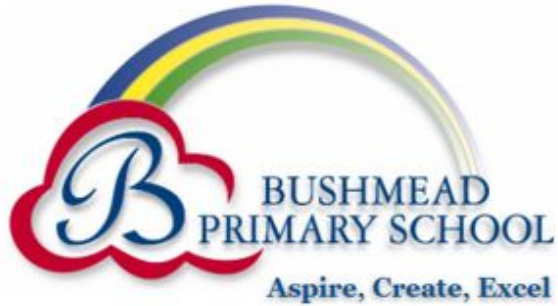


# Newsletters

Weekly Newsletter



This month's value is **Co-operation**

Our well-being theme this half-term is

**Connecting with Others**

**15th September 2023**

Dear parents & carers,

Another great week at Bushmead. It was wonderful to have all our Reception children in school!

Attached with the link to this newsletter are your Parent Pack documents. They include:

- Home - school agreement
- This year's Calendar
- Proposed Clubs
- Pupil premium form
- Homework overview

All of these are on our website for future reference. The calendar and clubs are subject to change, you will be updated if this happens.

The Clubs' information is to let you see an overview of the year. You cannot request a place until you have received a parentmail with further details. Premature requests will not be considered.

The updated Request for Leave form & Acceptable use of ICT will follow next week.

Since the 4th September we have had a total of 78 **late marks** have been issued across 54 pupils (a number of repeat offenders!). Parents should be aware that late marks can accumulate as 'Unauthorised' marks which can then result in a Penalty Notice being issued. **Our gates open at 8.40 and children should be settled in their classes by 8.55 for registration as lessons begin at 9.00.**

We are fortunate to have a highly experienced and skilled teaching team at Bushmead. However, we 'do not sit on our laurels' professional development is incredibly important, so we provide the best possible education for your children. **We are super proud that Mrs S Ahmed has been selected to be a Primary Mastery Specialist with the Enigma Maths Hub.** In doing so will support the teaching of maths across Luton and beyond and of course we at Bushmead will benefit from her expertise. A great achievement!



Have a fantastic weekend.

Kind regards,

Joanne Travi

Headteacher

---



We have new members that form our FOBS Committee. Thank you to

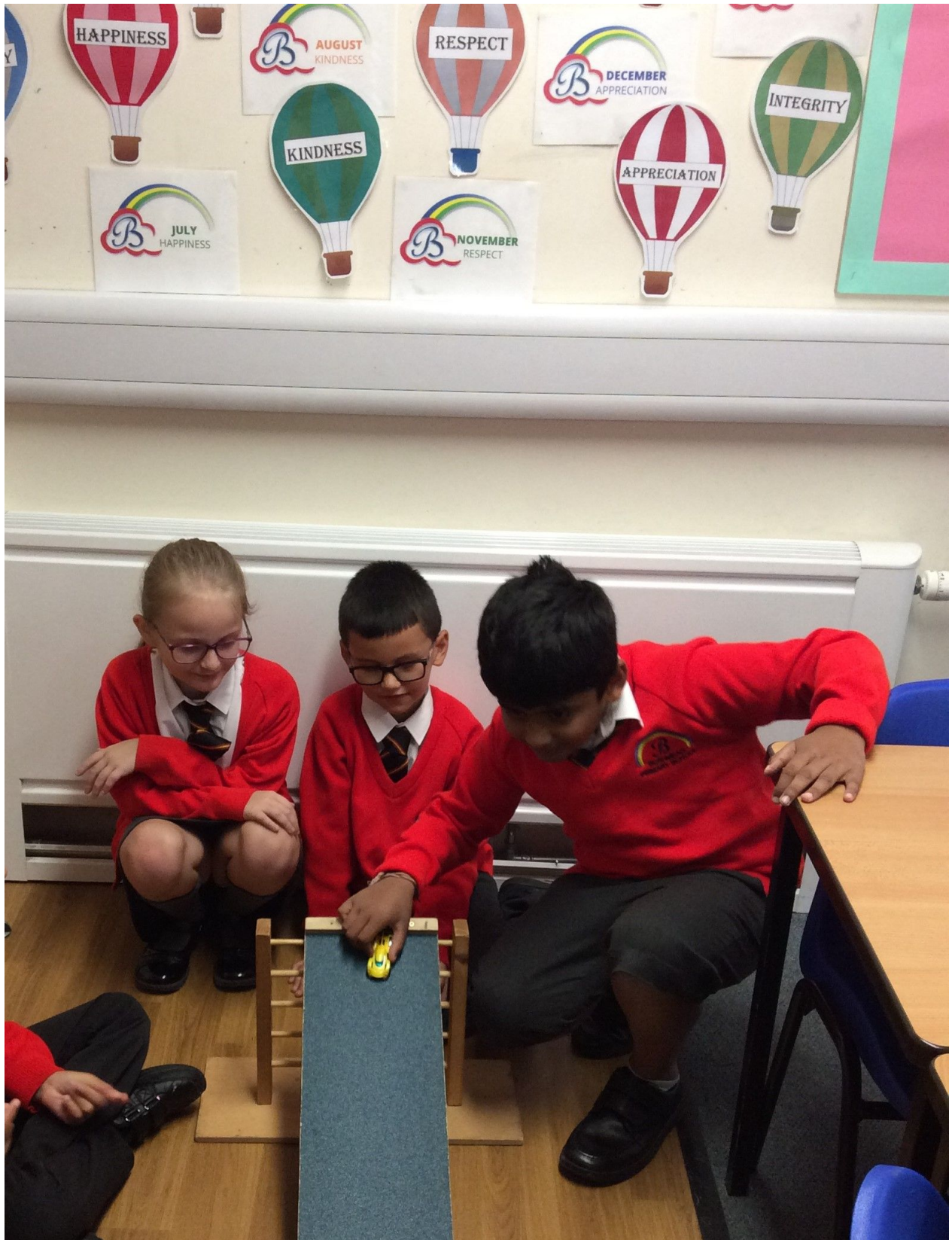
- Shaine - Chair
- Sue - Vice Chair
- Naima - Treasurer
- Sarah - Secretary

You can contact our committee on:

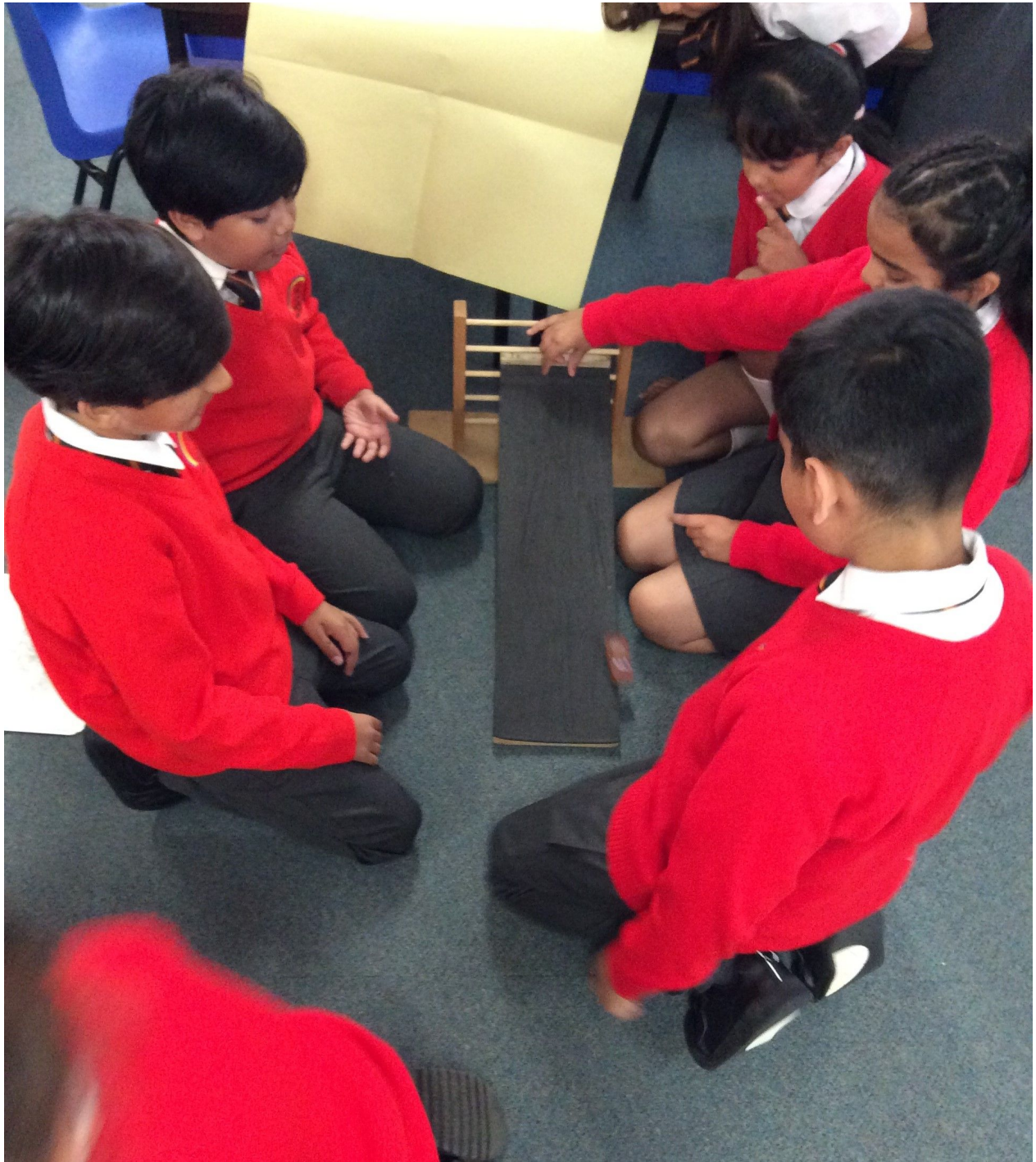
[FOBS@bushmeadprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:FOBS@bushmeadprimaryschool.co.uk)

---

Yr 4 developing their Science Skills

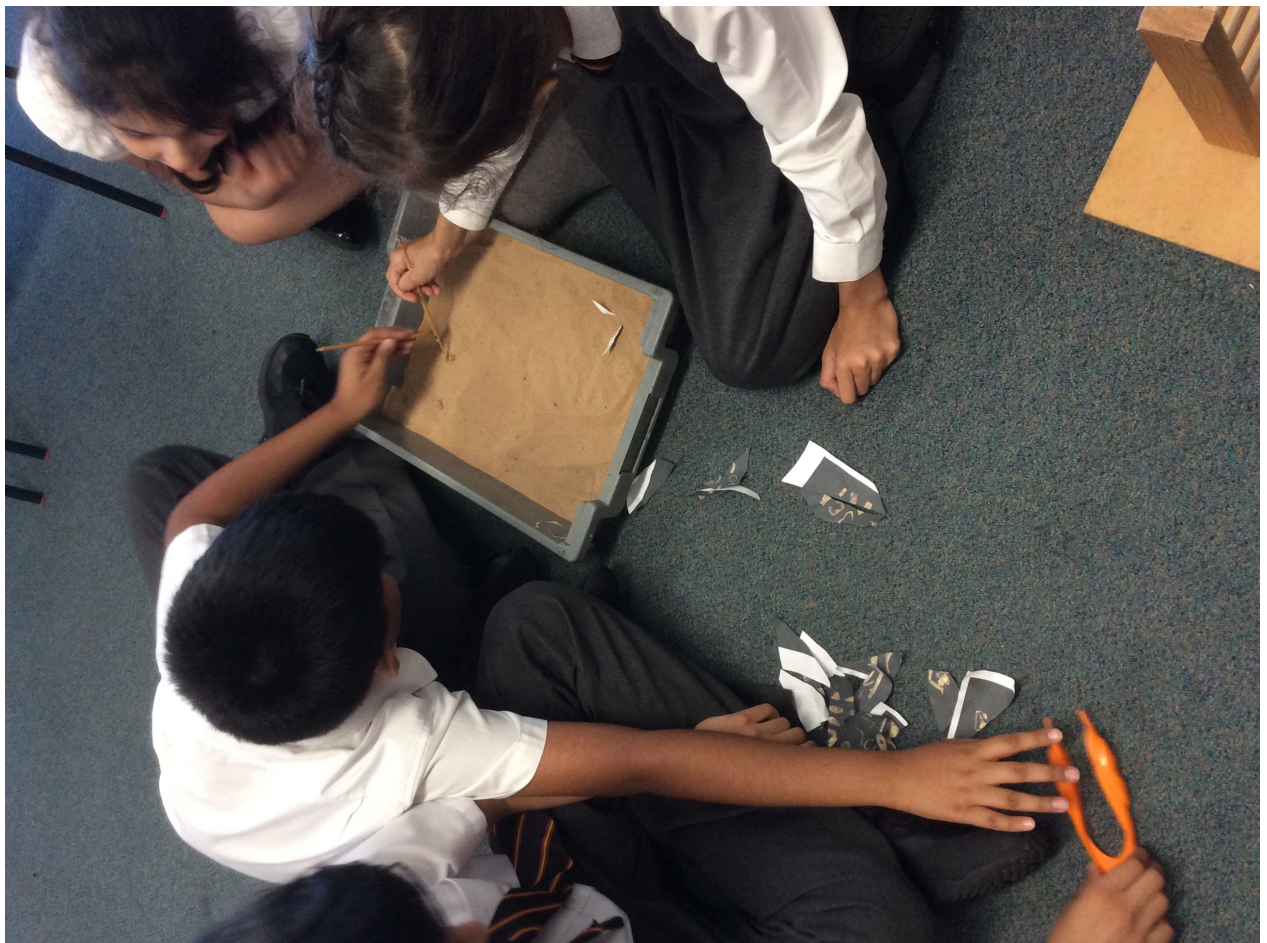






Year 4 have been archaeologists in History, piecing together Anglo-Saxon artefacts









Staying Safe online



# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

18  
CENSORED

## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

## Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upcombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 18 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hipal.app/about/privacy.html>

**NOS**  
National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

[@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

[/NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

[@nationalonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

[@national\\_online\\_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 13.09.2023





If you are experiencing financial difficulties, Luton Foodbank can provide you with food parcels.

Each food parcel lasts up to three days, and is nutritionally balanced.

We can also help you get wider support with:

- rent and council-tax arrears
- poor housing
- debts and rising bills

**Contact us**

[info@lutonfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@lutonfoodbank.org.uk)

01582 725838

**Luton  
Rising**

**BL  
CF**



## Upcoming Events

<b>Year 2 RE Day</b> ALL DAY	18 September
<b>Netball Club</b> 7:45AM – 8:30AM From 19 Sep and on Tuesday each week until 17 Oct	19 September
