

# Livingstone Newsletter 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## Star of the Week:

Nursery: Ronnie Reception: Ellie-Jae Year 1: Mila Year 2: Willow Year 3: Cole Year 4: Janey Year 5: Molly Year 6: Jack

#### Clubs:

All clubs are on as normal next week.

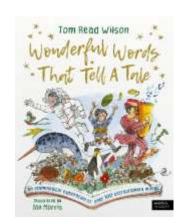
#### School Spider Messages:

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we will now be sending messages via School Spider rather than text as it saves the school a lot of money. Please make sure you have School Spider downloaded, have registered and most importantly, have allowed notifications. If you need any help logging in please come to the office.

## Author and Illustrator visit Monday 27th January:

Author Tom Read Wilson and Illustrator Ian Morris will be visiting school on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January to talk about their new book. We look forward to hearing about some Wonderful Words!







### Year 3/4 Trip to the Magma museum

Our Year 3 & 4 children will be going on their trip to the Magma museum Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January. Please ensure children arrive at school on time to make sure they depart on time. The children will be back at school for the usual pick up time.

#### **Show Racism the Red Card:**

Year 5 have a morning of workshops on Tuesday 27th January with Show Racism the Red Card.

### <u>Current Nursery Stay and Play session:</u>

Parents and carers are invited in to Nursery on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February for a stay and play session. Please return the slip on the letter so that we know how many to expect and how many people we need to cater for. Thank you.

#### Y5/6 Basketball competition at Mossley Hollins:

We will be taking a mixed team of Y5/6 to a basketball competition at Hollins after school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February. Letters will be going out next week.

## Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February:

Year 6 will have a visit in school from Safe Squad learning about all sorts of dangers and how we can keep ourselves safe from fire, water safety, first aid and online safety.

## TfGM School Travel Consultation:

People are being urged to have their say on how children and young people travel to school and college in Greater Manchester. Public consultation on Greater Manchester's School Travel Strategy runs until 26 January. The new School

Travel Strategy is being developed as a shared priority between the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) and the 10 local authorities.

The ambition behind the School Travel Strategy, currently in development, is to enable more children and young people to travel to their places of education in an active and sustainable way, including via public transport modes such as bus and tram.

All feedback received will help shape the final School Travel Strategy which will be shared along with the outcomes of the consultation in the Spring next year. To have your say visit: <a href="https://www.gmconsult.org/transport-for-greater-manchester/school-travel-strategy-consultation/">https://www.gmconsult.org/transport-for-greater-manchester/school-travel-strategy-consultation/</a>

After the diary dates, I have attached some flyers about local events.

### Dates for your diary:

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January: Author Tom Read Wilson visiting school for Y3,4,5 & 6

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January: Y3/4 educational visit to Magma; Year 5 workshop 'Show Racism the Red Card'

Tuesday 4th February: Y5/6 Basketball competition MHHS; Current Nursery Stay and Play

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February: Y6 Safe Squad in school

Thursday 13th February: Debate Society meeting at MHHS; Internet Safety parent workshops

Friday 14th February: End of term 3.15pm

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February: Spring half term holiday

Wednesday 26th February: Y6 Careers Fair at MHHS

Thursday 6th March: World Book Day

Tuesday 11th March: Year 6 to Young Shakespeare production at MHHS; Y3/4 Dodgeball competition @ MHHS

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March: Science Fair for parents and carers

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March: Y3/4 Glow Dodgeball competition @ Astley Sports Village Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March: Y5 Interschool maths challenge; Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6pm

Wednesday 26th March: Parents' Evening 4 - 6.30pm

Thursday 27th March: Year 5 Educational Visit to Manchester Museum

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April: Year 6 Educational Visit to Portland Basin Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April: Year 3, 4 and 5 Easter Concert 2pm and 6pm

Friday 4th April: End of term 3.15pm

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April: Easter holidays

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April: INSET training day for staff Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Children back to school









## Come and join our FREE interactive storytelling sessions.

Sessions are suitable for children 0-4 years and their families.

There is no need to book, just turn up and enjoy the fun.

28 weekly sessions run from 1 October 2024 to May 2025.

Families can help create a new picture book and receive a free copy when it is published.



## **Tuesdays**

10am - 10.45am Hattersley Library Stockport Road, SK14 6NT

## Tuesdays

1.30pm - 2.15pm Mossley Library Stamford Street, OL5 0HR

## Wednesdays

Online Zoom session 10am - 10.30am (Bookable session)

## Wednesdays

1.30pm - 2.15pm Droylsden Library, Manchester Road, M43 6EP

For more information email book.start@tameside.gov.uk or call 0161 342 3443

facebook.com/TamesideCouncil











# VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

We're a children's transport charity in Greater Manchester looking for volunteer drivers.

