



Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

William Morris Primary School  
William Morris Way  
Tadpole Garden Village  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN25 2PP

Date: 14th February 2025

# Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely end to the term with two fab finishes taking place this afternoon. Well done to the Y1 and Y3 children for sharing your learning so confidently with your parents. Thank you to everyone who was also able to attend Open House. The children were very excited about sharing their achievements and learning from the past six weeks.

During recent observations in class, we have seen excellent teaching and learning - with inspiring teaching, additional group support, care and nurture & exciting events across the school. I would like to thank staff for all their efforts this term for the children.

I hope you have a lovely half term and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 25th February. Please note that we have a Blue Kite Trust TD day on Monday 24th February so the school for training.

Have a lovely week

Mrs Fraser, Headteacher



## Non-Uniform Day for Swans!

Well done to all children in the swans house who have earned the most house points this term. Children in this house are invited to wear non-school uniform on Friday 28th February.



## Nursery Tours

We will be hosting some nursery tours on Friday afternoons for parents and children who will be applying for a place in our nursery for September 2025. Please share these with anyone who may be interested. Booking links will be available on the school website under the 'Book a School Tour'.

Each tour will take place from 1:30—2:00pm.

- 7<sup>th</sup> March
- 21<sup>st</sup> March
- 25<sup>th</sup> April
- 9<sup>th</sup> May
- 13<sup>th</sup> June

## Book Fair

We are pleased to share that the PTA will be holding a book fair on the 29th April— 1st May. The number of sales help us earn books for our school—more info to follow.



### **Volunteers Needed**

We are really excited about the upcoming school fete that will be taking place on the 5th May. In order for this event to take place, we will need more volunteers to help with stalls. Please contact the PTA if you are able to help with this important community event.

[pta.at.williammorris@gmail.com](mailto:pta.at.williammorris@gmail.com)



### **Cough Sweets and Choking Hazard Information**

Please do not let your child bring cough sweets into school. These sweets are recommended only for older children who need close adult supervision to avoid the risk of choking. Therefore we ask that they are not brought into school.

Please see the information about the end of this newsletter about early years food choking hazards. This is especially important for those who provide their children with packed lunches. Thank you.



### **September 2025 TD Days**

We have planned two TD days to take place on the 1st and 2nd of September 2025.

### **Y1 Phonics Screening**

The Y1 phonics screening check will be taking place on the 9th June. For more information about this, please use this link: [Phonics screening check: information for parents - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/phonics-screening-check-information-for-parents)

### **Coffee Morning**

Please see the information at the end of this newsletter about an upcoming coffee morning in Swindon for parents of autistic children. No diagnosis is required.

### **Fidget Toys**

Please do not allow your child to bring fidget toys into school unless this has been previously agreed with their class teacher.



### **Book Swap**

We would like to remind you that we have a lovely outdoor cabinet next to the bike store with books for children and adults to be borrowed and for donations to be added. Please help yourself.

### **Uniform**

Our uniform policy states that children should wear flat black shoes. Please ensure your child is wearing shoes not trainers.

# Gold Book

Well done to all of the children who were in the Gold Book last week — we are very proud of you and your achievements!



Golden Welly: Well done to both of these groups of friends for being awarded the golden welly award for creative and co-operative play at lunch times.





# OPEN HOUSE



REGISTERED CHARITY  
NO. 1203063



## Parents and Friends of William Morris Newsletter

*This week's news...*

### School Fete Raffle

Are there any parents who work for a company or own a company that would kindly donate a prize for our raffle?

If so, please email us at  
[pta.at.williammorris@gmail.com](mailto:pta.at.williammorris@gmail.com)



### Happy's Circus Tickets

Don't forget to get your tickets for Happy's Circus. Come and join us for a day of fun and excitement for the whole family!

Fete opens at 11.30

Big Top Opens at 13.30

Tickets £10pp Under 2's Free

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/williammorrispta/index.cfm?event=event&eventid=92247&areaSaleid=8E8512AF-744C-407D-8A1AF6608EEF33C3>

We are proud to announce Crest as our main sponsor for the Circus Family Fun Day. And thank them for supporting our aim to raise money for a new nurture nest



**CREST  
NICHOLSON**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

February 14th Circus Cover Competition  
February 27th bag2school  
March 7th Brush Party  
April 4th Bake Sale  
April 25th Crazy Hair Day  
April 29th-1st May Book Fair  
May 5th School Fete and Circus  
June 20th Sponsored Event  
June 20th Ice Cream Van  
July 22nd Summer Disco



### Brush Party With Samantha

Friday 7th March

19:00 - 22:00

We still have some tickets left.

