



Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 16th JUNE 2023



Loving Learning Together



Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

The week started with a BSL lesson, led by the Deafness Resource Centre but held in our new conference room. It was lovely to see so many family, friend and even governors come for their first lesson!



Fast forward to Friday, and our Knotty Ash Signing Choir, who have been learning BSL for much longer, travelled all the way to Birmingham to perform the English and Australian national anthems at the opening match of The Ashes! Imagine performing in front of a stadium of cricket fans and a global audience on tv!



Our children are so cool!

Our wonderful new Signing Choir t-shirts arrived just in time, thanks to Gary Millar at Liverpool Fashion Hub!



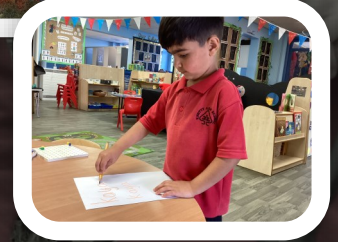
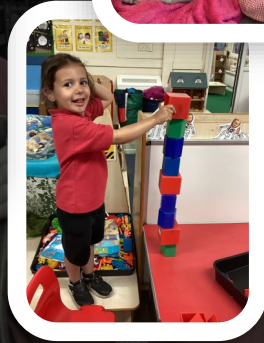
A bit more about staff from September...

The eagle-eyed amongst you may have noticed a few changes in the staff plan next year. Don't worry, Mr England will still be with us—he's going to be teaching 1 day a week in y4 and 1 day a week in y2, as well as continuing to do his other roles of Deputy Head and Sendco. Sadly, Mrs Colligan will be leaving us, having been a valued member of the team for the last few years. Her expertise and kindness have been appreciated by children, staff and families in KS1 and EYFS.

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What have we been learning? Nursery



This week in nursery we have enjoyed doing all our outdoor sporting activities first thing in the morning before it has got too hot. We practised rolling the ball to one another whilst sitting down in PE, we got the parachute out and played lots of singing and chasing games. We also ran round the running track but not as many times as usual!

In phonics, we have been making up rhyming sentences and we have been learning all about the W sound. We did a seaside sound story as well.

In maths we have been discussing the properties of 3D shapes and then investigating their properties. We watched Number Jacks about a monster that turned spheres into cubes - we thought it was funny when the marbles changed to cubes on a marble run!

We talked about healthy packed lunches after we had re-read The Light House Keeper's Lunch.

We made dens outside to keep cool in the hot sun.

We have been practising writing our names.

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What have we been learning?

Reception



Well, this week has been a hot week for all, especially Reception so we have spent some lovely time over in Forest School in the cool shelter of the wooded area. We even took snack over one day and the children loved exploring and playing with their friends.

This week we have covered the sounds 'oi' and 'ear' and the children have been writing some fantastic words and sentences to go with their new sounds. We have also started learning about doubles and they are already super quick at recalling doubles to 5! We have been very impressed.

Mr Mills also joined us on Thursday afternoon and taught the children all about AR. They then had a go at putting animals into our classroom using AR on the iPads. Lots of fun and laughter was had – including the adults too!

Thank you for another lovely week Reception 😊

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What have we been learning?

Year 1



We have been super busy in Year 1 this week. On Tuesday we made our special person cards for our loved ones at home. In Communities and Diversity, we have been learning the 7 things that we can spot when identifying whether something is alive or dead. We then focused our attentions on food chains and made our own food chains using sea creatures. The children also learnt what herbivore, omnivore and carnivore meant. They then identified different sea animals that could fit into these categories. In Spanish we learnt different food names and learnt the phrases 'me gusta' and 'no me gusta'. Subsequently, we applied these phrases and had mini conversations with each other. During PE lessons we focused on rolling the ball and stopping it before it reached a certain target. We also challenged ourselves by rolling it through a partner's legs and starting in a laying down position before stopping the ball.

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What have we been learning?

