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28th March 2025

Dear parents and carers,

It is hard to believe there is only one week to go before we break up for Easter. This term has absolutely flown by!

It was wonderful to see so many of you attending parent and carer open evenings this week. I hope you enjoyed seeing your children's learning and hearing from their teachers about the fantastic progress they have made this term. I know that some of you had the chance to speak to some of our governors and share your thoughts about the school. Thank you – it is always helpful to have your feedback and you had some really lovely things to say about the staff team and how hard they work to support our children.

Huge thanks to Emily and our amazing PTA team for doing such a brilliant job organising and running the Corbett Chase last weekend. We had a really good turnout despite slightly wobbly weather. There is still time for you to donate if you would like to. Look out for the results and details of how to donate later in the newsletter.

Thank you to those who took the time to vote in our parent governor elections last week. We welcome Tenisha Elliot (mum of Oscar in Reception) who was the successful candidate and joined the board for her first governor meeting last night.

Our music performances kicked off with a superb performance by our drummers this week. Despite being a little nervous, they did a great job showing off their drumming skills on Wednesday. Thank you to Chris and Murray for arranging the show. Next week is the turn of our budding strings players who will be performing on Tuesday morning.

Next Friday is the last day of the spring term and we will be celebrating by inviting the children to dress up as a woodland creature or to wear green for our Woodland Dress Up Day. Please remember that although we will be finishing at 2pm, the School Street restrictions will remain in place from 2.15 – 3.15pm as usual.

Have a super weekend, enjoy Mothers' Day and for those of you celebrating Eid, I hope you have a lovely time celebrating with family and friends

Best wishes

Manda George

Headteacher



## **Rights Respecting School**



This week in our Rights Respecting Assemblies, we have been learning all about **Article 12**, which gives children the right to express their views and have them taken seriously. We discussed how being involved in decisions helps young people feel valued and improves their relationships with adults. It's every child's right to be part of decisions that affect them!

# CORBETT CHASE – WELL DONE TEAM TORRIDON!

Congrats and thanks to Team Torridon for their fantastic efforts in our 5th Annual Corbett Chase last Sunday, from our 25 brilliant runners and walkers - parents, students (both former and current) and friends of - to our champion volunteers and cake bakers, who we couldn't have done this without. It was our best year yet with a sell-out cake stall and a wonderful community buzz at the Play Street. A record £450 was raised at the cake sale (thanks to all the delicious cakes baked).



Special mention to our 4 Torridon students who took part: reigning champ Joshua in Year 6 came in 5th overall/1st child in the 10k; first-timer Edward in Year 5 was 14th overall/2nd child (in a thrilling sprint finish). We loved the smiles at the finish!

On the parents' side: Tom Boswell, our reigning 10k winner, successfully defended his first-place title, followed in 2nd place by Tom Steadman. And our top half-marathon finisher James Webb came 2nd place in the Half in another impressive run.



Well done to all our participants! Please support their great efforts, in aid of Torridon: <u>https://gofund.me/Occ09c2a</u>



## Woodland Friends' Dress Up Day



Our woodland is two years old and to celebrate we invite you to come to school on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April dressed as a woodland creature!** 



Children who do not want to dress up as a woodland friend are invited to wear green.



This is a fundraising event to maintain and expand our ever growing woodland area. Donations can be paid directly to Parent pay or buckets will be on the gate to accept cash.

Suggested donation of £1.

## **Torridon Nursery Places For September 2025**

If you have a child who turns 4 years old between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026 and you would like to enrol them at Torridon nursery, please get an application from the office or request one by email from:

admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk.

We have limited spaces, to avoid



disappointment, please request and submit an application form as soon as possible.

## Free School Meal Vouchers For The Easter Holidays

Free School Meal Vouchers for the Easter Holidays will be issued next week.

If you are entitled to the vouchers you will receive an email and/or text message when your voucher has been assigned. Simply open the app or log in via <u>evouchers.com/login</u> to redeem your voucher at your chosen retailer.

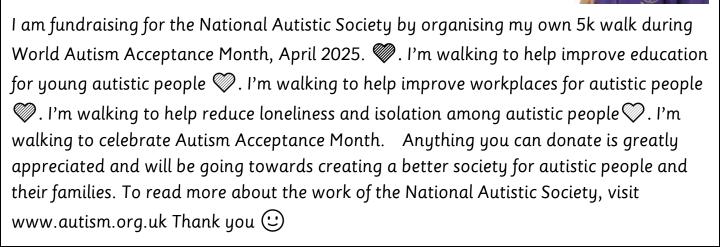
If you have any queries please contact the school office.