Bring friends and your favorite drink for a lovely evening of painting.



<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/williammorrispta/index.cfm?event=event&eventid=93545>

As always, thank you so much for your support. All proceeds from our events go straight back to the school to provide equipment and resources.

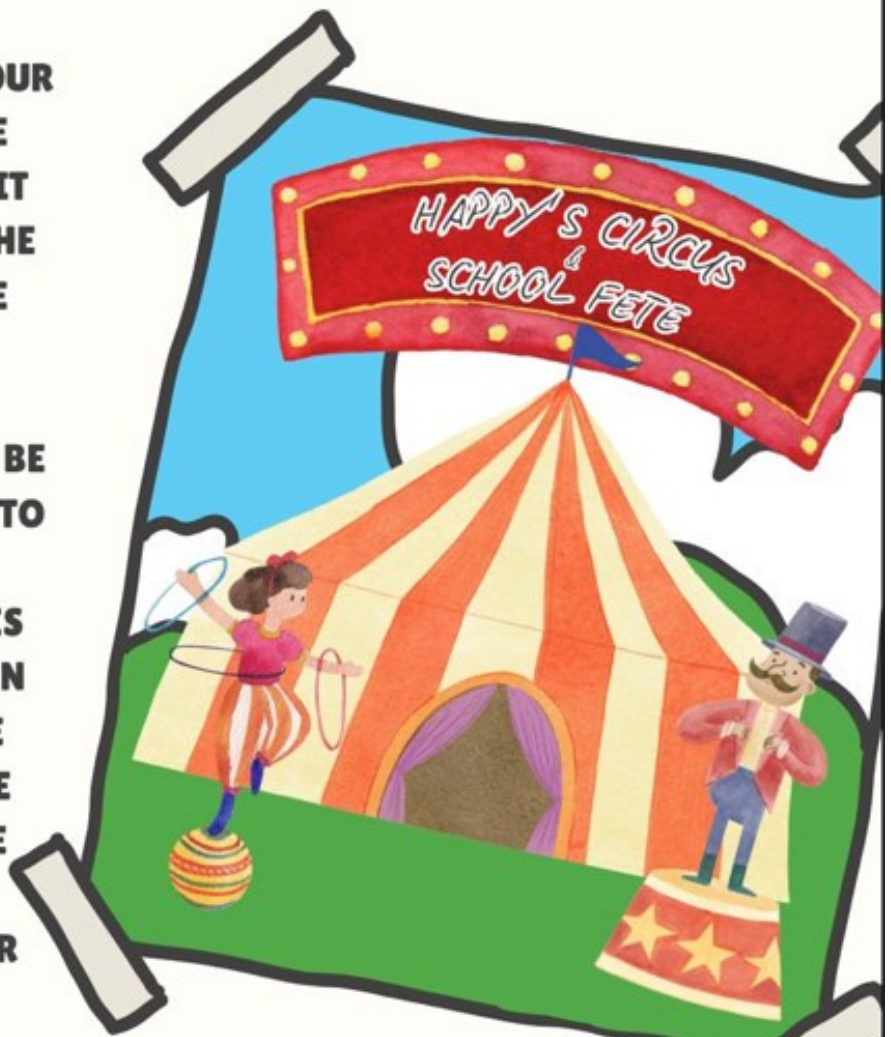
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NO. 1203043



# DRAWING COMPETITION.



**MAKE A FRONT COVER FOR OUR CIRCUS PROGRAMME. THE WINNER WILL GET £5 CREDIT FOR THE FETE STALLS AND THE DRAWING WILL BE ON THE FRONT COVER OF OUR PROFESSIONAL PRINTED PROGRAMME, WHICH WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY. IT NEEDS TO BE CIRCUS THEMED. PLEASE ENSURE ALL ENTRIES HAVE THE CHILD'S NAME ON THE BACK AND PUT IN THE SUBMISSIONS BOX IN THE OFFICE RECEPTION BY THE CLOSING DATE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR DESIGNS. GOOD LUCK!**



