid explorers, but we got a bit sidetracked on the way.....

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What have we been learning?

DRB Key Stage 2



We've been doing some fantastic role play this week using our new ORT book *The Journey* and have just begun to explore the new vocabulary connected with it. It is related to our topic of explorers which has also given us lots of opportunity to unpick what an explorer might need during a trip.

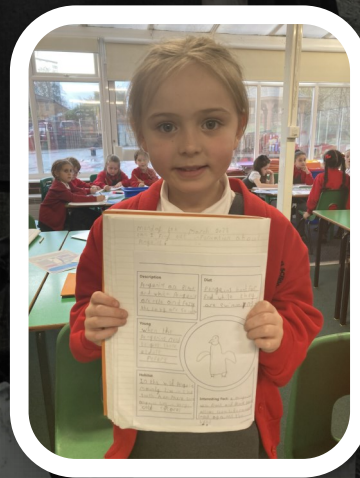
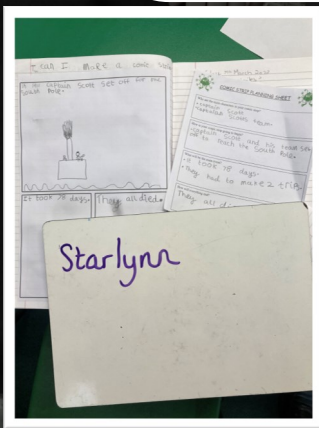
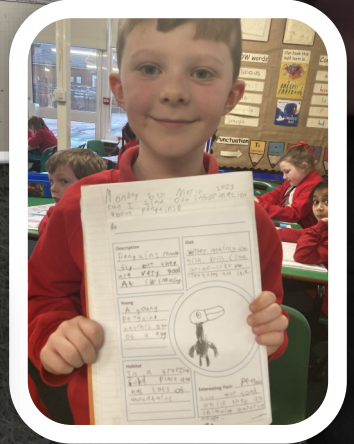
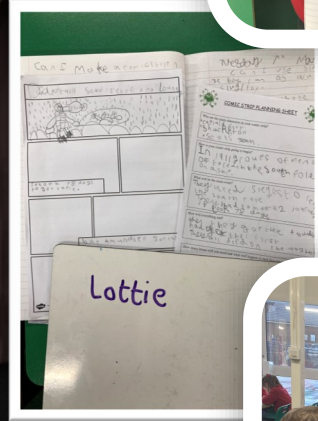
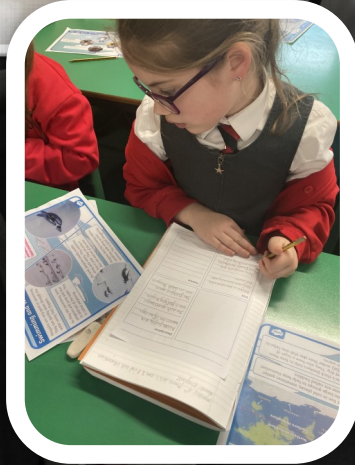
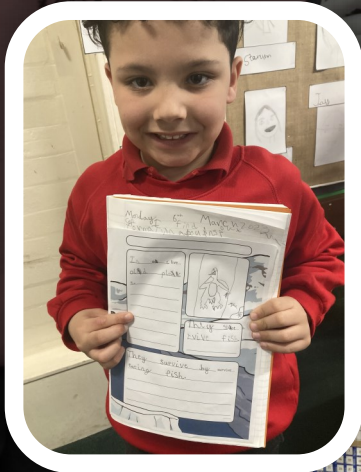
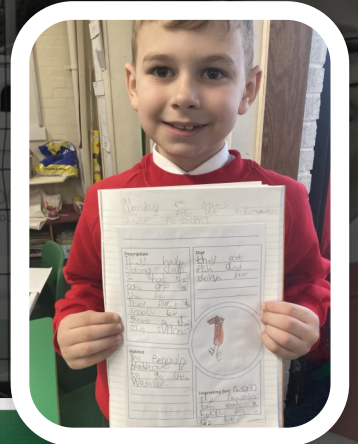
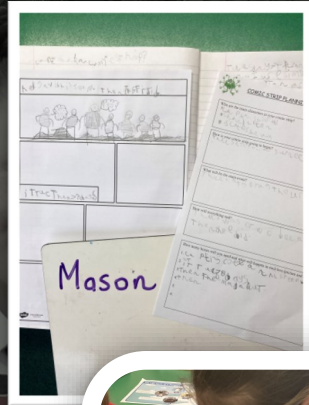
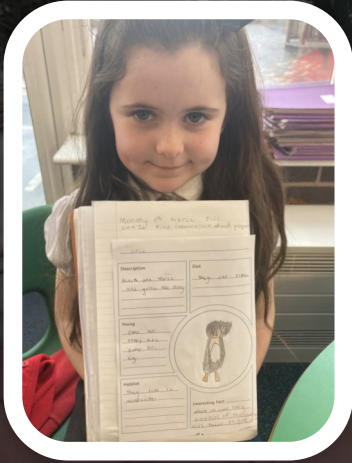
The children had a go using tools and equipment that they might need if they were an explorer and even erected a tent in the classroom using material, a washing line, pegs and rocks to weigh it down.