## Callie-Rose - Autism Acceptance Month

April is autism acceptance month. Callie is organising a 5k walk to raise money. To show your support, please donate here:

https://waam.autism.org.uk/fundraising/callie-rosemcevilly-67e5b67ada65fae6ef9574c9?edit=page

### My story



## Drum Kit Recital

Well done to our excellent drum kit performers, who put on an excellent show. To see children as young as year 2, 3 and 4 performing a wide range of musical material was delightful.

Thanks to Murray for so expertly teaching the children and for arranging an entertaining and professionally presented experience which parents and the whole year of 5 were able to enjoy.

Our next performance is on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April where the violinists and string ensemble will be performing at 9:00am.



## **Daylight Savings**



Don't forget, the clocks go forward 1 hour this weekend to mark the start of British Summertime.

### **OPAL Play Donations**

If you are thinking of having a spring clean over the Easter Break, please be on the lookout for things we could use in the playground for OPAL play.

We welcome all donations and are particularly interested in the following items:

Small world toys (farm animals, cars, people etc.)

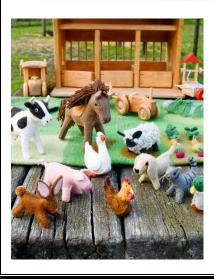
Suitcases

Dressing up clothes: hats, wigs, masks, handbags etc

Den making materials

Fabric

















### **Reception – Trip to the Farm**

Last week Reception classes boarded a bus and took the DLR to Mudchute Farm in search of the three little pigs and to investigate what their houses are made of.

While there, we enjoyed our lunch, bravely fed the different animals and explored the farm. We had a wonderful time!





## Year 1 – Stepping into Snutt's Shoes!

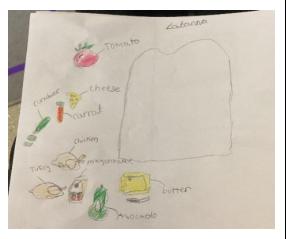
This week in Year 1, we had lots of fun bringing the story of Snutt to life! We thought about Snutt's journey around the wonderful planet and imagined all the emotions he might have felt. After learning new emotive vocabulary, we used it to act in role as Snutt, using our faces and bodies to express his emotions.



## **Resource Base – Healthy Eating**



We have had a big focus on learning about healthy eating in the Resource Base. Blue Pathway have been learning about different food groups and the benefits of each for every meal.

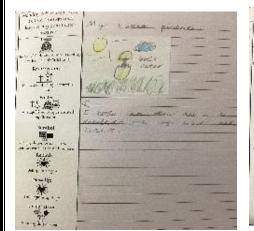


They have designed their version of a healthy lunch that includes protein, carbohydrates and fruit/ vegetables for balanced meal. Next week the children will make their chosen lunches.

## Year 2 – Easter Story



This half term, Year 2 have been learning all about the Easter Story. After retelling the story of Jesus' resurrection, we then talked about what Easter symbolises. We included things like chicks, which represent new life and new beginnings. Take a look at some of our wonderful Easter designs...







## Year 3 – Writing a Speech

We have been learning how to write a speech this week in writing. We began by writing a speech to Manda about something we are all very passionate about: whether we should have football on the playground. The children had lots of persuasive ideas for both arguments! Next week, we will be writing (and performing!) a speech about the impact of deforestation on our environment. To do this, we have explored arguments for and against deforestation, have identified the features of a speech, and are practising using the perfect present tense. We have also listened to speeches by the activist Greta Thunberg to inspire our own speeches, as she makes very powerful and persuasive points about the importance of looking after the environment.

The environment has been pessed The animals is have been in the The evers haved to breaked on Resovestation is no has impedded our nor WE WANT TO UNRINE The environment destroyed

## Year 4 – Writing and Geography - Volcano Explanation

We made 3D cross-section models of volcanoes to help us explain to our partner how a volcano erupts. We used technical words like magma chamber, vent and crater. This was good practice for next week when we will be writing our explanation texts.



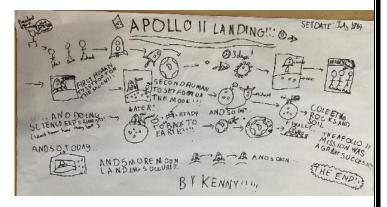


## Year 5 – Moon Landing



This week in year 5, we are working towards writing a newspaper report about the Apollo 11 moon landing. Part of this includes reading information about the landing that took place in 1969 and creating a story map to help us remember the important information.





