



# Weekly Family Newsletter

Tuesday 9th January 2024

[www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org](http://www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org)

**Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.**



Attendance figures for this week  
will appear in next Monday's newsletter.

## Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

We hope that you had a wonderful Christmas break. It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school today and find out about all the exciting things everyone has been up to.

### PE days

Big PE days for this half term are as follows. Please note that Year 1 and Year 2 have switched:

**F2 = Tuesday**

**Year 1 = Friday**

**Year 2 = Thursday**

### Office Opening Hours

The **main school office** is open each day from 8am - 4pm, and the phone will be answered within these hours. Outside of these hours you will have the opportunity to leave an answer phone message, which will be replied to, if necessary, when the office is next open.

If you need to contact **nursery** for any reason, then please call the school office number (including if your child will be absent). If you call the nursery number, this will automatically divert to the school office.

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, please ring as early as possible on 0114 248 2360. Choose Option 2.

## Resources

We are looking for quality donations of the following items to be used in our outdoor provision:

- **Metal kettle**
- **Metal bowls and containers**
- **Metal ladles**
- **Metal teapots and jugs**
- **Metal sieves**

We are also looking for a **pop up tunnel for indoor use**.

If you have any of the items to donate, please bring them to the school office.

## **Artist Visit! - Thursday 11th January**

'Everyone is an artist!' is our theme for this half term. During the half term, every year group will be studying different artistic skills, techniques and artists. To launch this unit of work, we are really excited to welcome James Brunt, a local artist, to school. During his visit, he will be working with all our children to produce a whole-school piece of natural art. Children need to wear appropriate shoes on this day as they will be using the field and trim trail to create the piece of art.

We are asking for contributions of £2.50 per child for this visit, which can be made via ParentPay. If you have not already paid for your child, please do so before the end of the week.

Families will be able to see what we create when they come to collect at the end of the day. Why not get your child to point out the part that your child helped to create? We will also share images on Tapestry.

You can find out more about James by visiting his website: <https://www.jamesbruntartist.co.uk/>

We can't wait to see what we make together!

## **Land Art Competition**

To link to this exciting visit, information about a land art competition was shared with you at the end of last term. Please see the information below as a reminder:

We are delighted to launch our land art competition ahead of our Artist Study topic next half term!

As you are aware, James Brunt will be spending the day in school with us on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January. James is an award winning artist and forest schools practitioner who uses foraged materials to create works of art in outdoor locations.

Now it is your turn to get involved! Create your own land art at home. This can be made indoors or outdoors using materials/resources of your choice.

See the examples below:



James will be judging the art competition on the day of his visit. A winner will be chosen from each year group, with exciting prizes to be won!

Please submit a photo of your entry to Tapestry with the title 'Land Art Competition' by **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 15:00**.

Good luck and have fun!

## **Curriculum maps**

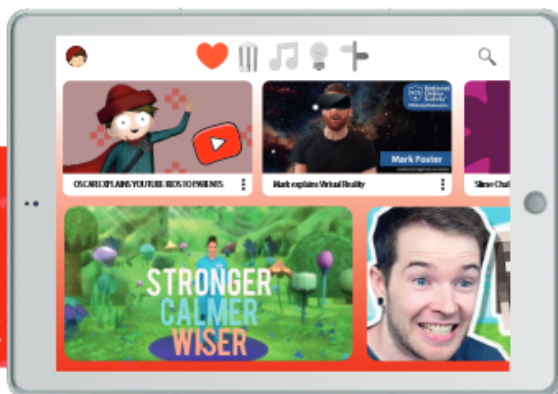
We will share your child's curriculum map for this half term with you at the end of this week.

These are designed to give you an overview of what your child will be learning, as well as ways in which you can support at home.

Although children of all ages often watch YouTube content directly via the website or main YouTube app, YouTube itself states that the only place children should be watching its videos is in the YouTube Kids app.

AGE RESTRICTION  
**4+**

## 8 things parents need to know about **YOUTUBE KIDS**



### 1 SETTING UP

To set up the YouTube Kids app you need to do the following:

- 1- Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your YouTube account.
- 2- Specify your child's name, age and birth month.
- 3- Select the types of videos to include in the app based on their age or select them yourself.
- 4- If you choose to approve content yourself, you will be presented with some sample videos to accept or reject. You can select collections, shows, music or learning.
- 5- Once chosen you are ready to use the app.

### 2 USING THE APP

Based on how you have set it up your child can then use the app to explore a safe set of videos. It's worth noting that YouTube Kids uses algorithms to ensure safe videos rather than a personal check, so it's possible for videos to slip through. If an inappropriate video does appear you can select the menu in the top right to block and report it. This not only helps your child but also improves the YouTube Kids app as a whole.