Year 2



In Maths, Year 2 have been continuing with the theme of statistics. We looked at tally charts, tables and block diagrams. On Monday, we went to visit Year 4 and asked them some questions based on some themes that we had discussed in class so that we could create our own tally charts. On Thursday, the children had to build a 3D block diagram to represent the favourite artists of the people in our class using building blocks.

In History, we continued looking at and comparing artists from the past and present day. The children created fact files on two of the different artists that they had learned about during the lesson. They enjoyed collecting some information from various fact sheets scattered around the room and they even had a go at sketching in the style of their chosen artists.

This week, Year 2 were discovering the importance of beat and rhythm in Music. We had a go at some different activities to introduce the significance of keeping a consistent beat in a song and the children tried clapping the rhythm of their own names, relating to the number of syllables they had.

In Spanish, Year 2 learned how to say the names of five different colours in addition to recapping the five colour names that they had learnt last term. In keeping with our music lessons, we clapped the rhythm of the new vocabulary we learned and played some interactive games to help us remember the words. Finally we recapped our learning by playing a game of Spanish bingo—'¡Sopresa!'

Also, well done to Daniel for receiving a football award and trophy for saving a lot of goals!

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What have we been learning?

Year 3



Year 3 have been fantastic again this week, working so hard in all side of the curriculum. We have had some tests to do over the course of the week and they have been amazing. These are just end of year tests and the teacher assessments will be written in the reports at the end of the academic year. As well as this, the children have been continuing their book art project, this week doing more work on Gambia, looking at some facts from the country, special cuisine, animals that live there and what the climate is like. The children are very carefully piecing together their book art's and they cannot wait to show them to our parents soon. We had a lovely relaxing Friday (with no tests) doing landscape art outside in a nice shaded space. The children used charcoal and pastels to create their masterpieces. We also had a wonderfully fun game of dodgeball to end the week on an active note! Also, they learned how to whittle sticks in forest school on Thursday.

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What have we been learning?

Year 4



It's been a great week with plenty of sun outside! We have tried our best to stay hydrated and cool! This past week, Year 4 have worked really hard as there has been lots to complete. We have worked our way through Reading, Maths and Grammar assessments - the children should be really proud of themselves! Furthermore, this week, we completed our official times-tables check. The children did ever so well and each and every person got a super score - they made it look easy! Thank you for practising at home with your child as you could really tell the hard work that was put in to learning a skill that will really help in Mathematics for years to come. This week, we also had Ms James come in to teach the class music. We learned how to sing and play the first half of the song What a Wonderful World on our glockenspiels. We are using this to inspire us to write a song based on looking after our planet. In Geography, we discovered lots of facts about The Gambi and other amazing African countries. It was great to get playing a full game of chess with Mr Steele too! What a week!

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What have we been learning?

Year 5



Year 5 have shown a high level of resilience this week. We have been doing our end of year assessments, despite the heat, the children have worked really hard to show what they have learnt this year. We have also focused on using prefixes and suffixes and the rules we need to follow when adding them to a root word. The children have started to investigate The Earthshot Prize linking to our unit sustainable development. They also explored the work of Charlot Magayi and the achievements she has made to help air pollution in Kenya. In PE, the children enjoyed a Y5 vs Y6 game of rounder and then continued to develop their skill set in Tennis on Wednesday. Mr England also did some athletics skills with Year 5, ready for the competition for some of our children next week. We all hope you have a lovely weekend and are as excited as we are for the residential next week!

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What have we been learning?

