

Robert Browning, Snowsfields and Tower Bridge Primary Schools

We learn and succeed together



[@PrimaryRobert](#) [@SNSPrimary](#) [@TBPrimary](#)

Find us at: www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk

Newsletter 20th January 2023

Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting your children and coming to see the class assemblies at Robert Browning, Snowsfields and Tower Bridge. Your children loved you being with them. We can't wait for you to join us for next week's assemblies!

Please see the information on page 2 of the newsletter for important information regarding the Strike Action being taken on Wednesday 1st February.

We are preparing for the teacher, parent and pupil review meetings on Wednesday 1st March. You will be contacted shortly to complete a google form to choose your preferred time. We are hoping that this system will work well for everyone and reduce paper. Thank you to Tower Bridge parents who trialled this so successfully in November.

Please take a look through the information pages below which include lots of information about what is available in the local area.

We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday at 8:45am.

Leathermarket Gardens Community Hub Design Development

Leathermarket Gardens is situated next to Snowsfields primary school and Southwark Council really want to hear the local communities views on the new designs. **The consultation closes on 26th January 2023.** Please fill out the consultation questions online and note your priorities for the Leathermarket Gardens Community Hub improvements. From all the previous consultation responses designs have progressed and are now displayed around the park and presented in the online consultation. It's easy to have your say – just follow the link here: <https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-regeneration/leathermarket-gardens-community-hub-design-develop>

Dates For Your Diary

Tower Bridge

Thursday 26th January- Year 3 Class Assembly
Friday 3rd February - Year 4 Class Assembly
Tuesday 7th February- Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 8th February - NSPCC Day
1st March- Parent and Pupil Review meetings

Robert Browning

27th January- Year 5 Class Assembly
2nd February- Year 4 Class Assembly
7th February- 'Safety' Day
8th February - NSPCC Day
1st March- Parent and Pupil Review meetings

Snowsfields

25th January - Year 5/ Blue class assembly 2:55pm
2nd February - Year 4/ Green class assembly - **DATE CHANGE**
7th February - Safer Internet Day
8th February - NSPCC Day
1st March - Parent & Pupil Review meetings

Term Dates - 2022 - 2023

Spring term

Wednesday 4 January - Friday 10 February 2023
Half Term Monday 13 February - Friday 17 February 2023
Monday 20 February – Friday 31 March 2023

Summer term

Tuesday 18 April - Friday 26 May 2023
Half Term Monday 29 May - Friday 2 June 2023
Monday 5 June - Friday 21 July 2023

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

Strike Information

Dear Parents,

Notification of closure on Wednesday 1st February 2023

We have been informed by NEU Trade Union there will be a day of strike action by their teacher members on Wednesday 1st February 2023. The dispute is with the Secretary of State for Education with regards to *'Failure to provide a fully funded above-inflation pay rise (as measured by September 2022 RPI). A fully funded pay rise is funded by additional resources sufficient to provide the above-inflation pay rise' (NEU).*

Why have teachers voted to strike?

The cost of living crisis

According to the NEU, members have reported struggling with the cost of living crisis, childcare costs, energy costs and mortgage payments. They explain that, although the government offered a 5% pay increase to teachers, due to increasing levels of inflation, the reality is that the 5% increase is a 7% pay cut.

Teachers leaving the classroom

According to the NEU, 'One in eight teachers leaves the profession after just a year in the classroom – one in three within five'. They state that their polls show that parents support teachers taking action to 'protect education standards' because of the harm caused by teacher shortages.

When will teachers be striking?

Strike action **will take place on:**

- Wednesday 1st February (schools in both England and Wales)
- Thursday 2nd March (schools in London, South East and South West)
- Wednesday 15th March (schools in both England and Wales)
- Thursday 16th March (schools in both England and Wales)

How will this affect Snowfields, Tower Bridge and Robert Browning Schools?

As Executive Headteacher, I have assessed the impact of the strike action on our schools and after careful consideration have decided that all 3 schools will have to close to pupils on Wednesday 1st February. Due to the numbers of staff involved, there will be serious operational difficulties which could impact the safety and wellbeing of pupils and staff.

ALL children will bring home a packed lunch on Tuesday 31st January.

Please log onto Google Classroom where children can complete a range of homework projects and also access Mathletics, Reading Eggs, and Times Table Rockstars.

