

# Robert Browning, Snowfields and Tower Bridge Primary Schools

We learn and succeed together



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

Find us at: [www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk)

## Newsletter 24th February 2023

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a restful break.

We are looking forward to meeting with you all in school next week on 1st March for the Parent and Pupil review meetings, you should have received a letter with your child's meeting time. Please contact the school office if you have not received this information.

Please see page two of the newsletter for information on the Strike Action being taken on 2nd March.

We are excited to see all of the homemade costumes when we celebrate World Book Day on 28th February.

Have a lovely weekend.

### Dates For Your Diary

#### Tower Bridge

**28th February - World Book Day**

**1st March - Parent and Pupil Review meetings**

**2nd March - Strike Action School Closed**

**10th March - Year 2 Class Assembly (Friday)**

**16th March - Year 1 Class Assembly (Thursday)**

**23rd March - Reception Class Assembly (Thursday)**

#### Robert Browning

**28th February - World Book Day**

**1st March - Parent and Pupil Review meetings**

**2nd March - Strike Action School Closed**

**10th March - Year 2 Class Assembly (Friday)**

**23rd March - Reception Class Assembly (Thursday)**

**30th March - Year 1 Class Assembly (Thursday)**

#### Snowfields

**28th February - World Book Day**

**1st March - Parent & Pupil Review meetings**

**2nd March - Strike Action School Closed**

**8th March Year 2/ Orange class assembly 2:55pm**

**17th March Year 1/ Red class assembly 2:55pm**

**22nd March Reception/ Butterfly class assembly 2:55pm**

#### 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.**

#### National Online Safety Guides.

Please find the latest guide on the back page of our newsletter each week. This week's guide looks at 'Spotify.' You can also follow them on twitter @natonlineafety

### ONLINE SAFETY

One of the most important habits to keep your child safe online is supervision or regular oversight of your child's online activities. Supervision can be different depending on your child's age and what they do online. Supervision can involve:

- Sitting with your child while they're using a **connected device**
- Being in the same room as your child while they're using a connected device
- Monitoring audio chat during online games by ensuring this is played through speakers
- Monitoring individual or groups chats that

## Strike Information

Dear Parents,

Notification of closure on **Thursday 2nd March 2023**

*We have been informed by the NEU Trade Union of its proposal to take strike action both nationally and regionally over a number of days. The next day of strike action by NEU teacher members is planned to take place on **Thursday 2nd March 2023**. The NEU is in dispute with the Secretary of State for Education with regards to their failure to ensure enough money is available to pay a fully-funded increase in pay for teachers which at least matches inflation, and which begins to restore lost pay*

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:**

- 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 **Thursday 2nd March 2023**. Due to the numbers of staff involved, there will be serious operational difficulties which could impact the safety and wellbeing of pupils and staff.

**You will receive a voucher for your child's lunch for that day.**

**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 is already closed for Pupil Review Meetings on Wednesday 1st March (you should have received your appointment time and will receive a voucher for your child's lunch on this day as well). We will open as normal on Friday 3rd March 2023.**

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

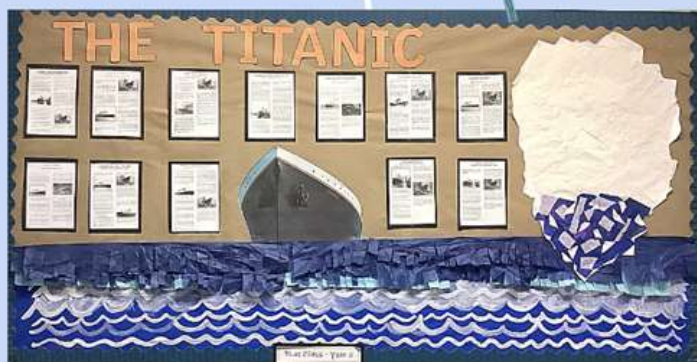
If you have any queries or concerns, please contact your child's school.