### Year 6 – DT



We have been stitching flags linked to our learning about the LGBTQ+ community. Cross stitch is a type of embroidery and the children enjoyed planning and creating their designs using this method.



### **INTERESTING FACT:**

Catherine of Aragon, Henry VIII's first wife, is often thought to have made a form of embroidery called 'Blackwork' popular in England. 'Blackwork' has a lot in common with cross stitch.

### **Forest School News**



It has been so lovely being outside this week as the weather improves! The children have been busy planting sunflowers which they will grow at home. In total we have planted 300 sunflowers this week!

The children are going to care for their seed on a sunny

windowsill for

4 weeks then plant their flower in their garden. We will also be planting sunflowers around Forest School.

The Nursery children have been reading the story of Goldilocks and the three bears this week. Daddy, Mummy and Baby bear joined us at Forest school to enjoy some campfire porridge.





## Spring Bulb Competition Update

We are beginning to notice some of our bulbs around school are starting to flower. If you purchased a Spring bulb from us in the Autumn term remember to bring your pot into school once it has fully flowered.





Show your pot to Kelley and we will take a photo of you and your flower before displaying the flower around school. Later in the Spring term Manda will judge the flowers and choose one winner from each year group.

We can not wait to see your beautiful flowers and brighten up our outdoor spaces.

# Strings Recital

Don't forget that the strings recital is on Tuesday at 9:00am. String ensemble is rehearsing from 8:15 as usual. All of this will be in the year 5 hall.

We hope to see you there.

Dates	for Your Diary		
	9am Strings performance for parents and carers		
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	(including string ensemble)		
· · ·	Year 5 and 6 tag rugby festival		
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	5V Goldsmiths Arts trip		
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Woodland Dress Up Day		
	Last day of the spring term (2pm finish)		
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	EASTER HOLIDAY		
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 6 Easter School		
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Reception Hearing and vision screening		
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Resource Base to Pizza Express		
	UNITY dance competition		
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 5 art workshop		
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	9am Guitar performance for parents and carers		
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	9am Piano performance for parents and carers		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	SPRING BANK HOLIDAY		
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	9am SEND Coffee morning – language development		
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Nursery to Horniman butterfly house		
Monaay 12 <sup>m</sup> May	Year 2 to Tower Bridge		
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs week		
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Family Film Night		
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2 football tournament		
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	9am Woodwind performance for parents and carers		
	Year 5 and 6 boys' cricket tournament		
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Family Film Night		
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Reception Bug Man visit		
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 5 and 6 girls' cricket tournament		
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	PTA fundraiser — non uniform day		
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	HALF TERM HOLIDAY		
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Family Fun Run (Forster Park)		
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 and year 6 hockey tournament		
	INSET Day		
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Trip to Legoland		
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 secondary transition day		
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 6 Royal Opera House Project		
Week beginning Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole School Assessment Week		
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Music Concert		
Monday July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery and Reception Sports Day		
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day		
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	5.00pm Year 6 prformance		
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00am Year 6 performance		
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Sports Day		
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Last Day of Summer Term (2pm finish)		

### SEND Workshops



Fri 25 April 9:30-11:30 Corbett Library What support can your child with SEN get in school/ college? www.SEN25AprilAM. eventbrite.co.uk



Tues 29 April 17:00-19:00 St Laurence Centre Supporting your child with EBSNA & relationships www.SEN29AprilAM. eventbrite.co.uk



Sat 26 April 13:00-15:00 Forest Hill School What support can your child with SEN get in school/ college? www.SEN26AprilPM eventbrite.co.uk



Wed 30 April 9:30-11:30 The Albany Supporting your child with EBSNA & relationships www.SEN30AprilAM. eventbrite.co.uk



Mon 28 April 9:30-11:30 Manor House Library Supporting your child with FRSNA & relationships

www.SEN28AprilAM. eventbrite.co.uk



Wed 30 April 17:00-19:00 The Albany Supporting your child to be ready to learn in the classroom www.SEN30AprilEVE. eventbrite.co.uk



Mon 28 April 17:00-19:00 Manor House Library Supporting your child to be ready to learn in the classroom

www.SEN28AprilEVE. eventbrite.co.uk



Thurs 1 May 9:30-11:30 Downham Library Supporting your child to be ready to learn in the classroom www.SEN1MayAM. eventbrite.co.uk