Year 6



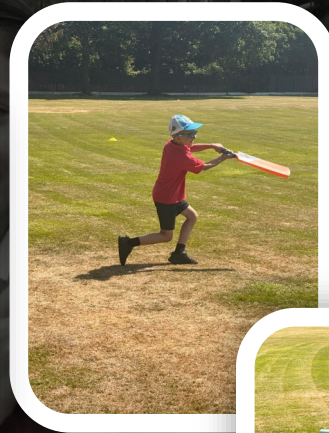
Ah, another glorious week of sunshine here at Knotty Ash! We've made full use of it, for our tennis training on Wednesday, or for our Eurovision celebration in Bright Park for some of us on Thursday. In between, we've been hard at work as ever: completing our science presentations and also running auditions for our end of year show. Watch this space for more details on that in the coming weeks! Have a great weekend everyone!

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What have we been learning?

DRB 1



What gorgeous weather we've had this week! We have taken advantage of this and taken our Infant DRB outdoors to keep nice and cool, but just as importantly to have fun and learn.

In Language, we have been learning how to make a get well card and had an opportunity to post these at the post box outside our school. We also chatted about the journey our cards will go on, who will collect our cards, and how our cards will then get posted out to our houses.

We loved maths this week! We did lots of number recognition, addition and subtraction calculations outside using water to paint our answer on the walls. We also made our own ice lollies and learnt lots of new vocabulary such as: full, half full, empty, pour, freeze and lots more. We couldn't wait to taste our treats they were delicious!

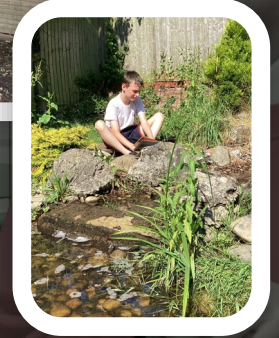
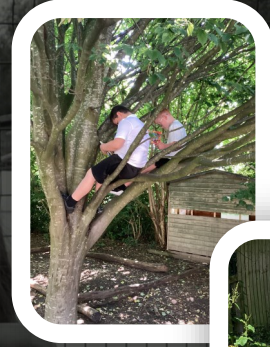
Finally, we went to the cricket tournament at Alder Cricket Club. We did brilliantly with our bowling and batting skills. What a great team we are!

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What have we been learning?

DRB 2



Junior DRB have taken advantage of another week of lovely weather playing tennis outside with their year groups. We have had lots of opportunities for outdoor learning through forest school and hunting outside for living and non-living things in science. From this, we initiated a new experiment on our 'Sustainable Development' topic, particularly focusing on plastic pollution, where we will watch what will happen to living and non-living things in water over time.

In English, we continue to work from the ORT book 'Let's Recycle' and have been working through the story using expressive role-play. The children took turns being the teacher to ask 'who?', 'doing what?' to each character and have begun to discuss 'where'. They are really enjoying the story and have been relating it to real-life events, prompting discussion about recycling during break time.

We have been able to use the story throughout the curriculum and in art have had a try at weaving using recycled materials. The children loved expressing their creativity using different mediums and created some beautiful artwork using plastic bags and sticks.

In maths we are focusing more on money, recognising coin values, and exploring addition with money. We opened our DRB *Tuck Shop*, where the children were able to apply their knowledge of these new practical skills through role-play.

This Thursday all of the DRB children were excited to take part in the Deaf Sporting Event at Alder Cricket Club, where they got to show off their cricket skills and socialise with lots of

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Attendance



Class	Attendance
Reception	96.1%
Year 1	97.2%
Year 2	95.2%
Year 3	87.1%
Year 4	92.1%
Year 5	97.0%
Year 6	92.1%

Whole school attendance this week **93.8%**

Class attendance winners **Year 1 97.2%**

Well done to all the children who were in school every day.

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I'm pleased to share news of a training event at The Brain Charity on Thursday 13th July 5-6:30pm. This informal evening session is for parents of young people with neurological conditions who might be concerned about the risks they face from YouTube and online gaming.



BE ONLINE AWARE

with The Brain Charity's SafetyNet course

Free media literacy and digital awareness training covering:

Fake news and how to spot it

The basics of Google Documents, printing and email

Online safety, fraud and scam awareness

Using the internet to save money

Conspiracy theories and misinformation

Improving online confidence

Finding reliable online news

Safe use of social media

Free for anyone who has a neurological condition or cares for someone who does. We provide devices to use – just bring yourself!



