







### Designated Safeguarding Lead



Joanne Fennelly Headteacher

#### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads



Jennifer de Board Assistant Headteacher



Laura Cunningham Inclusion Leader



Hannah Garrard Family Support Worker



Natalie Richards EYFS Lead

Northampton Safeguarding Children's Board (NSCB) Tel: 0300 126 1000 Email: nscb@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk





Dear Parents and Carers,

Our assembly this morning was filled with so many inspirational examples of great things taking place at SDS. We saw the fabulous learning across the school in art, science, English, maths, history, PE and music. In addition, we have seen great learning and experiences taking part in the wider community- children visiting the bluebells at the local park, reading at the library and Year 4 children in North Norfolk at their residential visit. Our Stars of the Week were chosen for their determination, their oracy skills, their perseverance, their growth mindset, their responses to feedback and for being kind, caring and considerate. These characteristics and learning behaviors are seen across the whole school and I am so proud of our wonderful children. The school is always filled with wonderful learning experiences and our children engage with these with enthusiasm and happiness.

After a fabulous week, please enjoy a lovely long weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday May 2nd.

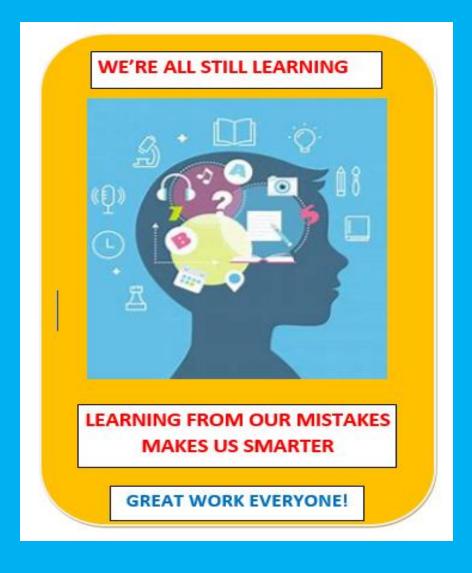
Mrs Fennelly





#### **Poster of the Week**

The poster this week has a focus on the fact that we are all learning all of the time and that, if we understand our mistakes, we can learn from them to improve. This phrases in this poster were created by two wonderful Year 3 boys!!!







# Dates for your Diary

Date	Year group	Event
4th May	Whole School	Whole Class photographs
5th May	Whole School	King Charles Coronation Celebrations 1:30pm-3:00pm
10th May	Year R	Crocodile World
15th May	Year R & 6	School Nurses, heights & weights
29th May – 2nd June	Whole School	Half Term
5th June	Whole School	Return to School
7th June	Parents/Carers	Friends of Simon de Senlis meeting, all Parents & Carers welcome to join
l6th June	Year 4	National Art Gallery Visit
19th June	Wiggins, R, I & 2	Sports Day
20th & 21st	Year 5	The Festival at the Derngate





# Dates for your Diary

Date	Year group	Event
22nd – 23rd June	Year 3	Frontier Centre Residential Trip
26th-30th June	Year 6	West Runton Residential Trip
30th June	Year 2	Brixworth Country park
6th July	Robinson, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Sports day
I4th July	Whole School	Art Exhibition in Classes
20th July	Year 6	1:30pm Leavers assembly. Tea & Cake on the field
21st July	Whole School	SdS Has Talent





#### **Bank Holidays**

Please remember that we have two bank holidays before the half term holidaySchool will be closed on
Monday May 1st and Monday May 8th



TERM DATES	STARTING	ENDING
TERM 1	Monday 5 September 2022	Friday 21 October 2022
TERM 2	Tuesday 1 November 2022	Friday 16 December 2022
TERM 3	Wednesday 4 January 2023	Friday 10 February 2023
TERM 4	Tuesday 21 February 2023	Friday 31 March 2023
TERM 5	Monday 17 April 2023	Friday 26 May 2023
TERM 6	Monday 5 June 2023	Friday 21 July 2023

#### TRAINING DAYS

Thursday 1 and Friday 2 September 2022

Monday 31 October 2022 (NPAT Conference)

