



NEWSLETTER

22nd September 2023

Meet the Teacher:

We were delighted to welcome all of the parents who attended our 'Meet the teacher' on site, it was lovely to see how many parents attended. Our teachers have expressed how grateful they were that you could spend a few minutes discussing the year ahead.

Sports day:

A reminder that we have sports day for the year groups who had theirs cancelled before the Summer holidays due to the poor weather.

Current Year 2s will have their sports day at 9:15am on Monday 25th September. Year 3s sports day will be on Tuesday 26th September at 9:15am. Parents are welcome to attend. We ask that parents take their child to their class as normal and the wait for them on the school field area.

Read with the children:

Please remember that parents are invited to come in at **2:30pm on Monday** to read with their children – you'll have the opportunity to share a story, talk to the teacher and be able to talk about a book with no interruptions.

Class A-E – parents can join us for a phonics session on **Tuesday 3rd October at 8:50am** to see how their child learns and how you can help them during these key reading years.

Lifestyle opportunity clubs:

With the great success of last year's 'Lifestyle opportunity clubs', we are happy to announce we will be continuing the clubs this term. Letters have gone out with children to sign up for clubs and will be emailed out to parents as well. **Clubs will begin the week commencing Monday 2nd October** so form must be returned to the school office before this date. Places will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis and any children who can't access the club yet will be placed on a waiting list.

Weekly attendance rewards:

From Friday 22nd September, a weekly draw will be made including all children who have achieved 100% attendance and punctuality that week. The prize of the draw will be a **£10.00 ASDA voucher**. The winner will be able to agree how to spend this with their family. We hope to see as many children as possible in the draw each week.

**A huge WELL DONE to this week's winner: Lylah
from Class B!**



Suggestions for reading with your child. Just 10 minutes a day can boost your child's confidence, imagination and vocabulary. Check out 50 recommended books for each year group!



Nursery Recommended Books



This block features a white box with a double-line border. At the top, two book covers are shown: 'Rainbow' and 'Lots of Dots'. Below them, the text 'Nursery Recommended Books' is centered. A large QR code is positioned in the middle of the box.



Reception Recommended Books



This block features a white box with a double-line border. At the top, two book covers are shown: 'Zog' and 'I Had a Little Kappa'. Below them, the text 'Reception Recommended Books' is centered. A large QR code is positioned in the middle of the box.



Year 1 Recommended Books



This block features a white box with a double-line border. At the top, two book covers are shown: 'Look Up!' and 'Astronomy'. Below them, the text 'Year 1 Recommended Books' is centered. A large QR code is positioned in the middle of the box.

Reading For Pleasure - enjoy a story



Year 2 Recommended Books



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and some quality time at home!



Year 3 Recommended Books



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Year 4 Recommended Books



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Year 5 Recommended Books



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Year 6 Recommended Books



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Useful Link for Parents:

This page is where we will provide a link and barcode for useful links for parents. These will get updated weekly.

2. **Sheffield Children's Speech and Language Therapy website**

This is a website where you can find videos and information about developing your child's communication skills at home.

<https://www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/services/speech-and-language-therapy-new-homepage/communicating-kids/>



Links from previous weeks:

1. **Sheffield Children's Speech and Language Therapy Patient Information Library.**

This is a website where you can find information about activities, resources and therapy techniques to help your child's communication home



Staying Safe Online!

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 issue of many 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 AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

WHERE IS IT FOUND?

SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

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Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

CAN WE HAVE A CHAT?

CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.

BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.

GET SPECIALIST HELP

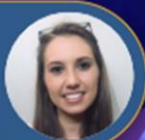
Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.

STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



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National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.education.gov.za/documents/about/programa/bullyingstoppers/inappropriate.pdf> | <https://www.education.gov.za/education/training-professionals/professional-learning-program/machine/inappropriate-content-factsheet/> | <https://www.education.gov.za/education/training-professionals/professional-learning-program/machine/inappropriate-content-factsheet/>



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Weekly Attendance

18th – 22nd September 2023

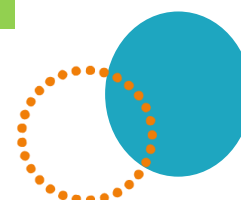


EYFS	A	95%
EYFS	B	93%
Y1/Y2	C	95%
Y1/Y2	D	95%
Y1/Y2	E	93%
Y3	F	94%
Y3	G	95%
Y4	H	92%
Y4	I	92%
Y5	J	94%
Y5	K	99%
Y6	L	98%
Y6	M	89%
Y3-Y6	N	99.5%
Whole School Attendance		94.3%

Well done to classes: K, L and N for achieving over 96%!