**ENTRIES NEED TO BE IN  
BY THE 28TH FEB**



**£1  
ENTRY  
VIA QR**

# FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

With Lighthouse



A SIX WEEK COURSE  
HELPING FAMILIES TO  
CREATE A MORE  
HARMONIOUS HOME

**WHERE:** FERNDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, SN2 1NX

**WHEN:** TUESDAYS, 9-11AM, 25TH FEBRUARY- 1ST APRIL

**WHAT:** PRACTICAL IDEAS AND STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT  
BEHAVIOUR, RELATIONSHIPS AND HAPPINESS AT HOME

TO BOOK A SPACE OR FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT [GWOLLEN@BLUEKITETRUST.ORG](mailto:GWOLLEN@BLUEKITETRUST.ORG) OR  
[VDAVID@BLUEKITETRUST.ORG](mailto:VDAVID@BLUEKITETRUST.ORG)

Follow our Instagram page for dates of other courses and  
general family life tips on [@lighthouse\\_bluekitetrust](https://www.instagram.com/lighthouse_bluekitetrust)



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# School Diary

## February

Mon 24th Feb—TD Day—School closed to children

Thur 27th—PTA bag2school

Tues 25th Feb—First day of term 4

Fri 28th—Final day for PTA drawing competition entries

## March

Mon 10th—Science week

Mon 10th—Wed 12th Y4 Residential

Mon 17th—Y4 Sports, Stripes and Scales workshop

Tue 25th —Y5 Sports, Stripes and Scales workshop

Fri 21st —Red nose day

Fri 21st —Class reps meeting

Mon 24th —Reception Infant

Thurs 27th—Parent's consultation meetings

## April

Fri 4th —PTA bake sale

Fri 25th —PTA Crazy hair day

Tue 29th—Book fair for 3 days

## May

Mon 5th PTA School fete and circus

## June

Mon 9th Y1 Phonics screening check

Fri 20th PTA sponsored event

Fri 20th PTA ice cream van

## **INSET TD DAYS—school closed to children:**

24th Feb 2025

23rd May 2025

4th July 2025

1st September 2025

2nd September 2025

[New dates in red]

Don't forget our online **social media accounts:**

Facebook—William Morris Primary School

Instagram—williammorrisprimary



## Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes

### What have we been learning in Nursery?



Wow – we have been super busy in Nursery – the children loved reading ‘Dear Zoo’ by Rod Campbell and ‘Someone Swallowed Stanley’ by Sarah Roberts.

The children have learned ‘Dear Zoo’ off by heart and drew some amazing story maps, we are so proud of how well they used them to re-tell the story. We made lion masks with paper plates and the children had a fabulous time roaring and racing like lions in the garden! Talking about our own pets and why the zoo animals might not be good pets was very interesting indeed.

‘Someone Swallowed Stanley’ is all about a plastic bag in the ocean - the children showed a really good understanding of why this is not safe and we have talked about what we do with our rubbish. We have had fun ‘rescuing’ sea creatures from the rubbish in our water trays.

We are so proud of how well the children are getting changed for PE – please keep practising jumpers, tights and shoes at home, these are our biggest challenges! We loved making gymnastic moves to recreate how sea creatures move in the ocean.

After half term we are very excited to have Farmer Gows come and visit us and set up on the school field for the day. Children will have an opportunity to hand feed some baby lambs and goats, please see the letter that is coming out today.

Have a super half term and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

Reminders-

- **All uniform must be named, including water bottles.**
- **Can you please make sure your child has a PE kit in school, if you are unsure please check with the class teacher.**
- **Please make sure children leave toys at home, we don’t want anything precious to get lost or broken by accident.**

Thanks for your continued support

The Nursery Team

## Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes



Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes



EXPLORING



SUPER SNOW ANGELS (IN THE FROST!)



FUNKY FINGERS AND BIG DIGGING!



PIC•COLLAGE

## Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

### What have we been learning in Reception?



Term 3 has flown by, and we have been extremely busy with our learning!

Our final fairy tale of the term has been 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. We have been working so hard with our sentence writing and using our phonic knowledge to write independently, even having a go creating our own mini books!

