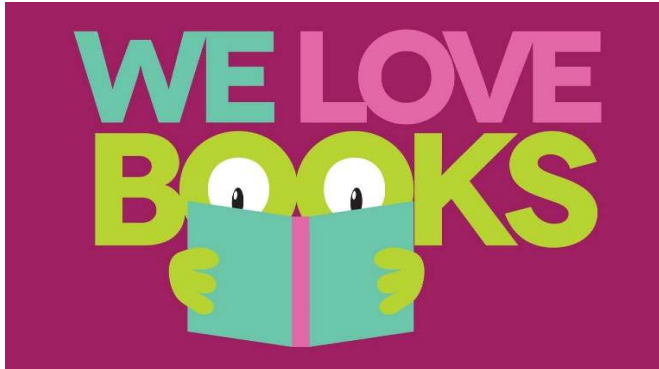




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February 17th 2023 Issue 6 Spring Term 1



This half term we've enjoyed some amazing books across school and even created a fantastic new reading journey display!

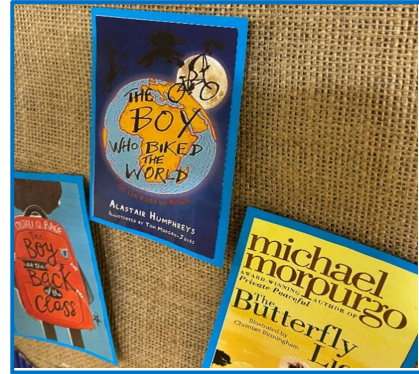


Reception's "Space" topic has been out of this world! We enjoyed reading *Whatever Next*, *Aliens Love Underpants* and their favourite - *The Dinosaur That Pooped a Planet!* We wrote about the planets, designed our own aliens and underpants and wrote lists of what we would take to the moon.



KS1 have loved reading the Katie Morag Island stories and finding out about the author. We wrote some fabulous biographies! We enjoyed learning *The Owl and the Pussycat* and writing our own versions – check them out on the Pride Wall! We also read *Growing Frogs* by Vivian French and found out some fascinating facts - did you know frogs squash their eyeballs down to help them swallow!

KS2 have loved reading books linked to their topic – South Africa.



Indigo class enjoyed reading *The Butterfly Lion* and created fact files all about protecting African animals using facts and information from The African Conservation Experience.

Violet Class read *The Boy Who Biked the World* – Africa, which generated some fantastic discussions around resilience and we created a news report all about his epic journey.

Blue Class have been reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class* – this book tells the story of an asylum seeker joining a new school in the UK. We learned important lessons about understanding difference. We thought and wrote about how we could help others in difficult situations through tolerance and respect.

What books will you be reading at half term?

Mrs Lambert

Half Term Reminder:

Last day of term: Friday 17th February
School re-opens: Monday 27th February

World Book Day

Thursday 2nd March



It's that time again! **World Book Day 2023 is on Thursday 2nd March.**

We are inviting all children to come into school in **pyjamas/onesies** and bring their favourite **bedtime book** to share with their friends. We'll have lots of fun activities planned encouraging all our children to get carried away with reading!

We'll be looking for all those future illustrators with a competition for children to design a front cover for their class text.

Polite Reminder:

Please be patient with our teachers at the end of the school day as we are dismissing your children. Teachers will always make sure that they can see you before letting your child leave.

If your child is being collected by someone else, please let the office or your child's class teacher know. Delays are sometimes caused when we have to make phonecalls to check. Please also ensure that children dismount any bicycles or scooters until they are out of the school gates.

Thank you for your understanding.



Super Heroes – Request

Our topic in Reception next half term is Superheroes! If you are having a spring clean and have any of the following, which you would be willing to donate, they would be gratefully received:

- Small super hero figures/toys
- Super hero themed dressing up costumes
- Real-life super hero themed dressing up costumes (e.g. Doctor/nurse/firefighter)
- Super hero vehicles (small world)

We are also looking for any **real-life superheroes** to talk to our children about their job and how they help our community. If you are a firefighter, police officer, doctor/nurse, lifeguard etc and would be happy to volunteer your time to talk to our children please get in touch.

Many thanks

The Reception Team

Applying for Nursery Places

Nursery Application forms for places in September 2023 are now available on the school website and from the office.