At Birley Spa Primary Academy we are committed to helping all pupils to achieve their full potential. Good attendance is a key factor in raising pupils' attainment and supporting their personal development. Whilst it is appreciated that children are ill from time to time, please think carefully before allowing your child to be absent from school. The chart below provides an indication of how just a few days absence can significantly impact a child's overall attendance percentage and impede their learning:

Description	Attendance	Whole Days Lost	Lost Hours of Learning
Excellent	100 – 99%	0 – 2	0 – 10
Good	98 – 96%	4 – 7.5	20 – 37.5
Requires Improvement	95 – 91%	9.5 – 17	47.5 – 85
Persistent Absentee	90 – 86%	19 – 27	95 – 135
Critical	85 – 80%	28.5 – 38	142.5 – 190



STAR OF THE WEEK

18th – 22nd September 2023

Class:		
A	Precious – Being a positive Role model and showing great Teamwork .	Brooke – Being an enthusiastic and Creative learner and settling into classroom routines.
B	Chloe – Showing great Aspiration in reading using her taught phonics skills.	Louie – Showing great Aspiration in using his phonics skills to independently write labels in provision.
C	Pippa – Showing Creativity and Endeavour when working independently in class.	Charlotte – Showing Aspiration and Creativity in class, especially in Literacy.
D	Amelia – For being a positive Role model for the class.	Anabelle – For identifying her own targets in handwriting and writing cursively all the time.
E	Darcey – Showing Empathy and Tolerance and being kind to all her classmates.	Ezra – Showing Aspiration and working hard to do his very best.
F	Lillie- Wonderful presentation across all subjects, a real Aspiration to do her best.	Calvin – Excellent Endeavour in Maths, enthusiasm for learning, answering every single question.
G	Lily – Making every Endeavour to achieve her very best and more, particularly in Maths and English this week. It has really shone through, keep it up!	Colby – Being really Resilient even when something is hard, always trying his best.
H	Isabelle – Resilience with handwriting and spelling. Isabelle keeps on trying till she gets it right!	Elijah – Showing Creativity in English. Elijah created some amazing expanded noun phrases using synonyms within his writing!
I	Marnie – Showing Resilience and having a positive attitude towards her learning.	Darcie – Showing Endeavour in Maths and having a positive attitude when faced with challenge.
J	Charlie – For showing all the school values!	Chance – Showing Resilience in his Maths!
K	Kian – Aspiration – Kian is always engaged in all lessons and works very hard to achieve his very best.	Amelia – Resilience – Amelia shows that she is always on task and shows great Resilience even when work can be challenging.
L	Max – Showing great Teamwork skills and challenging himself in all lessons.	Abbey – Settling into year 6 really well. Abbey is developing self-confidence and Resilience in all lessons.
M	Alice – Showing determination with your reading. Well done for being confident when reading out loud.	Coleby – Showing Empathy during History. Your prior knowledge and reasoning skills are great.
N	Mickenzie - for Aspiration! He is trying hard to be more independent.	

Dates for the Diary

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
Monday 25th September 9:15am	Year 2 – Sports day
Monday 25 th September 2:30pm – 3:00pm	Reading with Parents
Tuesday 26th September 9:15am	Year 3 – Sports day
23 rd – 27 th October 30 th October	Half term Holiday INSET day – school closed
31 st October	School Reopens to children
31 st October 3:10pm – 3:25pm	Meet the teacher
1 st November 3:10pm – 3:25pm	Meet the teacher
15 th November	Individual School Photos
4 th December	Student Flu Vaccinations
25 th December – 5 th January 2024 8 th January	Christmas Holidays INSET day – school closed
9 th January 2024	School Reopens to children
12 th – 16 th February 2024	Half term Holiday
19 th February 2024	School Reopens for children
29 th March – 12 th April 2024	Easter Holidays
1 st May 2024	School Reopens to children
6 th May 2024	Bank Holiday – School Closed
27 th May – 31 st May 2024 3 rd June	Half term Holiday INSET day – School closed
4 th June 2024	School Reopens for children
23 rd July 2024	Last day of the Academic Year
2 nd /3 rd September 2024	INSET Days – School closed