



Walton-le-Dale

Wednesday Newsletter

"Through working together, the best is yet to come"

www.wldps.com

Issue 21 – 22nd February 2023

MESSAGE OF THE WEEK

The next NEU strike action day is 28th February. I am getting in touch to reassure you that, at this point, we plan to be open as usual on 28th February. Please send your child in as normal.

WORLD BOOK DAY – 2ND MARCH

Beginning week commencing 27th February until 1st March, we would like to invite children to bring into class used storybooks from home. These books will be sold after school on World Book Day, 2nd March for £1 each. All proceeds will go to the PTFA. We would gratefully receive donated storybooks or nonfiction books, which are in good condition.

On Thursday 2nd March, we would like to invite children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. We will be awarding prizes to the best 'home made' costume.

DANESWAY REAR ENTRANCE – PLEASE SUPPORT THIS

Please can all parents avoid driving down the Danesway cul-de-sac to create a pedestrian path way for our children and parents using the rear gate. This has previously been successful, but recently, a number of parents have been driving to the end of the cul-de-sac to drop off their children at the gated area. This will ensure that this area remains a safe access point to our school.

PARENTS' EVENINGS – 22ND/23RD MARCH

Parents' Evening this term will be across two days.

On Wednesday 22nd March, all appointments booked by parents on this day will be online. Please only book an appointment on this day if you wish to have a virtual parents evening. If you choose to book a virtual appointment, an invitation will be sent out nearer the time on Class Dojo.

On Thursday 23rd March all appointments booked by parents on this day will be in person in school. Please only book an appointment on this day if you wish to have an in person parents evening in school.

An email/text will be sent to parents on Friday at approximately 11am inviting them to book an appointment.

TROPHIES

Please can trophies awarded at the end of last term be returned to school as soon as possible.

BORWICK HALL

Final payment for the Year 4 trip to Borwick Hall is due by Tuesday 28th February. All payments should be made on Parent Pay.

INFORMATION FOR THE PARENTS OF THE CHOIR

Let's Go Sing will take place on **Wednesday 8th March** at King George's Hall in Blackburn. Children in the choir will leave school over the lunchtime period by coach and will arrive in Blackburn around 2pm for a rehearsal. They must have with them a coat, a packed tea and plenty to drink (water/non-fizzy drinks). **The concert will begin at 6pm and end at approximately 7.10pm**

All choir members must be picked up at the King George's Hall at the end of the concert.

If you are not attending the concert yourself, you need to aim to arrive at the concert hall to collect your child by 7.30pm from **the Windsor Suite at collection point 'J'**.

Audience tickets will be available by ringing the King George's Hall box office on 01254 582579. Tickets will also be available online at www.kinggeorgeshall.com. Tickets are £6.50 per adult, children £1. There will also be a small administrative booking fee per ticket charged by the King Georges Hall. Doors will open at 5.15pm for the audience. We would like to encourage parents/friends to come; singing to a full hall is a fantastic experience! The organisers have kept ticket prices deliberately low to attract as many of you to come as possible! The concert runs for a number of days, but our school will only perform on Wednesday 8th March. Tickets will be on sale from 1st February 2023.

ABSENCES

Parents should contact the school office to explain the reason for their child's absence by 9.00am by phone or email shodgson@wldps.com. Please ensure that you contact the school on each day of the child's absence unless instructed otherwise. If parents do not contact the school office to explain the reason for their child's absence, the school office will make every effort to find out if there is a safeguarding concern.

YEAR 2 TRIP TO DELAMERE FOREST

We are taking Year 2 on a visit to Delamere Forest on Tuesday 9th May 2023. Payment should be made on Parent Pay; no cash please. This will be a whole day visit, we aim to leave school at 9.00am and return at approx. 3.15pm. All children must wear wellies and have a dry pair of shoes and socks with them, we will be going outside even in the rain so please dress appropriately for the weather, wearing school jumpers and appropriate trousers (no jeans or shorts), waterproof coats, hats and sun cream please. We are able to provide all children with a packed lunch for the trip. All packed lunches must be in disposable bags, no fizzy drinks please.