Tues 29 April 9:30-11:30 St Laurence Centre Supporting your child to be ready to learn in the classroom

www.SEN29AprilEVE. eventbrite.co.uk



Thurs 1 May 17:00-18:45 Downham Library Supporting your child with EBSNA & relationships www.SEN1MayEVE. eventbrite.co.uk

## Dance with Trinity Laban

#### TRINITY LABAN

## Dance in Bellingham



# Dance with US

Mondays Bellingham Gate

Bellingham Beats Creative dance classes that develop dancers' technical and creative skills and explore choreography. E5/£2 concessions Tree for free school meal recipie 16:15–17:00 5-7 vr olds

Year 5 were visited by dance artist Emma Greene from Trinity Laban this week. The children took part in a taster session of dance and choreography so they could trial "Bellingham Beats", weekly creative and choreography classes run by Trinity Laban. Please see attached information if your child is interested in taking part.

### Oracy and SEN Coffee Mornings

### Oracy and SEN coffee mornings



#### Thursday 8th May- Language Development for children in KS1 and KS2

This workshop will be run by our Speech and Language Therapists (Esther and Laura) and will support parents to understand how to develop children's language skills during their primary years (ages 5-11).



#### Thursday 12th June 9.00am-10.00am - Language Development in the Early Years

This workshop will be run by our Speech and Language Therapists and will support parents to understand how to develop children's language skills during their early years (ages 3-5).

## Weekly Attendance

Class	Atten	dance_	Class	Atten	dance	Class	Atten	dance
1M	93%		3A	99%	Contraction of the second seco	5V	98.2%	
1N	95%		3G	96%		5L	98%	
1W	93%		3S	98%		5C	91%	
25	92%		4K	97%		6R	98%	
2SW	95%		4L	97%		6A	94%	
2E	98%	Contraction and a second secon	4S	95%		6L	94%	

Well done to those who won the Attendance Cup this week! Who will win next week?

## SoundSteps Music School



Soundsteps are supporting a campaign to help more students in primary school from reception year up take an interest in learning a Musical instrument. To support this we will be holding a number of Free Music lessons across the local area at centres and online in April and May and we would like to invite your students and parents to attend a session and learn more about options for learning a Musical instrument and Music theory either through School or at an extra circular club outside of school.

### Jays Fun Day





### Wonka Dance Workshop

Assistant Choreographer for the film and West End performer Jenny Legg brings you a kids workshop from...



Join Jenny and learn real choreography created for the Warner Bros. smash 'Wonka'. A fun and creative session to sink your teeth into the world of film and character creation. Suitable for all abilities and experience levels! It's all about having fun!

#### When and where?

Kidbrooke Hub, 8 Pegler Square, SE3 9GR. Friday 11th April, 2025.

10-11.30am - Ages 5-10 11.30-1pm - Ages 11+ How much?

£15

#### Other Info

Jenny has been performing 20 years professionally in the West End and on tour, as well as having worked on various TV shows and films. She has over 15 years teaching experience on top of this, from babies to adults, and has an up to date DBS.

To book your space please email: jenny.legg@me.com



Easter dance workshop - Friday 11th April.

I am a West End professional having worked in the industry for 20 years and I also have over 15 years of teaching experience on top of this and this particular workshop is from the film 'Wonka' on which I was an Assistant Choreographer and also danced in the film itself.

Join me along with other friends to experience what it takes in the Theatre / Dance industry.

