

BANDON HILL BULLETIN



Headteacher Update



Issue 73

Friday 13th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of another busy, exciting, and successful half term at Bandon Hill Primary School. The energy around the school this week has been fantastic, and it has been a wonderful way to close out this part of the academic year.

We want to say a huge thank you to our wonderful PSA and to all of you who contributed to our recent fundraising events. We are delighted with the amount raised from 'Cosy Friday' and the Doughnut sale. These funds make a real difference to the school and the resources we can provide for the children. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

We started the week on a high note with a fantastic assembly from Year 2. The children spoke clearly, sang beautifully, and shared their learning with such confidence. It was a wonderful performance, and we are incredibly proud of all the hard work they put into preparing for it. Thank you to all the families who came to support them.

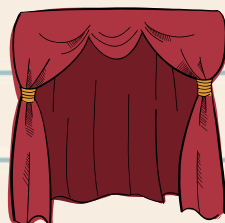
We were also treated to an inspiring African drumming workshop last week. Beyond the wonderful music created, we were particularly impressed by the children's exemplary behaviour and focus. They listened intently to instructions, worked brilliantly as a team, and fully immersed themselves in the experience. It was a joy to watch them learn with such enthusiasm and respect.

To finish the week, it was a delight to see our Year 6 students immersing themselves in history today. They looked absolutely incredible in their World War II costumes! The effort put into the outfits was outstanding, and seeing them "in character" really brought their learning to life. Thank you to everyone at home who helped put those costumes together.

We wrapped up the day with our Celebration Assembly. It was a joy to recognise so many children across the school for their hard work, resilience, and kindness. A huge congratulations to all our certificate winners who you can see on page 3—we are very proud of your achievements this half term.

As we look forward to the next half term, please remember that we will be hosting our Parents' Evenings shortly after we return. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school to celebrate your child's progress and discuss their next steps in learning. More details regarding appointment times will follow.

We hope you all have a restful, enjoyable, and safe half-term break. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday 24th February.



Mr Hopkins



PSA UPDATES

Bandonhillschoolpsa@gmail.com

Instagram @bandonhillschool_psa



Krispy Kreme Sale
Friday 6th March
Presale on MCAS
£1 each

Our next event is Mothers Day
Shopping
Friday 13th March
tickets available on MCAS £5
limited availability



Amigos Magic Show

We have an amazing show for all the family
to come and see.

Tickets £6 each available soon at :
www.pta-events.co.uk/bandonhillschoolpsa

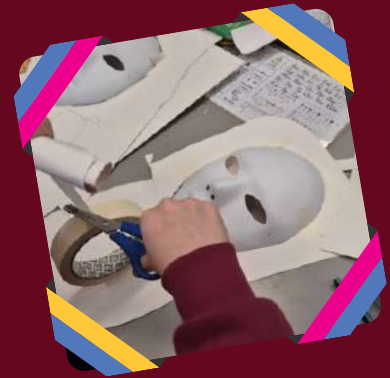
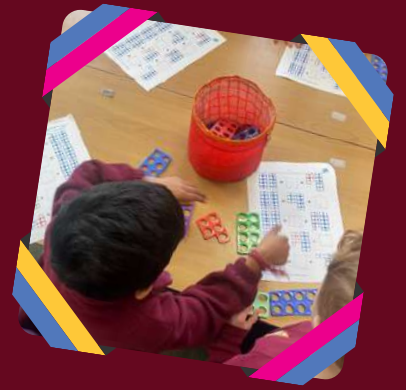
Volunteers needed: a free ticket for everyo
that helps please drop us an email

Helpers are always needed and we can not put these events on without them.
If you have a couple of hours to help assist the children or sell some donuts
please let us know



This Week's Award Winners





Around our school
this week



Weekly House Points

Mason House

Shanahan
House

Weir House

Widdowson
House

107

119

106

131



World Book Day

As part of our celebrations throughout the week of World Book Day (5th March), illustrator Gary Parsons will be visiting on Wednesday 4th March to show how illustrations go from concept to finished book.

He will also be happy to sign copies of his books, giving children a chance to meet him, chat about his work, and take home a signed copy.

This is a fantastic opportunity for children to connect with a real illustrator and feel inspired by the world of books.

To pre-purchase a book for signing, please refer to the separate letter that was sent including an order form and payment via the MCAS system.