<b>Smart Raspberry Cookery School</b> 3:30PM – 4:45PM From 19 Sep and on Tuesday each week until 05 Dec	19 September
<b>Boys Football Club Years 3 &amp; 4</b> 3:30PM – 4:35PM From 19 Sep and on Tuesday each week until 17 Oct	19 September
<b>School Library Open to families</b> 3:30PM – 4:30PM From 10 Jan and on Tuesday each week except for 14 Feb	19 September
<b>Girls Football years 3 - 6</b> 3:30PM – 4:30PM From 20 Sep and on Wednesday each week until 19 Oct	20 September
<b>Year 2 Multisports Club</b> 3:30PM – 4:30PM From 20 Sep and on Wednesday each week until 18 Oct	20 September
<b>Smart Raspberry Cookery School</b> 3:30PM – 4:45PM From 21 Sep and on Thursday each week until 07 Dec	21 September
<b>Boys Football Club Years 5 &amp; 6</b> 3:30PM – 4:35PM From 21 Sep and on Thursday each week until 19 Oct	21 September



<b>Year 5 Trip to Wardown Park</b> ALL DAY	25 September
<b>Year 5 trip to Wardown Park</b> ALL DAY	26 September
<b>Netball Club</b> 7:45AM – 8:30AM From 19 Sep and on Tuesday each week until 17 Oct	26 September
<b>Smart Raspberry Cookery School</b> 3:30PM – 4:45PM From 19 Sep and on Tuesday each week until 05 Dec	26 September
<b>Boys Football Club Years 3 &amp; 4</b> 3:30PM – 4:35PM From 19 Sep and on Tuesday each week until 17 Oct	26 September
<b>School Library Open to families</b> 3:30PM – 4:30PM From 10 Jan and on Tuesday each week except for 14 Feb	26 September