

Robert Browning, Snowsfields and Tower Bridge Primary Schools

We learn and succeed together



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

Find us at: www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk

Newsletter 17th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,
Year 6 have worked so hard this week and we are incredibly proud of them, the year 6 teams and all the staff that supported the children to have a calm and successful week.

As we hope to move into more consistent warmer weather, please can you ensure your child brings to school a water bottle with their name on it, a sun hat or cap and wear sunscreen to school.

Also a reminder that on PE days, children need to wear a white t-shirt or polo shirt and their school jumper and shorts/ joggers. Children should not be wearing football shirts or branded sportswear.

Please see the back page of the newsletter for information and advice on Emotionally Based School Avoidance.

Have a lovely weekend. See you on Monday, gates open between 8:45am and 9am.

Dance Workshop with Chantal

During half term, Pioneer Dance are inviting children to attend a dance, fitness and sport workshop which will be led by Chantal Joseph, our dance specialist. The session will take place on Wednesday 29th May 2024 from 9am - 4pm.

Location: Friars Primary School, Webber Street, London SE1 0RF
One Day Dance Workshop



Also FITNESS, SPORT & MORE!
Ages from 5 - 11 years. (Year 1 - 6)
Please follow the link to book a place:

[Booking Form](#)

★ Dates For Your Diary ★

Tower Bridge

Friday 24th May - INSET DAY school closed

Monday 27th May- Friday 31st May- HALF TERM WEEK

Monday 3rd June - Back to School

24th - 28th June - Health Week

Friday 12th July - Summer Fair

Wednesday 24th July - Break up at 1pm

Robert Browning

Mon 20th May-Year 6 9am & Rainbow 3pm -Reading Cafe,

Tues 21st May - Year 2 Reading Cafe 9am,

Weds 22nd May- EYFS Reading Cafe 9am,

Friday 24th May - INSET DAY school closed

Monday 27th May- Friday 31st May- HALF TERM WEEK

Monday 24th- Friday 28th June- Health Week

Wednesday 10th July- Summer fair

Wednesday 24th July- Break up 1pm

Snowsfields

Wednesday 22nd May - EYFS Fundraiser

Friday 24th May - INSET Day school closed

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May- HALF TERM WEEK

Tuesday 11th June - NEST Parents' Workshop

24th - 28th June - Health Week

26th June - EYFS Sports Day

28th June - KS1/KS2/ Rainbow Sports Day

Wednesday 10th July- Summer fair

24th July - Break up at 1pm

Term Dates for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 are on the Federation website

[Term Dates – The Bridges Federation](#)

Please note there has been a change to our term dates for 2024-25. See our website for details.

Term time holidays will not be authorised.

Other important dates for this year can also be found on the school website here:

[Diary – The Bridges Federation](#)



parent governor
vacancy

We have one Parent governor vacancy which we need to fill as soon as possible. An email giving more information was sent last week - please speak to Helen or Laura if you have any questions.

Reminder: please do not use mobile phones on school grounds. This includes video calls, taking photos and making phone calls. Please remind any adult who collects your child. Many thanks for supporting all children's safety.



This Term

EVENTS

Wednesday 22nd May - Year 3 fundraiser

Friday 24th May - INSET Day - school closed

Monday 27th - Friday 31st May - Half Term - School Closed

Monday 3rd June - Back to school

Monday 24th - Friday 28th June - Health Week

Friday 28th June - Sports Day Y1 - Y6

Friday 12th July - Summer Fair

YEAR 6

well done!

DIVERSITY IS CELEBRATED

AT TOWER BRIDGE

We are delighted that we have been awarded a Gold Schools Games Award from the PESSN.

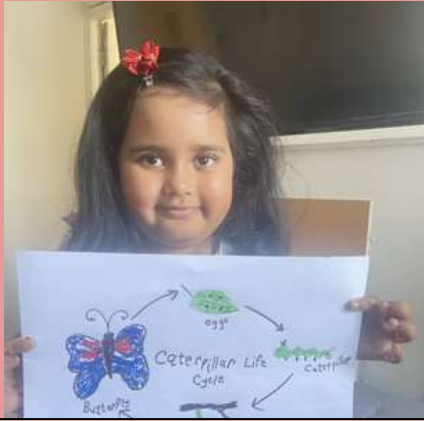


This week the children in Year 6 took their SATs tests. A huge well done to them and the parents and carers who supported them this year; getting them to booster classes each week, completing homework, coming in early and having a positive attitude. We are all so proud of you.



What a busy week it has been at school! EYFS are learning about growing: plants and minibeasts! Red Class have replanted their germinated seeds and Blue Class have been practising their athletics and also visited INTO University this week to support their learning about Space. Many thanks for all the parents who supported the KS1 fundraiser last week. Next Wednesday Year 3 will host their fundraiser after school.





Have you been following the lifecycle of the caterpillars in Butterfly Class? They have turned into chrysalides and have been moved into the butterfly nets ready to hatch! The children have been so excited to learn about these creatures!

Well done to Purple Class for working so hard in the tests this week. We are so proud of you and the resilience that you showed!
Thank you to everyone who has supported them!



Stay and Read sessions!