Illustrator Garry Parsons
World Book Day 2025
Book Sale

THE DINOSAUR THAT POOPED A PLANET	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE DINOSAUR THAT POOPED A SUPERHERO	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE DINOSAUR THAT POOPED EASTER	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE WHO'S WHONICORN OF UNICORNS	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE WHO'S WHONICORN OF SING-ALONG UNICORNS	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
MY DADDIES!	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time Travel Twins - THE VIKING ATTACK	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time Travel Twins - THE ROMAN INVASION	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time Travel Twins - THE STONE AGE CLASH	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time Travel Twins - THE MAYA SACRIFICE	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time Travel Twins - THE VICTORIAN REVOLUTION	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE DRAGONSITTER -	£5	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE DRAGONSITTER DETECTIVE -	£5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total	_____	

NAME.....CLASS.....

Books will be signed by the illustrator on the day

Our Little Free Cupboard
"Give what you can,
take what you need."



We are very grateful to Neighbourly and Lidl for the 'Go Give a Fridge' grant last year. This allowed us to purchase a large freezer to store our food donations from Marks and Spencer, Sutton.

If you wish to access this frozen food, please ask in the office or a member of staff on the gate.

Additionally, if you are struggling at this time and need any particular food/household items, please contact Mrs Stirrat.

istirrat@bandonhillprimary.co.uk

Here is a little reminder of our community larder guidelines:

- This larder is for the Bandon Hill community.
- Help yourself to anything you need, but don't hoard!
- Please add to the cupboard if you have food at home you won't eat or can afford a few extra items in your weekly shop.
- Do not add food which has been opened or is past its 'use-by' date.
- Adults only! Do not let your children take food.
- It is your responsibility to check food is fit to eat.
- **Do not eat any unpackaged items if you have allergies.**
- Please keep the cupboard tidy and put any stale items in the bin.
- Feel free to contact Bell Stirrat with any feedback/questions/comments.

Upcoming dates

Date	Year Group	Event
02.03 & 05.03	All	Parents Evening
05.03.26	All	Word Book Day Celebrations
05.03.26	Year 3	Trip to Bough Beech Reservoir
13.03.26	All	PSA Mothers' Day Shop
18.03.26	Year 5	Class Assembly - 2:30pm
20.03.26	All	PSA Magic Evening Show

Bandon Hill Primary School
Term Dates 2025/26

Friday 29th August 2025 - INSET Day 1
 Monday 1st September 2025 - INSET Day 2
 Tuesday 2nd September - First Day of Term
 Friday 17th October 2025 - Finish at 3.15pm
October half term
 Monday 3rd November 2025 - First day of term
 Friday 19th December 2025 - Finish at 1.00pm
Christmas holidays
 Monday 5th January 2026 - First day of term
 Friday 13th February 2026 - Finish at 3.15pm
February half term

Monday 23rd February 2026 - INSET Day 3
 Tuesday 24th February 2026 - First day of term
 Friday 27th March 2026 - Finish at 1.00pm
Easter holidays
 Monday 13th April 2026 - First day of term
 Friday 22nd May 2026 - Finish at 3.15pm
May half term
 Monday 1st June 2026 - First day of term
 Friday 17th July 2026 - Finish at 1.00pm
Summer Holidays

This academic year

Next academic year

Bandon Hill Primary School
Term Dates 2026/27

Tuesday 1st September 2026 - INSET Day 1
 Wednesday 2nd September 2026 - INSET Day 2
 Thursday 3rd September 2026 - First Day of Term
 Friday 25th September 2026 - INSET Day 3
 Friday 23rd October 2026 - Finish at 3.15pm
October half term
 Monday 9th November 2026 - INSET Day 4
 Tuesday 10th November 2026 - First Day of Term
 Friday 18th December 2026 - Finish at 1.00pm
Christmas holidays
 Monday 4th January 2027 - First day of term
 Friday 12th February 2027 - Finish at 3.15pm
February half term
 Monday 22nd February 2027 - First day of term
 Thursday 25th March 2027 - Finish at 1.00pm
Easter holidays
 Monday 12th April 2027 - First day of term
 Thursday 27th May 2027 - Finish at 3.15pm
 Friday 28th May 2027 - INSET Day 5
May half term
 Monday 7th June 2027 - First day of term
 Thursday 22nd July 2027 - Finish at 1.00pm
Summer Holidays

CURRICULUM

UPDATE - EYFS

N What a lovely half term we have had! The children who joined us in January have settled so well and the other children have been so welcoming. Well done to them all!