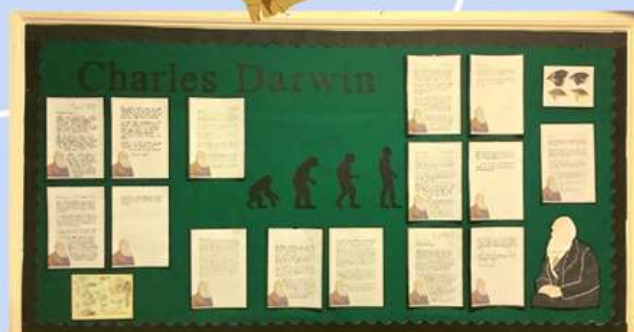
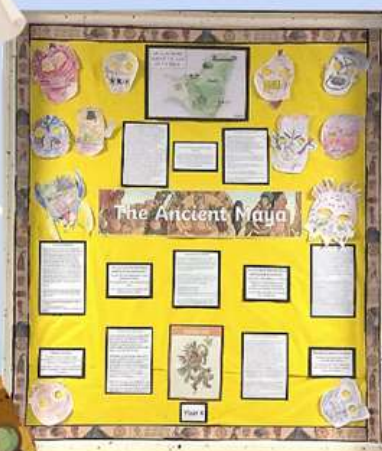


## Our Curriculum

Our learning is displayed around the school currently. The children have been working so hard! It is so nice to see how our curriculum threads together.



## TRAVEL DISCOVERY EXPLORATION



Before half term, Red Class were learning about the Japanese Artist, **Yayoi Kusama**. They replicated an installation piece in class. It was fun to do as well as looking amazing!



During the half term holiday, 2 new air filtration units were installed in the school halls to improve the air quality for the children and staff. The Science Leaders are working with Joe from **Global Air Pollution** to learn more about how they can help us.

### SAVE THE DATE!

World Book Day will be celebrated at the Bridges Federation on:

**TUESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY**

We are encouraging children to dress up as a character from a book that they have read on the day.

**HOMEMADE COSTUMES ONLY PLEASE.**

See page 1 of the newsletter for more information!



Have a look at some of the fantastic displays around the school. You will be able to take a closer look next week at Parent and Pupil review meetings. We look forward to welcoming you!



Year 5 went to the Science museum to take part in a workshop all about Forces! They recapped on their learning about different types of forces and watched some really fun experiments.



Our fantastic football team played in the finals on Thursday and came 3rd! Congratulations-we are so proud of you!



We saw some fantastic homework projects last half term- we are looking forward to seeing what you produce this term! Don't forget you can complete homework projects during the strike day, or during the Parent and Pupil Review day!



## Save the Date!

**World Book Day** will be celebrated at the Bridges Federation on **Tuesday 28th February**. We are encouraging children to dress up as a character from a book that they have read on the day. **Homemade costumes only please. See page 1 of the newsletter for more information!**



# Snowsfields Primary School



**Homework Projects**  
Please see some of the amazing homework projects completed over spring 1. Thank you for continuing to support your children to be so creative and inventive with their projects.



**Stunning Displays!**  
Our corridors are glowing with the beautiful displays based on the curriculum topics taught across the school this term.



**100% attendance and punctuality**  
Well done to the 65 children and their parents who earned a **yellow** wristband for spring 1. Let's aim for even more children to earn a **green** wristband for spring 2.



## **School Garden**

A huge thank you to all the volunteers from Alex Monroe, Venn Group, Mace group, AXS UK, Grainger PLC, St Mungo's and Team London Bridge, who helped set up the building blocks for our sensory garden. Should parents and carers like to volunteer, please let Ali our parent governor, Zohra or Adam know.

## **Thank you to our fantastic Sports Leaders!**

They talked to the whole school about the new playground equipment they had chosen from the @LondonMarathon money that was raised.







G - Goals are aspirational



Reading and Homework  
Raffle Winners



Our Value this  
week is:  
respect

Reading  
Raffle  
Winners



Reading  
Raffle  
Winners

E - Empowering Everyone

Times Tables Rock Stars!