Using the story as inspiration, the children have created some beautiful artwork. Using line drawings and watercolours the children have created pictures of the troll. They thought carefully about adding details to their pictures and the techniques needed when painting with watercolours. We have taken our learning of the story into continuous and have been problem solving, exploring materials and resources to create a strong bridge for the goats. We have had some fantastic and imaginative designs and lots of good discussions about materials.

Our maths focus this week has been continuing working on numbers to 15, we are so impressed by how well the children understand the concept of tens and ones. We are seeing them begin to use their maths skills in their independent play and games.

Finally, we had a very special visitor – Amanda who works for the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation. She came to talk to us about the important work they do as a charity and taught us about some of the endangered animals in Africa. The children worked in small groups to create artwork on their chosen animal using bold colours and repeating patterns.

Thanks for your continued support,  
have a lovely half term.

The EYFS team





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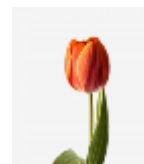
Reception—Bellflower and Sunflower Classes



## Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes

### **What have we been learning in Year 1?**

Year 1 have been super busy with their learning for the past two weeks and have so much to share with you.



In English, we finished our story of Traction Man and began looking at information posters. We looked at the features of a poster such as a title, subheading, bullet point and captions. Together we explored some real-life superheroes such as a doctor, vet, firefighter and police officer. The children all chose a superhero that they wanted to write a poster for. Throughout this week we have taken each section of the poster and added in the information. We used bullet points for lists, captions for pictures using simple sentences and even added in an exclamation mark.

In Maths, we have been measuring using standard and nonstandard units such as cubes and centimetres. We have also been looking for a length and exploring the difference between them. The children can now use words such as shortest, tallest, longest, longer than and shorter than to compare and order.

In Science we have been using UV beads to see how the sun's rays damage our eyes and skin. We have carried out an experiment with 4 different tests, one with sunglasses, one with a hat, one with a top and one with sunscreen. We were able to see which was the most effective by looking at the UV beads changing colours. We also learnt about wind and how to measure it. We made kites to fly outside to measure how strong the wind was. We had great fun!

PE Kits- These have gone home for this term but please remember to bring these back in at the start of Term 4 as we will start PE straight away. Our PE days are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Reading books – Please ensure your child's reading book is in their bag so it can be changed. These are changed every Thursday and library books are changed on Tuesdays. Without these in school it makes it very hard to keep up with who needs a new book.

Please continue to read with your child at home and write in their reading records. Your support at home with reading really does make a difference.

At the end of this term, we are sending home a Tricky word phonic pack. Inside you have a list of all the tricky words, flashcards and game ideas. Your child needs to be able to read these words confidently by just 'knowing them' as they can not be sounded out by using their phonics. Please have a go over the break at practising them with your child and have a go at the games.

Thank you for the continued support and we hope you have a great week off. We look forward to seeing you in Term 4.

Year 1 Team :)





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Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes



Making our own kites and flying them in the wind



MAKING OUR OWN KITES AND FLYING THEM IN THE WIND



MUSIC WITH MR DUNCAN  
TULIP CLASS



Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes



Maths – Measure - Tallest to Shortest



## Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes

### What have we been learning in Year 2?



English- Since finishing our Talk 4 Writing unit, we have read the story 'Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine'. The children loved learning about the Bathing Machine and have written some beautiful descriptive setting descriptions. We have been focusing on writing golden sentences, making sure to use a capital letter and an end mark as well as apply our cursive handwriting. The children also need to re-read their sentences to make sure they make sense.

Maths- Over the last two weeks the children have been building the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. They have also been writing multiplication and division facts for each of the times tables. The children have also begun using the mathematical term 'inverse'.

Science- The children have demonstrated impressive skills in scientific enquiry and critical thinking during our hygiene investigation. We have been observing the impact of washing our hands! They've evaluated our experiments and have been able to draw meaningful conclusions.

Topic- to draw our 'Magnificent Monarchs' topic to an end we have had 2 fun-filled DT mornings where we worked collaboratively to build our very own castles. Before the building process we designed our castles, ensuring we labelled each feature and made a list of resources we would need. The children worked so hard and it was very impressive to see their strong communication and problem solving skills.

We are super excited to announce that we will be beginning Forest School the first week back, so please ensure you have read the email containing all of the relevant information.

