



## Headlines

It has certainly been an exciting half term so far! Last week we saw many different year groups participate in a variety of workshops and trips; library visits, Myan Workshops, stargazing with mobile planetariums and interactive baby dinosaurs. This week Year 3 took part in an immersive experience as part of their learning about water cycles in a 3D dome, the squeals of delight could be heard around the school. These memorable experiences bring the topics alive and ensure the learning is embedded in their long-term memories.

Snow antics! Pupils had great fun building snowmen and snow angels this week. Whilst the snow can be great fun it can cause difficulties for some when travelling to and from school. For up to date information regarding school closures due to adverse weather conditions please follow the link to find out more information, <http://theroyalschool.ovw9.devwebsite.co.uk/parents/school-closures> on the school's website.

Parents' evening is fast approaching, all instructions have been emailed to parents/carers this week and can be found on the 'Parents' page on the school website regarding how to book or amend appointments. Following positive feedback from many parents who preferred virtual parents evening sessions, we opted for blended approach to parents' evenings, with a face-to-face sessions in the Autumn and Summer terms and an online session this time around.

Mrs K Jefferson  
Primary Head Teacher



## House Points

Sandringham	3rd
Buckingham	2nd
Balmoral	4th
Windsor	1st

## Dates for the Diary

- Book Fair from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March until Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March Reception Height & Weights
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March - Pep the Poet Workshop YR 3 & YR 4
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Yr 4 PCSO Programme.
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day



**Virtual** Parents Evening  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023  
28<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023  
Primary School Prize Day

### Year 1 Tai Chi Dance

On Monday 6th March, Year 1 children performed a tai chi themed dance in assembly. It was based on the story of the animals in the Chinese New Year. Well done everyone!



# A S S E M B L Y

This week's assembly was based on our school value of community. We discussed the meaning of this value and which qualities make a strong community such as teamwork and being supportive of each other. We finished by thinking about what community looks like at The Royal School.



Ms K Gregory – Yr 5 Class Teacher  
& Phase Leader Yr 4,5,& 6

Year 3 have been looking at using prepositions in our writing to show time, place and position.

We used the reception castle and the river around the castle to explore prepositions by going 'on', 'in', 'under' and 'through' the castle and river. This will help us write our non-chronological report next week on 'Flooding in Shrewsbury'.



## Head Teacher Awards



Mrs Jefferson was very impressed with Year 3 students this week. They came to show her their amazing water cycle projects. All three students were awarded a Head Teacher award.

Congratulations goes to Isaac C, Louise N and Jesus J-P in 3RC



# RED NOSE DAY

## Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023 – Red Nose Day

Wear something **RED** for £1.00

Payments for 'wear your own clothes' will be available via School Gateway.  
In addition to this Red Noses will be on sale from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023, breaktimes and lunchtimes only. Cost: - £2.50



There will be NO After School Clubs or After School prep on Parents Evening Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March & Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

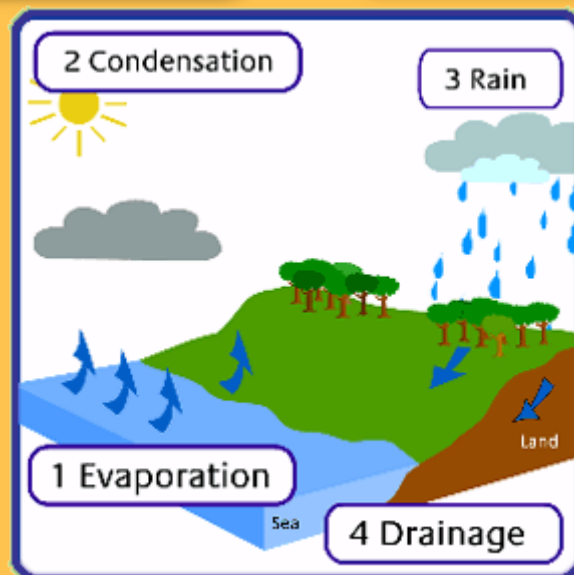
## All children to be collected at the end of the school day.

Charges will be incurred for those children who are not collected.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.



Year 3 had an amazing time in the 'WATER/EXPLORER DOME' on Tuesday. Year 3 learnt how important water is to the world in relation to energy, food-production, healthy ecosystems and for human survival itself. Year 3 looked at how water is at the heart of adaptation to climate change, serving as the crucial link between society and the environment. Year 3 then participated in a range of water experiments including making their own cloud in the air which year 3 absolutely loved!