The children have really enjoyed our work on traditional tales. Next half term, we will be moving on to a topic based on food. Please use the half term to speak to your children about the food they are eating and the different food groups. Maybe you could try some new fruit or vegetables over the break.

As part of our new topic, we are aiming to include some food preparation activities and the Nursery fund helps us to afford these activities. After the break, we will be collecting the voluntary donations of £3 again. Thank you in advance!

Have a lovely, well deserved break!



R We have had a great week learning about Chinese New Year! We cannot believe we have made it to the end of another half term. We had lots of fun tasting prawn crackers, dragon dancing and creating our own lanterns.

After half term, our new topic will be transport! We are super excited to start the first week back learning about vehicles on the road. If you would like to take your child for a walk around the local area and look at the different transport you see we would love to hear all about it.

After the break, we will be collecting the voluntary donations of £3 again. Thank you in advance!

Please be reminded that Monday 23rd February is an inset day.

Have a great half term!



CURRICULUM UPDATE KS1

2

1



Year 1 have worked extremely hard this term! We are so proud of them and so should you!

We have been busy finishing our foundation topics this week. We completed our computing topic about programming and algorithms as well as painting our 'Water Lillies' in Art.

In maths, we have been solving tricky questions linked to number bonds to 20. We have used our knowledge of number bonds to 10 to help us solve the questions.

In English, we have been using our phonics to write our own sentences and are getting so much better at remembering finger spaces, full stops and capital letters. Well done Year 1.

Please remember to label your child's jumper, bottle and belongings.

Well done to Year 2 on your assembly this week and to all those children who were brave enough to say a few lines and play an instrument in front of an audience! We hope you enjoyed their performance.

This week we finished off our maths unit on money and move onto multiplication and division after half term. Can your child count in 2s, 5s and 10s? If they could practise this during the holidays that would help them when we start the unit at the end of the month :)

At the start of the week, the children really enjoyed spending some of an afternoon with year 4 children, reading a book. Thank you for writing what books they are reading in their contact book. Please continue to read with your child to help check their understanding of the story as well as the words.

In P.E this week, the children enjoyed completing mini circuits which included, throwing a beanbag at a target and using a hockey stick guide a ball through an area.

To celebrate our French afternoon yesterday, we practised the different colours in French and learnt some more facts about France. They also very much enjoyed practising some French songs!

In English, the children have been practising writing cursively by joining horizontal letters such as 'oy', followed by double letters, 'bb'.

Thank you for all your help and support you provide your children at home. We hope you have a lovely half term break!



Attendance and Punctuality this week



KS1/Reception

Attendance: Ali (97%)
Punctuality: Donaldson,
Attenborough and Owens

KS2

Attendance: Hawking (100%)
Punctuality: Kahlo, Frank,
Hawking, Curie and Gandhi



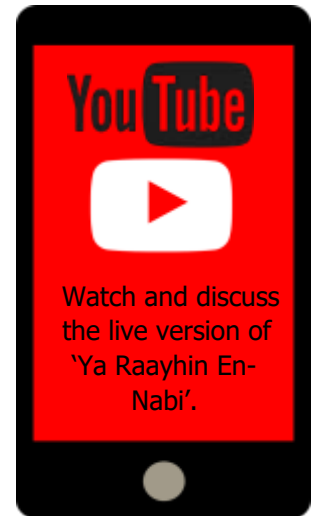


HOME INFORMATION



February's Musician of the Month

Reem Kelani



About: Reem Kelani is a British Palestinian musician, born in Manchester, England but raised in Kuwait. Initially influenced by the jazz music her father played on his record player, her interest in Palestinian music was sparked by the music at a family wedding in her maternal home in Galilee in the 1970s.

Genres: Arabic, Folk & Jazz

Active from: 1990 - Present

Origin: Manchester, United Kingdom

Books to read...

If you like Reem Kelani, try...



- Lena Chamamy
- Dhafer Youssef
- Amira Kheir

CURRICULUM UPDATE KS2

3

What a fantastic final week of the half term! It's been so lovely to hear about the children who have visited museums at the weekends and learned more about our topic on the Egyptians!

We have finished writing our instructions about how to make a mummy using fronted adverbials, bossy verbs and conjunctions to add detail. The children have worked really hard in all their English lessons and it's wonderful to see how much their writing has improved already this academic year. We also began making our own mummy death masks in DT using card, and masking tape (no pun intended!) The children have really enjoyed being creative in this topic and it's been great to see their artistic skills.