**Tuesday 3 January 2023** 

Monday 20 February 2023

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (NOT INCLUDING TRAINING DAYS)	FROM	то
OCTOBER	Monday 24 October 2022	Friday 28 October 2022
CHRISTMAS	Monday 19 December 2022	Monday 2 January 2023
FEBRUARY	Monday 13 February 2023	Friday 17 February 2023
EASTER	Monday 3 April 2023	Friday 14 April 2023
MAY	Monday 29 May 2023	Friday 2 June 2023

#### **BANK HOLIDAYS**

Christmas Holidays
Monday 26 & Tuesday 27 December 2022

**Bank Holiday** 

Monday 2 January 2023

**Easter Weekend** 

Friday 7 & Monday 10 April 2023

**May Bank Holidays** 

Monday 1 May, Monday 8 May\* & Monday 29 May 2023

**Summer Bank Holiday** 

Monday 28 August 2023

<sup>\*</sup>Coronation of King Charles

Pupil Days	Bank Holidays
School Holidays	Teacher Training Days

#### NPAT Academic Calendar 23/24

Teacher Training Days Monday 4 September 2023 Tuesday 5 September 2023 Monday 30 October 2023 Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

September 2023							
Mon		4	11	18	25		
Tues		5	12	19	26		
Wed		6	13	20	27		
Thu		7	14	21	28		
Fri	1	8	15	22	29		

	October 2023							
Mon		2	9	16	23	30		
Tues		3	10	17	24	31		
Wed		4	11	18	25			
Thu		5	12	19	26			
Fri		6	13	20	27			

November 2023								
Mon			6	13	20	27		
Tues			7	14	21	28		
Wed		1	8	15	22	29		
Thu		2	9	16	23	30		
Fri		3	10	17	24			

December 2023							
Mon		4	11	18	25		
Tues		5	12	19	26		
Wed		6	13	20	27		
Thu		7	14	21	28		
Fri	1	8	15	22	29		

January 2024							
Mon	1	8	15	22	29		
Tues	2	9	16	23	30		
Wed	3	10	17	24	31		
Thu	4	11	18	25			
Fri	5	12	19	26			

	February 2024							
Mon		5	12	19	26			
Tues		6	13	20	27			
Wed		7	14	21	28			
Thu	1	8	15	22	29			
Fri	2	9	16	23				

March 2024							
Mon		4	11	18	25		
Tues		5	12	19	26		
Wed		6	13	20	27		
Thu		7	14	21	28		
Fri	1	8	15	22	29		

April 2024								
Mon	1	8	15	22	29			
Tues	2	9	16	23	30			
Wed	3	10	17	24				
Thu	4	11	18	25				
Fri	5	12	19	26				

May 2024							
Mon		6	13	20	27		
Tues		7	14	21	28		
Wed	1	8	15	22	29		
Thu	2	9	16	23	30		
Fri	3	10	17	24	31		

June 2024							
Mon		3	10	17	24		
Tues		4	11	18	25		
Wed		5	12	19	26		
Thu		6	13	20	27		
Fri		7	14	21	28		

July 2024							
Mon	1	8	15	22	29		
Tues	2	9	16	23	30		
Wed	3	10	17	24	31		
Thu	4	11	18	25			
Fri	5	12	19	26			

August 2024							
Mon			5	12	19	26	
Tues			6	13	20	27	
Wed			7	14	21	28	
Thu		1	8	15	22	29	
Fri		2	9	16	23	30	







# King Charles III Coronation Celebrations- Friday May 5th 1:30pm-3:00pm















## **CONTACT DETAILS**



Please email the school office: info@simondesenlis.org if any of your details have changed.





- Phone number
  - Address
    - Email











#### Welcome to SdS

Welcome to all our new children and families who will be joining us in Reception in September 2023. We can't wait for you to join our school family. If you know of anyone who hasn't been given the school they wanted or hasn't yet received a school place for September, please do ask them to contact us as we have a small number of places still available.







#### **Anti-bullying Ambassadors**

In this week's meeting, our ambassadors shared the results from their interviews with Miss Garrard and Mr Howley concerning online safety.

We have decided that this area will be our next focus and are planning workshops, information sharing for parents via the newsletter and links to helpful information to keep pupils safe online.

The areas of concern shared by Mr Howley and Miss Garrard, which the ambassadors also had experience of, was the use of whatsapp and tik tok. They would like to run workshops in Year 5 and 6 where pupils consider informal agreements to keep everyone safe and comfortable online.

