



BHJS Bromley Bulletin

October 2023

Dates for the Diary...



Inset dates:

Inset 3 - Monday 30th October

Inset 4 - Tuesday 31st October

November

1.11.23 Start term 2

3.11.23 Wear it pink day (details to follow)

7.11.23 Parent consultation 1

9.11.23 Parent consultation 2

10.11.23 Y4 Road safety workshop

W/C 13.11.23 Anti-bullying week

13.11.23 School photos

17.11.23 Children in Need (details to follow)

w/c 27.12.23 Y5 swimming week

28.11.23 Y4 Christchurch Christmas experience

December

4.12.23 & 5.12.23 Elfridges

6.12.23 Drama and Choir club performance 6pm

7.12.23 Christmas lunch

W/C 11.12.23 Christmas parties (Y3 Mon, Y4 Tues, Y5 Thurs, Y6 Fri)

13.12.23 Whole school theatre trip

14.12.23 PTA disco

15.12.23 End of term

January

2.1.24 Start of term 2

What a busy and Successful Term!

It has certainly been a busy and fun-filled start to the year with every year! The start of the term is always busy with the children transitioning into their new routines and settling into the year ahead but we have also had lots of exciting learning opportunities across the term too. I have tried to capture some of these moments but many more can be seen if you visit our Twitter feed (@BHJuniors)

We wish all families a very well-deserved rest over the coming week and look forward to seeing you again on Wednesday 1st November

Year 6 Manor Adventure Camp

Our amazing Year 6 children visited Manor Adventure in Wales at the start of the term and had an amazing week developing their independence and growing their resilience.



Year 5 Teambuilding Trip to Mojo Active

Year 5 had a fabulous start to the school year with a brilliant trip to Mojo Active. They had an amazing time learning lots of new skills and showing courage, resilience and positivity!



Key Information and Reminders

Black History Week

Black History week has been an opportunity for BHJS to look at how people of varying ethnic groups have influenced the world as we know it today. Year 3 started by looking at Rosa Parks and the Bus Boycotts in America and how they influenced others such as Owen Henry to make changes in Bristol too. Year 4 looked at the sporting achievements of Nicola Adams and Muhammad Ali. They were interested in finding out which qualities they had that helped them to be so successful. Our value this term has been responsibility so year 5 explored black people in positions of leadership such as Marvin Rees and Barack Obama. The children were interested to find out about their achievements and how they have helped to make other lives better. Finally, Year 6 looked at the role Bristol played in slavery.

It has been a fabulous week with the children asking insightful questions and further building on their knowledge of the rich and diverse history of Britain.



Enrichment Across the School

Enrichment this term has given the children the opportunity to explore lots of new and rewarding activities including: mindfulness through Zentangles, cooking, budgeting, problem solving, photography, green screening and much more!



Step Back in Time

Our 'Step Back in Time day' focused on our history curriculum. All children had the opportunity to explore aspects of how life has changed through the ages and arrived for learning in amazing costumes – from Stone Age people, Vikings to Kings and Queens



Y5 Djembe Drumming

Year 5 have been enjoying their djembe drumming lessons this term, exploring Ghanaian tunes, developing rhythm and creating patterns. The lessons will continue into term 2 and we cannot wait to listen to their final performance pieces.



Y3 Cheddar Gorge Trip

Y3 had a wonderful time exploring at Cheddar



Y4 Clive Pig Workshops

Last Thursday, year 4 participated in a fantastic Viking workshop led by the storyteller Clive Pig.



Key Information and Reminders

Online safety support

E-safety is a top priority for us all at BHJS - both in school and at home. All classes have been engaging in essential e-safety learning this term in order to ensure our children are aware of risk taking and the decisions they are making as young people online. Please take some time to talk to your children about the risks they encounter every day while using the internet, various applications and social networking. It's also worth revisiting your security settings on family and individual devices at home - you'd be surprised what children can access without meaning to put themselves at risk.

Some helpful information for families can be found here: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/PARENTS/>

There are also some handy posters at the end of the newsletter you may find helpful.

Giving a Little Back

Thank you to families for their support with Jeans for Genes this year. We raised a fabulous £181.80 for the charity.



Our harvest donations were very impressive again this year and were gratefully received by our local foodbanks. Thank you for all of your support with this one.

Winter Wear

With the weather taking a marked turn towards winter, please can we ask that families make sure that their child wears an appropriate coat for playtimes and lunchtimes



which will keep them warm and dry. We value the importance of fresh air and movement for our children and so do try to get them out and about even when it is rainy.

Attendance and Term Time Holiday

Good attendance is essential for our children to make secure progress. We ask, therefore, that you only book holidays outside of term time please.

We are unable to authorise absences from school unless for exceptional circumstances (e.g. a funeral or immediate family wedding).

Please also be aware that, if children are removed from school for more than 5 school days within a 7 week period, the school will refer the absence to the Local Authority who may then choose to issue fines to families.

We thank you for your continued support with this.



South Glos Parent Carers (SGPC) is the local parent carer forum working to represent and support parent carers of children and young people (age 0-25) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in South Gloucestershire.

Fab news...

And finally, we would like to share and celebrate the arrival of Mrs Wood's baby Eloise Wood who joined us in mid-September weighing a healthy 6lb 7oz given even though she was a couple of weeks early.

Both Mrs Wood and Eloise are doing well and popped in to see the teaching team this week—we all had lots of cuddles!



Our 360° Outreach Project supports schools and families working together to build a picture of the "whole child" and better understand the child's needs, at home and at school.

- ✓ Free workshops for parents
- ✓ Helping you support your child's needs
- ✓ Your child does not need a diagnosis for you to attend

Book now
with this
code:
AUTUMN



Mon, 6 Nov 1:15pm



Tue, 14 Nov 7:00pm



Find us
sgpc.community



visit our website
sgpc.org.uk

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

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 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, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

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 genuine friends who they 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 others safely in the digital world.

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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