This week was also mental health week and all classes joined in with a virtual assembly on zoom with hundreds of other schools across the country, all about belonging and kindness. We have completed a few lovely wellbeing activities including a wonderful session of paired reading with one of the Year 1 classes. Next half term our topic will be "Water World", looking at things such as the water cycle and rivers.

Thank you for all your help and support with the children at home this half term and we hope you have a wonderful half term break!



It has been an amazing final week in Year 4! We've dived deep into our "Does Italy shake, rattle and roar?" topic, discovering the explosive power of volcanoes and the ground-shaking science behind earthquakes. In our writing sessions, we reached the dramatic conclusion of our narratives based on Roald Dahl's *The Witches*, using fantastic descriptions to finish the story of Bruno Jenkins and his furry transformation into a mouse.

We've also mastered our length and perimeter unit in Maths, it's been a week of big discoveries and even bigger measurements! We also completed our electricity topic in science looking at whether water conducts electricity or not.

We kick off next half term with our Eater RE workshop on the first Friday back. If any adults can volunteer to walk with us to St. Michael's church it would be greatly appreciated!

We hope you have a lovely half term, we look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 24th February!



4



PARENT & CARER WORKSHOP

Topic: Understanding Stammering: Practical Support for Parents / Carers- Learn, share, and support your child's journey with stammering.

This workshop aims to cover:

- What is stammering/fluency?
- Understanding the **nature of stammering** and **how it presents** in children and young people.
- **Factors influencing fluency.**
- Exploring what can make speaking easier or more challenging.
- **Practical strategies** to help language development, environmental considerations and discussions about feelings towards stammering.
- **Signposting** to trusted resources and professional help if wanted.
- An opportunity for **group discussion** or to **meet other families** in safe space to share experiences and ideas.

Date: 18th February 2026

Time: 12-30-2.30pm

Location:
First Floor
Cantium House
Railway
Approach
Wallington
SM6 0DZ

Please sign up on the Cognus website where you can find here:

<https://www.cognus.org.uk/services/cognus-therapies/training-and-workshops/parent-training/>

OR

via our photo link



Don't forget to also check out our other training on: Emotion and sensory regulation, language development, functional life skills & independence



Wrap around care



Wrap around care at Bandon Hill provides pupils with:



- ✓ Child Led Nurturing Activities
- ✓ Homework and Reading Support with experienced and qualified TA's
- ✓ Opportunities to Socialise and Learn Social Skills
- ✓ A start and/or end of day reflection to motivate and encourage
- ✓ Snacks and Drinks

For pricing and to book, please contact the main office.



Our wrap around care offer ensures that we are supporting not just our own pupils, but their whole family to..

Dare to Dream



Telephone: 020 8647 5377

or

E-mail: office@bandonhillprimary.co.uk

for further information. and terms and conditions



CURRICULUM

UPDATE KS2

5

6

What a fantastic final week of term for Year 5!

This week, the children thoroughly enjoyed watching the film adaptation of 'Holes' and comparing it to our class text. This inspired some fantastic media work, as we became live TV reporters to broadcast the legendary tale of the outlaw Kissin' Kate Barlow.

The excitement continued during our French afternoon, where the classroom erupted in colour for 'Le Carnaval de Nice'! The children designed stunning masks and vibrant t-shirts to celebrate the famous festival and learnt about la Bataille des Fleurs (Battle of the Flowers).

Finally, we've been busy stretching our brains in maths by starting our new topic on decimals, with a particular focus on mastering their fraction equivalents. This topic will continue after the half term.

Have a wonderful half term break!

We've had such a brilliant half-term, and we couldn't be prouder of how hard the children have worked. We ended on a high note this week with a French-themed afternoon and some beautiful singing as the children learned 'The White Cliffs of Dover.'

Our young mathematicians have been busy converting metric and imperial measures, while our budding journalists wrote some truly evocative newspaper reports on The Blitz—the vocabulary used was simply fantastic!

Of course, Evacuee Day was the star of the week. From the amazing outfits to the 'selection' activities where the children experienced a taste of life away from home, it was a day to remember. Reading real-life recounts and watching Goodnight Mister Tom helped the children truly connect with our history topic.

Have a wonderful half-term break! We can't wait to see you all back on Tuesday, 24th February.



