



# NEWSLETTER

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023



## Young Voices:

We are happy to announce that we have booked Young Voices 2024! Our Year 5s are invited to represent Birley Spa at Sheffield's Utility Arena. The children will learn songs and perform them in a concert alongside other school in our area.

Your child should have received a letter regarding more details, including timings before the half term break.

## Parents Science Evening:

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the parents drop in evening on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. We loved seeing you all; the feedback given by some of you was amazing to hear! We can't wait to do more events like this in the future.

## Some feedback from the event:

'Enjoyed interacting with my child today, I would love to see this kind of activity as homework!'

'I have really enjoyed joining in with the science class and seeing my child interacting with his friends in the classroom environment.'

'I liked being able to come and get involved with my daughter's learning.'



Our year 3 children constructing a portal story back to the stone age.



## Weekly Attendance Reward:

Well done to this week's 100% attendance reward winner!

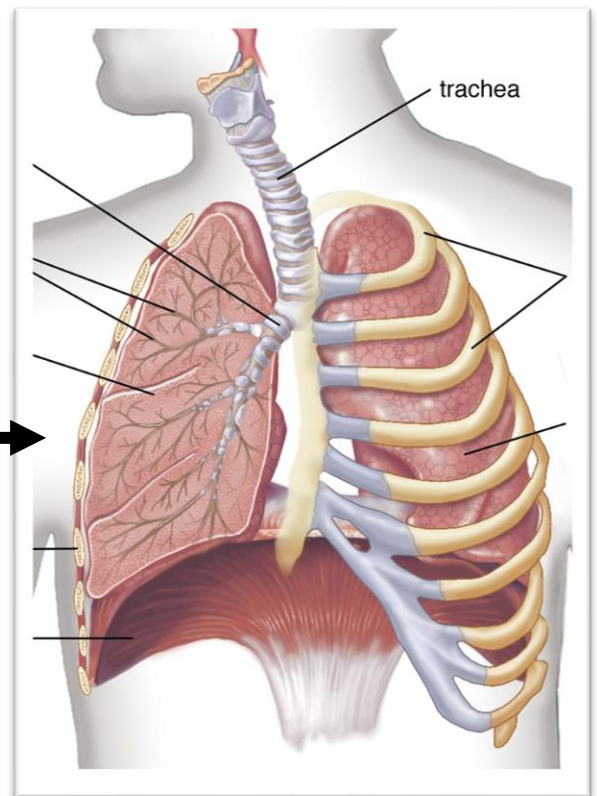
## Lifestyle opportunity clubs:

A kind reminder to parents who have booked their child onto a Lifestyle Opportunity Club, Payment via the school gateway is needed for these children to continue attending. Children, who's parents have not paid will be turned away form clubs.

If you are struggling to complete payment please contact the school office for assistance on 0114 239 9106 or alternatively message the school gateway.



**First Aid Club, Experimenting how lungs work!**





## Useful Link for Parents:

### 5. The Communication Trust and ICAN Talking Point

Talking Point helps parents who are concerned about their child's communication development. They also provide information and strategies to help with this at home.

<http://ican.org.uk>



## Links from previous weeks:

### 6. Better Health Start for Life

Ideas to help children aged 0-5 years to develop speech and communication.

<https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/baby/learning-to-talk/1-to-2-years/#anchor-tabs>



### 4. South Yorkshire Talking Together

This is a website for parents and carers living in South Yorkshire to help develop vital communication skills in children.

<https://sy-talkingtogether.co.uk/>



### 3. Sheffield Parent Carer Forum

They are an independent group of parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Their main aim is to ensure the needs of our children are met. We bring together parent carers from across Sheffield to provide mutual support, exchange information, and influence policy and practice.

The SPCF have a dedicated Speech and Language groups for parents/carers which runs once every two months. There will be dedicated topics to discuss and support parents.

<http://sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk>



### 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/>



### 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 at home





# Staying Safe Online!

All 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 app of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION  
13+

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.

18

CENSORED

### EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

WR&#39;M!

### TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become "TikTok famous". While most aspiring stars hoping to be "the next big thing" will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.

