



# SBPS News of The Month



31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

Price: FREE!

## Senior Designated Safeguarding Leads



Mr Bell  
Headteacher



Mrs Atkinson  
Deputy Head Teacher



Mrs Dryden  
Assistant Head  
Teacher



Miss Reid  
Assistant Head  
Teacher



Mr Vasarhelyi  
Class Teacher



Mr Goldsbrough  
Class Teacher

## Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

If you have a concern about the safety of a child in our school, please contact one of our trained Designated Safeguarding Leads.

If you have a concern out of school hours, please contact First Contact on 0300026797 or the police.

## Parental Engagement

Year 5 were the first year group to invite their grown-ups into school to share with them what they have been learning. Following their short presentation, they all played 'Are you smarter than a 10 year old?' To finish off, they got creative and made some awesome masks! Thank you to all who came; it is always wonderful to have you join us in school. Y1 are up next and we are looking forward to seeing what they have in store for us all!

## Safe Spaces

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of the families who donated items to make our safe spaces possible. Thank you also to the local businesses: Rendells and Moon Jewelry who have made some very generous donations. Children from across school have a place to go to when life starts to get a little too much. They are enjoying the calming effects of the soft furnishings and twinkly lights.

## Children's Mental Health Week

To mark the start of Children's MHW, all children are invited to wear their favourite clothes to school, with a twist... they must be worn inside out! If you would like to make an optional donation to our Safe Spaces collection, please do so on School Money. This will help school to provide much needed support for children experiencing problems with their mental health.

## School Visits

In January, Y5 visited Ripon Workhouse and Y6 visited the Victoria Tunnels. The children had a great time learning what life was like a long time ago and compared it to what their lives are like today. They all did extremely well representing SBPS and the staff at both sites remarked on their impeccable behavior. We are very proud of them all! Thank you for your donations to school which means that we can continue to fund such worthwhile visits. Without your help, we would struggle for them to go ahead.

## **Sports**

One month in and we have already seen so many sporting achievements! Y2 and Y5 have been to gymnastics festivals... we discovered that they are all far more flexible than their teachers! Y1 have had cricket coaching with Phil Mellons...they all have quite a swing so watch out this summer! Y6 have enjoyed Combat sessions... a great way to round off a Friday afternoon! A huge thank you to Mr Vasarhelyi who leads PE and who is always looking for new ways to enhance our PE curriculum. We can't wait to see what he has in store for us next month!

## **Musical Theatre**

Rehearsals for Peter Pan are now in full swing. It is a joy to hear them singing on a Monday after school and we can't wait to have the date revealed to us. We're sure the summer show will be a sell out! Thank you for all your support at home... lots of lines to learn and lots of songs to practice. We couldn't do it without you. We will be in touch soon as we start to think about costumes and props!

## **Parking**

A polite reminder... please be considerate to local residents, other road users and pedestrians when parking outside of school at drop off and pick up times. Staff have been shocked to hear that some adults resort to foul language when they are asked by residents to not block their drives. This is simply unacceptable behaviour and a terrible message to be sending to our children.

Recently, Snow's Green Road has been blocked by cars parked on both sides to the point that drivers have been forced to leave their cars to help guide drivers through. Cars have also been damaged because of this. A bus carrying our KS2 swimmers was completely hemmed in at one point and children had to be led down a busy road by staff to ensure they arrived safely back at school. We have also been made aware of families having to walk on the road to weave in and out of cars because some people park cars on the pavement. This has led to children falling and being hurt and is also increasing the chances of a terrible accident happening. This can all be avoided if drivers park further away from school, park only on one side of the road, don't park on pavements and make other sensible choices. If you live close to the school, please consider walking to and from school... it's great for your health, it's great for the environment and it makes our roads a lot safer.

School are involved in the Safer School Gate Parking Campaign and will be talking to the children about ways to keep themselves safe when coming to and leaving school. Please expect them to bring advice home. This is something that affects our community and we want to work together to make it better.

## **Juice**

We welcome water bottles in school... water hydrates our brain and helps us to learn. Fizzy pop, energy drinks and juice don't do the same job... plus it's not good for our teeth if we drink these drinks throughout the day. Please only fill your child's bottle with water. If your child requires something different because of a medical condition, school will ask for medical evidence.