We will continue to develop and implement our ideas in the coming weeks.

One of our ambassadors wanted to share this poem they found:

#### What to do with Worries

Shout them to the ocean sigh them to the moon sing them to the sun

Paint them in a picture put them in a poem chant them on a run

List them in a letter post them in a box solve them one by one



In school worries can be shared through:

- The worry monster in each classroom
- The worry box in each classroom
- Email
- Speaking to any adult
- Talking to Miss
   Garrard or one of the
   other DSLs
- Asking an ambassador for support





What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OFCOM'S 'CHILDREN AND PARENTS: MEDIA USE AND ATTITUDES' REPORT 2023







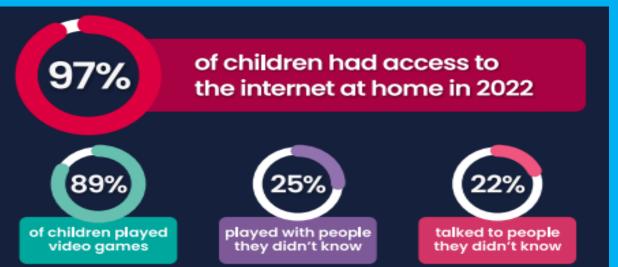




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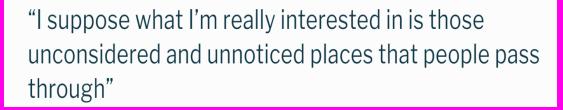




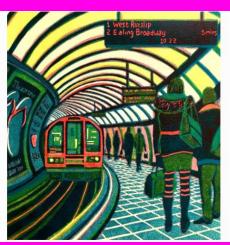


#### **Artist of the Week- Gail Brodholt**

Gail Brodholt is a British printmaker who specialises in lino prints of British life. She is a member of the Royal Society of Painter Printmakers.















#### Poem of the Week-

**That Little Blossom** 



Delicate, fragile.

That little bud

Hiding from the temptations of the warm embrace

Of shimmering, sincere sun rays.

Waiting.

For the sweet, watermelon taste of rain- refreshing.

For the echoing, soft whispers

Of the comforting, kind breeze.

Waiting.

Moonlight shines, revealing a hidden beauty.

And slowly; as the sun rises,

Her secrets. Unfold,

Stories untold - unheard.

And towards the sun, that little bud faces

Open to the world. Spreading in full bloom.

And proudly says: "This is Who I am."





#### Inspirational Person of the Week- Kelvin Doe

#### Kelvin Doe

One of Sierra Leone's most famous inventors got started when he began looking for ways to fix local problems with technology as an 11year-old, just five years after the country's volatile civil war ended. By 13, he was powering neighborhood houses with batteries made out of acid, soda and metal in a tin cup. He went on to build a community radio station out of recycled parts that he powered with a generator also made out of reused material. David Sengeh, a PhD student at the MIT media lab and Kelvin's mentor, said: "In Sierra Leone, other young people suddenly feel they can be like Kelvin."











#### Musician of the Week- Chris Martin, Coldplay

Chris Martin is a British musician and the lead singer of the popular band **Coldplay. He attended University** College London, where he met Will Champion, Guy Berryman and Jonny **Buckland, who would become his** bandmates. Coldplay's debut album, Parachutes, topped the charts in the U.K. and won a Grammy Award. Coldplay pledge to make their Music Of The Spheres Tour as sustainable and low-carbon as possible, guided by three key principles: Reduce, Reinvent and **Restore-** Music of the Spheres World Tour: Sustainability (coldplay.com)



Reading by the Numbers

Increases knowledge and vocabulary by



Lowers stress by

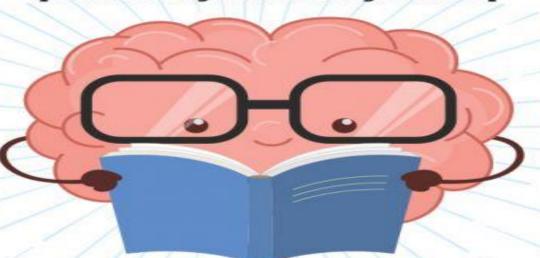


Can lengthen your life by



# Your BOOKS

What science tells us about why you should get lost in a great story



#### Books Can:

#### Boost your mood

Studies show that people who read for fun are more likely to feel happy and confident.