- **The closing date for applications is 17th March 2023.**
- **Offer letters will be emailed out on 24th March 2023.**
- **The deadline for accepting a place is Friday 28th April.**

Topics and Holiday Research Projects

Our topics for next half term are:

Early Years – Super Heroes

Super Heroes inspires, excites and engages all of our young learners. Children are now enjoying achieving what they set out to do and learning to persevere to complete more complex teacher-led challenges. Links to this topic across all areas of provision provide opportunities for creative and critical thinking. We also learn about the lives of **real life superheroes** and their important roles within our society.



KS1 – Fantastic Firsts

Children in Key Stage One are introduced to the concept of **historical significance** by learning about some significant 'firsts'. This inspiring topic broadens our understanding of past human achievements and also enables us to compare aspects of life in different periods of time.

KS2 – Ancient Egyptians

Key Stage Two are transported back in time to Ancient Egypt to learn about this significant civilisation and its global impact. Children will be interpreting **historical evidence**, learning about the **reliability of sources** and visiting the Great North Museum!



Please see the attached Topic Webs below for more information about what your children will be learning across all of our curriculum areas.

Mr Hindess



Healthy School



This website has a wealth of parenting advice from the child mental health experts at Place2Be. It has a large set of articles with further links in them with advice and top tips on how to support children's well-being or behaviour. This advice ranges from internet safety; dealing with emotions such as sadness, anger or anxiety; building resilience; how to help with friendship issues and coping with bedwetting or sleep issues. It also has articles to support parents who are struggling with how to react to their child's behaviour and articles on how to support a child when wider family issues occur. There are also some articles on how to support your child with their education and enabling them to thrive. There are almost 50 different articles so it really is worth a look, even if it's just to get a fresh perspective on some questions or thoughts you may have had in relation to your child.

Find out more on

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Mrs Wells

Pre-Loved Uniform

PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN SELL		PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN NOT SELL
OFFICIAL SCHOOL JUMPERS	£2.50	NON – OFFICIAL JUMPERS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL CARIGANS	£2.50	NON – OFFICIAL CARIGANS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL POLOS	£1.50	NON – OFFICIAL POLOS
GIRLS CHECKED DRESSES	£1.50	GREY BOYS TROUSERS
GREY PINAFORES	£1.50	GREY TAYLORED GIRLS TROUSERS
GREY SKIRTS	£0.50	GREY BOYS SHORTS
GREY GIRLS SOFT TROUSERS	£0.50	DAMAGED OR MARKED ITEMS
SCHOOL BAG (NEW STYLE)	£2.50	
SCHOOL BAG (OLD STYLE)	£1.50	
OFFICIAL PE T-SHIRT/SHORTS	£0.50	

Items are currently sold from 6 Burnside Road NE3 2DU, with a drop off box at the front door. Please **REMEMBER** items, particularly red, must not be marked as they are unable to be sold on. You can text me Kate Watkins (Parent) on 07947846974

As of the 20th of March Natasha Davy will be taking over uniform sales. Natasha's details will follow nearer this time.

Staff Training Days

Staff Training Days for GST schools this academic year will be:

- Friday 26th May 2023

Please see the dates for your diary below and the school calendar for 2022_2023.

In light of the announcement of His Majesty's coronation on Saturday 6 May 2023, an additional bank holiday has been announced on Monday 8 May and school will be closed on this day.



I wanted to celebrate all your fantastic efforts again this week. We are now in **17th** place on the Nearby Schools table, which is incredible – everyone is working so hard!

A special mention for **Hania P**, who has now played on TTRS for 273 days!!! It is no wonder you are so fast! **Joel W** comes next on the table, with 147 days played, and **Megan F** has 143 days played. Well done to you all!



Yellow class are our 'Mathletes of the Week' this week, with incredibly high class scores – well done!

Sahib S-D, **Nihal S-D** and **Joshua S** have the highest number of coins earned this week – you are all doing fantastically well!

Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date this academic year is **96.4%** which is above this time last year (94.5%)

Our classes of the week this week are **Violet Class** with **96.8%** attendance and **Yellow Class** with **95.8%** attendance.

Well done!

Mrs Lamb



www.StarStrikeSoccer.co.uk

Follow us on 

HOLIDAY CAMPS 2022 2023

DETAILS

VENUE: BLUE FLAMES, BENTON. NE12 9SF

9.15am - 3.30pm (Half Days Available upon request)

OCTOBER 24TH - 28TH (5 DAYS)

JANUARY 4TH - 6TH (3 DAYS)

FEBRUARY 20TH - 24TH (5 DAYS)

COST:

1 DAY - £15.00

2 DAYS - £30.00

3 DAYS - £40.00

4 DAYS - £50.00

5 DAYS - £55.00

Please note discount prices can't be spread over two camps.

