

# Newsletter

Friday 8th December 2023



Tel: 01274 639049

[www.swainhouse.co.uk](http://www.swainhouse.co.uk)

Email: [office@swainhouse.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:office@swainhouse.bradford.sch.uk)

ASPIRE

BELIEVE

PERSEVERE

ACHIEVE



## Christmas Fair



We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that came to our Christmas fair last Friday. We raised an incredible £1773.38! Thank you for all your generous donations, without those it wouldn't have been possible. We are planning to spend the money raised on new hi vis jackets with our school logo on for each key stage.







# Christmas Craft Sessions



This week we enjoyed craft sessions with our family members. Here are some of the festive crafts we created!



## Year 3 Golf Festival!

Children from Y3 enjoyed taking part in a golf festival at Manningham Sports Centre on Tuesday. They really enjoyed the different games and competing with different schools. We are very proud of their efforts, they demonstrated great teamwork and sportsmanship when representing the school.



## Street Dance Performance

This term children in Year 2 and 6 have been learning different dance styles. They enjoyed performing their dance routines in a special assembly .





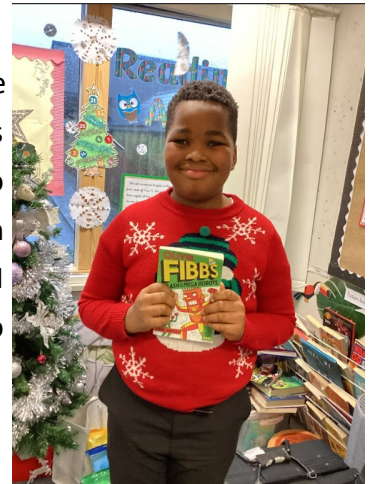
# Reading planet reviews!

As part of our Key Stage 2 reading scheme, we would like to use our weekly newsletter to help promote and share some of your children's favourite stories that they have read. Each week, we will be sharing book reviews that have been written by your children.

## **Oliver Fibbs and the clash of the mega robots – Earth**

It's about a boy called Oliver who lives with his family. His brother is the smartest kid around and his twin sisters are both ballerinas and this is all they talk about. The story is about Oliver (the main character) who always tells fibs but one day he made a robot which went on an uncontrollable rampage and he had to make a smaller one to defeat it. I like this book because it is about robots and I would recommend it to anyone who likes funny stories.

**Simi—Year 5**



## Christmas Dinner!

We really enjoyed our Christmas dinner. The atmosphere was very festive!

We would like to say a huge thank you to our kitchen team and all the staff that helped to make it a great success.



**Click the icon to see regular updates on our Facebook page!**



# myHappymind

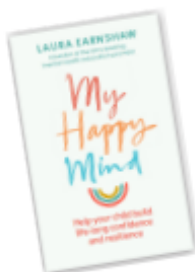
Please download the myHappymind App to support your child's learning in school. Our school authentication code is **107220**.



**SCAN ME**



...A **FREE** online resource to support you and your family to learn more about how you can use myHappymind to support your child.



...Want to learn more about the science of happiness? Check out myHappymind founder Laura Earnshaw's best selling book!



**YOU WILL NEED** this authentication code to sign up .....



myhappymind



myhappymind



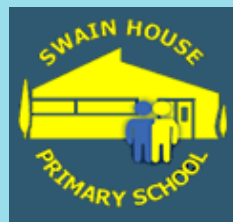
myhappymind\_

# LITTLE ACORNS NURSERY

at Swain House Primary School

## DO YOU HAVE A 2 YEAR OLD CHILD?

If so, you may be eligible for 15 hours of **FREE** childcare.



*Little Acorns Nursery is situated next door to our Great Oak Nursery at Swain House Primary School. The nursery is equipped with a wide range of toys and resources to help stimulate your child's curiosity and develop them in all areas of learning.*

**TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SWAIN HOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL ON:**

**01274 639049**

**OFFICE@SWAINHOUSE.BRADFORD.SCH.UK**

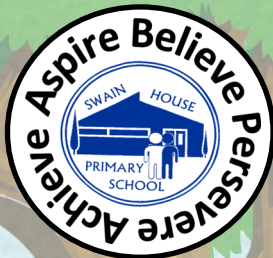


# Great Oak Nursery

at

## SWAIN HOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Now enrolling for our September, January and April intakes!



### IS YOUR CHILD 3 OR 4 YEARS OLD?

We have full & part time places available in our well-equipped Nursery class run by an experienced, fully qualified teacher and Early Years Practitioners.

**CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE A TOUR!**

01274 639049

[office@swainhouse.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:office@swainhouse.bradford.sch.uk)

# SPOTLIGHT ON SEND

(special educational needs and disabilities)

Each half-term, I write a section on our school newsletter to keep parents and carers of pupils on the SEND register 'in the loop' about all things SEND related. I highlight support available in school and also resources and workshops available in the local area.

Mrs White

Keep updated with all things SEND at Swain House. Click [here](#) or scan the QR code.



## Bradford Local Offer

The new Bradford Local Offer website brings together information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families.

Click the logo to access the



## Christmas and Autism...

Christmas is a time for joy and fun but it can be a difficult time for pupils with autism. The changes to routine, the lights, the smells and the decorations can all be overwhelming for some children.



The National Autistic Society have some useful information that could

## Speech and Language

We are aware of the long waiting lists for speech and language sessions via the NHS.

Please [click here](#) to access NHS resources to support your child at home.



Bradford District Care  
NHS Foundation Trust

Is your child/young person on the waiting list for a neurodiversity (autism or related) assessment with Airedale, St Luke's or CAMHS?



**BEAT**  
Bradford Early Advice Team

Contact Margaret Nash at AWARE for more information:  
margaretaware@gmail.com  
01535 661 275/07826 926 150

<https://aware-uk.org/>  
Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

You can now self-refer to AWARE's BEAT team for pre-diagnosis help and support, which includes a free four-week course.

## AWARE DADS' GROUP

Are you a dad or male carer of a child/young person with autism (no diagnosis necessary)?

Would you like to meet other dads in similar situations to you? Do you feel like you'd like support from other dads? Or just to meet up for a chat over a drink or food? Join our AWARE Dads' Group!

Just send your mobile number to [beciaware@outlook.com](mailto:beciaware@outlook.com) and we'll get you added to the group so you can hear about/help plan future meet-ups



## Community Support:

### Group support sessions with sleep practitioner

You are invited to join the Together Trust for an online group session to learn about issues that can cause difficulties with sleep.

Sessions are for parents/carers of children aged 2-11 years who live in the Bradford district, and will take place between 10am - 12.30pm on:

Tuesday 28 November 2023  
Wednesday 13 December 2023

The session will include a presentation from a qualified Sleep Practitioner with tips and strategies followed by a Q&A session. After Christmas the team are planning to host some of these within the Family Hubs and there are more online dates for the New Year.

If you would like to attend, email your name and preferred date to: [admintss@togethertrust.org.uk](mailto:admintss@togethertrust.org.uk) (a zoom link will be sent to attendees)





# Weekly updates

## Attendance and Punctuality

Here are this week's attendance and punctuality figures. There is a proven link between attendance and achievement and it is therefore very important that your child attends school and is on time unless they are too unwell to do so. Our doors open at **8.30am** and close at **8.40am**.

Please see the information below for our whole school and class attendance for the week ending **08/12/23**

### Early Years and Key Stage 1:

CLASS	PERCENTAGE %	LATES
Elm	91.4%	3
Willow	97.6%	1
Kandinsky	90.0%	4
Matisse	91.0%	4
Lowry	96.6%	3
Van Gogh	95.5%	2

### Key Stage 2:

CLASS	PERCENTAGE %	LATES
Anne Fine	91.1%	3
Roald Dahl	95.6%	2
JK Rowling	92.3%	7
J Wilson	97.2%	7
Elgar	94.0%	0
Mozart	91.6%	7
Beethoven	96.5%	3
Vivaldi	94.5%	6

Congratulations to **Willow Class, Lowry Class, Jacqueline Wilson Class and Beethoven Class** for having the **best attendance** this week.

Congratulations to **Elgar Class** for having no lates this week.

Our whole school attendance this week:

**93.7%**

## Communication since the last newsletter

These are the letters, messages and website updates that have been sent out this week. If you have not received any of these letters, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact the office on **01274 639049**.

Website Updates:	National Online Safety - Five night's at Freddy's
Letters:	05.12.23 - Early Years and KS1 Performances 08.12.23 - Christmas Party Food
Messages via parentapps:	05.12.23 - Book Fair in School 08.12.23 - School Closing Early on Monday 11th December 2023 08.12.23 - Mr North's Funeral Procession

# Coming up this half term

## Early Years Christmas Performance and KS1 Nativity!

Next week, Early Years and Key Stage 1 will be taking to the stage for their performances.