#### Help you relax

Your heartbeat slows. Your muscles melt. One minute you're reading in bed, and the next you're zzZZZzzzZZzzz.



#### Bring people together

Whether you're starting a book club or bonding over Wimpy Kid with a friend, you'll be part of a reading community.





#### Memory

Reading
exercises the
brain, improving
your memory.
(Maybe you'll stop
forgetting your
lunch at home!)



#### **Imagination**

Books help you see vivid pictures in your mind. So you feel like you're actually at Hogwarts, riding a Nimbus 2000.



#### Heart

Research shows that reading about a character's thoughts and feelings can make you kinder.

**₩**SCHOLASTIC



#### Simon de Senlis Primary



# School Mental Health Leads Ms Cunningham and Miss Garrard are the Mental Health Leads at Simon de Senlis

If you have any worries or concerns about any aspect of your child's mental wellbeing please speak to your child's class

teacher or contact us in school.



Laura Cunningham

Inclusion Leader
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mental Health First Aider



**Hannah Garrard** 

Family Support Worker
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mental Health First Aider





#### Active April

# Active April 2023

#### MONDAY

#### TUESDAY

#### WEDNESDAY

#### THURSDAY

#### FRIDAY

#### SATURDAY

Commit

to being

more active

this month.

starting today

#### SUNDAY



Spend as

much time

as possible

outdoors

today

Listen to your body and

Eat healthy and natural food today and drink lots of water

Turn a regular activity into a playful game today

Do a bodyhow your body feels

scan meditation and really notice

Get natural light early in the day. Dim the lights in the evening

Give your body a boost by laughing or making someone laugh

Turn your housework or chores into a fun form of exercise

10

Have a day with less screen time and more movement

be grateful for

what it can do

Set vourself an exercise goal or sign up to an activity challenge

Move as much as possible, even if you're stuck inside

Make sleep a priority and go to bed in good time

Relax your body & mind with yoga, tai chi or meditation

Get active by singing today (even if you think you can't sing!)

Go exploring around your local area and notice new things

Be active outside. Dig up weeds or plant some

18 Try a new online exercise, activity or dance class

Spend less time sitting today. Get up and move more often

20 Focus on 'eating a rainbow' of multi-coloured vegetables today

Regularly pause to stretch and breathe during the day

22 Enjoy moving to your favourite music. Really go for it

Go out and do an errand for a loved one or neighbour

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Get active n nature. Feed the birds or go wildlifespotting

seeds

Have a 'no screens' night and take time to recharge yourself

Take an extra break in your day and walk outside for 15 minutes

Find a fun exercise to do while waiting for the kettle to boil

28 Meet a friend outside for a walk and a chat

Become an activist for a cause you really believe in

30 Make time to run, swim, dance, cycle or stretch today



**Happier** · Kinder · Together



# IN ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK...

This week, in assembly, we have been developing our knowledge and understanding about the value of democracy.

Children in ks I listened to the story of Farmer Duck. This helped us to compare life when there is one person making decisions compared to life when we all have a say.

In ks2, we watched a video that explained about what is government and how parliament works. We found out the part democracy plays in the making of laws and in reaching decisions about life in Britain.





#### Simon de Senlis Primary



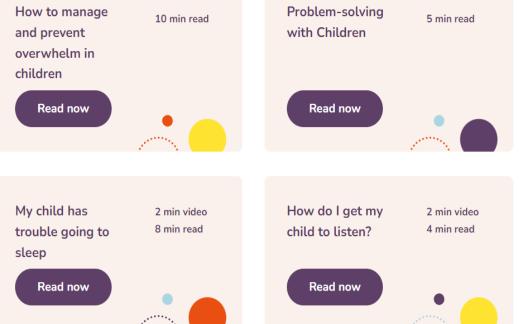
Place2Be have a variety of short video's and reading material to help support you and your child's mental health. They cover a range of topics from co-parenting effectively, to helping children when they feel overwhelmed.

Click this link to look at the different topics covered on their site

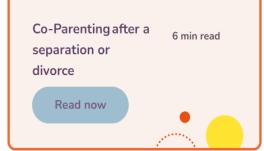
This has been a very useful resource for many parents.