		STARS OF THE WEEK
Class	Name	Reason
Nursery FT Ainhoa		For being kind to her friends and for sharing her ideas during carpet times.
		Well done, Ainhoa! 😂
Nursery AM	Aswi	For being helpful during tidy up time and her fantastic drawing of her family.
		Well done, Aswi! 🛞
Nursery PM	Ira	For joining in with the story 'Goldilocks and the three bears' and his fantastic writing thi week. Well done, Ira! ③
Blue Class	Cairo	For his attitude to learning and early morning work this week. Well done, Cairo!
Red Class	Mark	
Yellow Class	Feliks	For his fantastic writing this week! Well done, Mark ③ For working hard on his phonics and applying it to his reading and writing. Well done!
1M	Andrew	For always being polite and respectful and for being a good friend. Well done, Andrew!
1N Maya		For her thoughtful and creative contributions to class discussions and shared writing. Sh has great ideas and always adds extra information and descriptive language. It's great t
		see her taking care with her letter formation too. Keep up the great work! 🐵
1W	Rushik	For beginning to sound out his spelling independently. He has also been a great friend t others in class. Well done Rushik!
2E	Nathan	For being such a kind, caring and considerate member of 2E. He is very enthusiastic abo
		all he does and has a great attitude towards his learning and all he does. Keep it up, we
		done 😂
2S Arush		For his caring nature and his positive attitude towards his learning. Well done for alway
		trying your best in all that you do! Keep it up! 😂
2SW	Rhia	For her kindness and caring nature. Rhia is always supporting her peers and is a fabulou
		role model. Well done Rhia, keep it up! 😂
3A	Zainab	For always being such a helpful member of the class, and a super talk partner! Well done ③
3G	Aren	For always trying his best in his learning. Keep it up Aren! 😂
3S	Aamarah	For working hard in all areas of the curriculum and really thinking about her spellings.
		Well done 🐵
4K	Whole Class	For being respectful and well-behaved during the absence of their class teacher. Well done 4K.
4L	Kayden	for always being curious, confident and eager to learn
4S	Zade	For putting in lots of effort to learn his spellings and times tables every week. His great
		results are a testament to his dedication to learning!
5C	Mila	For her amazing home learning in producing a representation of the solar system, Grea work!
5L	Evan	This week, you have shown fantastic enthusiasm in class discussions, contributing
02	LVait	thoughtful answers and sharing great ideas with confidence. Well done!
5V	Michael	For showing excellent leadership skills during Thursday's dance workshop. Well done
		Michale.
6A	Mojiith	For settling well into the school community and for already displaying our core values of
	5	aspiration, respect and excellence. Keep it up!
6L	Whole class	For hard-work and determination during their mock SATS week. They should be very proud of themselves.
6R	Whole class	For demonstrating superb focus and determination during mock SATs this week. You should be very proud of your efforts. Well done.
RB Blue	Naoki	Well done for being so determined during assessment week this week.
RB Green	Gregory	Well done for being more independent at playtime and lunchtime.

## **SKIPZ Easter Productions**



### Easter Camps / Workshops





#### IS THIS COACHING PROGRAMME FOR YOU?

This course is appropriate for any child in school years 3 to 6.

Children will experience cricket in a fun, safe and progressive environment, building on their development at an appropriate rate.

Both beginners and children who have experienced cricket before are welcome.

#### DETAILS

- COST: These courses are Free of Charge
- PLACES: Allocated to the first 30 respondents on a first come-first serve basis
- · AGES: 7-11 Years Old
- LUNCHES & REFRESHMENT: Parents of children entitled to a Free School Meal will be provided with a hot lunch (Please highlight any dietary requirements when signing-up)
- CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT: Regular sports kit & trainers (non-marking soles); Personal protective equipment preferred, although we can supply if a child does not have their own





Jahld Ahmed is a former Essex seam bowler who has worked extensively in youth cricket. He is one of an exclusive group of Level 3 coaches, he has lad the development of junior cricket in East London and he is a fast bowling and high performance coach with Kent CCC.

#### OTHER COACHES INCLUDE:

Matt Golding (current Minor County Cricketer; Level 2 Coach), Jonathan Rodda (Club Youth Lead; Level 2 Coach), Matt Stiddard (London Schools U14 Lead; Level 2 Coach), Nikhil Nomula (Middlesex Youth; Level 3 Coach).



TO BOOK YOUR PLACE OR TO DISCUSS ANY ASPECT OF THE COURSE PLEASE CONTACT: JONATHAN RODDA MOB: 07946 229 849

EMAIL: jonathan.rodda@platform-LDN.org

# Lewisham HAF (Holiday Activities and Food)

latest list of available activities for the Lewisham HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) Programme. This programme provides fun activities and nutritious meals for children and young people during the school holidays. If you know of a family who has not received the code or information and or you feel the family maybe impacted by holiday hunger, please send an email to the HAF Programme <u>HAFProgramme@lewisham.gov.uk</u>, for further support.