We hope you have a lovely half term, and we look forward to seeing you all in Term 4 for our topic of 'The Scented Garden'. If you enjoy a takeaway over the break, please can you keep hold of the box, ready for our next DT project.

Thank you for your continued support,

Year 2 Team :)



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Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes



### Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

#### What have we been learning in Year 3?



What a busy term we have had in Year 3, we have loved the topic One Planet, Our World and we seem to have made a little team of eco warriors. Please chat to the children about their learning and hear their fantastic ideas about how we can improve our local area and look after the world for years to come.

In Science we have had a great term looking at magnets and forces. Last week we conducted our own experiments with a range of magnets. Our mission was to create a bank of top trump cards based on the magnets available in the room. We looked at the size, repulsion and how many paper-clips the magnets could hold.

We had a fantastic time in the explorer dome here in year 3. Each class went in separately for our own session and we learnt all about the world around us. It was such a fantastic session that solidified and expanded our knowledge on the environment and how we are impacting it. The children were so engaged and seemed mighty impressed with the way the dome brought the world to life.

During the last 2 weeks we focused on our environmental projects. We were very proud of the ideas the children came up with themselves to help improve our school grounds. We were excited to share these with families at the open house. The children have worked really hard, not only on the projects themselves out and about, but also the preparation and teamwork that was needed beforehand on this. Our school site now has some fantastic bird feeders, wetland areas, a water butt and some beautiful flowers, all thanks to year 3.

We hope everyone has a fantastic week off and looking forward to what term 4 brings.

Year 3 Team



## Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes



## Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

### What have we been learning in Year 4?



In Year 4, we have had an exciting end to the term.

After completing our very own historical narratives, this week we have explored narrative poems. Inspired by Beowulf, we had great fun looking at different poems before planning and writing our own. After initially finding it quite challenging, we enjoyed playing with words and rhythms to write our own epic poems! We also enjoyed performing our poems with confidence at the end of the week.

To finish our column addition and subtraction unit, we focused more on worded problems and spotted when we might need to do more than one step. We worked hard to apply all the knowledge and methods learnt to complete problem solving and showed great resilience. We have been very proud to see how well the children are responding to feedback and how they are becoming more comfortable with making mistakes in order to learn from them.

Rounding up our P.E. unit, we set up our own activities and games to combine all of the different skills we have learnt during tag rugby this term. The children impressed us greatly with their creativity and thought process, working in small groups.

Finally, we have had some great hands-on learning experiences in the last two weeks! We even dug in our own archaeological dig, finding evidence of which type of Viking was buried in our sandpit! In science, we finished our electricity topic by having a go at rewiring plugs – a life skill for sure :)

Finally, with the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check getting closer we will be spending more time preparing for it. To help with this, we will have a **TTRS competition** of Apple vs Blackberry during half-term. Children can gain points by completing any game type on TTRS however, 'Garage' will have the most impact on their progress.

We hope you have a wonderful half term,

**The Year 4 Team**



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Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

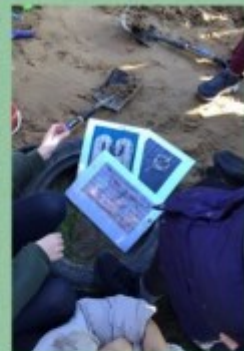




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**Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes**



## Year 5 - Thistle and Acorn Classes

### What have we been learning in Year 5?



#### Exploring Space in the Visitor Dome!

Last week, we had an exciting visit from a space dome, where we explored the wonders of the universe! Inside the dome, we travelled through the solar system, learning fascinating facts about each planet. Did you know that Jupiter is so large that over 1,300 Earths could fit inside it? Or that Venus is the hottest planet, with surface temperatures reaching 475°C (900°F)?

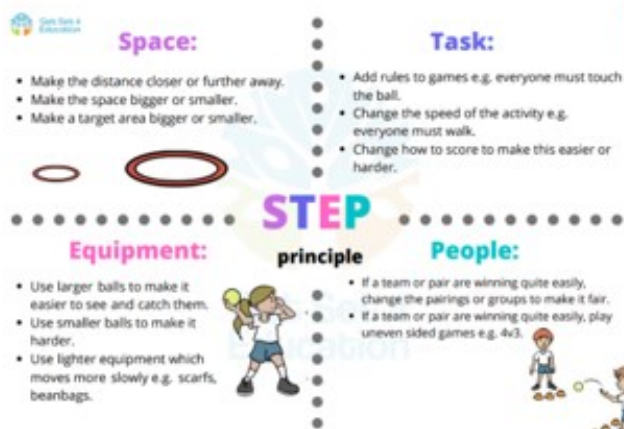
We also discovered how to spot constellations in the night sky. The Big Dipper, for example, can help you find the North Star, which has guided travellers for centuries! It was an unforgettable experience, and we can't wait to continue our space discoveries.