#### Miss Garrard says...











#### Simon de Senlis Primary



#### West Northamptonshire Council SEND Support Service (SSS):

# Northampton Spectrum





Free course for parent/carers of children aged 8+ who are on the pathway or have an autism diagnosis who live in West Northamptonshire.

Six Weekly Sessions Starting Thursday 8 June 2023 (6.30pm-8.30pm)

Kingsthorpe Children's Centre, St. David's Road, Northampton NN2 7QJ On-site parking available

For more information and to book, visit:

https://buff.ly/3GBIxJm

## **ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**

**Talks Library** 

Browse our full library of speakers for insight and inspiration on happier living



To access a wide range of videos and talks on happiness living, go to the Action for Happiness website- Talks Library | Action for Happiness



DR AYAN PANJA

**Transform Your** Health

How can you transform your health?

VIDEO



LOUIE SCHWARTZBERG

Gratitude & **Nature** 

How can gratitude help you live a more connected and meaningful life?

VIDEO



DR VANDANA SHIVA

**Ecological Happiness** 

How can reconnecting with nature support our wellbeing and help create a happier world for all of us?

VIDEO



DR CHRIS **JOHNSTONE** 

**Active Hope** 

Can we learn how to activate hope in difficult times?

VIDEO



OCTAVIA RAHEEM

**Rest and Restore** 

How can we restore ourselves in times of change?

VIDEO



VANESSA KING

**New Ways to Feel** Happy

VIDEO

Want some new ideas to make life happier?

What makes for a happy, fulfilling life?

VIDEO

PROF ROBERT

The Good Life

WALDINGER



DR NERINA RAMLAKHAN

**Optimising Sleep** 

How can optimising our sleep help us to thrive?

VIDEO





#### Thunk of the Week

A **thunk** is an **unusual question** that makes you **think.** A beguiling question about everyday things that stops you in your tracks and helps you start to look at the world in a whole new light.



What makes a good friend?



Computing science is a fundamental principle of our computing curriculum and like other subjects, has specific vocabulary terms to learn. Learning and understanding these terms supports children to become independent computer scientists. Have a go at learning some of the terms below!

**Programming** is designing and writing instructions for a computer in a language it understands.

**Sequence** means arranging instructions for algorithms and programs in a particular order.

**Repetition** in programming means repeating the execution of certain instructions (creating loops).

**Selection** is when a computer executes instructions if a particular condition is met or not.

A <u>variable</u> stores a piece of information in the computer's memory while a program is running so it can be retrieved later.

<u>Computer networks</u> are a collection of computer systems and other devices connected together to 'talk' to each other by exchanging data.

<u>Internet services</u> are a range of services made possible by the internet, including the WWW and email.

A <u>computer system</u> is made up of hardware, software and any peripheral devices required to operate it.

**Control** means writing instructions that control physical systems, such as sensors and motors.

**Input** data is sent to a computer system from devices such as a keyboard, mouse or sensor.

<u>Output</u> data is sent from a computer system to the outside world, e.g. displayed on a computer screen.

<u>Simulations</u>, such as aircraft simulators, model realworld or imaginary situations to explore different scenarios.







#### **GET CREATIVE FOR THE KING!**



On May 6th, we will all be able to witness and celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. This is a moment that few have ever experienced, and to mark this historic occasion, I am launching a 'Get Creative for the King' competition. Open to all age groups - children and adults - in South Northamptonshire, this is your chance to create a piece of art, a drawing, photograph, poem or another creative piece to mark King Charles's coronation!

Please send any physical pieces of art to my constituency office at Victoria House, 138 Watling St, Towcester NN12 6BT.

Alternatively you can email any other entries to me at andrea.leadsom.mp@parliament.uk

The closing date to submit your creative work is the 29th April and they will be featured on my social media accounts and

website. I am also hoping to display any physical pieces of art in Brackley in May.

I look forward to receiving your entries!

With best wishes

The Rt Hon Dame Andrea Leadsom DBE MP
Member of Parliament for South Northamptonshire

SAVE THE DATE ... NORTHAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO ...



