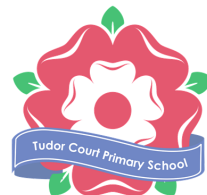


Tudor Court Newsletter



Friday 28th March 2025

Issue Number 010

Inspire - Challenge - Succeed

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Message from the Head Teacher

It has been another busy couple of weeks in school...

Our Year 4 classes have been working incredibly hard in their rehearsals, ready for their Easter performances next week. We are so proud of their dedication and cannot wait to see them shine on stage!

Our children who attend our Stepping Stones Nurture Base have experienced their very first school trip to Call of The Wild today. It was a fantastic day, filled with adventure and new experiences, creating lasting memories for the children!

With the warmer weather, it has been lovely to see more families walking, cycling, and scooting to school. However, we kindly remind everyone that children **MUST NOT** cycle or scoot in the playgrounds and paths to ensure everyone's safety. Thank you for your cooperation.

Our fantastic FTCA have organised some Easter activities for next week. I am sure the children will enjoy the activities and the chance to once again, win being the Head Teacher for the day! A big thank you also goes to all the parent helpers who gave up their time to help with the Mother's Day event today.

A huge congratulations to the children who represented our school in the Thurrock Performance Poetry Competition last Thursday. We are especially proud of our Year 4 Small Group, who took first prize. What an incredible achievement and well done to all involved!

Mrs Long has now started her maternity leave and we will keep you updated when her little one arrives! We also say a fond farewell to Mrs. Amin, who will be leaving Tudor Court at the end of next week. We wish her all the best in her new school.

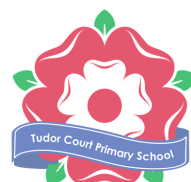
With just one more week to go before we break up for Easter, there is lots happening in the final week and we will soon be looking forward to a fun-packed summer term ahead! The implementation of Parent Pay as the new payment system has finally been concluded and parents should now all be able to book meals and trips again. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time. Early next week, we are transitioning to a new Management Information System. Parents should not see any changes as we will continue to communicate through Weduc but there will be a lot going on behind the scenes. A big thank you to our wonderful office staff who have supported and made these processes as seamless as possible for everyone.

I would like to wish all the mums in our school community a restful and joyful Mother's Day this Sunday. We hope you have a wonderful restful day filled with love and appreciation.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Phil Kyriacou

Head Teacher



Attendance Trophy Awards

Well done to all of the classes who have won the Attendance Trophy!! Keep up the good work!

Week Beginning 17th March:

Year	Class	Teacher	%	Wins
R	3	Mrs Evans & Mrs Tighe	96.3	9th
1	7	Mrs Waller	99.6	11th
2	9	Mrs Routley	99.2	8th
3	12	Mrs Puhlhofer / Mrs Arnell	99.7	5th
4	17	Mrs Goldsmith / Mrs Burgess	100	7th
5	19	Mrs Long	97.9	10th
6	24	Miss Kirby / Mrs Burgess	99.7	3rd

Week Beginning 24th March:

Year	Class	Teacher	%	Wins
R	3	Mrs Evans & Mrs Tighe	98.0	10th
1	6	Mrs Tedder	99.3	10th
2	9	Mrs Routley	98	9th
3	13	Mrs Leach	100	7th
4	15	Mrs Sukutiene	98.7	9th
5	18	Mrs Pitchfork	98	4th
6	25	Mr Raymond	97.7	4th



British Sign Language Week

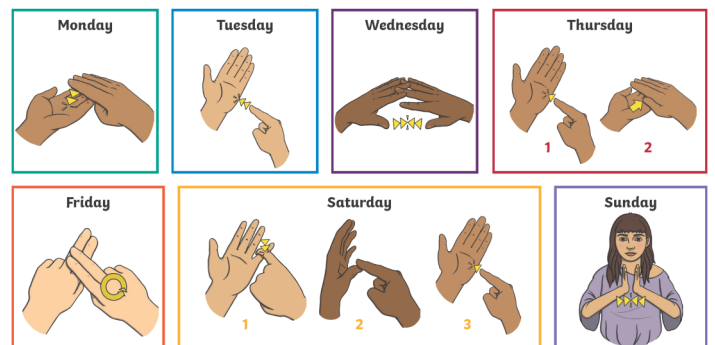
Last week, our school came together to celebrate British Sign Language (BSL) Week and what a fantastic week it was! The children enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to learn more about BSL and the deaf community, demonstrating great respect and curiosity throughout.