Come at 9am (or 3pm- see below) for a short 'Stay and Read' session with your child. (see below for dates and an exception!)



- Mon 20th - Rainbow- at 3pm
- Mon 20th - Y6-9am
- Tues 21st May- Year 2-9am
- Weds 22nd May - EYFS-9am



Yellow Class have been studying the growth patterns of a variety of seeds and on Wednesday they took their plants home!

 **RBYellowClassY3** @RBYellowClass · 23h
Here's an update on our investigation of the growth patterns of a variety of seeds



Snowsfields Primary School



In Garden Club, the children made some bomb seeds to encourage more wildlife to settle in our garden.



In Geography this week, Green class mapped out Shackleton's Endurance expedition, starting in London and mapping out every stop from Buenos Aires to Elephant Island and through Antarctica's Weddell Sea. The children also labelled significant turning points at each stage of the expedition!



The children in EYFS were in awe when they released their newly hatched butterflies in the garden.



The children in Blue class experimented with pulleys. They investigated how a pulley changes the direction of the force needed to lift an object.



This week in Rainbow class, the children explored different types of seeds and planted sunflower seeds. They also completed some work on the parts of a plant and the sequence of growth.



Our school value this week is:
D - Diversity is Celebrated



Reading Raffle Winners



Reading Raffle
Winners



Our core value this week is:
Resilience



Our school value this
week is: I - Inclusive
and Inspirational

Times Tables
Rock Stars

Reading Raffle
Winners





	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	2	3	550
Year 2	9	16	75
Year 3	4	17	225
Year 4	8 ½	18	25
Year 5	10	4	275
Year 6	3	9	425

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning 06/5/2024: 93.85%

**1st Place Attendance: Year 1
1st Place Punctuality: Year 1**



Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 06/05/2024: 95.96%

**1st Place Attendance: Y3
1st Place Punctuality: Y2**

	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	3	5	98.50%
Year 2	11	4	95.42%
Year 3	2	7	99.00%
Year 4	22	9	90.83%
Year 5	10	6	95.83%
Year 6	6	11	97.22%



	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	3	4	175
Year 2	5	2	450
Year 3	25	5	50
Year 4	14	9	100
Year 5	9	7	275
Year 6	6	4	375

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 6/5/2024: 95.03%

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

MAY HALF TERM ACTIVITIES 2024

TUES 28th MAY - WED 29th MAY



Exciting daily activities
for children and teens
across Southwark.
SEND tailored
activities also
available!



SPRING
COMMUNITY HUB

LOCATIONS

- St Giles - St Giles Parish Hall, 161 Benhill Road, SE5 7LL
- St Paul's Church Hall. Lorrimore Square, SE17 3QU
- Dawson's Heights Estate Ladlands, Overhill Road, SE22 0PW
- St George's C of E Primary School, Coleman Road, SE5 7TF
- The Clubroom, Samuel Lewis Trust Estate, SE5 9NE
- St John's & St Clement's, Adys Road, London SE15 4DY
- United Reformed Church, Love Walk, SE5 8AE (TEENS)
- SEND provision 86 - 88 Vestry Road, SE5 8PQ
- South London Mission, 256 Bermondsey St, London SE1 3UQ
- Poet's Corner T&RA Hall, Elimington Estate, SE5 7JD
- Livesey Exchange 2, 567 Old Kent Road, SE1 5EW

REGISTRATION

We use a central booking system called Eequ introduced by Southwark Council for all our Holiday activity bookings. This gives you the option of booking for all or some of the dates that you want to attend.



Scan QR Code or visit eequ.org/springnonhaf to register your child/children.

**FREE FOR
AGES
4-16***

* Subject to eligibility.
Families with younger siblings welcome

Funded by:



Please contact Rachael or Clare if you have any challenges completing your registration. 07901617189 holidayclub@springcommunityhub.org.uk



MARLBOROUGH SPORTS GARDEN

Summer Half-Term Camp



Join us at **Marlborough Sports Garden** for a week of **action-packed fun**. With 5-a-side football, beach volleyball, table tennis, netball, boxing, basketball, mini athletics, tennis and much more, our multi-sport holiday camps are the perfect way to **keep children aged 4-11 active all Summer Half Term!**

VENUE

Marlborough Sports Garden
Union Street, SE1 1SD



DATES (9am-3pm)

Tuesday 28th May
to Friday 31st May

COST

- £20 per day per child
- £60 for the full camp (4 days)

Funded places are available, kindly supported by Riverside and Mount Anvil. These places are allocated via local schools.



SCAN TO BOOK

bit.ly/spring-half-term
www.bost.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 1085454





Half Term Family Activity Days

at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening, 28 Marsden Road, SE15 4EE

Minibeast Mayhem Tuesday 28th May 10am till 3pm

Have fun finding minibeasts in the garden with pond dipping, bush beating, sweep netting, crafts and games.

The following can be booked as a single day or as two days:

Edible Plant Day Thursday 30th May 10am till 3pm

Find out about wild plants that you can eat. Taste herbal teas and try some edible wild foods. Painting, printing and wildflower identification.