At
The Brain Charity
(Norton Street, Liverpool)
and venues across
Merseyside.

SAFETYNET

Be Online Aware

To book

Email safetynet@thebraincharity.org.uk
or call 0151 298 2999 and ask for Suzanne or Ali.

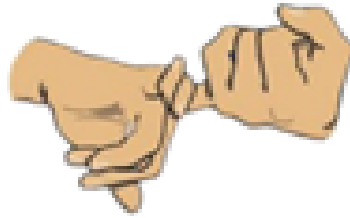
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Group Family Sign



Come & learn sign language with us!

Every Monday for 4 weeks

**At Knotty Ash Primary School,
Thomas Lane, Knotty Ash, L14 5NX**

**Starting Monday
12th June 2023, 1.30–3pm**

For more information & to book your place please contact:

E: ICAN@deafnessresourcecentre.org

T: 01744 23887

Deafness Resource Centre, 32-40 Dentons Green Lane, St Helens, WA10 2QB



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A letter from Liverpool City Council...



Liverpool
City Council

Dear Parent or Guardian

The May "Eat to Meet 2" Half Term programme starts on the 29th May and there are lots of great activities happening over the school holidays. Children and young people, from reception to age 16, who are eligible for benefits related free school meals, will be able to access hundreds of activities throughout the half term holidays including specific provision available for children with SEND or additional needs, at no cost. There's a great range of activities across the city including boxing, football, music, dance, cycling, cooking, discos, films, bowling, arts and crafts, drama, a make up course, trips out and much more! Every day there will be a range of fabulous meals available with many schemes holding family events as well.

To find out where your nearest scheme is click on this link <https://merseyplay.com/may-half-term-eat-to-meet/> or go to <https://www.merseyplay.com> and click on the May half term activities link.

When you have chosen the activity/scheme you will need to contact that organisation to book a place. Each organisation will have either a telephone number, email address or online booking system. If your child has any additional needs or dietary requirements then please discuss this with the organisation when you book. There is no central booking system so please read the details of the programmes on the website and contact the providers directly.

- If you want to know how to register or how to check if your child is eligible for free school meals then please click on the link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>
- You will need your national insurance number or an asylum seekers support number.
- If you are struggling with the cost of living then please click: <https://www.liverpool.gov.uk/cost-of-living/>
- If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. Click on the link to find out how to register <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Liverpool City Council is working with Mersey Play Action Council, Sutton Croft and the local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to deliver the Half Term Activity programme.

The Family Information and SEND Directory also provides a wealth of useful information and support for families - [FISD](#).

Regards

Sally Dobbing

Sally Dobbing - HAF Project Manager



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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 apps 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 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) SOLUTIONS

AI solutions are becoming increasingly popular. Trained on vast datasets of text (such as books, articles and websites) in order to learn patterns and relationships, AI solutions can generate text, images, audio, video, code or synthetic data, and can be used for things such as crafting poems or books, creating digital imagery or delivering video content. Recently there's been significant discussion in relation to the benefits and risks of AI solutions, with many undecided on whether it will be a force for good or potentially reduce the need for some job roles.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ROOM FOR INACCURACY

AI solutions, such as language models, generate their responses purely based on the data they've been trained on, which often comes from sources on the Internet. Whilst questions will often illicit relevant responses, if some of the information they've been 'fed' is incorrect, it follows that the answers too may contain factual errors or inaccuracies.

REINFORCING BIAS

AI solutions, such as those generating content or images, can perpetuate existing biases present in the data they were trained, whether through the algorithms written by humans or the content taken from the web. This could easily lead to biased responses and potentially reinforce existing stereotypes, such as those around gender, race or disability.