### 3 ADVERTISEMENTS

It's worth remembering that even in YouTube Kids, children will still see adverts. These are marked as "Ad" and preceded by an ad intro. The types of advertisements and products are checked to follow YouTube's advertising policies which exclude things like food and beverages. However, there can be toys or other items included in videos directly by creators themselves to advertise them. You can remove adverts in YouTube Kids, by subscribing to YouTube Premium. This has the added benefit of enabling you to download videos for offline viewing and allowing you to watch videos in the background while using other apps. This can be really useful if you have a long journey to take children on.

As with television adverts and less stop posters, it's a good idea to talk to children about how adverts work and how to recognise them. For example, you could point out the added light and sound effects or the overly exciting narration in TV ads. It's important to do this for other forms of advertising as well. It's important to understand how YouTube Kids collects information about your child's viewing habits and how this relates to advertising and video content. When they watch a video, the device, language, which videos they watch and searches they make are recorded. This is used to help suggest personalised content. It can also be used to serve contextual advertising, although the app does not allow interest-based advertising or remarketing.

### 4 SELECTING GREAT CONTENT

One of the best features on YouTube Kids is the ability to select channels, videos or collections of videos for your child to enjoy. This is a great opportunity to sit with your child and better understand what they want to watch. Are there particular topics or themes that resonate? Then you can check through different options in this area, and together with them choose the best matching channels.

The YouTube Kids app also enables you to disable the "Search" feature to avoid young children stumbling upon content designed for older viewers. The app also avoids videos from inappropriate channels being suggested to watch next. If you have selected content for your child only these will come up, if you have set an age limit, only videos deemed appropriate for that age will be suggested.

### 5 VIEWING TIME

There are a number of ways you can administer how long a child can watch YouTube videos in a day. In the YouTube Kids app, you can set a timer before launching your child the smartphone or tablet. Once the time has run out the video will be paused.

You can also set limits on iPhones and iPads in the "Screen Time" section of the Settings. This not only enables you to see how long they play but specify how and when they can do this. You can apply similar limits on Android devices via the "Family Link" app settings. Other systems like the "Circle" system or features built into your internet router enable you to set limits across multiple devices which can be useful as children will often cruise to another smartphone, tablet or smart TV once their time has run out on their device.

As well as helping younger children not watch longer than is healthy, this is a good tool for discussion with older kids. Talk with your child about the amount of appropriate viewing time in a day and then agree on the limits. This ensures they see them as helpful rather than a policing mechanism.

### 6 RESTRICTIONS

As well as using the YouTube Kids app, you can also set up restrictions on other ways your family watches YouTube. Ensure you are logged in when using YouTube and turn on "Restricted Mode" in your User Profile. You can also set this at the bottom of the video page by clicking "Restricted Mode: On". Ensure that you also click the "Lock Restricted Mode" on this browser to ensure other users can't turn it off.

### 7 WATCHING TOGETHER

Another good way to keep YouTube viewing positive is to spend time finding channels and content that your child will enjoy and benefit from. For example, a suggested family activity could be to get together once a month and show each other your favourite videos from the last four weeks. This not only sparks conversations about what you've watched but also enables you to share the things that you've enjoyed watching.

### 8 RECOMMENDATIONS

For younger children, you can use the YouTube Kids app to keep tabs on what they have been watching. Tap on the "Recommended" icon on the top of the home screen and then swipe right. You will see videos with the play button on them and a red bar at the bottom. These are the videos your child has watched. Anywhere the bar at the bottom is mostly black is a video your child has skipped.

### Meet our expert

Andy Robertson is a parent of three children and journalist who writes for national newspapers and broadcast television. His Taming Gaming book helps parents guide children to healthy play.



**National Online Safety®**  
#WakeUpWednesday

### Useful websites:

[www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)  
[www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)  
[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)  
[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety)



**Baby and Us**  
**Starting Monday 19th February 2024**  
**10.00am - 12.00pm**  
**Shortbrook Family Hub**

This is a 9 week programme for parents/carers of babies from birth to 8 months and up to 1 year, if not yet walking

**Baby and Us covers topics such as:**

- Following your baby's cues
- How to recognise some of the early signs of communication before your baby cries
- How to feel more confident in your role as a parent
- Learning to communicate responsively with your baby
- Building a good attachment between you and your baby
- An opportunity to develop friendships with other parents
- Games, singing, physical touch and play to have fun with your baby
- Understanding your baby's behaviour
- Thinking about your relationships within the family and how these affect you and your baby
- Getting to know your baby's patterns such as sleeping and feeding, and how these change as they grow



**For more information or to book, please contact Sheffield Parenting**



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