Mrs Payne and Mrs Seamark were incredibly impressed with all year groups for their dedication to learning our chosen song in BSL. Watching the wonderful videos has been a joy and we hope the experience was both enjoyable and meaningful for everyone.

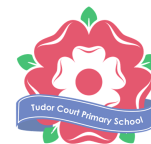
A huge well done to everyone involved. Your efforts in raising awareness of BSL have truly made a difference!

Why not join in together as families and try to learn how to sign the days of the week by using the images below as guidance:

BSL Days of the Week



News & Information



Year 6 Secondary Schools

Please can we ask all our Year 6 parents to inform us on which secondary school their children will be attending in September.



Please complete our google form by clicking on the following link if you have not done so already:

[Year 6 Secondary School Allocation](#)

Mobile Phones

The school office have been receiving a large amount of mobile phones from our Year 5 and 6 children recently. Please can we remind parents that children should only bring a mobile phone to school if they go home alone.

Children do not have access to their phones at all during the school day. Please can we kindly request that you do not send them in unless they are leaving school alone.



New Payment System

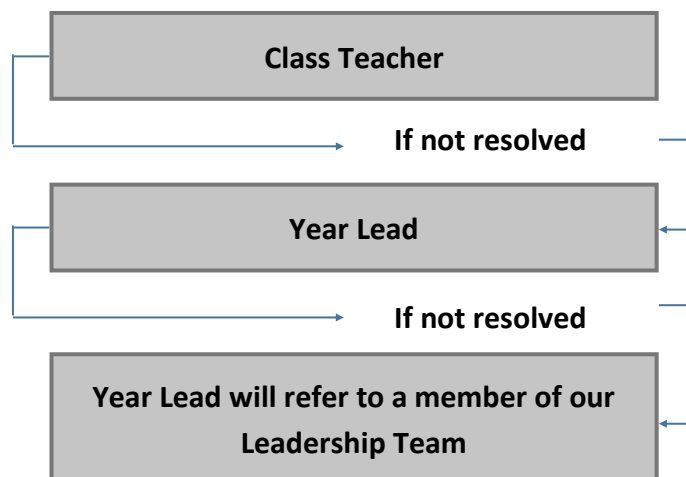
We are really pleased to announce that our new payment system - ParentPay is now up and running and parents can now pay for meals, trips and Tudor Treasures as before via the Weduc app.

We understand that there is a small quantity of parents who are experiencing some issues but please be assured that these have been forwarded to ParentPay and we will inform you as soon as we have information.



Channels of Communication

If you would like to discuss any issues or concerns in regards to your child, please can we ask you to use the following chain of communication:



Easter Week in Tudor Treasures

Our team of Tudor Treasures staff have lots of fun activities and games planned for everyday next week with **PRIZES TO BE WON!**

If you would like to book your child into one of our sessions, please do so via the Bookings section in the Weduc app.



For further information, please email: tudortreasures@tudorcourtprimary.com

PE Uniform Expectations

We have noticed an increase in children arriving to school in the incorrect PE kit, this includes football tops, coloured hoodies and bright t shirts.

This is not the correct uniform for PE, please see a list of the correct kit below:

Black Tracksuit Black Shorts Blue PE T Shirt

Please support the school by sending your child into school in the correct uniform.





Tudor Treasures

Breakfast & After School Club

Breakfast

Monday to Friday
7.30am - 8.40am

After School

Monday to Friday
3.00pm - 6.00pm

Children can enjoy a fun filled environment with fully trained staff.

To receive an information pack that includes:

- *Our terms and conditions*
- *Session options*
- *Pricing*
- *Information on how to book your place*

please email: tudortreasures@tudorcourtprimary.com

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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