Medicinal Plant Day Friday 31st May 10am till

You will have fun making a balm, a lotion and a potion and discover some healing plants on this fun family day.

Southwark residents only. One adult may bring up to 3 children. Free but £3 deposit required. To book see qr code or visit www.wildlondon.org.uk/events



Protecting
London's
wildlife for
the future

To find out more about the London Wildlife Trust and for other events visit
www.wildlondon.org.uk/events
Or email dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk



FREE COACHING!

Girls' FOOTBALL

**FROM
16 APRIL
TO 16 JULY**

Are you a Lioness ready to roar?

Join our FREE afterschool girls' football sessions with **Girls United** - dedicated to empowering players through football skills sessions, fun matches and making new friends.

Time and dates:

Tuesdays: 3:45pm-5:15pm



**Scan to register, or visit
[www.bost.org.uk/
afterschoolsports](http://www.bost.org.uk/afterschoolsports)**



020 7403 3393



www.bost.org.uk



Marlborough Sports Garden
11 - 25 Union St, London SE1 1SD



Good to Grow! Tuesday After School Family Fun

from 30th April - 21st May 3.45 till 5pm
at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening,
28 Marsden Road, SE15 4EE



Have fun growing plants for yourself and for wildlife. Composting, sowing seeds, making plant food, exploring our wildlife garden and discovering plants and animals on this 4 week after school course for families living in Southwark. One adult may bring up to 3 children.

Aimed at primary school aged children but you are welcome to bring your little ones or older ones too. To book visit www.wildlondon.org.uk/events



Protecting
London's
wildlife for
the future

To find out more about the London Wildlife
Trust and for other events visit
www.wildlondon.org.uk
Or email dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk



PE & SCHOOL SPORTS NETWORK

FREE GIRLS FOOTBALL

EVERY MONDAY (17:00-18:00)

@BURGESS PARK ASTRO TURF



OPEN TO ALL
GIRLS AGED 5-11
YEARS OLD

OPEN TO ALL
GIRLS AGED 12-14
YEARS OLD



PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER



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

ROCK • PAPER
SCISSORS

FAMILY



STUDIO

With artists Anna Paterson, Dunya Kalantery,
Habiba Nabisubi, Olivia Twist and Rhys Coren.

5th November, 3rd December, 14th January,
4th February, 3rd March, 7th April, 5th May,
2nd June, 7th July, 4th August

Drawing Room, New Tannery Way, Bermondsey
London, SE1 5WS. Enter from Grange Road

Bus Routes:
1, 78, C10, 42
Stations: Bermondsey,
London Bridge

07438 277 020
genevieve@drawingroom.org.uk
www.drawingroom.org.uk
@drawingroom_ldn/

Supported by
 Freelands
Foundation

Drop-in
10.30 – 3.00pm
All Free!
All Welcome!

DRAWING ROOM

GO JAGS
SOUTHWARK JAGUARS GIRLS FOOTBALL

SOUTHWARK JAGUARS
GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM

OPEN DAY 2024

DO YOU KNOW A GIRL THAT IS INTERESTED IN PLAYING FOOTBALL WITH
SOUTHWARKS NEWEST GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM?



SCAN ME

24TH JUNE 2024



Parent or carer



You can text a school nurse on

07520 631 130

ParentLine Number

We are here during school holidays too!

The ParentLine number is a text number only. It cannot receive phone calls.

This number is confidential and is for use by parents and carers of children and young people in Lambeth and Southwark.

A text message service is also available for young people, [find out more about ChatHealth](#).

About ParentLine

ParentLine and ChatHealth are supported by the Children and Young People's Health Partnership which brings together organisations and families in Lambeth and Southwark to improve everyday healthcare for local children and young people.

Confidentiality

We might inform someone if we are concerned about the safety of you, your child or someone else but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules.

We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we have received your text. Texts will only be seen between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays). If you need help before you hear back from us, contact your GP, nearest walk-in centre or dial 111. If it is an emergency call 999 or go to the emergency department (A&E).

Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). To prevent the health professional from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number.

Messages are charged at your usual rates.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

Emotionally Based School Avoidance is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often rooted in emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The rate of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic: rising from 10.9% in 2018-19, to 22.3% in 2022-23.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the family or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for instance, or a change in family dynamics; bullying and friendship difficulties at school; pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams; or moving from primary school to secondary school.

PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodiverse, there is some evidence to suggest there are more aspects of school life which can cause distress – such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include complaining of a tummy ache, headache, or saying they feel ill when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on a regular basis not only supports academic attainment but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future aspirations, poor emotional regulation, mental health difficulties, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to sustained school avoidance over time. Further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a rise in their ongoing need to avoid the activity which is making them anxious – increasing their desire to stay at home.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetabled routine for the child's school day, if required.

MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

While there may be times you feel frustrated or angry, try to stay calm; acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss a range of coping strategies together to help them face the discomfort and overwhelming feelings. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk and practice the strategies in less overwhelming situations first.

REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME

If a child is avoiding school, reduce their access to more stimulating activities (such as watching television, playing games and spending time with friends) during school hours, where possible. This reduces the potential for the child having rewarding experiences at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of avoiding school.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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