



# Newsletter – 24 January 2024

## Welcome

It's the first newsletter of the new year and we hope you've had a fantastic start to 2024. As always, we have been busy here at the school, and we are excited to share some updates with you.

Our children have settled into their new enquiries with enthusiasm and curiosity. Each of the enquiries this term has a Geography focus so there's lots of opportunity for children to learn about their local area and places further afield. Nursery children have started their inquiry into 'How can we 'bee' responsible citizens?' where they'll learn all about bees, including their role in the colony, just like people in our society. Reception children are exploring 'What makes a place special?' including learning about the different features of our area that make it special. In KS1, are learning to answer the question 'What lies beyond?' by learning about wider geography beyond our local area. Phase newsletters, which contain more information about each enquiry for families to read and discuss together at home, are included by email with this newsletter.

We are excited to announce that due to the popularity of KS1's Share a Story sessions last term, we are going whole school this term! It was wonderful to have so many parents and carers attending them to read and share stories with your children (and others). We'll be sending out more details later this week.

- **Mr A Butterworth-Drury**  
Headteacher



Proud to be  
part of the



**Flying  
High  
Partnership**

## In this issue



Notices and reminders

Key dates

Community notices

Support and Safeguarding

## Notices and reminders

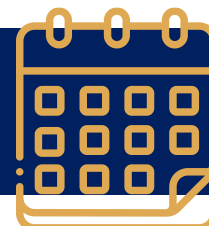


KS1 only: Please remember to send contributions for KS1 Samba Drumming and KS1 Imagine Avenue workshops to the school office. Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions.



The key dates below have been updated with upcoming dates during this term (and next term).

## Key dates



**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2:40–3:15pm** – Share a Story

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024** – Children's Mental Health Week

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February** – Safer Internet Day

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023** – Break up for half term

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024** – Children return to school

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024** – INSET day (school closed to children)

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024** – World Book Day

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 2:40–3:15pm** – Share a Story

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024** – Red Nose Day

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 3:30pm–6:00pm** – Parent Consultations

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024** – Break up for Easter holiday

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024** – Children return to school

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024** – School photos (Class photos)

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024** – Break up for half term

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024** – INSET day (school closed to children)

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024** – Children return to school

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024** – Break up for summer holiday

(INSET days for 2024/25 academic year will be shared during the spring term)

## Community notices



The local area SEND partnership is made up of the organisations responsible for the SEND system, including Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham, Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board, and the Nottinghamshire Parent Carer Forum.

The partnership would very much welcome your feedback on what the outcomes should be for children and young people with SEND who live in Nottinghamshire.

These outcomes will be used to determine their priorities for SEND services and provision. For each of the agreed outcomes the partnership will develop measures to determine the success of improvements. These measures will include the lived experiences of children and young people with SEND and their families.

Their aim is to publish a plan, the SEND Strategy, based upon these outcomes which will be co-produced in 2024.

This survey is open until Wednesday, 31 January 2024:

<https://consult.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/children-and-families-services/send-outcomes-survey/>

## Support and Safeguarding



It's very important that children are supervised online at all times, including when they are accessing streaming services like Youtube, Netflix, Prime Video etc.

National Online Safety have put together a range of helpful guides for families, with advice about how to keep your children safer online. They can be found on X (formerly Twitter) here: [@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

At 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 of many apps that 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 YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

### CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

### SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

### HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

### CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

### 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.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

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