## Year 5 Thistle and Acorn Classes

### PE – The STEP Principle in Action!



**Space:**

- Make the distance closer or further away.
- Make the space bigger or smaller.
- Make a target area bigger or smaller.

**Task:**

- Add rules to games e.g. everyone must touch the ball.
- Change the speed of the activity e.g. everyone must walk.
- Change how to score to make this easier or harder.

**Equipment:**

- Use larger balls to make it easier to see and catch them.
- Use smaller balls to make it harder.
- Use lighter equipment which moves more slowly e.g. scarfs, beanbags.

**People:**

- If a team or pair are winning quite easily, change the pairings or groups to make it fair.
- If a team or pair are winning quite easily, play uneven sided games e.g. 4v3.

**STEP principle**

This week in PE, we have been applying the STEP principle to develop our teamwork and game-making skills! Using everything we've learned in tag rugby—including accurate passing, ready position, quick footwork, and dodging—we worked together to create our own exciting games.

Not only did we design and play these games, but we also thought critically about how to adapt them, making them easier or more challenging based on different skill levels. It was a fantastic opportunity to be creative, work as a team, and put our rugby skills into practice.



## Year 5 Thistle and Acorn Classes

### Sawing, Drilling and Gluing!

This week, we have been honing our skills in preparation for building our space buggies as part of our DT project! We've explored different techniques to refine our designs and enhance our plans, including practicing butt joints in sawing and using hand machine drills. Now, we're eagerly looking forward to working in groups to bring our space buggies to life!



## Year 5 Thistle and Acorn Classes

### Photos of our Space Buggies!

Here are some photos of our finished space buggies! We all were celebrated in Gold Book assembly for our perseverance and team work!



**Year 5 Thistle and Acorn Classes**

**Have a great half term break!**

We hope you have a fantastic half-term break! Get ready for an exciting Term 4 as we dive into our brand-new topic... *Off With Her Head!* We can't wait to explore this fascinating chapter of history with you!



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

### "CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

### SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such plays often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

### YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

### FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

### PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

### FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

### ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

### TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

### BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk](https://OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk) for more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fake-news-and-scams>

## Encouraging pro-learning behaviours

Some children may have a harder time than other children 'winning' a teacher's approval and developing a positive relationship with their peers.

Supporting your child requires you to:

- ✓ Attend to pro-learning behaviour
- ✓ Recognise efforts at achievement
- ✓ Praise attempts as well as successes
- ✓ Try to ignore minor negative behaviours as these may be habits in terms of gaining attention
- ✓ Spend a few minutes each day talking with your child about what has been successful or difficult for them and be specific
- ✓ Discuss strategies for improvement and be specific
- ✓ Ask your child to come up with ideas too!

- ❖ Use the interest of your child and/or their competencies as a starting point during lessons, or as reinforcement or completed work.
- ❖ For example, if your child is interested in computers, you could use computer time as reinforcement for good behaviour at times during the school day.
- ❖ Use positive encouragement, frequent, immediate and consistent feedback about acceptable and unacceptable behaviours.
- ❖ Provide feedback in a calm and unemotional manner, and accompanied by explanation of the appropriate alternative behaviour.
- ❖ Be consistent but be fair. Always follow through with regard to agreed consequences to misbehaviour, such as loss of privilege, time-out, or loss of points (if a token system is used).
- ❖ Check for understanding or misunderstanding of what happened and why.
- ❖ Check to see if there are associated learning or language difficulties that may be impacting on understanding, or impulsivity.
- ❖ Be aware that impulsiveness may be a response to a difficult interaction or situation. It is likely not to be intentional but may have negative consequences.
- ❖ Encourage your child to jot down ideas as he/she has them to reduce answering out of turn



# UPCOMING EVENT DATES



## SWINDON COFFEE MORNING

### Support for Parents and Carers of Autistic Children - No Diagnosis Required

Our drop in group for parents and carers of autistic children (no diagnosis required). Come along and meet our Peer Educators and others who are there to listen, support, share experiences and offer signposting if needed.