Education
Wellbeing
Service

Parent/Carer Webinars

Early Years Spring/Summer Term Schedule

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these
free local NHS webinars for nursery/reception parents & carers

We also provide free 1:1 early support
for parents of primary aged children
to support their child's common
worries and anxieties, or support
children's everyday challenging
behaviours.
Speak to your school to find out more.



**Feeding and its
difficulties in the
Early years**

14TH January 12.-1.30pm

23RD February 8.15 - 9.30pm

27TH February 12.00 - 1.00pm

**Starting early - how to help
your child learn practical
skills at a young age**

**Managing big feelings in
small people; tantrums,
aggression & how to
respond**

20TH April 8.00 -9.00pm

24TH April 12.00 -1.00pm



SPELLINGS

Year 1

shaking
cute
explode
house
want
some



Year 2

Group 1: nicer, writer, baker
looser, safer, simpler, hoped, loved,
largest, closest

Group 2: on, pan, ten, pin, mop



Year 3

Group 1:
arrival, burial, comical, magical, emotional,
national, personal, optional,
survival, tropical.

Group 2:
beak, each, teach, peach, leaf,
reach, lead, leap, squeak, real

(Group 3 to learn the 5 spellings highlighted in red)



Year 4

Group 1: automatic, August, launch, haul, astronaut,
cause, author, applaud, autumn, audience

Group 2: arrival, burial, comical, magical, emotional,
national, personal, optional, survival, tropical

Group 3: lie, tie, pie, cried, dried, chief, field, thief,
shield, tried



Year 5

Grp 1: society, deficient, efficient,
emergencies, glacier, inefficient, science,
scientists, species, sufficient

Grp 2: arrival, burial, comical, magical,
emotional,
national, personal, optional, survival, tropical



Year 6

Group 1: alphabet, elephant, dolphin,
graph, pamphlet, pheasant, phone, photo,
physical, sphere.

Group 2: arrival, burial, comical, magical,
emotional, national, personal, optional,
survival, tropical.



Spring Term Lunch Menu



MENU WEEK 1



ALLERGEN KEY

1. Celery
 2. Gluten
 3. Crustaceans
 4. Eggs
 5. Fish
 6. Lupin
 7. Milk
 8. Molluscs
 9. Mustard
 10. Peanuts
 11. Sesame
 12. Soybeans
 13. Sulphites
 14. Tree nuts
- A/F Allergen Free



Catering provided by Greenshaw Learning Trust.
All products are locally sourced wherever possible.
All food is cooked fresh on the school site each day.

MONDAY	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 2, 7	Macaroni Cheese 2, 7	Garlic Bread Broccoli A/F	Chocolate Vanilla Mousse 7
TUESDAY	Chicken Burger 2	Vegetable Burger 2	Wedge Potatoes Sweetcorn	Carrot Cake 2, 4, 7
WEDNESDAY	Roast Chicken Dinner 2, 4, 7	Cauliflower and Broccoli Bake 2, 7	Roast Potatoes & Vegetables A/F	Old School Sprinkle Cake 2, 4
THURSDAY	Hotdog with Bun 2	Vegetable Pasta Bake 2, 7	Sweet Potato Fries Peas A/F	Fruit Jelly
FRIDAY	Battered Fish 2, 5	Quorn Nuggets 2	Chips & Peas/Beans A/F	Selection of Pudding



"We are dedicated to reducing our carbon footprint by actively reducing food waste throughout our operations, from sourcing to serving. Through staff training, supplier collaboration, and customer engagement, we are committed to making a positive environmental impact."

AVAILABLE DAILY

Wholemeal bread, fresh salads, a variety of seasonal fresh fruit, yogurts & jacket potatoes. Please note that all our dishes can be adapted to suit the majority of dietary requirements



GREENSHAW LEARNING TRUST



MENU WEEK 2



ALLERGEN KEY

1. Celery
 2. Gluten
 3. Crustaceans
 4. Eggs
 5. Fish
 6. Lupin
 7. Milk
 8. Molluscs
 9. Mustard
 10. Peanuts
 11. Sesame
 12. Soybeans
 13. Sulphites
 14. Tree nuts
- A/F Allergen Free



Catering provided by Greenshaw Learning Trust.
All products are locally sourced wherever possible.
All food is cooked fresh on the school site each day.

MONDAY	Pepperoni Pizza 2, 7	Cheese Pin Wheel 2, 7	Wedges & Salad A/F	Strawberry Mousse 7
TUESDAY	BBQ Chicken With Rice 2	Sweet Potato and Lentil Curry with Rice A/F	Mixed Vegetables A/F	Apple Cake 2, 4, 7
WEDNESDAY	Sausage Roast & Yorkshire 2, 4, 7	Cheese and Bean Parcel 2, 7	Roast Potatoes & Carrots and Broccoli A/F	Fruit Crumble With Custard
THURSDAY	Beef Lasagne Pasta 2, 7	Vegetable Noodles 2, 4, 12	Sweetcorn A/F	Lemon Drizzle Cake 2, 4, 7
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fingers 2, 5	Baked Potato BBQ Beans/ Cheese 7	Chips & Peas/Beans A/F	Selection of Pudding



"We are dedicated to reducing our carbon footprint by actively reducing food waste throughout our operations, from sourcing to serving. Through staff training, supplier collaboration, and customer engagement, we are committed to making a positive environmental impact."

AVAILABLE DAILY

Wholemeal bread, fresh salads, a variety of seasonal fresh fruit, yogurts & jacket potatoes. Please note that all our dishes can be adapted to suit the majority of dietary requirements



GREENSHAW LEARNING TRUST

Family Support

With this week being Children's Mental Health Week, we have included some tips below on how to talk to your child about their mental health.

You can use this link for more specific tips:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

- 1 Make conversations about mental health a normal part of life:** Anywhere is a good place to talk; in the car, walking the dog or cooking together. Model everyday talk about feelings such as by talking about a TV character's feelings. 
- 2 Give your full attention:** We all know it's horrible to be half-listened to. Keep eye contact, focus on the child and ignore distractions. 
- 3 Check your body language:** Try to keep it open and relaxed and make sure you come down to the child's level.
- 4 Take it seriously:** Don't downplay what the child is saying or tell them they're "just being silly". Resist the urge to reassure them that everything is fine.
- 5 Ask open questions:** Such as "How did your day go today?" This will help to extend the conversation.
- 6 Calmly stay with the feelings that arise:** It can be our automatic reaction to steer away from difficult emotions. 
- 7 Offer empathy rather than solutions:** Show that you accept what they are telling you but don't try to solve the problem.
- 8 Remember we are all different:** Respect and value the child's feelings, even though they may be different to yours.
- 9 Look for clues about feelings:** Listen to the child's words, tone of voice and body language.
- 10 Some ways to start a conversation about feelings might be:**
 - "How are you feeling at the moment?"
 - "You don't seem your usual self. Do you want to talk about it?"
 - "Do you fancy a chat?"
 - "I'm happy to listen if you need a chat."

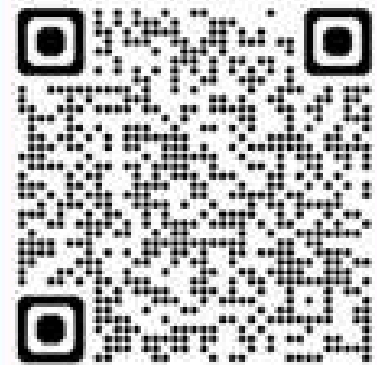
Parent/Carer Webinars

Primary Spring Term Schedule

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these free local NHS webinars for Primary parents & carers

We also provide free 1:1 early support for parents of primary aged children to support their child's common worries and anxieties, or support children's everyday challenging behaviours.

Speak to your school to find out more.



Promoting Sibling Harmony

26TH January 7.00-8.00pm

27TH January 1.30-2.30pm

9TH February 7.00 - 8.30pm

Supporting Siblings of Children with SEND

(For parents & carers of children aged 7 years and above)

10TH February 1.30 - 3.00pm

Supporting common child anxieties and worries including around exams

24TH March 1.00 - 2.00pm

26TH March 7.00 - 8.00pm

What helps your child feel safe, calm and understood?

Support shaped around your child and their needs

Improving quality of life, not to 'fix' but rather to support making positive changes

Understanding what your child's behaviour is telling you

Building strengths and skills to support your child, not focusing on problems



Positive Behaviour Support (PBS)/Behaviour Management Information:

- CRITERIA - parents of primary and secondary school age children waiting for ND screening for ADHD and/or ASD under the CAMHS NDT SPA Team
- 20 places max so first come first serve basis!
- 1 hour weekly for 6 weeks on Microsoft Teams
- 12:30PM for parents/carer
- Led by NDT SPA

REGISTER INTEREST HERE WITH THE QR CODE:

Workshops Registration of Attendance



needsbasedneuro@swlstg.nhs.uk