The role is driving accompanied children with no other means of transport to healthcare appointments in your own car (we provide child car seats), waiting for the family and then returning them home. It's really worthwhile and so appreciated by the children, their families and the NHS.

The role is flexible so can work around other commitments, you decide which days you volunteer and we reimburse you monthly for your fuel costs.

All we ask is that you have:

A caring attitude Your own car Some spare time

For more Information or to apply:

0161 443 4122

E-mail: to@transportforsickchildren.org Web: www.transportforsickchildren.org



Registered Charity No. 1110618

Suite 335, Stockport Business & Immoration Centre, Broadstone MII, Broadstone Road, Reddish, Stockport, SKS 7DL







## WOW-the walk to school challenge

# **Badge design competition 2025**



WIN FREE RESOURCES for your schoo





biggest design competitions for children

Encourage your pupils to think about what

brings them joy. We'll turn each winning entry

into more than 300,000 badges to be awarded

to WOW pupils who walk, wheel, scoot, cycle

or Park and Stride to school across the UK

## Get involved in one of the UK's : HOW TO ENTER

STEP 1: Print out the badge template overleaf for pupils

STEP 2: Encourage pupils to get creative – either in class or at home

STEP 3: Select your school's best three designs and submit, either via email to badgecompetition@livingstreets.org.uk or upload at livingstreets.org.uk/badgesubmission

## WHAT IS WOW?

next academic year.

WOW is Living Streets' walk to school challenge. Pupils log their daily journeys to school on the WOW Travel Tracker. Those who travel actively at least once a week for a month earn a WOW badge, with a new one to collect each month. It's as easy as that. WOW successfully reduces congestion outside schools, helping to tackle road danger and air pollution - all whilst children benefit from being more active.

livingstreets.org.uk/WOW

#### PRIZES

- Winning designs to feature on WOW badges in 2025/26
- Up to £500\* free WOW resources for winning schools, plus five additional schools selected by prize draw
- WOW trophies for winners and highly commended runners-up
- Downloadable certificate for your school's top badge designers
  - Prizes very for achools that receive WOW restances from Living Streets projects.
     Terms and conditions apply. Please visit our websits for more details.

## TOP TIPS FOR WINNING DESIGNS:

- . Be big, bold and colourful!
- Diversity and originality are key to standing out from the crowd!
- WOW badges are only 3cm, so simple designs without small details work best!
- Trademarks, logos and images of Strider will not qualify for the competition.
- Winning designs will be digitally recreated, so pupils can use pencil, crayons or pens.

For full details about the WOW badge design competition,

The WOW badge design competition is for everyone

We support pupils with special educational needs and disabilities to enter the badge design competition. Head to livingstreets.org.uk/badgecompetition2025 to find out more.

CLOSING DATE
TUESDAY 25 FEB

#### Please find information below from the SEN Team in Tameside:

Dear All,

The SEND team was invited to the launch event of the Tameside Parent Carer Forum on Friday 13th January. During the event, we held parent panels where various professionals were available to discuss concerns, comments, and suggestions for improvement.

One of the highlights was having our Local Area SEND Partnership Chair participate in a panel, ensuring that parent and child voices are heard and represented at the highest level. During an evening panel, we were fortunate to hear from a very articulate young man who navigated the system in Tameside. He provided valuable feedback and candidly highlighted areas we need to improve, which we are committed to addressing.

You'll find the "You Said, We Are Doing" summary from the event attached to this message. Work is already underway to address the points raised, and we will provide updates later in the year on our progress.

If you did not attend the event, we would like to share the review to follow up on how we are working to involve parents, carers, children, and young people in shaping our services.

### You said We are doing

You explained that the processes for EHCPs were unclear and, as a parent/carer, it would be valuable to have more transparency. You suggested that including specific timescales in our correspondence, such as when we agree to assess or amend a plan after an annual review, would be very helpful. This addition would clarify and help you better understand the timeline of key decisions and actions. Your feedback highlights the importance of clear and timely communication, and this will be considered as we review and improve our processes.

To address the issue of unclear EHCP processes, we will include specific timescales in all relevant correspondence, such as letters confirming agreements to assess or amend a plan following an annual review. This change will give parents/carers greater clarity and a clear understanding of the timeline for key actions. By ensuring our communication is transparent and time-bound, we aim to improve parents/carers' overall experience and confidence in navigating the EHCP process.

Parents/carers expressed that the purpose of an annual review was not fully understood, either by themselves or by some schools/setting. There appeared to be a disconnect between the message shared by the Local Authority (LA) about the purpose of these reviews and their own understanding. This highlighted the need for greater clarity and consistency across the system to ensure all parties are aligned and informed about the role and significance of the annual review process.