Provider name	Age Range	Dates and times	Venue Address	Ward	Activities
UK Latin Community CIC	8 – 14 years	14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April 12pm -4pm	Prendergast Vale School, Elmira Street, London SE13 7BN	Lewisham Central	Arts and crafts, food and nutrition, sports and well-being.
Baller Sports Coaching LTD	4 – 11 years	7 <sup>th</sup> — 10 <sup>th</sup> April 10am — 2pm	Sydenham School, Dartmouth Rd, London SE26 4RD	Sydenham	4 days of sports fun! Every day is different. Food will be provided.
Baller Sports Coaching LTD	4 -11 years	14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April 10am – 2pm	Hatcham Primary School Hunsdon Road, London, SE14 5RD	hool Hunsdon indoor and bad, London, football, ba	
Skipz Productions	4 – 11 years	14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April 10am – 2pm	St Andrew's Church hall, St Andrew's Apostle Church, Sandhurst Road, SE6 1XD	Catford South	Easter Performing Arts, Arts and Crafts and Clay Modelling Easter Camp.
Empower CIC	5 – 16 years	14th - 17 <sup>th</sup> April 11am – 3pm	50 Turnham Rd, London SE4 2JD	Brockley	Indoor Roller Skating Activities.
Pro Touch	7 – 16 years	14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April 10:30 – 2:30pm	Haberdashers' Knights Academy, Launcelot Rd, Bromley BR1 5EB	Downham	Multi-sports activities including football, dodgeball, mini-tennis, fitness, speed and agility exercises, football-tennis, skipping, and more!
Downs Friendship	4 – 16 years	7 <sup>th</sup> — 10 <sup>th</sup> April 10am — 2pm	Goldsmith Community Centre: Castillon Road, SE6 1QD	Bellingham	Art & Crafts, Sport, Music, Baking and Sushi making.
Omega Sports	4 – 12 years	7 <sup>th</sup> — 10 <sup>th</sup> April 9am — 1pm	Baring Primary School, Linchmere Rd, London SE12 ONB	Lee Green	Ball Sports, Water games, Gymnastics, Arts and Crafts.
Superkids Club Ltd - Rushey Green	4-11 years	14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April 9am – 1pm	Rushey Green Primary School, Culverley Road, Catford, London, SE6 2LA	Rushey Green	Easter Spring and bonnet making, Bake and Treat and Easter egg hunt.

## **Online Safety**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

#### NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social natiseries allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all fluerity accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change is the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a simbled way – such as through the indication of accounts.

Station 1

#### INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone site. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and mass an, it does mean that youngsters are ab particular tasks of being connect by scientmers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with it interactions. These harderds can be compounded by the fact that bluesky doesn't require its seens to provide their real name.

#### TROLLING AND BULLVING

While Bluesky currently feels a fat blendlier than X seems to have became, it's lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trailing and cyberbullying younger people. While occounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profer, potentially making their victima feel unsofe in continuing to use the app.

#### DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fost-checking and estimate processes, but accion tensoria have no such contrain and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluecky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and chikara many not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – a to discern as informative, honest user from a malicious one.

RESTRIC

### ADULT TARGET

Bluesky ian't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform, in an Indexide with the BDC, Bluesky's CED originally said that the app would only allow users aged 30 and above to sign up, but a spokesperion take conflect its age restriction as 15r. This could imply the spp was originally making the platform more child-friendly might not summity be a priority.

### RAPID GROWTH

At this time of entiting, Diversity seems outmin comparison with other social networks where moderation is lise and the atmosphere tosic - but (hait due at least in part to its smaller community, the app has recently been adding as many as a anilian use per day, and if that continues, there il be more unpleased users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the piecoant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

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## Advice for Parents & Educators

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### USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Blackly descriting much in the way of parental controls, but there are content fillers which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage ecounts but can be marriarily humad on in the Wederstein section of the appr settings. The advanced illuerity Maderation tervice are your retrict content even further, hiding - for example - setting harm content, estimate the land, and even rude posts.

#### ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Blueric uses to ensure a decart experience is multing and blocking accounts. The terme pervents you have seeing a specific user's centerit, while the latter stops them have assing yours. If a child is encountering india or buildes on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a more place for everyone.

source see fur reference for an guide page of https://www.onaisstegie.com/public/provisity-app.

#### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, Techiladar, Tam's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statemen.

### LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersentation is a problem on all social methods. While the consequences are usuably beingin, importens sometimes attempt to scame or grown children by proventing to be a popular influences or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to afficial domains, with search bandles initiated to other shee, while this lim't widely used its heat it cuild be a reliable way to verify selectrifies and public figures in future.

#### KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

s with all social media platforms, maderation and content filters can any do so much: 's highly likely that a child will wentually face something unsavoury. For that research, it's sportant to make sure that young people are aware of the size and snow how to handle e becknology if anything they see on the app makes them feel usuals or uncomfortable.



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