No need to book, just turn up!

Goddard Arms, Old Town  
Swindon, SN1 3EG

Located in the semi-private area to the right as you walk in the main front door.

**Wednesday  
26th February  
10:30-12:30**



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### Who are we and what to expect?

Bristol Autism Support is the south west regional hub for Autism Central. One of our main aims is to connect parents and carers of autistic people with each other. We want to create supportive safe spaces where we can share information with no judgement. Our in person coffee mornings are casual opportunities to meet other parents and carers along with our team of Peer Educators. We also share information about the free support and resources that Autism Central provide.

This month we are pleased to be joined by Jodie Clarke who is a local children's well-being practitioner & autism specialist. Jodie will be available to chat with parents and carers, sharing her wealth of experience and knowledge.



If you are looking to share experiences, make new friends, or maybe need some advice and support, please drop in for a drink (on us) and a chat. For more information please email [kam.deller@bristolautismsupport.org](mailto:kam.deller@bristolautismsupport.org)



Our Swindon meet up is hosted by Kam, who is a Peer Educator for Bristol Autism Support/ Autism Central



# Early years food choking hazards



Below is a table of advice on key foods for care givers who are involved with preparing and serving food for babies and young children (under 5 years old)

Vegetable and fruits	Advice
Pips or stones in fruit	Always check beforehand and remove hard pips or stones from fruit.
Small fruits	Cut small round fruits like grapes, cherries, berries, strawberries and cherry tomatoes, into small pieces: cut lengthways and then again cut them in halves (quarters).
Large fruits and firm fruits	Cut large fruits like melon and firm fruits like apple into slices instead of small chunks. For very young children, consider grating or mashing firm fruits, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.
Vegetables	Cut vegetables like carrots, cucumber and celery into narrow batons. For very young children consider grating or mashing firm vegetables and legumes like butter beans, chickpeas and tofu, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.
Skin on fruit and vegetables	Consider removing the skin from fruit and vegetables, especially for very young children. Peeled fruit and vegetables can be swallowed more easily.
Cooking fruit and vegetables	Consider softening firm fruit and vegetables (such as carrots, broccoli, yam and apples) by steaming or simmering until soft. Serve cut into slices or narrow batons.
Meat and fish	Advice
Sausages and hot dogs	Cut sausages and hot dogs into short strips. Cut them in half and then lengthways or as thinly as possible. Peeling the skin off the sausages helps them to be swallowed more easily.
Meat or fish	Remove bones from meat or fish. Cut meat into strips as thinly as possible. Remove skin and fat from meat and fish, it will help the food pass smoothly down the throat.
Cheese	Advice
Grate or cut cheese	Grate or cut cheese into short strips. Cut lumps of cheese as narrow as possible.
Nuts and seeds	Advice
Chop or flake whole nuts	Chop or flake whole nuts, peanuts and seeds. Whole nuts should not be given to children under five years old.
Bread	Advice
White bread and other breads	White bread can form a ball shape with a dough-like texture at the back of a child's throat, if not chewed properly. Brown bread or toasted white bread are good alternatives. Cut bread, chapatis, naan bread and other breads into narrow strips.
Snacks and other foods	Advice
Popcorn	Do not give babies and young children popcorn.
Chewing gum and marshmallows	Do not give babies and young children chewing gum or marshmallows.
Peanut butter	Do not give babies and young children peanut butter on its own, only use as a spread.
Jelly cubes	Do not give babies and young children raw jelly cubes.
Boiled sweets and ice cubes	Do not give babies and young children boiled, hard, gooey, sticky or cough sweets, or ice cubes.
Raisins and other dried fruits	Do not give babies under the age of 1 whole raisins or dried fruits. Cut them into small pieces.

Make sure food is prepared appropriately for children under 5 years old, see: <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/>

It is also advisable that care givers are familiar with how to respond to a choking incident, see: How to stop a child from choking: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-stop-a-child-from-choking/>

and How to resuscitate a child: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-resuscitate-a-child/>