We've made the decision to end our plant experiment so the children all compared the results to their predictions. Unfortunately, they didn't flower to help us with the fauna and flora aims in art this term but we're hoping we'll be able to spot a few more flowers in forest school in the coming weeks.

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Wonderful Y2 Writing



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Attendance



Class	Attendance
Reception	91.8%
Year 1	86.8%
Year 2	93.9%
Year 3	91.8%
Year 4	89.6%
Year 5	94.6%
Year 6	93.9%

Whole school attendance this week 91.8%

Class attendance winners Year 5 94.6%

Well done to all the children who were in school every day this week. Our lucky £10 winner in the attendance raffle was Kamila in Year 3.

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10 WAYS PARENTS CAN SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN TO BUILD POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH HABITS



01
Encourage your child to openly talk about their feelings and thoughts



02
When your child is worrying help them to effectively problem solve



03
Support them to connect and build positive relationships with others



04
Encourage them to look after their physical health (Sleep, food, exercise)



05
Help them to stay focused on the present moment using mindfulness



06
Highlight the importance of looking after both physical and mental health



07
Be a mental health role model. Demonstrate positive behaviours



08
Praise, encourage, motivate and regular support your child to build their self esteem



09
Work together to learn some coping skills such as deep breathing



10
As your child grows up encourage and support autonomy

 @BELIEVEPHQ





Term Dates and Events

- 13th-17th Mar Neurodiversity Celebration Week
- 15th-16th Mar Proposed NEU strike days—possible closure
- 17th Mar Comic Relief Day
- 19th Mar Mothering Sunday
- 20th-24th Mar Nursery Stay & Play sessions this week
- 27th-31st Mar Rec-y6 Teacher-Parent meetings this week
- 30th Mar Easter Bonnet competition
- Fri 31st Mar Easter Service at St John's Church
- Fri 31st Mar School finishes at 1:30pm for Easter break

3rd—14th April **EASTER BREAK**

Mon 17th Apr School reopens at 8:50am

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YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR

OUTDOOR FAMILY SESSIONS

6 WEEK OF
TASTER SESSIONS
AVAILABLE NOW!
MARCH/APRIL

FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO BOOK YOUR PLACE
EMAIL....
CONNECT@BRIGHTPARK.CO.UK

Providing new outdoor learning
opportunities for under 5's

At Bright Park
10am - 12:00am

BRING YOUR CHILD
AND ENJOY
TOGETHER!

£2 PER
CHILD

YOU'LL FIND US AT
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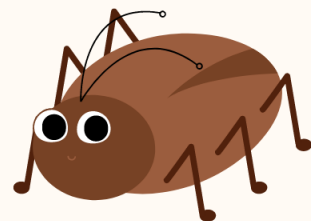
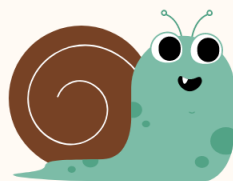
THINGS TO NOTE:

It's all about about exploring
and being creative!

Lots of oppurtunites for free play and to
engage in a range of fun activities.

Activities will include
nature walks, insect
hunts, story telling,
nature crafts and
games, muddy play and
more!

Please bring your own snacks
Water is available for all



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Help and Advice

For a range of local services - info@localsolutions.org.uk

Parenting

Early Communications—a language enrichment group (Wednesday mornings) for 2-3 year-olds at Stoneycroft Children's Centre. www.stoneycroftchildrenscentre.co.uk/

There's a range of groups and activities available at Yew Tree Children's Centre for parents whose children are 0-5 years.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres/yew-tree-childrens-centre/>

The Drive is a local community centre offering a range of activities for family members, old and young. They also run weekly food clubs and provide breakfast/lunch to families during school holidays. <https://www.the-drive.org/home>

Domestic Abuse

For support around domestic abuse - <https://worstkeptsecret.org.uk/>

You, Me Mum course (for women suffering domestic abuse) running 24th Jan to 28th March at Yew Tree Children's Centre (creche available) Call the Centre to book on 296 7950

For more advice and support, follow us on Twitter @Knotty_Families

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Winter Illness

Advice from NHS

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

High temperature

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until ALL the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks.

Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

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