YEAR 3 TRIP TO THE YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK

We have organised a trip to The Yorkshire Sculpture Park on Tuesday 13th June focusing on Art & Geography. The sculptures really bring a little awe and wonder to the children, who are used to only seeing pictures. It is slightly dependent on the weather as it is outside. A packed lunch will need to be brought, unless your child receives a free school meal. They will have to carry this around themselves for the day along with clipboards, so a small rucksack would be ideal. Appropriate footwear will need to be worn as the trip involves lots of walking. We leave at 9am, returning to school hopefully by 4:15pm. We will keep you informed on our progress as we travel back, dependent on phone signal.

YEAR 5 TRIP TO LONDON

Thank you to all those parents who have paid the deposit for the London trip. **The second instalment is £15 to be paid by Monday 13th March**, and the third instalment of £15 must be paid by Monday 1st May. The Falcon class trip is 15th June and Eagle class is 16th June.

The class will meet at the main ticket office at Preston Train Station, no later than 7.30am. The class will arrive back at Preston train station at approximately 19:30 where you will be able to pick them up. Additional information will be provided nearer the time.

Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day- children to dress as their favourite book character
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Wednesday 8 th March	Choir to perform in the 'Let's Go Sing' Concert at the King's Hall, Blackburn
Friday 17 th March	Nursery Mother's Day Stay and Play (10-11.30am and 1.30-3pm)
Wednesday 22 nd March	Parents' Evening – Online Consultations
Thursday 23 rd March	Parents' Evening – Face-to-face Consultations in school
Wednesday 29 th March	Nursery Show (The Gingerbread Man 11am and 2.30pm)
Thursday 30 th March	Year 5 & Year 6 children depart for France
Friday 31 st March	End of term – 3.15/3.20pm
Sunday 2 nd April	Year 5 & Year 6 children return from France
Monday 17 th April	Return to school
Thursday 20 th April	PTFA Easter Games Night 6pm
Thursday 27 th April	Year 4 Depart for Borwick Hall
Friday 28 th April	Year 4 return from Borwick Hall
Monday 1 st May	May Day (School Closed)
Monday 8 th May	Bank Holiday for the Coronation
Tuesday 9 th May	Year 2 Delamere Forest visit
Monday 29 th May	Start of half term
Friday 9 th June	End of half term
Tuesday 13 th June	Year 3 Trip – Yorkshire Sculpture Park
Thursday 15 th June	Falcon class- London Trip
Friday 16 th June	Eagle Class- London Trip Nursery Father's Day Stay and Play (10-11.30am and 1.30-3pm)
Tuesday 20 th June	Rhino Class Trip- Bring Yer Wellies
Wednesday 21 th June	Elephant Class Trip- Bring Yer Wellies
Friday 23 rd June	Year 6 depart for Boreatton Park
Monday 26 th June	Year 6 return from Boreatton Park
Monday 3 rd July	Nursery proposed date for trip to the beach
Wednesday 5 th July	Reception Trip to Blackpool Zoo
Wednesday 12 th July	Nursery end of year show (Nursery Rhymes 11am and 2.30pm)
Wednesday 19 th July	Proposed Year 6 Leavers Trip
Thursday 20 th July	Nursery end of year party
Friday 21 st July	School closes for summer 1.15pm

SUPER PUPILS

Congratulations to our "Super Pupils" from last week:

Bison Class - Evie

Manatee Class - Lucas

Falcon Class - Alysia

Eagle Class - Faye

Jaguar Class - Aiza

Leopard Class - William

Loris Class - Bella



Kakapo Class - Meryem

Gorilla Class - Josh

Orangutan Class - Ezra

Elephant Class - Lily

Rhinoceros Class - Phoebe



Menu		
Monday- Friday : Salad and Fruit available		
W/B –27/02/2023	KS2	Foundation and KS1
Monday	Sausage Roll Or Pasta Or Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings Or Baguettes with a choice of fillings	Sausage Roll Or Pasta
Tuesday	Mash and Potato Pie Or Chicken Goujons Or Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings Or Baguettes with a choice of fillings	Hot Panini Or Hot Dogs
Wednesday	Roast Dinner Or Dippers Or Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings	Roast Dinner Or Dippers
Thursday	Curry Or Burgers Or Cheese Whirls Or Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings	Curry Or Burgers
Friday	Pizza and Chips Or Fish and Chips Or Sausage and Chips	Pizza and Chips Or Fish and Chips
Subject to availability		

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SPOTIFY

Spotify is a digital music, podcast and video service which gives users access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. Since launching in 2008, Spotify has revolutionised the way music is listened to: it now offers the ability to manage and share more than 100 million tracks and five million podcast series, plus personalised recommendations, new release updates and the option to create collaborative playlists. As of February 2023, it is the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 489 million users globally.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXPLICIT LYRICS

As per Spotify's terms and conditions, people need to be at least 13 to use it. That said, the platform doesn't censor lyrics unless instructed to do so in the settings – so it's worth noting that young teenagers could still be exposed to age-inappropriate songs which contain explicit references to sexual behaviour, violence, discriminatory language and swearing.

GROOMING TACTICS

Although Spotify doesn't come with dedicated chat functionality, concerns were raised in January 2023 after reports of an 11-year-old girl being coerced into sharing explicit pictures of herself on the platform. The case highlighted predators' tactics of sharing empty playlists with other users: their messages were being exchanged undetected through edited song titles and descriptions, bypassing security measures.

OVERSHARING

Spotify provides a perfect way to play music, with the ability to connect to another device, such as a Bluetooth speaker or an in-car stereo. While this is a useful feature, it's also easy to forget your surroundings and inadvertently play content which isn't appropriate for all listeners (especially those under the age of 18), potentially causing alarm or distress.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE PODCASTS

Spotify's podcast community has grown exponentially and it's become a popular base for millions of users to listen to shows, stories, interviews and more – with content covering an array of topics. This includes some material which isn't suitable for minors, including audio which is obviously adult-themed, but can be just as easily accessed as everything else.

ACCESS TO SPOTIFY LIVE

If your child has a Spotify account, they'll also be able to access the platform's audio-only chat service: Spotify Live. While it's a separate stand-alone app, Spotify Live allows people to listen to live discussions on the main Spotify platform and, more notably, lets users enter virtual rooms to chat with other users, opening up direct conversations with strangers and individuals who might not necessarily be there for the right reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SWAP TO SPOTIFY KIDS

If you're concerned about what your child might hear while streaming music, Spotify Kids is a separate, ad-free service specifically designed for children aged 12 and under. It allows younger users to enjoy human-curated, child-friendly content (such as music and audiobooks) and is available to users with a Spotify Premium Family subscription – meaning that parents can view and manage the content their child listens to.

CENSOR EXPLICIT CONTENT

Regardless of what type of account your child uses to access Spotify, there is an option to turn off explicit content in the settings – greying out all songs marked with an 'E' tag. If your child has their own individual account, it's easier for them to turn it back on – whereas with a family plan, you're in control and your child can't alter the setting without knowing the password.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

As with any platform, it's good practice to talk to your child about what they should be aware of when using Spotify. For instance, it's important they're aware never to share any personal information with strangers, and what they should do if they're exposed to inappropriate content. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear so that they feel comfortable raising any concerns with you.

KEEP AN EYE OUT

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Spotify or you've noticed they're being particularly secretive about how they're using it, encourage them to talk about what they're listening to. It's always prudent to show an interest in their online habits from the outset – so you're confident they're using apps and services in the right way, for the right reasons, and they're not being drawn into anything they shouldn't be.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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