Early Years will perform on Tuesday 12th December at 10am and 2pm.

Key Stage 1 will perform on Thursday 14th December at 10am and 2pm.

Tickets are available at the office!



## Glitz and glam disco!

Don't forget, tickets are on sale from Monday for our Glitz and Glam disco. Please send £1.50 in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class written on it. Your child will receive their ticket before the disco.



## Toy Day!



Pupils will be allowed to come to school in non-school uniform on Friday 15th December, they may bring in table top games to play. We ask that pupils do not bring their electronic devices or expensive toys.

Please label the games with your child's name. Thank you



# MENU 11/12/23



## Swain House Primary School

WEEK 1

30th Oct, 20th Nov,  
11th Dec, 1st Jan,  
22nd Jan, 4th Mar

# MENU

## MAINS

**MON**

**TUES**

**WED**

**THUR**

**FRI**

Mascarpone Pasta  
Spaghetti Marinara  
Vegetable Pasty

Mild Chicken Curry  
Halal Chicken Dopiaza  
Aloo Chana

Roast of the Day  
Halal Chicken Roll  
Cheese & Broccoli Quiche

Cheese & Tomato Pizza

Fish Fingers  
Southern Fried Quorn  
Burger

## SIDES

Crusty Bread  
Spaghetti Hoops  
Seasonal Vegetables  
Assorted Individual Salads

Rice  
Naan Bread  
Assorted Individual Salads

Dry Roast Potatoes  
Yorkshire Pudding  
Seasonal Vegetables  
Assorted Individual Salads

Chips  
Baked Beans  
Assorted Individual Salads

Dry Roast Jacket Potatoes  
Wedges  
Sweetcorn  
Assorted Individual Salads

## OTHER OPTIONS

Assorted Jacket Potatoes  
Assorted Panini  
Assorted Sandwiches

Assorted Jacket Potatoes  
Assorted Panini  
Assorted Sandwiches

Assorted Jacket Potatoes  
Assorted Panini  
Assorted Sandwiches

Assorted Jacket Potatoes  
Assorted Sandwiches

Assorted Jacket Potatoes  
Assorted Panini  
Assorted Sandwiches

## DESSERTS

Decorated Sponge Cake  
Freshly Prepared Fruit

Butterfly Buns  
Freshly Prepared Fruit

Marble Sponge  
Freshly Prepared Fruit

Flapjack  
Freshly Prepared Fruit

Chocolate Sponge  
Freshly Prepared Fruit

Suitable for...



For full allergen & nutritional  
information head to  
<https://schoolmeals.bradford.gov.uk>  
or scan the QR code:



**FM SERVICES**



# Reminders

## Breakfast club

Our Breakfast Club opens at 7.30am at a cost of £2.50 each per day or at 7.45am at the cost of £2.00 each per day. Children from Nursery to Year 6 can attend.

If you would like to book your child into Breakfast Club, please use ParentPay.

## After school club

Our After School Club is available until 4pm at a cost of £2.00 each per day.

If you would like to book your child into After School Club, please use ParentPay.

## Extra club

We also offer an Extra Club service that runs until 5.30pm at a cost of £4.00 per day.

If you would like to book your child into Extra Club, please use ParentPay.

**Please can you ensure that Extra Club places are booked and paid for in advance - by Monday morning. This ensures registers are accurate and places are booked and guaranteed.**

## Christmas dates!

As we know this time of year can be busy, we want to give parents and carers plenty of notice for our upcoming Christmas events!

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday	11.12.2023	9.00am	Xmas Raffle
Tuesday	12.12.2023	10.00am & 2.00pm	EYS Christmas production
Wednesday	13.12.2023		Christmas parties
Thursday	14.12.2023	10.00am & 2.00pm	KS1 Nativity for Parents
Thursday	14.12.2023	5.30pm - 7.00pm	Glitz n Glam Disco
Friday	15.12.2023		Swain House has Got Talent
Friday	15.12.2023	All Day	Non Uniform Day and Toy Day
Friday	15.12.2023		School Closes for Half Term
Wednesday	03.01.2024		School Reopens



# National online safety

This week, our 'Wake Up Wednesday' guide from National Online Safety is about Microtransactions

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonline-safety.com](https://nationalonline-safety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

#### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviours. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

#### PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example), microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players – sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

#### EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

#### DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

#### AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can collect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

#### SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill. Letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

#### CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

#### (GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-bucks Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

#### STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

#### WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour. Irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 15 years in this industry. Previously the editor of tech website The Register, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

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