	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	7	21	300
Year 2	10	16	50
Year 3	21.5	14	225
Year 4	3.5	12	350
Year 5	6.5	4	875
Year 6	5.5	14	775

**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning 6/2/2023: 92.1%**

**1st Place Attendance: Y4**

**1st Place Punctuality: Y5**



**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 6/2/2023: 95.27%**

**1st Place Attendance: Y1**

**1st Place Punctuality: Y5**

	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	5	13	98.33%
Year 2	8	6	95.92%
Year 3	8	5	97.24%
Year 4	22	6	91.73%
Year 5	22	4	90.52%
Year 6	10	7	96.67%



	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	7	6	425
Year 2	6	13	150
Year 3	5	11	400
Year 4	15	8	125
Year 5	16	1	675
Year 6	10	6	475

**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 6/2/2023: 95.93%**

**1st Place Attendance: Y3**

**1st Place Punctuality: Y5**



February 2023



# Local Offer Newsflash

Welcome to the 3rd edition of Southwark's Local Offer Newsflash! Here you can find new information for children and young people with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities).

## EHCP School Transition Information Session

Next steps if you have concerns about  
your child attending the school named in  
the EHCP

Date: Friday 24th February

Time: 10.30-12pm

Location: Tooley Street, SE1 2HZ  
or join online

To attend in-person [please register here](#)

To attend online [please register here](#)

## Autism Support Team training for Early Years settings

Make Sense of Autism - Early Years

7th February 2023

9.30-1pm

Tooley Street, SE1 2HZ

[Please register your interest here](#)

[Click here to visit the AST page for families](#)  
[Click here to visit the AST page for professionals](#)



## The SIAS Sunshine House drop-in is back!

SIAS will be returning to Sunshine House to  
provide face-to-face drop-in appointments.  
Our online drop-in will continue on Tuesdays.

**SIAS Drop-in details:**

**Tuesdays 9.30am-1pm (term time)**

**Online or Video appointments only**

[Please click here to book an appointment  
for a phone or video appointment](#)

**Thursdays 2-5pm (term time)**

**In-Person sessions**

First come, first serve

Last appointment at 4.30pm

Location: Sunshine House, 27 Peckham Road,  
SE5 8UH

## Active Together Festival 2023

An inclusive multi-sports festival for D/deaf,  
disabled, neurodivergent people and their families  
in Southwark. [Click here for more information!](#)

Sunday 19th February 11am-1pm

LSBU Sports Centre

116 London Road, SE1 6LN

[Click here to sign up and secure your free space](#)

For further information, advice and guidance please visit the  
[Southwark Local Offer](#) or contact the [SIAS Team](#).

[Keep track of new events, training and information session on our 'What's On' page!](#)

Email:

[localoffer@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:localoffer@southwark.gov.uk)



[@LocalOfferSwk](#)



# ROAD SAFETY

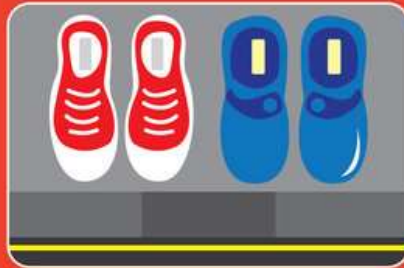
## THINK

about where  
you should cross.



## STOP

in a safe place  
at the side  
of the road.



USE YOUR  
EYES & EARS  
to see and hear  
any approaching  
vehicles.



## WAIT

until all the  
vehicles have  
passed.



## LOOK AND LISTEN

again to make  
sure all is clear.



## CROSS

the road.  
Keep looking  
and listening.



# WILDCATS GIRLS FOOTBALL

"The perfect way for girls aged 5-11 to get involved with football."



## TIME AND DATE

EVERY TUESDAY FROM 28TH FEBRUARY (16:00 - 17:00) FREE TO ATTEND



## LOCATION

MARLBOROUGH SPORTS GARDENS, 27 UNION ST, LONDON, SE1 1SD



## NEXT STEPS

Head to [www.lpeasn.org.uk](http://www.lpeasn.org.uk) to complete our registration form or scan the QR code. You can also head to [thefa.com/weetabixwildcats](http://thefa.com/weetabixwildcats) to book on to a session. For more info contact us via

[JOE@LPEASN.ORG.UK](mailto:JOE@LPEASN.ORG.UK)

weetabix







Are you aged  
**6 and over?**

Do you have a  
**physical  
or visual  
disability?**



Want to get into  
**swimming?**

Come along to a fun, friendly swimming session where you can develop your skills in the water.

