



BHJS Bromley Bulletin

November 2023

Dates for the Diary...



Yearly dates:

	First Day	Last day
		15.12.23
Term 3	02.01.24	9.02.24
Term 4	19.02.24	28.03.24
Term 5	15.04.24	24.05.24
Term 6	03.06.24	23.07.24

Inset dates:

Friday 7th June

Upcoming events:

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

3.1.24 and 4.1.24 Explorer Dome

5.1.24 Y4 swimming begins

9.1.24 Parent workshop—
grammar skills 5pm—details to
follow

Respect

This term our core value is all about **respect**. As a school we have been thinking carefully about what it means to **respect ourselves, respect others and respect our environment**.

In our whole school assembly these last two weeks have all been about celebrating our differences and the fact that we are all unique. We should value and respect these differences as it is these differences which make us all special and give us collective strength. Through our Jigsaw curriculum we are talking about this in greater detail as well as exploring why it is important to not judge people based on appearances but instead accept people for who they are.

Throughout the term we are continuing to celebrate children who consistently demonstrate the core value of respect, not only in their classrooms, but also across the whole school. We have already had so many reasons to celebrate members of our community this term and look forward to celebrating many more before Christmas arrives.

Making the most of our community links

We have been really pleased to have re-established our links with Christchurch Downend again this year. Linking in with our school value of 'Respect', we had a wonderful team of volunteers who visited the school to lead reflective workshops with our children so that they could further consider their role in and impact on the world alongside the importance of celebrating differences and diversity.



Our Year 4 then had the opportunity to visit Christchurch to learn more about the Christian Christmas story.



Key Information and Reminders

Christmas in the coming weeks...

Christmas Fayre has taken place tonight so thank you all for coming along and showing your support.

Christmas cards

We can once again dig out our Christmas post box so that they can write cards for children and staff in their own and other classes this year. The post box will be located in our school corridor from next week.

Elfridges (4th – 5th December)

Our PTA have organised 'Elfridges.' on **Monday and Tuesday next week** where everyone will have a chance to buy presents for their family in secret (every gift is £3) Each Year group is allocated a lunchtime as follows:

- Year 3 and Year 6 on Monday 4th,
- Year 4 and Year 5 on Tuesday 5th

Please make sure that your child brings a named carrier bag into school to safely store their goodies.

Christmas Lunch

This year the **Christmas Lunch** will be taking place on **Thursday 7th December**. *Children are welcome to wear their fun and fabulous festive hats and/or jumper (if they have one) alongside their normal uniform throughout the day!*

Christmas Parties

Each year group will also have a **Christmas party** in the last week of term. They are invited to wear party clothes to school for this.

Day	Year Group
Monday	Year 3
Tuesday	Year 4
Thursday	Year 5
Friday	Year 6

Christmas theatre trip

We are all going to see 'Rapunzel' at the Redgrave Theatre on **Wednesday 13th December**. Children need to be in school at the normal time as we aim to set off at 9am. The children can take their water bottles and a pocket sized snack in their coat for the interval. Children will need to bring a packed lunch as they have their lunch at a slightly later time than normal when they return.



Out of School Achievements

Y6

Jenna raised £316.25 for Diabetes UK set herself a challenge to do 100 skips every day in October.

Jenna also joined Downend in bloom to help plant hundreds of daffodil bulbs around the area ready for the spring.

David B – Swim England Level 8 & Bronze Swimming Challenge, 3rd place football team

Ollie - Downend Saints Football medal - Striker and Defender – Player of the Match

Y5

Mason - Stage 6 Swimming, swam 200 metres and awarded Taekwondo blue/white belt

Annabelle completed stage 4 swimming

Sam W – certificate for completing 21 Junior Park Runs

Y4

Daniel B after he was given the Player of the Match medal from his football team on Sunday 19th November.

James P - player of the match at football for Bromley Heath United Under 9 Colts and scored a great goal in the match too. The team won 8-0.

James K – Dings RFC Under 9s – Rugby Player of the Match

Luke – Level 2 Blue Gymnastics Award

Harry – Sky Blue Belt in Taekwondo

Max, Mason, Tommy & Harrison: Bromley Heath United Under 9's football team Autumn Cup Final on Sunday 19th November, beating Warmley United to win 3-0!

Austin L – Learn to Swim Stage 4

Lettie - Learn to Swim Stage 2

Charlie B – Bromley Heath United U8s – football trophy

Lucas Scott – Yate International Gymnastics Centre certificate of excellence

Tommy G – been selected for Avon County Performance Squad U10s for 2024, and Player of the Match & Div 1 Cup Final Winners (Bromley Heath United)

Spencer – Year 4 Taekwondo PUMA Grade 2 White Belt Orange Stripe

Y3

James D – completed stage 2 water safety

Harry L - Emersons Green U7s Player of the Match

Gareth - British Fin Short Course Championship – 3rd for 25m and 3rd for 50m

Freddie - Learn to Swim Level 4 & 20 metres

Key Information and Reminders

Be Safe, Be Seen

The nights are definitely drawing in and it is getting dark by the end of the school day. We ask that all families talk to their children about ways to stay safe while walking to and from school each day and in particular when crossing roads due to reduced visibility.

One of the easiest ways to help your child to be visible is to ensure that they are wearing an item of reflective clothing or fixing a reflective product to their school bags.

Remember that we, unfortunately, do not currently have a crossing patrol in place for the school and so extra care must be taken when crossing the roads.



Breakfast Club Vacancy

We still have a vacancy for a breakfast club supervisor at BHJS.

If you are interested in the role, please do come and see us to discuss what this may involve and obtain an application form.

PTA Update

A huge thank you to our busy and active PTA friends who have worked hard to provide a range of activities and events over the Christmas period. Together they have given their time to arrange the Christmas Fayre, Wreath Making workshop, Elfridges and Christmas card designs.

Your effort and time is very much appreciated by the children, families and school team!



Giving a Little Back

Thank you to all for your support with our recent charitable events.

Earlier this year we made were able to donate a significant amount of food to worthy causes as a part of our Harvest celebrations. We recently received a wonderful thank you from our local foodbank



We also raised £239.85 for Children in Need thanks to your contributions and participation earlier this term.



Online Safety

With Christmas just around the corner, it is likely that many of our young people will be receiving electronic gifts.

Please have a look at the information on the next page of the newsletter for guidance for families about setting healthy boundaries for gaming at home.

Internet Matters is also a fabulous website for information families to help you to consider how to support your child when using the internet so that they can remain safe.

Follow this link to find out more:



Or visit: www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/#guides

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

18
CENSORED

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hipalapp/about/privacy.html>

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

NOS National
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#WakeUpWednesday