Our sincere apologies for the difficulties that these arrangements will cause parents/carers.

If our situation changes and we are able to remain open we will inform you as soon as possible.

The school will open as normal on **Thursday 2nd February 2023.**

We will keep you informed about the other planned dates when we have more information.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact your child's school.



CLASS ASSEMBLY NEWS

Yellow Class - Year 3 - Assembly - **Thursday 26th January**

Green Class - Year 4 - Assembly - **3rd February**

Assemblies start promptly at **3pm**, **please arrive at school by 2.55pm** to ensure that you do not miss out!

They are an opportunity for each class to showcase some of their learning. We hope you enjoy them!



Sleep is vital to all of us, particularly children.

Children at primary school age need between **9 and 12** hours per night.

Here are some top tips to help your child get a good night's sleep and ensure they are at their full potential each day in lessons.

Make sure the room is quiet, cool and dark *without* devices, TVs or music.

Exercise during the day (Daily Mile, PE, playtimes, park after school) can help your body sleep better.

Go to bed at the same time every night so your body gets used to the schedule. Ensure you go to bed to have enough time for 9-12 hours of sleep.

Talk about your day and put any worries to rest.

Have a relaxing routine such as a warm shower, reading time or listening to quiet music before bed can help get your body ready for sleep.

Drinking sugary drinks in the afternoon or after school can make it difficult to sleep - try to stick to water.

Coming up: Safety Week

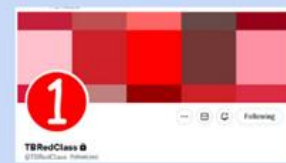


Want to talk about it?
Making space for conversations about life online

NSPCC

7/2/23 - Safer Internet Day

8/2/23 - NSPCC - all children can wear something green and donate £1 to NSPCC - our charity fundraiser chosen by the School Council



Click on the class twitter page to see what your child's class has been learning.
Request to follow if you do not already.

Twitter



Follow our Twitter accounts for updates on learning and special events!

Robert Browning school - @PrimaryRobert

Caterpillar class (Nursery) - @RBCaterpillarNUR

Butterfly class (Reception) - @RBButterflyR

Red class (year 1) - @RBRedClassY1

Orange class (year 2) - @RBOrangeClass

Yellow class (year 3) - @RBYellowClassY3

Green class (year 4) - @RBGreenClassY4

Blue class (year 5) - @RBBlueClassY5

Purple class (year 6) - @RBPurpleClassY6

Class Assemblies return!

This week we had **Yellow Class assembly**, next **Friday (27th)** we have **Blue Class assembly** and then on **2nd February** we have **Green Class assembly**.

Assemblies start promptly at **3pm**, please arrive at school by **2.55pm** to ensure that you do not miss out! They are an opportunity for each class to showcase some of their learning. We hope you enjoy them!

A huge thank you to **Laurie** who has worked at Robert Browning for **30 years!** That is a lot of children, families and staff she has supported!



Thank you **Yellow Class** for your fantastic assembly this week. We loved hearing about your learning.



30 years!

Thank you to the parents who helped out at our special **Chinese New Year fundraiser** for cooking club!



Green Class had a fantastic trip to the **Science Museum!**



Butterfly Class have started their regular trips to the library.

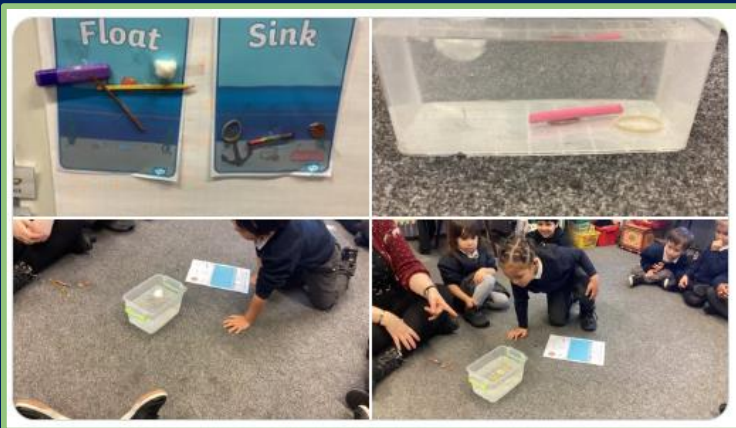


Reading buddies!