To address the concerns about the lack of clarity regarding the purpose of annual reviews, a comprehensive plan will be implemented to ensure consistency and understanding across schools, parents, and the Local Authority. Training programmes will be delivered to schools, equipping staff with the knowledge and tools needed to conduct meaningful annual reviews. Standardised templates and guidance will also be provided to streamline processes and maintain consistency in communication. Additionally, "Annual Review Champions" will be appointed within schools or clusters to offer expertise and ongoing support.

For parents/carers, a multi-faceted approach will be adopted. A clear and accessible leaflet will be developed, explaining the purpose, process, and benefits of annual reviews. This will be complemented by interactive workshops and webinars, where parents/carers can ask questions and gain practical advice on how to engage effectively. An online resources hub will also be created, offering downloadable materials, video tutorials, and case studies to further enhance understanding.

To support these efforts, a feedback mechanism will be introduced, allowing parents/carers and schools/settings to share their experiences and suggest improvements. This feedback will inform future training, materials, and strategies. Finally, a consistent messaging campaign will be launched across schools/settings, parent carer

networks, and online platforms to reinforce the purpose of annual reviews and ensure alignment across the system. Our Educational Psychology Service are supporting us with the coproduction of leaflets for parents and will include annual reviews within this.

During the EHCP application process, some parents/carers have shared that important details about their communication preferences and accessibility needs are sometimes overlooked. For example, they've told us that they weren't always contacted in the way they'd requested, or that specific needs, like receiving documents in an accessible format or having language support, weren't taken into account. This has left some parents/carers feeling excluded or unsupported, adding unnecessary stress to what is already a challenging process.

To address these concerns, we will review the EHCP application process, including the forms and methods of submission. A dedicated section will be added to capture parents/carers' communication preferences and accessibility requirements. For applications submitted by letter, a follow-up form will be provided to ensure all necessary details are captured. This will help ensure parents/carers' voices are heard and their individual needs are fully considered, fostering better communication and a more inclusive process.

Some of you shared your frustration with the EHCP process and expressed how you wished your child/young person's needs had been identified and met earlier, without the need for an EHCP. At the same time, you highlighted the vital role of the work being done in SEND support, recognising its importance in addressing needs early and providing the right support to make a difference.

Work is already underway to strengthen support at SEND support. TSOSS is providing universal support and training for schools, and the Graduated Response and Ordinarily Available Provision are being refreshed to help schools/settings build their capacity to meet needs more effectively. Discussions and mechanisms for enhancing funding at SEND support are also being explored. Additionally, we are developing a leaflet to help parents better understand how SEND funding works, ensuring greater clarity and transparency.

You reported concerns about the medical transition pathways for learners with SEND, highlighting the anxiety this process often causes. Many of you shared that it feels like there is a drop-off in support during this time, leaving families and children/young people feeling unprepared. You emphasised that transition planning needs to start much earlier to ensure children and young people with SEND are better supported as they move between services or stages in their care.

There is a health passport system in place to help children, young people and adults and their families ensure that people who had additional support requirements when attending health appointments have these needs met. There are also transition processes in place, but we agreed to review whether these processes are being followed robustly as part of our improvement plans and to communicate what these processes are so that families can understand them.

You shared concerns about SEND transport being managed separately from the SEND team, which can make the system feel disconnected. Many of you highlighted that transport arrangements don't always align with the needs outlined in learners' EHCPs, leaving gaps in the support required for their journey to and from school. This disconnection has raised frustrations and highlighted the need for a more joined-up approach to ensure transport fully supports the needs of SEND learners.

Work is already underway to address concerns about SEND transport. Discussions are ongoing within the education leadership team around how this service can be improved to better align with the needs of learners outlined in their EHCPs. Additionally, this issue will be added to our coproduction charter as a key area for collaboration, ensuring we work with families to develop a more joined-up and effective transport service for children and young people with SEND. We have rich data from the work of our Educational Psychology service, which will be used to strengthen the offer in this area.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration as we strive to improve.



## Join Us

If you want a team sport for girts where they will learn to win on the court and through fur, friendship and fitness. Building self confidence and self esteem along the way then SNC is the piece for you and your girt.

## Year 6 Teams

We train on a Saturday morning 9-11AM at Copley Leture centre with matches on a Sunday played at Oldham Ball Hall. Feel free to bring your daughter along any week for a taster session or email gavingthewheeldons.net the coach for this age group if you have any questions or just wented to let un know you'll be canded along.



Visit our Website

Training at Saddlewoth High School, Diggle

www.saddleworthnetball.club