

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning



THIS WEEK..

GUARDIANS OF OUR PLANET

This week Reception enjoyed their fruit and story time outside in the sunshine. Afterwards, the children added their fruit waste to the compost area in the outdoor classroom.



HEART DISSECTION

On Wednesday, Year 6 were treated to a visit by Dr Cameron (local secondary school Science teacher and mother of children at Wray Common) for our Science learning, to investigate the heart with first hand experience. The children were amazed by the cow's heart that Dr Cameron demonstrated being dissected. She also recapped their learning and answered questions. Later that day, Year 6 also dissected their much smaller sheep's heart and identified the different sections of the heart with their teacher. Year 6 had a great learning experience and we thank Dr Cameron for giving up her own time to come and offer her expertise and knowledge!



DT PROJECT - BREAD

Year 5 have started their DT project of making bread. We got to taste different types of bread and evaluate them based on their appearance, texture and taste, as well as completing a survey to see which children out of Year 3 and 4 ate bread for breakfast and lunch. After this, we learned about the process of making bread and added in ingredients (rosemary, pumpkin seeds, cheese and raisins) to see what they tasted like. We got to also explore how our bread can be shaped. We are very excited to make our own bread for a specific purpose next week!



CHURCH VISIT

This week Year 5 were very lucky to visit Redhill Methodist Church to see a performance of the Easter story. The children were very engaged and asked some brilliant questions to the actors afterwards.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Tues - Wray Common's Got Talent PM
 Tues - Greensand Dance Show
 Wed - Wray Common's Got Talent PM
 Wed - Netball match v Lime Tree (home)
 Thurs - Panathlon Final
 Fri - Celebration Medals assembly
 Fri - Break up for Easter - KS1 1:35pm / KS2 1:40pm
 Return to school Tuesday 22nd April

FRIENDS



Thank you to everyone that has supported our recent Friends events. Our wizard event raised £730.18, the disco raised £823.22 and someone special sale bought in £684.84. The children that were involved all seemed to have a great time and we hope the gifts are enjoyed this week. These events can't happen without people volunteering their time so thank you to those of you that got into the wizard spirit, coped with the sweaty hot environment that was the disco or helped with wrapping nearly 500 gifts and attended on sale dates for someone special. With the money raised, it means we have been able to provide learning journals, celebration medals, music equipment and hula hoops, footballs and tennis balls for all of our children to enjoy. Thank you everyone.

If you need any support, please do not hesitate to contact us. We can help you source information about support through the right agencies, and make referrals ourselves to local support groups. Here are some of the things we have supported families with recently:

- School uniform, school bags, P.E. trainers and school shoes
- Pre-loved clothes for children
- Foodbank referrals
- Housing applications and letters of support
- Seasonal gifts for children

If you have any questions or would like to talk about how we can help, please contact Miss Kober on 01737 761254 or email familysupport@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk

YEAR 3 - DONATIONS

Year 3 would like donations of shoe boxes please, for their upcoming projects starting after Easter. If you do have any in a good condition you are happy to donate, please bring them to the school office before 9th May. They need 60 boxes in total! If you have any small yoghurt pots please bring them in by Tuesday. Thank you in advance.

PLEASE NOTE

Please can we remind all parents/carers that at pick up time, children are not permitted to play in the playground or on the play equipment. It is the adult's responsibility to supervise their children and siblings at all times.

HONOUR BOOK

1EL	Ariana	For aspiring to be the best she can be and working hard in all areas of her learning.
1B	Ved	For persevering in phonics to improve his reading and spelling.
2T	Ellis	For 'using' a range of sentence types in his information text about the oceans of the world.
2P	Jemima	For her perseverance and improved focus when listening to lesson inputs.
3S	Sam	For exploring a variety of methods with adding and subtracting money.
3F	Neive	For her great attitude to learning in all subjects and commitment to always trying her best.
4BR	Jemima	For excellent Thinking skills demonstrated when explaining decimals in a sequence.
4BE	Kira	For showing an excellent attitude towards her learning by completing additional learning at home to share with the class.
5E	Ella K	For her brilliant start at Wray Common showing focus and engagement in all lessons.
5J	Max	For contributing ideas to class discussions and asking questions to check his understanding.
6C	Elena	For always aspiring to be the best she can be by showing an exemplary drive to improve every day.
6F	Lily	For great contributions to discussions in a variety of subjects this week.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.



LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.



ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.



KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.



Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>

We are hiring!

