



Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery

Almond Avenue
Barnsbury
Woking
Surrey
GU22 0BB

Telephone: 01483 763114
Email: info@barnsbury.surrey.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs J Harrup

28th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

There was a wonderful assembly this morning performed by 1B. We were treated to a range of wonderful songs about feelings and inspirational songs encouraging the children to be strong and be their best selves. A huge thank you to Vinnie's dad who has worked with the children to write their own song about being in 1B at Barnsbury—not a dry eye in the house!

We had our final Rock Steady Concert on Thursday morning with children performing to parents and children. Years 4 and 5 have also been working incredibly hard practising for their Spring Term Production of Oliver Twist. They have dress rehearsals this afternoon and Monday afternoon, with the main performance on Thursday evening.

Next Tuesday afternoon, our Year 5 & 6 athletes are competing in the County Sports Hall event at Guildford Spectrum with the best teams across Surrey taking part. This is a huge achievement and we wish them all the very best of luck!

Next Wednesday, most of our Year 6 children are off to their residential at Avon Tyrell, returning to school on Friday. At the moment, the weather is looking perfect for their trip and I know they will have a wonderful time.

Next week is the last week of the Spring Term and we will finish at 1.15pm on Friday 4th April, returning to school after the Easter break on Tuesday 22nd April.

Eid Mubarak to all of our Muslim families—I hope you enjoy all of your celebrations.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

With kind regards

Mrs J E Harrup
Headteacher



Star of the Week

Effort Award

Values Award

Writer of the Month

Oak

Umai

Amelie

Harry

Ivy

Ash

Jorge

Anna

Gianna

Oscar

1B

Jack

Haziq

Havanna

Shauna

1M

Abdullah

Ayesha

Danny

Noah

2M

Aboudy

Sammy

Ben

Alexia

2T

Eva

Misha

Scarlett

Henry

3B

Synthia

Emma

Christian

Molly

3M

Matthew A

Quinn

Priyam

Isla-Rose

4D

Ava

Keshawn

Precious

Finlay

4J

Teniola

Ava

William

Lola

5M

Saad

Grace H

Tammy

Lydia

5T

George A

Vinnie

Joao

William

6G

Noah

Leela

Mason

Noah

6L

Charlotte

Catalina

Tom C

Annukka

Congratulations to our Super Speller this week: Thomas (4D)



Congratulations to the recipients of a WOW certificate this week: Oliver G (6L)



Congratulations to the Lionesses this week:

Catrin (3M), Isabelle (3M) and Lucy (6L)



PLAYER OF THE MATCH

Easter Phonics



I found a gorgeous basket in Hobbycraft and some old plastic eggs, then added words with set 2 and 3 sounds for the children to practice spotting the special friends. This was a hit last year.

Miss Paice
Trainee Teacher, Year 4



Surrey
Wildlife Trust



Litter pick



Water for wildlife



Food for wildlife



Chemical free gardening



Leave your garden wild



Meat-free meals



Use your voice



Homes for wildlife



Walk, cycle, bus to school



Plant a hedgerow



Plant a tree



surreywildlifetrust.org

Wilder Schools: Win a £500 grant!

Take part in our **Action for Nature competition** with Wilder Schools to help nature thrive!

How to take part:

1. Complete one or more Actions for nature at home or in the community.
2. Record your action, upload and view the actions map at:
surreywildlifetrust.org/nature-actions-map



← Or scan the QR code



Surrey
Wildlife Trust

Why take part:

- If we all take action for nature, we'll make a difference for Surrey's wildlife.
- Claim **half price membership** with Surrey Wildlife Trust by recording your action.
- Be entered into our **wildlife equipment prize draw!**
- The school with the most recorded actions will win a **£500 grant** for outdoor learning equipment or tools!

Competition closes: 31st May 2025

Wilder Schools Action for Nature Competition 2025

End date: Saturday 31st May 2025

Surrey Wildlife Trust has been working with Barnsbury Primary School to encourage practical actions beyond the school grounds and help nature thrive.