## **Friends of Shotley Bridge**

Thank you to the parents and staff who have contributed to enhancing learning and offering experiences to our children so far this academic year. We always welcome new members. If you would like to be involved, please email school (for attention of Miss Reid) or ring the school office.

## **Mrs Hodgson is Leaving**

At the end of the week we say a huge thank you, goodbye and good luck to Mrs Hodgson. She has worked in our infant building for over two years and during this time she has been a huge support to the children and staff. We are all very sorry to see her go, but know that she will be extremely successful in her new role. Good luck Mrs H!

## **Arrangements for Industrial Strike Action: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023**

Only C7 and C12 can come into school on the 1<sup>st</sup> February. Classes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14 must not come to school.

### **Start/Finish times**

As we now have no R/KS1 classes in school, C7 and C11 should come to the junior building on Snow's Green Road tomorrow.

Arrive at school at 8.40am – gates close at 8.55am.

Collection at 3.20pm

### **Attendance**

If your child's class is not coming into school, your child's attendance will not be affected. If your child's class is in school and you choose not to send them, this will not be authorised unless a valid reason is provided.

### **Teaching and Learning**

Children not coming to school should access TTRS, Numbots, Spelling Shed, Purple Mash etc from home (logins are in reading diaries). Children coming to school will have a range of activities to take part in. It would be helpful if they came to school in their school PE kit as our sports coaches are in school as normal.

### **Lunches**

If your child usually brings a packed lunch, please send this in as normal. Children who usually receive a school dinner will have this provided. If your child has been asked not to come into school and they are in receipt of free school meals, you will receive a meal voucher by email. If your child should be in school and is in receipt of free school meals but you choose not to send them to school, you will not be given a meal voucher.

### **Clubs**

After school clubs will take place as usual as you have already paid for your child to attend. All clubs will take place in the junior building. If your child is signed up to one of the following clubs, please bring them to/collect them from the junior building.

- KS1 Creative Kitchen (starts at 3.15pm and ends at 4.15pm)
- KS2 Creative Kitchen (starts at 3.20pm and ends at 4.20pm)
- Y3/4 Dodgeball/Battle Games (starts at 3.20pm and ends at 4.20pm)
- R/Y1 Spanish (starts at 3.15pm and ends at 4pm)

School reopens to all children on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – business as usual.

This information is up to date as of the 31<sup>st</sup> January but is subject to change up to the morning of the planned strike action. We will keep you informed as soon as we can if there are any changes.

### **Holly**

As you will all have read in my email on Sunday, Holly Newton tragically lost her life at the weekend. On behalf of the children, staff and Governors, we send our deepest sympathy to Holly's family. At the weekend, school laid flowers in her memory and left teddy bears for her brother and two sisters. Holly's Mum rang school today to thank us all for remembering Holly. Family and friends are invited to pay tribute at 5.10pm on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> February in Hexham.

If you would like to help ease the financial stress caused by Holly's loss, a Go Fund Me page has been set up.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/holly-olivia>

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Event</b>
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Partial School Closure – please see email update
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Valentine Disco – 3.15pm - 4.15pm R/KS1 Valentine Disco – 3.20pm - 4.20pm KS2
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> February	School Closes for Spring Half Term
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> February	School Opens for Spring 2
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day – dress up as a book character
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> March (new date due to strike)	Y1 Parental Engagement 2pm
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Special Ladies Day – ladies welcomed into school: pm
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Parental Engagement 2pm
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring Term Parent's Evening
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Last appointment 6pm
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> March	School Closes for Easter Holiday
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> April	School Opens for Summer 1
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday Monday: school closed
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Y3 Parental Engagement 2pm
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup> May	The Arts – info to follow
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> May	
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception Parental Engagement 2pm
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closes for Summer Half Term
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> June	School Reopens for Summer 2
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Special Men's Day – Men welcomed into school: pm
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Fair
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Y2 – Y3 Parent's Transition Meeting: 3.30pm - 4pm Junior Building
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Day reserved for Sports Day (in case of bad weather)
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Camp Out – school field from 6pm - 8am
W/B 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole School Trip – info to follow
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Y6 Leavers Assembly School Closes for Summer Break
5 <sup>th</sup> September	School Opens for children