Caretaker / Premises Manager

Perm, full time, 30 hrs per week

Closes: 3 April 2025



Classroom Teacher

Perm, part time (Wed-Fri)
Commencing 1 Sept 25

Closes: 30 April 2025



After School Club Playworker

Perm, part time

Closes: 14 April 2025

*Free club place for staff member's child(ren)



ST JOHN'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL
REDHILL

View vacancies at:

greensandacademytrust.co.uk

Internal candidate application form can be found on
Edupay (via Doc store).



GREENSAND
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



Mindworks Surrey is the children and young people's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service in Surrey.

It is delivered by a group made up of NHS, national and local voluntary sector organisations all working together.

For more information visit our website:

www.mindworks-surrey.org



Worried about exams? Watch our short video on exam stress. It can help you with effective study strategies and relaxation techniques:





SOUTH EAST SURREY DYSLLEXIA ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association

SESDA Reg. Charity no. 281076

Teachers, Support Staff, Parents

'AI at Home'

An introduction to AI including how it is used within school by both staff and students

Speaker: David Curran

Assistive Technology Lead/Head of Careers at Moon Hall School

Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 7.30pm

Members (per family) £3.00

Non-Members (per family) £6.00

Places will be limited so please email sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com to book your place

There will be a fund-raising raffle

*The meeting will be held at
Canada Hall, All Saints Church
Battlebridge Lane, Merstham RH1 3LH*

Details from SESDA Helpline: 01737 556173

Or email: sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com

R&B **New for 2025!** Junior Games

Get into sport this summer with 10 weeks' free coaching and entry to a borough-wide celebration event on Sunday 13 July 2025

- Choose one sport from basketball, pickleball, SEND multi sports and swimming.
- Weekly sessions take place at the Better leisure centres – Donyngs (Redhill), Horley and Tadworth.

How to sign up

Open to 7 to 11 year olds at school or living in Reigate & Banstead.

Sign up online at reigate-banstead.gov.uk/junior-games



In partnership with

BETTER

Reigate & Banstead
Borough Council
Banstead | Horley | Redhill | Reigate

DUNOTTAR SCHOOL



Dunottar School

Taster Morning

For Year 7 2026 Entry

Saturday 17th May 2025 9am to 12pm

Join us for a fun morning of activities. Meet our teachers, explore Dunottar and make new friends with other children who will be sitting our entrance assessments. Activities include a Hocus Pocus Science session and a choice from Cricket, Cookery, Girls' Football, Lego Robotics, Bush Craft in our woodlands and Virtual Reality adventures from around the world!

Children who are registered for our Year 7 2026 entrance assessments will be automatically invited to our Taster Morning. Complete our Year 7 [online registration form](#) and pay the registration fee of £150, by **9am on Friday 2nd May 2025**



Scan me

Register Now!

Open Morning

Wednesday 30th April 2025 @ 9:45am

[Book Open Morning here](#)

Visit us and start your Warrior Learning Journey

dunottarschool.com/admissions
admissions@dunottarschool.com
01737 761945



Please

turn over

"My son and his friends had the loveliest of mornings and came out buzzing!"

"She had a brilliant time on Saturday morning and really enjoyed the activities. Thank you very much for making it a great experience."



"Max had a fantastic time. Thank you for running such a well organised morning of exciting events."

"Thank you so much to all the team for today! Emily had a brilliant time. You can't get more of an endorsement than her saying, 'I wish I could have continued', as soon as we got out the gate! Don't suppose you fancy running it every Saturday?!"

"Thank you to all your wonderful staff for a lovely Dunottar taster morning. My daughter had so much fun and absolutely loved every second of it. She thoroughly enjoyed the activities and meeting and mixing with new children."



"My son was absolutely buzzing with happiness when I collected him and could not wait to tell me all about the Hocus Pocus themed Science class. Thank you for the opportunity - he could not be more excited about the prospect of life at Dunottar."

WARRIOR LEARNING



Dunottar School



ARTSPARKS

Easter Arts and Crafts Days

**9th & 16th
April**

**FUN-FILLED DAYS FOR CHILDREN
AGED 5 TO 11 - £35
FOR SIBLINGS OR IF MORE THAN ONE
DAY IS BOOKED - £30**

at

**Wray Common School
Kendal Close, Reigate**

RH2 0LR

9.30 until 2.30

**Contact Sasha Boyce to book
07771803914
boyce.natasha@gmail.com**