Snowsfields Primary School



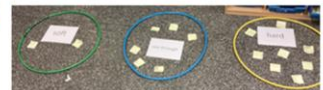
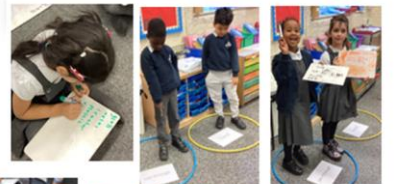
Purple class were channeling the spirit of Darwin in their science lesson. They analysed the characteristics of living things from our school garden.



Caterpillar class have been investigating floating and sinking after watching the naughty bus sink to the bottom of the pond. They used objects in their classroom and predicted whether they would float or sink. They found out that it depends on the density and amount of air in the spaces.



Yellow class investigated light. They used torches to investigate how much light they needed to be able to see what was inside each box.



Science

Yellow class presented a fabulously fun, fact packed class assembly on Wednesday afternoon, all about Ancient Egypt. Thank you to the children, year 3 team and parents for amazing team work!

Red class recapped everyday materials. First, they described objects based on their properties. In groups, some of the children had to guess what material their classmates were thinking of by asking questions and using some of the scientific vocabulary they have been learning.





B - Be the best we can be - BELIEVE!



Reading Raffle Winners



Our Value this week is: independence

Reading Raffle Winners



Reading Raffle Winners



O - Outstanding learning!



Times Tables Rock Stars!





	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	4	16	125
Year 2	8	18	50
Year 3	19	14	125
Year 4	15	15	75
Year 5	0	6	400
Year 6	7	10	275

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning 9/1/2023: 96.3%

1st Place Attendance: Y5

1st Place Punctuality: Y5



Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 9/1/2023: 94.81%

1st Place Attendance: Y3

1st Place Punctuality: Y6

	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	4	18	94.00%
Year 2	14	13	92.63%
Year 3	2	10	99.31%
Year 4	19	9	92.69%
Year 5	13	4	94.09%
Year 6	15	3	95.00%



	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	12	3	175
Year 2	15	8	0
Year 3	11	5	150
Year 4	12	11	75
Year 5	14	1	250
Year 6	11	5	175

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 9/1/2023: 95.59%

1st Place Attendance: Y6 & Y3

1st Place Punctuality: Y5



STEM, Coding & Robotics

Camberwell Library

FULLY
FUNDED
AND
DISCOUNTED
PLACES
AVAILABLE

Starting 26th January 2023

Every Thursday from 6:15pm to 7:15pm, term-time

For ages 7 to 18 years old

Fun activities and projects to develop your child's STEM
and coding skills to build games, robots and websites

Your child will also be eligible for a free place on any of our virtual coding classes.

Visit our website or email us to find out more and book

www.ignitehubs.org.uk

STEMHub@ignitehubs.org.uk

Supported in partnership with all 15 Southwark schools from 2021

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SEND SATURDAY SPORTS CLUB



"The Saturday club has been a lifeline for my son. He has many friends and looks forward to going. He also uses the trampoline as a release of tension. We would love for this valuable service to continue."

OPEN TO SEND PUPILS IN SOUTHWARK



WWW.LPESSN.ORG.UK



THE PEAS AND SCHOOL
SPORTS NETWORK

#MORETHANANYONEELSE

"The Network and Saturday Sports Club at Bacon's College has offered myself and family much-needed respite. Glyn, George and the team are very understanding and aware of my son's SEN needs: autism and ADHD."

The Saturday sports club runs through the year at Bacons College. The club caters for SEND students of all disabilities between the ages of 5 -18 years old. Each session lasts for 60 minutes.

There is a highly skilled and motivated team of 14 working at the club ranging from teachers, teaching assistants, coaches, and special needs specialists.

As well as improving fitness levels and health and wellbeing the club works on social skills such as listening skills, waiting, sharing, teamwork, individual work and focus.

Sports and activities change weekly - trampolining, nature trail and the gym for the older clients, volleyball, football, basketball, multi skills, tennis, cricket, badminton, boccia, new age curling, dance, parachute games, athletics, capoeira, etc.