Contact Graeme Doyle for Details
or register your child on 07887 766 460
info@starstrikesoccer.co.uk
www.starstrikesoccer.co.uk






www.StarStrikeSoccer.co.uk

Follow us on 

Star Strike Soccer have been conducting soccer courses for the past 25 years, all our coaches are experienced and F.A. Qualified and are D.B.S. checked. Our courses provide a fun, relaxed atmosphere for all children to learn and enjoy their skills and make new friends.

- Free medal for all children
- Take the Shaboom Challenge (Power Shooting Game)
- Skills, Techniques, Shooting, Goalkeeping, matches and lots more!
- All coaching indoors and outdoors
- Girls and Boys welcome

PAYMENT CAN BE MADE ON FIRST DAY OF THE COURSE
TO BOOK A PLACE TEXT CHILD'S NAME TO 07887 766 460






COME & JOIN US...

FREE HANDBALL OPEN DAY

FUN GAMES & ACTIVITIES




AGES 7-10 WELCOME

All equipment provided

FREE EVENT

Benfield Centre for Sporting Excellence,
Benfield Road, Newcastle upon Tyne,
NE6 4NU

SAT 11th FEBRUARY

4.45 - 6PM

 **ENGLANDHANDBALL**

Scan here to book your place, or email newcastlevikings@gmail.com



Fast! Exciting! Action-Packed! Fun!

HANDBALL



Get Active! Be Social! Meet New Friends!
Sports sessions for Boys and Girls aged 3-15

Join the VIKINGS!

Benfield Sports Centre
Benfield Road, Newcastle NE6 4NU
(near Walkergate Metro Station)

Training sessions
Wednesday evenings
— contact us now to
pre-book a taster session!

FREE Taster sessions!




www.newcastlehandball.co.uk

info@newcastlehandball.co.uk



SCIENCE ADVENTURES AT NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

- This is a free event for children 5-11 years
- This includes a 2.5 hour session for children to take part in fun science activities and demonstrations, plus take part in research.
- We will provide activity booklets, a goody bag, and refreshments.



Who is organising Science Adventures?

This is a new initiative run by researchers at the School of Psychology

Bang

When is Science Adventures?

Monday 20th February 10am-12:30pm
Monday 20th February 2-4:30pm
Thursday 23rd February: 2-4:30pm
Friday 24th February: 2-4:30pm

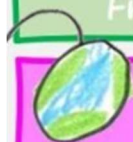
Where is Science Adventures?

School of Psychology.
Newcastle University



For more information, or to book a ticket, see:

<https://science-adventures-at-newcastle-university.ticketleap.com/science-adventures-at-newcastle-university/>



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODER is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter Oders. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.theweek.co.uk/2020/7/20/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-parties-for-the>
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 07.09.2022

Advanced Notice of Dates 2023

Updates will be added in red

February Half Term	
Monday 27 th February	School reopens
Thursday March 2 nd	World Book Day (theme – You are a Reader!)
Monday 13 th March	British Science Week (theme - Connections)
Friday 17 th March	Nursery Applications Deadline (Nursery September 2023)
Monday 20 th March	Indigo Class Trip to Laing Art Gallery and GNM
Wednesday 22 nd – Friday 24 th March	Year 4 Robinwood
WB 27 th March	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 29 th March	Violet Class Trip to Laing Art Gallery and GNM
Thursday 30 th March	Blue Class Trip to Laing Art Gallery and GNM
Friday 31 st March	Last Day of Term
Easter Holiday	
Monday 17 th April	School reopens
Monday 17 th April – Friday 28 th April	Year 4 Swimming – to be confirmed
Monday 1 st May	May Bank Holiday
Wednesday 3 rd May	Class Photograph Day
Monday 8 th May	Bank Holiday
Thursday 25 th May	Last Day of Term
Friday 26 th May	Training Day
May Half Term	
Monday 5 th June	School reopens
Tuesday 27 th June	KS1 Sports Day – parents arrive from 2pm
Wednesday 28 th June	Reception Sports Day – parents arrive from 2pm
Thursday 29 th June	KS2 Sports Day – parents arrive from 2pm
Thursday 13 th – Friday 14 th July	Year 3 On-site Residential
Friday 21 st July	Last Day of Term



Rainbow Wraparound

Please contact us via wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk or for any ad hoc bookings
Rainbow Wraparound: 07926 946 565.



If you don't already, please give us a follow on Twitter. Our school account is @GosforthPark1st