REVEAL

### HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next mean it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

### IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase "TikTok coins", which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 99p to an eye-watering £99 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopify, which allows users to buy products through the app.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

### MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 18s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 18s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

### LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

### USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

### MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

### Meet Our Expert

Harven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



NOS  
National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

SOURCES: TikTok.com



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

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# Opportunities in the Community:



## SEND AND SLEEP INFORMATION SESSION

**ALL WELCOME** – No diagnosis required.

**FREE** of charge

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**12.30 – 2 pm**

**Stradbroke Community Centre**

Richmond Road, S13 8LT



- Join one of our Peer Support Workers to learn more about SEND and sleep and have the opportunity to discuss any issues around the subject that you would like support with.
- Please book via our website:  
<https://sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk/events/>
- Please note that this session is not suitable for accompanying children.



# Weekly Attendance

## 30<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

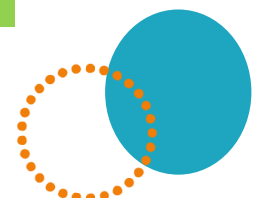


EYFS	A	92%
EYFS	B	96.1%
Y1/Y2	C	97.8%
Y1/Y2	D	92.4%
Y1/Y2	E	98.6%
Y3	F	97.2%
Y3	G	92.5%
Y4	H	92.4%
Y4	I	92.7%
Y5	J	96.6%
Y5	K	97%
Y6	L	92.8%
Y6	M	90.3%
Y3/Y6	N	98.6%
<b>Whole School Attendance</b>		<b>94.6%</b>

### Well done to: Class 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

## 16<sup>th</sup> – 20th October 2023

Class:		
A	Lylah – Showing Empathy and Teamwork and being a kind and helpful member of the class.	Khamilah – Being Tolerant and showing kindness by helping other children.
B	Lilianna – Showing great Tolerance when sharing resources with friends.	Oliver – Showing great Resilience and knowledge completing his Maths work.
C	Bentley – Showing kindness and Empathy towards his class and adults in school.	Amelia – Showing Endeavour and Aspiration in numeracy.
D	Pheobe - Endeavour for having a positive attitude when faced with a challenge.	Beryl - <u>Resilience</u> for overcoming the challenge of starting a new school.
E	Bella – Endeavouring to do her very best and showing Resilience with some tricky Maths. She is also a super friend and is happy to help them.	Poppy – Being an ‘always’ pupil. You are a super Role model who always Endeavours to do your best and listens carefully to both adults and children when they are sharing their ideas.
F	Ollie – Empathy and Tolerance with his classmates to help support them at all times.	Calvin – Teamwork in our stone age afternoon.
G	Alice – Creativity in our stone age afternoon, really getting stuck in and bringing the stone age to life.	Teegan – Resilience in her Maths and English.
H	Jax – Showing Resilience – Jax is always working hard on his handwriting and never gives up.	Isabelle – Showing Empathy – Isabelle is always being kind and helpful to her classmates and teachers.
I	Lacie-Rose - Joining in class discussions and sharing her ideas.	Alarnie - challenging herself with her writing and working independently.
J	George – Showing Aspiration in all his lessons and being really kind to his peers.	Tommy – Showing all the school values and being ready to learn at all times!
K	Dianne – Always showing all of our school values and being a fantastic Role model to her class and year group.	Conor – Aspiration – Conor shows high expectations by always engaging in class discussions and achieving the best outcome possible.
L	Jamelia – Showing a keen interest in our WW2 topic and producing some good quality writing and showing Creativity.	Connor – Participating really well during on WW2 day this week. Connor is now showing a really positive attitude to learning.
M	Sana – Becoming more confident when sharing your ideas in front of the class. Well done for showing Resilience.	Olivia – Showing Resilience when talking in front of the class. Your confidence is shining through.
N	Mickenzie – Teamwork – Mickenzie has shown his skills in working with others as he has shown his skills in working with others as he has welcomed our new boy with a big smile and played football with him.	

# Dates for the Diary

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
7 <sup>th</sup> November 3:30 - 6:00pm	Parents Evening
9 <sup>th</sup> November 3:30 – 5:30pm	Parents Evening
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual School Photos
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Reading with Parents
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Student Flu Vaccinations
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Science experiments with Parents
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Phonics with Parents
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fayre
19 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Concerts
22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas Craft Afternoon
25 <sup>th</sup> December – 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas Holidays INSET day – school closed
9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	School Reopens to children
12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Half term Holiday
19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	School Reopens for children
19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Young Voices Trip for Year 5
29 <sup>th</sup> March – 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Easter Holidays
1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024	School Reopens to children
6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	<b>Bank Holiday – School Closed</b>
27 <sup>th</sup> May – 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half term Holiday INSET day – School closed
4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	School Reopens for children
23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024	Last day of the Academic Year
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024	INSET Days – School closed