



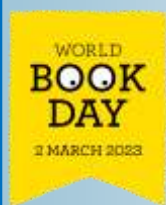
# Newsletter

## Friday 3rd March 2023

Please note that the school will be **closed** on **Monday 8th May** due to the additional bank holiday for the Kings Coronation.  
2023-2024 Term Dates are now available to view on our website: <https://brookburn.manchester.sch.uk/parents-carers/term-dates/>



The Place2Be website has a range of parenting support and information including practical tips to support children's wellbeing and behaviour on a wide range of topics from sibling rivalry, to anxiety and battleground mealtimes to building secure relationships and a whole host more of valuable support. To find out more please go to: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>



We celebrated World Book Day and our love of books by coming to school dressed as our favourite book characters and sharing our favourite books.



Author Tessa Singh came into school to share her book 'Little Bob Saves the World'. Tessa treated the children to a fabulous interactive story session, followed by a writing and drawing session. The book is available to buy from Amazon and there are also lots of free resources to accompany the book available on the website <https://www.tessasingh.co.uk/>



Melanie Williamson, Manchester based children's book illustrator read to the children and then showed them how to draw some of their favourite characters from Billy and the Mini Monsters



The book fair will be in school next week: Nursery and Reception parents may come on Tue 7 March (after school) & Wed 8 March (before school) and Years 1-6 parents may come Wed 8 March (after school). Parents will be able to access the book shelves with their child and pay using contactless card reader (sorry no cash). Please follow the instructions sent by Parentmail for any online payments.



International Day was a wonderful celebration of our diverse community. Everyone came to school in International dress or dressed in the colours of a country flag.



All classes learnt about a famous person from around the world.



Madame Warrington and her 'Language Angels' delivered two assemblies where the audience were treated to guitar playing, singing, dancing and the infamous nursery dragon dance!



Thanks to your donations on International Day, we raised £652 for the Disasters Emergency Committee Fund for the Turkey and Syria Earthquake Appeal. We are very proud that our children wanted to help those in need.



# Newsletter

## Friday 3rd March 2023

**COMING UP NEXT!**

### 6th-10th March

Week 2 Menu

#### 6th March

School Streets Road Closure

Woodwind lessons (am)

Guitar lessons (pm)

Steel Pan lessons (pm)

#### 7th-10th March

Book Fair

#### 8th March

Strings lessons (am)

Y4 swimming lessons (pm)

#### 9th March

School Streets Road Closure

**Class 3B Assembly - Postponed**

Class 2B visit to St Clements Church (pm)

#### 13th-17th March

Week 3 Menu

#### 13th March

School Streets Road Closure

Y5 Trip to Stockport Air Raid Shelter

Woodwind lessons (am)

Guitar lessons (pm)

Steel Pan lessons (pm)

#### 14th March

Class 6B visit to St Clements Church

#### 15th March

Strings lessons (am)

Y4 swimming lessons (pm)

#### 16th March

School Streets Road Closure

### Reading and Phonics Meeting

Thank you to those that were able to attend the Reception and Key Stage 1 reading and phonics meeting earlier this week. We hope you found the session informative.

If you were unable to attend the meeting, we have added the information shared to the website.

[brookburn.manchester.sch.uk/curriculum/phonics/](http://brookburn.manchester.sch.uk/curriculum/phonics/)

There are also spare packs available to collect from Reception and Key Stage 1.



SOUNDS - WRITE  
First Rate Phonics



REMEMBER  
ONCE A WEEK,  
TAKE A PEEK

### Head Lice

Just a quick reminder to check for

headlice once a week. The best way to do this is with wet hair after shampoo and conditioner. Use a fine tooth comb. Make sure the teeth of the comb start at the roots and draw down to the ends of the hair with every stroke. The comb must be fine enough to catch the lice.

**Once a Week, Take a Peek!**



Please find below the dates of the year 3/4 class assemblies

3A (Mrs Connaughton)

Tuesday 14th March

**3B (Miss Kingsford)**

**Postponed - apologies**

4A (Ms Faulder)

Friday 24th March

4B (Mr Sumner)