NORTHAMPTON TOWN CENTRE, GUILDHALL ROAD SATURDAY 6TH MAY 10AM — 4PM

Featuring performances from community groups. Social musicians and dance



#### BIG SCREEN

Live coverage of the Coronation from Guildhall Road

and inside Northampton Museum and Art Gallery

Roaming Street Entertainers | Morris Dancers Local Street Food Vendors | Picnic Benches and Seating Areas Arts and Crafts Activities for Children | Interactive Workshops







New Term Starting on Monday 24 April



# Children's Choir Years 4, 5, 6 & 7

Led by a Oualified Music Teacher

#### Roade Methodist Church Hall

Mondays 4 - 5 pm

Term -Time

Walking Bus from Roade Primary School



Contact 07813 957709 for more information



30 Minute

### **Taster Experiences**

8th April

27th May

23rd July

Whether you're an experienced paddler or a beginner, there's always something new to learn and explore. This Easter come and try:

Whitewater Rafting, Whitewater Tubing, Kayaking, MEGA Paddleboarding, Paddleboarding and Canoeing

Experience the thrill of whitewater rafting or whitewater tubing in just 30 minutes, or learn how to paddle on a paddleboard, canoe or kayak.

Book 5 or more tickets and get 10% off!

Requirements

Must be a minimum of 7 years old

Wear trainers or water shoes

Book Today northamptonactive.com



#### CORONATION ART COMPETITION —— 2023———

# We want to know what inspired you about the King's Coronation!

Create a work of art based on your take of the Coronation and submit any time from **6th May** to **15th September 2023** by sending an image of it by email to **coronationart@outlook.com** 

There will be an exhibition of works during half term in October 2023. Final judging will take place and a prize of £100 per category will be presented by The King's Representative in the County, the Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire.







#### How to submit...

Title of the piece 'Coronation Art'

Mediums you can use
Entries are to be on a flat
surface (canvas, paper,
board, etc), up to A3 in
size and can include oil or
water-based paint, pencil,
pastel, crayons, collage and
photography. Computer
graphics and writing/poetry
are also included.

Age Categories 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, 13-16.

How to submit
Scan your entry and send
it with a high res image
(max 10Mb) by email to
coronationart@outlook.com
Please include your name,
your age, your school and
the school's postcode.

All entries must be submitted by 15th September 2023.

There will be a prize of £100 and a certificate for the winner of each category.

The top ten entries in each age group will be invited to take part in the final exhibition and judging.



"The teaching is a joy and I have the flexibility to deliver a course that engages and empowers the children in a fun way."

an Outspoken cycle instructor

# Could you inspire the next generation of cyclist?

#### We are searching for Cycle Instructors to join our expanding team.

We are looking for confident communicators to deliver fun and inspirational cycle training in schools.

If you have loads of enthusiasm to share and are looking for rewarding work to deliver during school term time, we would love to hear from you.

Role: Employed-Variable Hours

**Hourly Rate:** £12 plus holiday pay. We have an employee benefits scheme too!

Cycle Training Programme: Bikeability

**Training and Support:** We provide full, free training and ongoing support including nationally recognised qualifications.

For more information, please contact Graham:

jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk 01223 473820









# **12.5 12.5 12.5**

# 18:30-20:00 **TRAINING** RUGBY

# No.

# OLD NORTHAMPTONIANS U12s GIRLS RUGBY TRAINING

JOIN OUR TEAM ON'S U12S ARE RECRUTING!
WHETHER YOU HAVE PLAYED BEFORE OR BRAND
NEW WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU AS PART OF
OUR TEAM

TRAINING IS WEEKLY WEDNESDAY'S 18:30-20:00 & SUNDAY'S 13:30-15:00

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT
TONY:07368223120 or
EMAIL:fionagirlsrugby@gmail.com





WEDNESDAY'S 18:30-20:00 NN1 5RX

OLD NORTHAMPTONIANS RFC

> SUNDAY'S 13:30-15:00 NN1 5RX



#### **ELITE FOOTBALL COACHING**



















#### **EFC Player Development**

Elite Football Coaching brings ELITE level coaching to grassroots players.

At Elite Football Coaching we want to bridge the gap and give players access to quality coaching with experienced coaches.

EFC Player Development program is designed to improve the players overall technical and tactical ability with the ball.

Each player will have a ball at their feet for the majority of the session.

#### <u>Girls Player Development</u>

Girls Player Development returns this February

This program will focus on our female players improving their fundamental techniques in a competitive environment.