IRRELEVANT INFORMATION

AI solutions don't have the ability to understand the context or meaning behind a question or a user request. Although highly advanced, the AI relies entirely on the data it's been exposed to and is devoid of independent thought or reasoning, which could lead to irrelevant or even nonsensical responses to queries.

LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY

Fundamentally, AI solutions are machines or technology programmes that don't have the ability to take responsibility for the responses they generate. This could lead to confusion or misunderstandings in certain cases if the answers are taken as given. For instance, image-generative AIs can lead to output clearly derived from other peoples' content but without any attribution to the original source artist's work.

STIFLING CREATIVITY

One of the potential risks of children and young people continually using AI solutions for things (such as their homework) is that eventually, they might become reliant on it. In the long term, this could potentially impact their development and hamper their ability to think creatively or solve problems independently without the aid of an AI tool.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If possible, try to be around when your child uses any type of AI solution and employ content filters to try and reduce the chance of profanity or age-inappropriate subjects appearing in responses. As with any kind of technology, it's important to ensure that children are using AI solutions responsibly and to be there to enable opportunities to discuss their use as part of a safe environment.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Explain to your child that AI solutions can be used as one of many tools to help them research and learn, but that they shouldn't simply accept the responses they receive as the truth. Encourage them to question, verify and think critically about the information they get back – all of which apply equally to any website or platform they use.

DISCUSS BIAS

Talk to your child about the potential biases that may be present in the data that AI solutions are trained on, and how these viewpoints might find their way into the responses that AI generates. Again, with many things children might read online, it's healthy for them to consider whether the information is factual and presented fairly.

ENCOURAGE HUMAN INTERACTION

Not only should children supplement any use of software like AI with additional resources such as books and reputable internet sites, but they also should remember what they can learn from interaction with other people. Discussing things with teachers, relatives and friends isn't just an important and often invaluable aspect of learning – it's an essential part of life, too.

CHECK SCHOOL RULES

Make yourself aware of any rules or guidance your child's school might have about the use of AI solutions. Most software is still extremely new, so many schools may not yet have a policy, however, it's important to make sure your child is aware of how to use it appropriately and will be using it for the right reasons.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://openai.com/blog/chatgpt/> | <https://generativeai.net/> | <https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/mckinsey-explainers/what-is-generative-ai>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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Term Dates and Events

22nd-23rd June	Y5 & 6 trip to Chester
3rd—7th July	Houses Theme Week
Wed 5th July	Y6 Secondary transition day
Wed 5th July	Nursery Intake evening
Fri 7th July	Knottashtonbury Festival!
Wed 12th July	Reception Intake evening
Fri 14th July	Y6 Leavers' Evening : play and awards
Wed 19th July	End of Term

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Family Activities & Support

The latest edition of the Liverpool Parenting Newsletter is here.

<https://sway.office.com/yaQ6W3itHm4L9gTU?ref=Link>

you will find new information about local support available for families and children in Liverpool, along with information regarding events and activities on offer running from March to May 2023.

We have also been sent information about Family Learning and Engagement Courses run by LCC Adult Learning Service. This can be found on our school website, link here:

<https://knotty-ash-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/family-information-and-support/>

For families in receipt of benefits related free school meals, there are a variety of activities over the Easter break, all of which are free and include a meal:

<https://merseyplay.com/easter-haf-holiday-activities-food/>

Locally, St John's Church offer a range of community groups and activities for families:

<https://www.stjohnsknottyash.org/our-community>

There's also 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/>

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Help and Advice

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

Parenting

Solihull Free Online Parenting Courses are now available on a mobile app. Go to the website: <https://inourplace.co.uk/> and enter the access code PURPLEBIN to register for any of the FREE parenting programmes Or download the Free app and do a course on your mobile device at your own pace.

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

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/>

If you are worried about anything affecting your own or your children's safety or wellbeing, please get in touch in confidence and we'll be able to signpost you to support.

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

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