



## Newsletter 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

*Learning, growing and achieving excellence together*

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well... and healthy! There has been so much illness in school over the last two weeks which, as I am sure you know, impacts on staffing and of course on you at home.

Hopefully, we are past the worst of things and can return to full capacity next week. I am looking forward to seeing many of you next week for our coffee and choir informal get together on Thursday at 3.30pm after school in the KS1 hall. Please come along with any questions you might want to raise.

I will be hoping to fix a 'Ground-force Day' date for after half-term and will let you know, if possible. next week. Finally, you will have received notification of the successful appointment of your new Headteacher Ms Ley starting in the summer term.

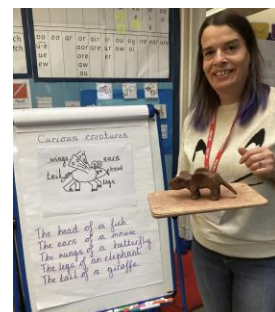
I wanted to say how genuinely pleased I am to see the school moving forward positively with Ms Ley your new Headteacher. The future looks very positive!

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes,  
Mr Ball



This week our lovely **Year 1** children were thrilled to work with **Wendy the 'Clay Lady'**. She guided the children through how to roll, squeeze, pinch and pull the clay. The children have been learning about amazing animals and they were able to use their fact knowledge to plan their own curious creatures inspired by Eric Carle's 'Mixed-up Chameleon' story. They had a wonderful time sculpting the clay and here are some of the extraordinarily curious creatures they made.



**Children's Mental Health Week** begins next week, its theme is *My Voice Matters*. The children will be taking part in a range of activities and themes across the week. Please keep an eye on X (Twitter) for updates and pictures.



**Don't forget!**  
**Friday 9th February**  
**'Own Clothes Day'**  
 theme **"Express yourself"**. Please see some ideas to the right.

- ① Let your inner disco diva shine on the dance floor
- ② Let your personality shine through with your favourite colours
- ③ Embrace your creative side and unleash your artistic energy
- ④ Show off your team spirit with your favourite team's kit
- ⑤ Take the stage as the coolest rockstar in town
- ⑥ Come as you are and wear your comfiest clothes!
- ⑦ Bring the cool energy of the skate park to the playground
- ⑧ Share what makes you... you and celebrate what sets you apart.

**The Place2Be** has some excellent resources for families on mental health

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/>

Talking to your child about mental health:

[cmhw-24-top-tips-for-families.pdf](#) ([childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk))

Practical tips to support your child wellbeing

[Place2Be: Parenting Smart: Articles](#)

What matters to you?

[What matters to you? Activity for 4-11 year olds](#) ([childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk))



## Tuesday 6th February: Safer Internet Day

Next week, we will revisit learning from the Autumn term in relation to staying safe online. Please review your child's use on online devices at home to ensure you are fully aware of what your child is doing and what your child can access online. There are a number of links below for support and we have our online safety leaflet is attached to this newsletter.

**Please see the links below for parent resources**

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

NSPCC Online gaming & keeping children safe webinar 7th Feb

[NSPCC Game Safe Festival - Tickets](#) ([emma-live.com](https://emma-live.com))

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/charity-events/game-safe-festival>



Games Consoles

Looking for advice on how to support your child in using a games console safely and responsibly? Read our guide and FAQs...



Tablets

Guide to tablets including top tips and advice about safety tools.



Year Group emails:

EYFS@billingshurstprimary.org.uk  
 year1@billingshurstprimary.org.uk  
 year2@billingshurstprimary.org.uk  
 year3@billingshurstprimary.org.uk

year4@billingshurstprimary.org.uk  
 year5@billingshurstprimary.org.uk  
 year6@billingshurstprimary.org.uk

**Governors' Update** - Last week, I shared with you the outcome of our headteacher recruitment process. This is brilliant news for our school community and Ms Ley has already scheduled several transition visits this term in preparation for taking up the position of Headteacher after Easter. On Wednesday, we met as a full governing body and a key part of this meeting revolved around accountability for school improvement. Actions and outcomes were considered in depth, supported by data, and governors could see that significant improvement is evident in the identified areas.

**BPSCA** - The welly walk is taking place next Friday, 9th February. Sponsorship donations can be made online here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/billingshurstwellywalk2024>. Alternatively, you can collect a sponsorship form from the school office. The money raised this year will be split equally between the BPSCA and Canine Partners.

**Coffee and choir**  
3.30pm Thursday  
8th February. **KS1 Hall**  
choir pick-up will be as normal.

Cases of measles are rising across England, including among children and young people. The symptoms of measles, along with more information about the virus, can be found on [the NHS website](#).

***A massive thank you to the BPSCA for their donations towards the Year 1 outdoor area!***

**Cowdray winning house!**

**Cowdray**  
990

**Goodwood**  
892

**Parham**  
912

**Petworth**  
884



**Upcoming dates: January/February**

- **Monday 5th February** – Children's Mental Health Week begins
- **Tuesday 6th February** – Safer Internet Day
- **Wednesday 7th February** – Y5 and Y6 basketball festival, at the Weald
- **Friday 9th February** – BPSCA Welly Walk and 'Own Clothes Day' for Children's Mental Health Week
- **HALF TERMS 12-16th February**
- **Monday 26th February** – Year 6 parents SATs information session (3:30pm)
- **Tuesday 27th February** – Year 6 Weald Book Awards Winners Event, at the Weald (6-7pm)

**Letters home this week:**

**Y6 Weald book awards event at the Weald**

**Year 6 SATS meeting**

Year groups regularly post photos of children and learning so please follow your child's Year Group on X



@BPSEYFS  
@BPSYearOne  
@BPSYearTwo

@BPSYearThree  
@BPSYearFour  
@BPSYearFive  
@BPSYearSix

[www.facebook.com/BillingshurstPrimarySchool](http://www.facebook.com/BillingshurstPrimarySchool)





## For Parents of Children aged 5-11:



1. Keep the computer in a public place with the screen facing outward.
2. Establish family rules and guidelines to include:
  - a. setting limits on how much time they spend online.
  - b. giving no personal information.
  - c. disclosing no school information.
  - d. reviewing pictures posted.
3. Reinforce the dangers of sharing personal or school information online.
4. Prohibit any meeting in person with someone he/she knows only online, unless you are present.
5. Inform your children that you will monitor Internet use, messaging and social networking in order to keep them safe. Parents should have passwords for their children's social media accounts and passcodes to their children's devices to have full access at any given moment.
6. Discuss the importance of telling an adult immediately if someone, or something, upsets them online.
7. Use bookmarks or favourites lists to access websites and screen names or nicknames where possible.

### Did You Know?

Latest Ofcom research has shown that 81% of 5-15 year olds have access to a tablet at home and almost 40% of 3-4 year olds and 66% of 5-7 year olds go online.

75% of children sleep with a device in their bedroom. (OurPact)

Children aged 5 to 16 spend an average of six and a half hours a day in front of a screen compared with around three hours in 1995, according to market research firm Childwise. Teenaged boys spend the longest, with an average of eight hours.

87% of today's youth have witnessed cyberbullying. (Study by McAfee)

# ARE YOU SAFE ONLINE?



## PAUSE & THINK ONLINE



Before you...



## THINK!

**T** = Is it True?  
**H** = Is it Helpful?  
**I** = Is it Inspiring?  
**N** = Is it Necessary?  
**K** = Is it Kind?



## E-safety Awareness for Parents

## Useful links for Parents

[www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/need-help](http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/need-help)  
[www.childnet.com/have-a-conversation](http://www.childnet.com/have-a-conversation)  
[www.saferinternet.org.uk/parent-tech](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/parent-tech)  
[www.saferinternet.org.uk/parental-controls](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/parental-controls)  
[www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)  
[https://www.saferinternetday.org/](http://https://www.saferinternetday.org/)