Thursday 30th March

All assemblies start at 9.15am and last around 30mins

### Term Dates

**2022-2024**

**Fri 31 Mar**

Break up **2 pm**

**NO After School Club**

**Summer Term**

**Mon 17 April**

Return to school

**Mon 1 May**

School closed Bank Hol

**Thu 4 May**

School closed

polling day

**Mon 8 May**

School closed Bank Hol

**Fri 26 May**

Break up normal time

**Tues 6 Jun**

Return to school

**Friday 21 July**

Break up **2 pm**

**NO After School Club**

**2023-2024**

**Autumn Term**

**Fri 1 Sep**

Inset Day

**Mon 4 Sep**

Inset Day

**Tue 5 Sep**

School open to children

**Fri 20 Oct**

School closes normal time

**Mon 30 Oct**

Return to school

**Thu 21 Dec**

School closes 2pm

No Dolphins after school

**Spring Term**

**Mon 8 Jan**

Return to school

**Fri 16 Feb**

Break up normal time

**Mon 26 Feb**

Return to school

**Thu 28 Mar**

Break up 2pm

No Dolphins after school

**Mon 15 Apr**

Return to school

Parents Evening

### Don't forget to book!

Bookings for Parents Evening open

**TONIGHT** at 7pm and

close on Friday 17th March at 11pm.

Please follow the instructions that have been emailed as bookings must be made via the School Cloud system.

The evenings take place on

Tuesday 21st March (face to face)

3.40pm - 7pm and

Thursday 23rd March (video call)

3.40pm - 6pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.



# Newsletter

## Friday 3rd March 2023



Week ending:	Most Improved	Highest Score	Class of the Week
17th February	Seb C - 3B	Joe Z - 4A	6A
3rd March	Kymea - 3A	Rose - 4B	3A

If you're looking for activities for your children to get involved in, Little Belters and UK Sports currently have spaces available. Please contact them directly if you are interested.

**JOIN US TODAY**  
TEAM JNS & UK SPORTS

WE CURRENTLY HAVE TEAM SPACES AVAILABLE!  
U6'S TO U13'S

EAST MANCHESTER ACADEMY  
MANCHESTER  
M11 3DS

6PM - 7PM

FREE TASTER SESSIONS!

CONTACT US TODAY...  
07891 205763

**Little Belters**

**FOR KIDS WHO LOVE TO SING**

PLACES AVAILABLE FOR 2023  
CHORLTON | ALTRINCHAM | SALE

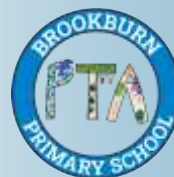
BOOK A FREE TASTER SESSION TODAY

WWW.LITTLEBELTERS.CO.UK  
HELLO@LITTLEBELTERS.CO.UK  
07779668204 / 07740464507

### PTA Update



### PTA Pub Quiz and Raffle



Tickets for the PTA Pub Quiz are now on sale over at [www.brookburnpta.com](http://www.brookburnpta.com)... **GET YOURS NOW!** The Quiz will be at the Bowling Green Pub, on Wednesday, 22nd March, from 7pm. Tickets are £8 per person, and teams can have up to six players. We will also be holding a fund-raising raffle, with some fabulous prizes to be won - watch this space for more information on raffle tickets. The Quiz is set to be a vital fundraiser for the PTA, which is a registered charity, and will help to raise much-needed funds for new school books, as well as field trips, and art and outdoor provision for our students. Email [hello@brookburnpta.com](mailto:hello@brookburnpta.com) for more information, or if you're able to donate a prize for the raffle. We hope to see you there!

### Allotment and Den Volunteer Day



There will be a Brookburn PTA Eco helpers volunteer day **THIS SUNDAY**, 5th March. This is a day when families are invited to come and spend a few hours helping to tidy up the outdoor spaces at Brookburn, including the school allotment, Dolphin Den and Treasure Wood. The session will run from 11am-2pm. Children are welcome and please do bring a picnic or some snacks. More info at [www.brookburnpta.com](http://www.brookburnpta.com). Click on the link in the "What's On" box. Alternatively, you can email [ecohelpers@brookburnpta.com](mailto:ecohelpers@brookburnpta.com).



### School Streets on Mondays and Thursdays

As of this Monday, Brookburn's School Streets trial has moved to two days a week, on Mondays and Thursdays. Please try to walk, cycle, or park and stride with your family during the school run (8:30-9:10 and 15:10-15:50). You can check out the Brookburn School Streets FAQs page on the PTA website for some initial data on the traffic monitoring research happening as part of this trial. Go to [www.brookburnpta.com](http://www.brookburnpta.com) and click on "About Us", then "School Streets FAQ". On the website, you can also volunteer to join us as a marshall. Email [activetravel@brookburnpta.com](mailto:activetravel@brookburnpta.com) for more info.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, news and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SPOTIFY

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.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### 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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