In these fast paced sessions, players will be encouraged to be creative and take risks. This program is perfect for all players.



#### Age U7-U10 | 5-6pm Age U11-U14 | 6-7pm

Age U7-U10 | 5:30-6:30pm

LOCATION | MOULTON 3G, BRUNTING ROAD, NN3 7QF BOOK | INFORELITEFOOTBALLCOACHING.ORG



LIMITED SPACES PER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Email info@elitefootballcoaching.org to SIGN UP



For more information please visit | WWW.ELITEFOOTBALLCOACHING.ORG |

07592299384



# Join • team

To find out more about the role and to apply to join the team, scan the QR code below



Scan me

#### Cleaner/Housekeepers

We are currently looking for cleaners to come and join our teams in Northampton. We are a Real Living Wage employer and we've worked hard to build rewards and benefits that put you first.

#### What we can offer

- Real Living Wage employer
- Exceptional development and progression plan
- Contributory Pension Scheme
- Minimum 24 days holiday + Bank Holidays and additional leave purchase scheme
- Amey Rewards Portal including healthcare, free GP service and dental
- £350 referral bonus for Amey staff after the successful applicant has been in post for six months

amey

# Join tean



To find out more about the role and to apply to join the team, scan the QR code below



Scan me

#### **Facilities Operative**

We are looking for Facilities Operatives to join our teams in Northampton. Our rewards are what make us feel valued here at Amey and we've worked hard to build rewards and benefits that put you first.

#### What we can offer

- Real Living Wage employer
- · Exceptional development and progression plan
- Contributory pension scheme
- Minimum 24 days holiday + Bank Holidays and additional leave purchase scheme
- Amey Rewards Portal including healthcare, free GP service and dental
- £350 referral bonus for Amey staff after the successful applicant has been in post for six months

Personal pride in our public service | EMPOWER | ENGAGE | EXCEL



# 28TH APRIL 2023

SOME NEWS FOR OUR CHILDREN

# ESPOTLIGIE YOUR WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

# Picturesque Potholes

Andy Conroy, a window cleaner from Brightlingsea in Essex, has come up with an interesting and eye-catching way to bring his town's pothole problems to the local authority's attention. He has started to use children's toys and other props that he sources from local charity shops to take amusing photos of potholes he notices around the small coastal town. The fun pictures are posted on The Hole Picture Facebook page, which describes itself as 'Light hearted reporting on Brightlingsea's Pot Holes and Road Repairs'. Andy says that he hopes his photos will catch the attention of Essex Highways managers and this will lead to the potholes being filled in and the quality of the roads



Pictured: 'The Loch Ness Monster on his holidays to the Essex coast' Source: Brightlingsea -The Hole Picture Facebook page.



improved. Discussing how the project started, Andy said, 'Roland Worrall, a trustee at the community centre then posted a photo on Facebook of plastic ducks in a pothole with a caption saying it was lovely to see a young family enjoying the new water feature, and that got the creative juices flowing. We set up a Facebook page and people started liking it. It probably won't get the highways bosses to do anything sooner, but it's been noticed and our county councillor has been in touch. We've got plenty of potholes in Brightlingsea and we're just having a good laugh about it.'

Do you think making people laugh is a good way to catch their attention?

# Ancient stone scoreboard discovered

Archaeologists in Mexico have announced that they have discovered, what they believe to be, an ancient scoreboard for a ball game played by the Maya hundreds of years ago. The 40kg intricately carved stone scoreboard for ancient ball game – pelota, was discovered at the Chichén Itzá site in Yucatán State, Mexico. Chichén Itzá's Twitter page says it means 'at the mouth of the Well of Itzá', is the most visited archaeological site in Mexico,

a magnificent example of the advanced civilization of the Mayan people and the ceremonial centre of the Yucatán. The stone unearthed at the site, which is one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. shows two pelota players with a ball, one wearing a feather headdress and their opponent, who has snakes slithering around their head, wearing typical protective gear for the game. On the stone disc, which is thought to be at least 1,200 years old, the sportspeople are encircled by hieroglyphic writing. 'It is rare to find hieroglyphic writing at this Maya site, and even rarer to find a complete text. This hasn't happened in 11 years', explained archaeologist Francisco Pérez Ruiz, who co-coordinated the dig.