Complete one or more Actions for Nature at home or in your community, and Barnsbury Primary School will be in with a chance of winning a **£500** grant towards outdoor learning equipment or tools for school grounds improvement.

It isn't hard or expensive to help our wildlife, your action could be as simple as a litter pick! If you're lucky enough to have a garden, you could feed the birds, plant pollinator-friendly plants or go chemical-free.

How to take part:

Explore your possible [Actions for Nature | Surrey Wildlife Trust](#)

Once you've completed your Action for Nature, record your actions and view our actions map

at: www.surreywildlifetrust.org/nature-actions-map

Record your Action for Nature to **claim half-price membership** with **Surrey Wildlife Trust**, and to be entered into a **free prize draw** to win a **wildlife equipment prize!**

Dates for your diary 2024-25

Spring Term

March

Monday 31st 1.30pm KS2 Production Dress Rehearsal

April

2nd-4th Year 6 Residential

2nd April Acorns Spring Spectacular

Thursday 3rd 6pm KS2 Production Performance

Friday 4th 1:15pm End of Spring Term

Dates for your diary 2024-25

Summer Term

April

Tuesday 22nd	Start of Summer Term
Thu 24th & Fri 25th	PTA Silent Discos (times TBC)
Weds 30th	Local Governing Committee Meeting (8am to 10am)

May

Friday 2nd	3B Class Assembly (9.00am)
Friday 9th	PTA Bingo Night
Friday 16th	2M Class Assembly (9.00am)
Friday 23rd	2T Class Assembly (9.00am)
Friday 23rd	End of half term
26th May-6th June	Two week half term

June

Weds 11th	Reception School Trip
Weds 18th	Class photos
Weds 25th	Local Governing Committee Meeting (8am to 10am)
Weds 25th	Nursery Sports Day
Thursday 26th	Sports Day
Friday 27th	Oak Class Assembly (9.00am)

July

Friday 4th	Ash Class Assembly (9.00am)
Tuesday 22nd	End of Term (1:15pm finish)

SILENT DISCO



PICK YOUR OUTFIT
GET YOUR TICKET
GRAB SOME HEADPHONES
TWO CHANNELS OF MUSIC
CHOSEN BY YOU

THURSDAY 24TH APRIL
RECEPTION 3:15 TO 4:00PM
YEAR 2 4:15 TO 5:00PM
YEAR 4 5:15 TO 6:15PM

FRIDAY 25TH APRIL
YEAR 1 3:15 TO 4:00PM
YEAR 3 4:15 TO 5:15PM
YEAR 5 5:30 TO 6:30PM
YEAR 6 6:45 TO 7:45PM



TICKET ONLY EVENT £3.50

TICKET LINK [PTA EVENTS](#)

DROP OFF KS2 HALL - PICK UP FROM KS1 HALLW
COLLECTION FROM AND RETURN TO BUDDIES/ CAMP MARTIAL X.
PUPIL PREMIUM DISCOUNT AVAILABLE
PLEASE ENSURE CHILDREN HAVE THEIR WATER BOTTLES



BARNSBURY PTA

THE BIG BARNSBURY EASTER EGG HUNT

18th April
10:00am - 12:00pm



Barnsbury Lighthouse
30 Ash Rd, Woking, Surrey,
GU22 0BH

THE LIGHTHOUSE x EMMAUSRD
Barnsbury *Woking*

HOLIDAY FUN CLUB

AT WOKING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Tuesday 15th - Thursday 17th April
9:15am - 12:30pm

Explore the story of Easter
through games, craft, cooking
and music.

For children in school years reception - yr5

£5 per day or £12 for all three days

Siblings £4 per day or £10 for all three days



For more information and to book
scan the QR code or visit
WOKINGURC.ORG.UK

SPRING INTO EASTER



Woking United Reformed Church
White Rose Lane, Woking, GU22 7HA

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.

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.

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.

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>

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Dana

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Lois

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Amita

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FRIDAY



INFLATA SPORTZ ZONE DROP-INS!



AGES
5-13

.....
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FRIDAY 11TH APRIL 10-2PM
.....

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