To find out more information email:  
[paratalent@swimming.org](mailto:paratalent@swimming.org) or complete this online form:



1

of 1



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 [Sahang@stepahead.co.uk](mailto:Sahang@stepahead.co.uk) or call **0745 814 3136**





# THE PARENT/CARER CHAMPION INFORMATION SHARING EVENT



**SCAN ME**  
TO REGISTER INTEREST

## TOPICS YOU WILL HEAR ABOUT

- ▶ Mental Health & Wellbeing
- ▶ Grooming & Child Exploitation
- ▶ The Youth Justice System
- ▶ Social Inclusion & County Lines

## WHEN:

Tue, 21st February 2023

9.15-10.15 AM

**OR**

Wed, 22nd February 2023

2.00-3.00 PM

## WHERE?

Queensborough Community Centre Scovell  
Road

London

SE1 1QQ

## WHAT IS IT?

We recognise the challenges that can come with being a parent or carer of a young person today.

Our Champions form a network of active parents/carers in the community who are here to share information with you covering some of the most pressing topics for young people today.

## WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

✉ [allison.bishop@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:allison.bishop@groundwork.org.uk)

☎ 07912274700



MAYOR OF LONDON  
VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# SPOTIFY

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Spotify is a digital music, podcast and video service which gives users access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. Since launching in 2008, Spotify has revolutionised the way music is listened to: it now offers the ability to manage and share more than 100 million tracks and five million podcast series, plus personalised recommendations, new release updates and the option to create collaborative playlists. As of February 2023, it is the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 489 million users globally.

### EXPLICIT LYRICS

As per Spotify's terms and conditions, people need to be at least 13 to use it. That said, the platform doesn't censor lyrics unless instructed to do so in the settings – so it's worth noting that young teenagers could still be exposed to age-inappropriate songs which contain explicit references to sexual behaviour, violence, discriminatory language and swearing.

### GROOMING TACTICS

Although Spotify doesn't come with dedicated chat functionality, concerns were raised in January 2023 after reports of an 11-year-old girl being coerced into sharing explicit pictures of herself on the platform. The case highlighted predators' tactics of sharing empty playlists with other users: their messages were being exchanged undetected through edited song titles and descriptions, bypassing security measures.

### OVERSHARING

Spotify provides a perfect way to play music, with the ability to connect to another device, such as a Bluetooth speaker or an in-car stereo. While this is a useful feature, it's also easy to forget your surroundings and inadvertently play content which isn't appropriate for all listeners (especially those under the age of 18), potentially causing alarm or distress.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE PODCASTS

Spotify's podcast community has grown exponentially and it's become a popular base for millions of users to listen to shows, stories, interviews and more – with content covering an array of topics. This includes some material which isn't suitable for minors, including audio which is obviously adult-themed, but can be just as easily accessed as everything else.

### ACCESS TO SPOTIFY LIVE

If your child has a Spotify account, they'll also be able to access the platform's audio-only chat service: Spotify Live. While it's a separate stand-alone app, Spotify Live allows people to listen to live discussions on the main Spotify platform and, more notably, lets users enter virtual rooms to chat with other users, opening up direct conversations with strangers and individuals who might not necessarily be there for the right reasons.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SWAP TO SPOTIFY KIDS

If you're concerned about what your child might hear while streaming music, Spotify Kids is a separate, ad-free service specifically designed for children aged 12 and under. It allows younger users to enjoy human-curated, child-friendly content (such as music and audiobooks) and is available to users with a Spotify Premium Family subscription – meaning that parents can view and manage the content their child listens to.

### TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

As with any platform, it's good practice to talk to your child about what they should be aware of when using Spotify. For instance, it's important they're aware never to share any personal information with strangers, and what they should do if they're exposed to inappropriate content. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear so that they feel comfortable raising any concerns with you.

### CENSOR EXPLICIT CONTENT

Regardless of what type of account your child uses to access Spotify, there is an option to turn off explicit content in the settings – greying out all songs marked with an 'E' tag. If your child has their own individual account, it's easier for them to turn it back on – whereas with a family plan, you're in control and your child can't alter the setting without knowing the password.

### KEEP AN EYE OUT

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Spotify or you've noticed they're being particularly secretive about how they're using it, encourage them to talk about what they're listening to. It's always prudent to show an interest in their online habits from the outset – so you're confident they're using apps and services in the right way, for the right reasons, and they're not being drawn into anything they shouldn't be.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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