## Sporting Fixtures

### Open Swim Dates and Times

We are delighted to invite you to our annual Open Swim lessons for all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 taking place next month. Please do come and watch your child participate in a swimming lesson in the Hilda Hayward swimming pool. Polite notice for all those attending, in line with school policy no photos or videos must be taken. Doors will open 10 minutes before the lesson commences. Unfortunately, once the lesson begins, we will not have any staff available to open the gates for late arrivals. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Reception: Tuesday 21st March  
RAR 21st March 10:00-10:30am  
RAG 21st March 11:00-11:30am  
RKH 21st March 13:15-13:45am

Year 1: Wednesday 22nd March  
1ER 22<sup>nd</sup> March 9:15-9:45am  
1KN 22<sup>nd</sup> March 10:15-10:45am  
1SB 22<sup>nd</sup> March 11:15-11:45am

Year 2: Friday 24th March  
2GB 24<sup>th</sup> March 10:15-10:45am  
2ED 24<sup>th</sup> March 11:15-11:45am  
2HD 24<sup>th</sup> March 13:15-13:45am

### Sports Fixtures:-

- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March Yr 4 – Yr 6 Gymnastics Competition
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March – U11 Rugby v Packwood (H)

### U9 Rugby Vs Packwood Haugh School

An amazing first game for the U9 A and B team. Packwood, an experienced side, were tough opposition and made it an entertaining afternoon.

#### U9 A

The A team played a contact tackling game for the first time ever. Their tackling was superb but passing and positioning need work.

Score: 6-5

Scorers: Ezra (5)

Player of the match: Ezra

Tackler of the match: Dary

#### U9 B

The B team sadly didn't get the chance to play contact, due to the opposition lacking experience. It was a challenge to adjust to playing tag, which they hadn't trained for.

Score: 6-10

Player of the match: Elijah





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SPOTIFY

Spotify is a digital music, podcast and video service which gives users access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. Since launching in 2008, Spotify has revolutionised the way music is listened to: it now offers the ability to manage and share more than 100 million tracks and five million podcast series, plus personalised recommendations, new release updates and the option to create collaborative playlists. As of February 2023, it is the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 489 million users globally.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EXPLICIT LYRICS

As per Spotify's terms and conditions, people need to be at least 13 to use it. That said, the platform doesn't censor lyrics unless instructed to do so in the settings – so it's worth noting that young teenagers could still be exposed to age-inappropriate songs which contain explicit references to sexual behaviour, violence, discriminatory language and swearing.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE PODCASTS

Spotify's podcast community has grown exponentially and it's become a popular base for millions of users to listen to shows, stories, interviews and more – with content covering an array of topics. This includes some material which isn't suitable for minors, including audio which is obviously adult-themed, but can be just as easily accessed as everything else.

### ACCESS TO SPOTIFY LIVE

If your child has a Spotify account, they'll also be able to access the platform's audio-only chat service: Spotify Live. While it's a separate stand-alone app, Spotify Live allows people to listen to live discussions on the main Spotify platform and, more notably, lets users enter virtual rooms to chat with other users, opening up direct conversations with strangers and individuals who might not necessarily be there for the right reasons.

### GROOMING TACTICS

Although Spotify doesn't come with dedicated chat functionality, concerns were raised in January 2023 after reports of an 11-year-old girl being coerced into sharing explicit pictures of herself on the platform. The case highlighted predators' tactics of sharing empty playlists with other users: their messages were being exchanged undetected through edited song titles and descriptions, bypassing security measures.

### OVERSHARING

Spotify provides a perfect way to play music, with the ability to connect to another device, such as a Bluetooth speaker or an in-car stereo. While this is a useful feature, it's also easy to forget your surroundings and inadvertently play content which isn't appropriate for all listeners (especially those under the age of 18), potentially causing alarm or distress.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SWAP TO SPOTIFY KIDS

If you're concerned about what your child might hear while streaming music, Spotify Kids is a separate, ad-free service specifically designed for children aged 12 and under. It allows younger users to enjoy human-curated, child-friendly content (such as music and audiobooks) and is available to users with a Spotify Premium Family subscription – meaning that parents can view and manage the content their child listens to.

### TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

As with any platform, it's good practice to talk to your child about what they should be aware of when using Spotify. For instance, it's important they're aware never to share any personal information with strangers, and what they should do if they're exposed to inappropriate content. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear so that they feel comfortable raising any concerns with you.

### CENSOR EXPLICIT CONTENT

Regardless of what type of account your child uses to access Spotify, there is an option to turn off explicit content in the settings – greying out all songs marked with an 'E' tag. If your child has their own individual account, it's easier for them to turn it back on – whereas with a family plan, you're in control and your child can't alter the setting without knowing the password.

### KEEP AN EYE OUT

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Spotify or you've noticed they're being particularly secretive about how they're using it, encourage them to talk about what they're listening to. It's always prudent to show an interest in their online habits from the outset – so you're confident they're using apps and services in the right way, for the right reasons, and they're not being drawn into anything they shouldn't be.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

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These weeks cost of living tips – Why is childcare so expensive & what help is available?

[PLEASE CLICK HERE](#)



	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Active	23%	55%	73%	64%	59%	69%	91%

[illegible]

An illustration on a light blue background with white stars. Several hands are shown holding books and a voucher. On the left, two hands hold a blue book. In the center, a hand holds a white voucher with the text '€5 VOUCHER'. On the right, a hand holds an open book. The hands are wearing different patterned sleeves: zigzag, stripes, and plaid.

### Snow Day at The Royal

Great fun was had with the unexpected snowfall on Thursday & Friday with several year groups building snowmen at breaktime!!



### Vacancies at The Royal

Please click [HERE](#) to view our latest job vacancies within the school.