#### Rare oysters return



Four million rare oysters are being reintroduced to a protected area of the Dornoch Firth in the Scottish Highlands. Researchers say the Dornoch **Environmental Enhancement Project** (DEEP) will enhance marine biodiversity and improve water quality. European native oysters, also known as the European flat ovster, almost became extinct in the UK with the population reducing to only 5% of what it was in the mid-19th century, likely due to overfishing. The small (5-11cm) molluses can have such a big impact on their local environment and other wildlife species, that they are referred to as 'ecosystems engineers'. They can improve water quality as one oyster can filter around 200 litres of seawater daily,

removing excess nutrients, phytoplankton and organic matter. The oysters also create reef systems by collecting together in large numbers. This provides a habitat for a range of creatures, including sponges, spiny seahorse and critically endangered European eels. These reefs also create a safe nursery ground for some fish species, including seabass. Professor Bill Sanderson, from Heriot-Watt University, who is involved in the project along with the Marine Conservation Society and Glenmorangie Distillery (who provided the funding), said, 'DEEP has allowed us to demonstrate the many benefits of restoration of long-lost reefs, and carbon storage is yet another exciting outcome of the research for the project.'

#### Last week's topic:

How do communities support each other in difficult times?

Communities all share the same interest or ideas. Communities help each other in times of need and give each other strength.

Noah



They volunteer to help each other out by doing whatever they can to help. They don't expect anything in return. They do it because they are kind.

Gala

By pulling together and making a plan. **John** 

Asking each other when they need help, often people find things hard at different times. **Ellie** 

#### Let us know what you think about this week's news?

- www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss
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Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others











### Let's look at this week's story

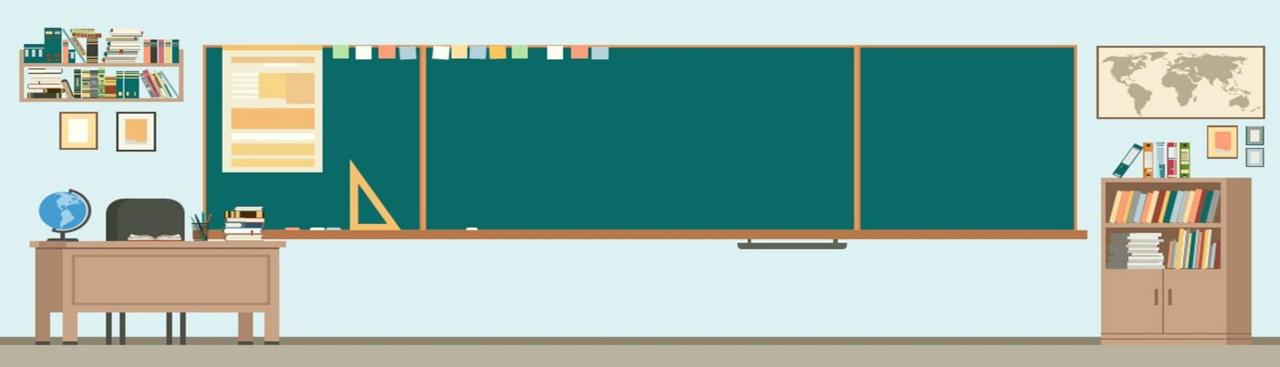
An educational television programme for young people in Afghanistan has been launched by the BBC. The TV show has been created to help children, who have been banned from going to school in the country, and is aimed at children aged 11 to 16. The Taliban group, who took over the country in 2021, have stopped girls over the age of 11 from attending school. The weekly programme is called Dars, which means 'lesson' in Afghanistan's official languages.



### Reflection



Receiving an education is something that should not be taken for granted. Having access to school, books and other opportunities to learn is a privilege.



# TAKEHOME



#### In the news this week

An educational television programme for young people in Afghanistan has been launched by the BBC. The TV show has been created to help children, who have been banned from going to school in the country, and is aimed at children aged 11 to 16. The Taliban group, who took over the country in 2021, have stopped girls over the age of 11 from attending school. The weekly programme is called Dars, which means 'lesson' in Afghanistan's official languages.

#### Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your thoughts on the new TV programme for young people in Afghanistan.
- Thinking about how you learn, what is your preferred way, e.g., by listening, writing, doing?
- In what ways would your life be different without school?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments







