

Friars, Robert Browning, Snowsfields and Tower Bridge Primary Schools

We learn and succeed together



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Find us at: www.bridgesfederation.org.uk

Newsletter 4th November 2022

Dear Parents,

We have really enjoyed welcoming you and your children back to school after the half term break. You should have received your appointment time for your parent and pupil review meeting on 9th November, Please can you bring your child with you to the meeting.

We have **Poppy** and **Poppy accessories** on sale in the school offices in support of The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.



NURSERY PARENTS

If your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 they are due to start in Reception class in September 2023. You must complete the online application process by midnight on Sunday 15th January 2023. **Please speak to a member of the leadership team if you require any support with this. Here is the link to the eadmissions website**

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

Parents, please add the 2022-2023 term dates to your diaries. Term time holidays will not be authorised.

Term Dates - 2022 - 2023

Autumn term

Monday 5 September 2022 - Friday 21 October 2022

Half Term Monday 24 October 2022 - Friday 28 October 2022

Monday 31 October 2022 - Friday 16 December 2022

Spring term

Wednesday 4 January 2023 - Friday 10 February 2023

Half Term Monday 13 February 2023 - Friday 17 February 2023

Monday 20 February 2023 - Friday 31 March 2023

Summer term

Tuesday 18 April 2023 - Friday 26 May 2023

Half Term Monday 29 May 2023 - Friday 2 June 2023

Monday 5 June 2023 - Friday 21 July 2023

Dates For Your Diary

Tower Bridge

9th November - Parent and Pupil Review Meetings - school closed

Maths Cafes starting at 9am in the Art Room

15th Nov - Year 1

17th Nov - Year 2

22nd Nov - Year 3

23rd Nov - Year 4

25th Nov - Year 5

24th Nov - Year 6

Robert Browning

9th November - Parent and Pupil Review Meetings - school closed

Maths Cafes:

Y1: Tues 15th Nov, Y2: Weds 16th Nov

Y3: Thurs 17th Nov, Y4: Tues 22nd Nov,

Y5: Thurs 24th Nov, Y6: Weds 23rd Nov,

Snowsfields

9th November - Parent and Pupil Review Meetings - school closed

Maths Cafes starting at 9am from 14th - 25th November

Year 1: 15th November, Year 3: 16th November

Year 2: 17th November, Year 5: 23rd November

Year 6: 24th November and Year 4: 25th November

Friars

9th November - Parent and Pupil Review Meetings - school closed

14th - 18th November - KS1 Maths Cafes

21st - 25th November - KS2 Maths Cafes


SCHOLARPACK APP

From 1st April 2022 we will only be using the App to communicate with parents, we will no longer be sending texts. When you set this up or update your phone, you will need to contact the school office for a new access code.

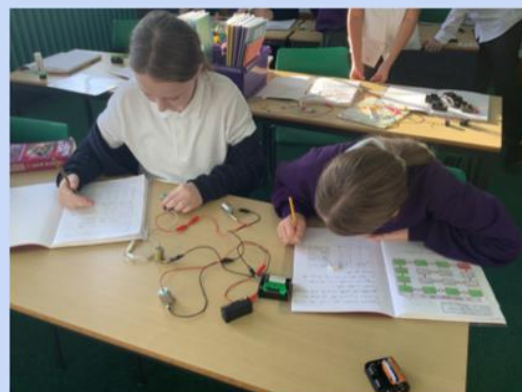
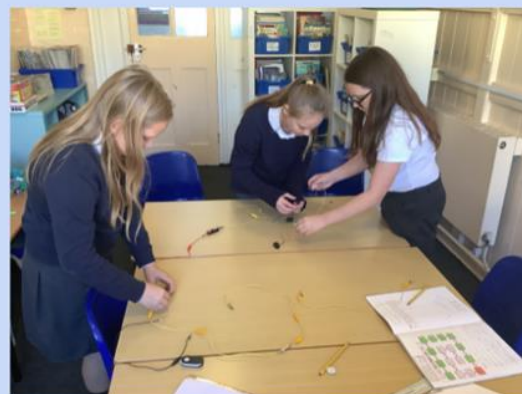


Tower Bridge Primary School



The Royal British Legion Poppy and Poppy accessories are available to buy from the school office daily 8:45-9 am and 3:30-3:45 pm. 

Year 6 have been planning and conducting their own investigations with electrical circuits. They came up with investigation questions, thought about variables, wrote a method, drew their own results tables and recorded observations.



Homework PROJECTS

Thank you to all the pupils who completed homework projects last half term.



We are working with Khalid, a cricket coach. We enjoyed practising our catch skills this week.



MATHS CAFE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Red Class Y1 - Tuesday 15th November

Orange Class Y2 - Thursday 17th November

Yellow Class Y3 - Tuesday 22nd November

Green Class Y4 - Wednesday 23rd November

Blue Class Y5 - Friday 25th November

Purple Class Y6 - Thursday 24th November

From 9am in the Art Room



Green Class had a great time baking bread before half term!



Butterfly Class made pakoras with Shanaz, as part of International Week.



Well done to everyone who completed fantastic home learning projects! We can't wait to see what you produce this term!



Purple Class and Blue Class took part in some exciting Science Workshops.



Thank you to all the families that attended our Autism Coffee Morning with Mr B! We hope you found it helpful.

SEND Festival of Sport at Marlborough Gardens

The children thoroughly enjoyed a fun packed day of sports including: capoeira, cricket, volleyball, football, multi-skills and athletics.





Snowsfields Primary School



We received a certificate this week in Nursery!

Maths Cafes

Parents you are invited to take part in fun maths cafes with your child. These will take place in school from 9-9:30am on the dates shown below:

Year 1 - 15th November

Year 2 - 17th November

Year 3 - 16th November

Year 4 - 25th November

Year 5 - 23rd November

Year 6 - 24th November

Butterfly class have had brilliant fun this week working together to make a number blocks display!



Blue class visited the British Museum on Thursday, follow your class twitter for the latest updates.

Today we visited the British Museum to see the Anglo-Saxon and Viking artefacts. We were especially dazzled by the treasures found within the Sutton Hoo burial.



LPESSEN SEND Festival of Sport



The children came back from the festival of sport beaming!



Purple class team work in Science

Independently testing out predictions we've made in our groups



Poppy Appeal
The Royal British Legion Poppy and Poppy accessories are available to buy from the school office daily 8:45-9 am and 3:30-3:45pm.



Pop-up Book Hut
Please remember that your child can continue to swap their book from the book hut daily at 3:30pm - It's just like a library!



Uniform Swap Shop

If there is a piece of uniform you would like from the uniform swap shop, please let us know the size and uniform required.



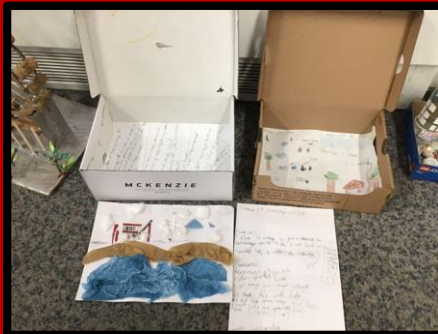
Friars Primary School



To promote mindfulness and wellbeing, the children from year 2 to year 6 took part in some capoeira workshops run by the PESSN.



This term, the year 5 class paid several visits to the Stone House care home. The children had a lovely time and enjoyed sharing life stories with the residents. The whole class received a star of the week certificate for their sensible behaviour and sense of empathy. Well done Year 5!



More homework projects! Well done to all our children for their creativity and parents for their continuous support!

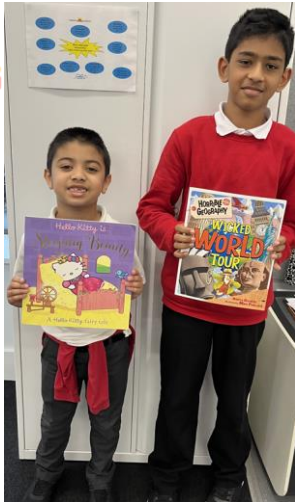




R - Resilience and Responsibility
Encouraged



Reading and Homework
Project Raffle Winners



Our Value this
week is:
Creativity

Reading
Raffle
Winners



I - Inclusive and inspirational!

Reading Raffle Winners!



Our value this
week is
creativity.

Reading
Raffle
Winners





	Absence	Lates	Total Points
Year 1	4 ½	17	175
Year 2	13 ½	26	50
Year 3	7 ½	16	375
Year 4	4	11	600
Year 5	3	6	825
Year 6	2 ½	15	600

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning 17/10/2022: 94.21%

**1st Place Attendance: Y6
1st Place Punctuality: Y5**



Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 17/10/2022: 94.8%

**1st Place Attendance: Y5
1st Place Punctuality: Y1**

	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	5	0	98.33%
Year 2	8	4	95.56%
Year 3	9	3	96.79%
Year 4	20	4	92.59%
Year 5	0	3	100%
Year 6	6	4	98%

	Absence	Lates	Total Points
Year 1	20	5	350
Year 2	15	13	100
Year 3	14	7	725
Year 4	12	8	375
Year 5	22	6	350
Year 6	12	5	750



Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 17/10/2022: 93.45%

**1st Place Attendance: Y4 and Y6
1st Place Punctuality: Y1 and Y6**



Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 17/10/2022: 94.69%

**1st Place Attendance: Y1
1st Place Punctuality: Y2**

	Absence	Lates	Total Points
Year 1	2	22	175
Year 2	24	3	50
Year 3	23	13	50
Year 4	16	11	100
Year 5	8	6	325
Year 6	4	5	375



Southwark Council is here to help you during the cost of living crisis. Our [new cost of living webpages detail lots of support and help](#) available now.

[Find out what support you might be eligible for and where to get help.](#)

Check what money you're entitled to

About 30,000 low-income Southwark households got support in August and September 2022 from our £5m Cost of Living Fund. We will announce more support through our Cost of Living Fund soon.

1. Check if you could get a Council Tax reduction

You could get Council Tax reduction if you're on a low income or claim benefits. Your bill could be reduced by up to 100%, depending on your circumstances.

>> [See if you're eligible for a Council Tax reduction](#)

2. Check what benefits you're entitled to

Answer a few quick questions about your personal circumstances and check you're getting all the benefits and other financial support you're eligible for.

>> [Check you're getting all the benefits you're entitled to](#)

If you're housebound or have a vulnerable person in your home, [we can check you are getting all the welfare benefits you can](#) and help you make a claim.

3. Get help in an emergency or crisis

We run an emergency support scheme if you're facing a crisis, and a hardship fund if you're in debt with bills. There is also support available from local charities.

>> [See what support is available if you need help urgently](#)

[Get more help to find out what money you're entitled to](#)

Help with energy bills

More than 100,000 eligible Southwark residents have now received their £150 Council Tax rebate to help with energy bills. More help is detailed below.

1. Which home appliances waste the most energy?

The Energy Saving Trust has information about which appliances in your home use the most electricity and tips on how to use them as efficiently as possible.

>> [Check which home appliances use the most energy](#)

2. Get a home improvement grant to help reduce your winter fuel bills

You could get a grant of up to £25,000 to improve your home and save money on your energy bills, through the Mayor of London's Warmer Homes scheme.

>> [See if you're eligible for a home improvement grant](#)

3. Get energy saving advice and free gadgets

If you are vulnerable or on a low income, Groundwork's Green Doctors can help you make energy-saving improvements in your home. You can get advice on the phone, or they visit your property. They may even give you some free energy-saving gadgets!

>> [Register for your free energy-saving consultation](#)

A space for families to meet
an artist and get drawing!

FAMILY STUDIO


• ROCK • PAPER •
SCISSORS •

with
LUCIE MACGREGOR
Sunday 6 November

Drop-in
10.30–12.30pm
1.30–3.30pm



DRAWING ROOM

 Freelands
Foundation

OKR Arts Club, 765-775 Old Kent Road, London, SE15 1NZ, (Opposite the new Lidl on the South end of Old Kent Road)

Bus routes: 21, 53, 172, 453, P12

Please get in touch for more information or with any access needs.

genevieve@drawingroom.org.uk, 07438277020

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

AMIGO

Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships and unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more functions become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

AGE RATING

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNICATION

While online chats and livestreaming are a great way to communicate with people that children can trust (such as friends and family), Amigo encourages users to connect with complete strangers and develop a friendship through private chats, calls and videos. This will be a clear red flag for most parents, due to the possibility of a child encountering inappropriate content or an online predator.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT

Within minutes of signing up for our trial of Amigo (and without using a profile photo), users of the opposite sex were messaging with suggestive statements such as "You're just my type" and "Let's have fun". While the app's stated intent is to help people build friendships, some users obviously seek to take those relationships in a more mature and amorous direction.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Like many apps that are free to download, Amigo's business model is centred on in-app purchases. Users are encouraged to pay for VIP membership – enabling them to send more messages each day and boosting their profile's visibility. People can also buy coins (again, for real money) which allow them to send virtual gifts and further increase the number of messages they can send daily.

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Amigo makes no secret of the fact that it's for people aged 18 or above. There's no age verification, however, so a young person could simply sign up under a false date of birth. The app's algorithm claims to match users of similar ages (making them more compatible), but either the algorithm isn't very reliable, or most users have entered a fake age which doesn't correspond with their profile pic.

REWARDS FOR REPEATED USE

Amigo gifts virtual coins to users if they reply to messages within 10 seconds, while there are also daily rewards for posting comments, sharing a video, getting likes or simply opening the app. It also encourages increasing 'Intimacy Levels' with other users to unlock extra features: once someone's online 'friendship' reaches Intimacy Level 3, they can hold one-to-one video calls with each other.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MONITOR DOWNLOADS

As well as frequent catch-ups with your child about what they've enjoyed doing online, you could consider taking the additional step of physically checking their phone every so often to see which apps they've installed. The safest option could be to enable 'ask to buy' (Apple) or 'purchase approvals' (Android) on their device, meaning your authorisation is needed to download any apps.

RESPECT AGE RESTRICTIONS

Apps have age restrictions for a reason, and Amigo is very definitely a mature content platform. Given that many of Amigo's users apparently use a bogus date of birth, you might want to remind your child about the implications of setting up a fake profile – such as being exposed to messages and videos that make them feel uncomfortable or feeling pressured into chatting with strangers.

BLOCK, REPORT, DISCUSS

Many children already know that connecting with strangers online is dangerous, but it never hurts to refresh their memory. Whatever communication apps your child uses, make sure they're fully aware that if anything online makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or upset, then they can block the user responsible, report the content, take a screenshot as evidence and come to tell you straight away.

ACTIVE LISTENING

If your child does approach you with a concern, make time to stop what you're doing and actively listen. Let them talk without interrupting or showing any judgement, then discuss their options and the possible solutions: this empowers them and reassures them that you're there to be supportive. If the issue is one that has put your child at risk, however, you may wish to contact the police.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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