The club currently run in 4 different sessions. Times are as follows:

Session 1: 10:30 - 11:30

Session 2: 11:30 - 12:30

Session 3: 12:30 - 13:30

Session 4: 14:00 - 15:00

Venue: Bacons College, Timber Pond Road, Rotherhithe, London SE16 6AT

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Please contact either Glyn Davies or George Richards via emails below.

Glyn Davies
(glyn@lpessn.org.uk)

George Richards
(george@lpessn.org.uk)

You can also contact the network on **0207 237 1928 Ext: 4086**. Follow us across social media and our website to keep up to date with all the latest network news.



THE PEAS AND SCHOOL
SPORTS NETWORK

WWW.LPESSN.ORG.UK



#MORETHANANYONEELSE



Chattertime!



A play session for children under 5 years with the Speech & Language Therapist.
Join us for playing, singing, rhymes, stories, support and advice.

All sessions are run TERM TIME ONLY

Victory Children and Family Centre SE17 1PT Monday 10.00-11:30 Contact 0207 740 8070	Albrighton Children's Centre SE22 8AH Wednesdays 13:00-14.15 Contact 0207 525 2017	Leyton's Square SE15 6TP Wednesdays 9:30-11:00am Contact 0207 252 8265	Ellen Brown Play Centre SE1 3EU Wednesdays 13:30-15:00 Contact 0203 049 6003	Rye Oak Children's Centre SE15 3PD Thursdays 9.30-11:00 Contact 0203 848 5780
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Spring 2023



Follow us on Facebook for top tips and activity ideas: [@EvelinaSLT](https://www.facebook.com/EvelinaSLT)

E-mail: gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net

Website: www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/communityspeechandlanguage



Chattertime



A weekly **online session** for parents and children aged from **15 months - 4 years** who are registered with a **Lambeth or Southwark GP**

Run by a qualified Speech and Language Therapist

During the session we will share advice and support on the development of early speech and language skills.

The session includes singing, stories, support and advice

Mondays
10:30 –11:00 am



To book a place please register with your local Lambeth children's centre or email gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net
You will then be sent a link for the session.
You must provide your child's full name, date of birth, GP and postcode.



Spring 2023



Follow us on Facebook for top tips and activity ideas: [@EvelinaSLT](https://www.facebook.com/EvelinaSLT)

E-mail: gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net

Website: www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/communityspeechandlanguage



SOUTHWARK 2030

Southwark 2030 is your chance to help shape the future of our borough. We want to bring people together, from all parts of our community, to talk about and help decide the place we all want Southwark to be by 2030. There are lots of ways to get involved in Southwark 2030. Please join in!

What are the [Southwark 2030 Conversations](#)?

We know Southwark is a borough of strength, resilience, and ambition. We have shown that when we work together as people, communities and organisations we can face big challenges and do great things in our borough so that's why we want to hear from you!

We are running a series of in depth Conversations where, over the course of half a day, we want to hear your hopes for what you want Southwark to look, feel and be like in 2030. For example, what would you like your local neighbourhood to look like and how would you like to be involved in your community? We want to understand what you think we all need to do to achieve these ambitions and hear your ideas about how we can do that.

The sessions will be fun, creative and refreshments will be provided. If you are selected to attend you will also receive a £20 voucher to thank you for your time.

Please note that places for the Conversations are limited to 50 people per event so whilst we hope to allocate you a space this may not be possible. The Southwark 2030 team will be in touch via email to confirm if you have been allocated a space.

Click below for more information on the Southwark 2030 website.



Introducing free - funded service for Southwark residents

Worried about the rising cost-of-living? Get into work with our support

Access part-time vacancies, get paid the London Living Wage or above, get trained, and grow in your career while supporting your family during the cost-of-living crisis.

Find out how by getting in touch with us. Email your full name, phone number, and postcode to Sahan@stepahead.co.uk or call **0745 814 3136**



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TWITTER

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages ('tweets') of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Hashtags receiving high levels of interest are said to be 'trending'. Twitter users can engage with other people's posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or tweeting back (commenting on). Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in October 2022 for \$44 billion, he has implemented several major changes to the platform.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

INTERACTION WITH STRANGERS

Tweets are public by default, meaning that anyone can view and interact with posts, follow someone and send direct messages. The concern here is that young people may therefore connect and communicate with strangers. Some individuals may follow a young person's Twitter account simply because they have similar interests; however, others may turn out to have more sinister intentions.

FIXATION ON VIEW COUNT

Twitter has recently introduced a 'view count' feature – telling users how many people have seen their tweet (even if they haven't reacted to it). Previous research has found that unfavourable comparisons with other social media users can cause young people to experience feelings of insecurity, jealousy and low self-esteem – leading to an obsession with increasing their numbers.

TROLLS AND BULLYING

The anonymity offered by fake profiles encourages some users to send tweets designed to provoke a reaction; to disrupt conversations; to spark an argument; or to harass the recipient. Such trolling and bullying can impact the mental wellbeing of both the target and anyone who witnesses it. Encourage your child to come to you if they experience such behaviour on Twitter, or if they see it taking place.

PAID-FOR VERIFICATION

Previously, if a Twitter profile displayed a blue tick icon, it meant that the owner – usually a celebrity or a major organisation – had been verified as genuine. Now, however, anyone can pay for a Twitter Blue subscription to receive the tick, with the platform carrying out limited checks on the account's authenticity. This could easily lead to more fake accounts impersonating real people or companies.

CONTENT MODERATION CHANGES

In late 2022, Twitter stated that their 'policy enforcement will rely more heavily on de-amplification of violative content: freedom of speech, but not freedom of reach'. No policies have changed yet, but this wording suggests they may limit who can see posts rather than removing them. While supporting free speech, this could encourage an environment where some toxic content remains online.

HIJACKED HASHTAGS

The hashtag (#) is one of Twitter's most recognisable facets, allowing users to find specific trends or topics. But the sheer volume of tweets each hour can rapidly distort a hashtag's meaning: an initially innocent search term can quickly end up returning inappropriate results. This is common with 'trending' hashtags, as people know that using them will get their tweet seen by a larger audience.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET ACCOUNTS TO PRIVATE

To reduce some of the fear of your child's tweets being seen and shared by anyone, you can always make their account protected. This means that your child has to give approval for another user to view their posts. You can change Twitter's privacy settings so that your child can't be messaged directly by other people on the platform and their geographical location won't be shared.

FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING

It can be difficult for anyone to ascertain if something online is real or false, but particularly for young people. Encourage your child to check several reputable sources to determine if a story they've seen is true; remind them to watch out for scams and think about the message's possible motive. Emphasise that it's not a good idea to retweet something if they aren't sure it's correct.

ENGAGE SAFETY MODE

When Safety Mode is activated, Twitter checks for abusive or spammy behaviour such as hurtful language or repeated negative replies. The platform then flags these suspect accounts and blocks them from responding to your child's tweets. The autoblock function then prevents these accounts from interacting with your child's again for seven days.

EXPLORE THE NEW SETTINGS

Previously, any user could reply to anyone else's tweets. However, the new conversation settings let your child determine who can reply to their posts – either by selecting everyone (the default option), people they follow or only people they mention (using the @ symbol). This improvement has given users extra control, providing them with more protection from trolls and online abuse.

PAUSE BEFORE POSTING

It's important that young people think about what they're about to post and whether they might regret it later. Twitter has developed 'nudges': little prompts which appear if someone is about to tweet using harmful or offensive language. These nudges promote more positive online behaviour by giving users an opportunity to pause and consider their words before they post something.

BLOCK, REPORT OR MUTE

If someone is upsetting your child on Twitter, you can block and report them. Blocking stops them from messaging or following your child, while reporting an account alerts Twitter to investigate possible misuse. The 'mute' feature, meanwhile, keeps tweets from a specific account (or which include certain words) out of your child's timeline. The other user won't know that they've been muted.

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.



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

BE CAREFUL WHO TO FOLLOW

As accounts are no longer being as rigorously verified under the 'blue tick' system, it's essential that young Twitter users understand what this means. In terms of people not necessarily being who they claim. Anyone who your child only knows online is still a stranger, regardless of how long they've been communicating for. Remind your child never to disclose personal information on social media.

Source: <https://blog.twitter.com/common-thread/en/topics/stories/2022/how-twitter-is-nudging-users-healthier-conversations> | https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update | https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-our-continued-commitment-to-the-public-conversation | <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2131&context=etd>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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/NationalOnlineSafety



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