



February 2023

NEWSLETTER

Life in all its fullness



Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome to the first edition of the Brixham C of E newsletter for the spring term. The school newsletter will be released at the end of each half-term and will be filled with school and curriculum updates.

It has been a busy half-term and the children have made a great start to 2023. The classes started the term with a narrative writing unit around the book 'The Invisible'. Whilst developing their writing skills, the pupils explored how some people are overlooked and how everyone plays a special part in the world. Following this, classes are finishing the half-term with either science or geography – progressively

exploring key concepts within the subjects.

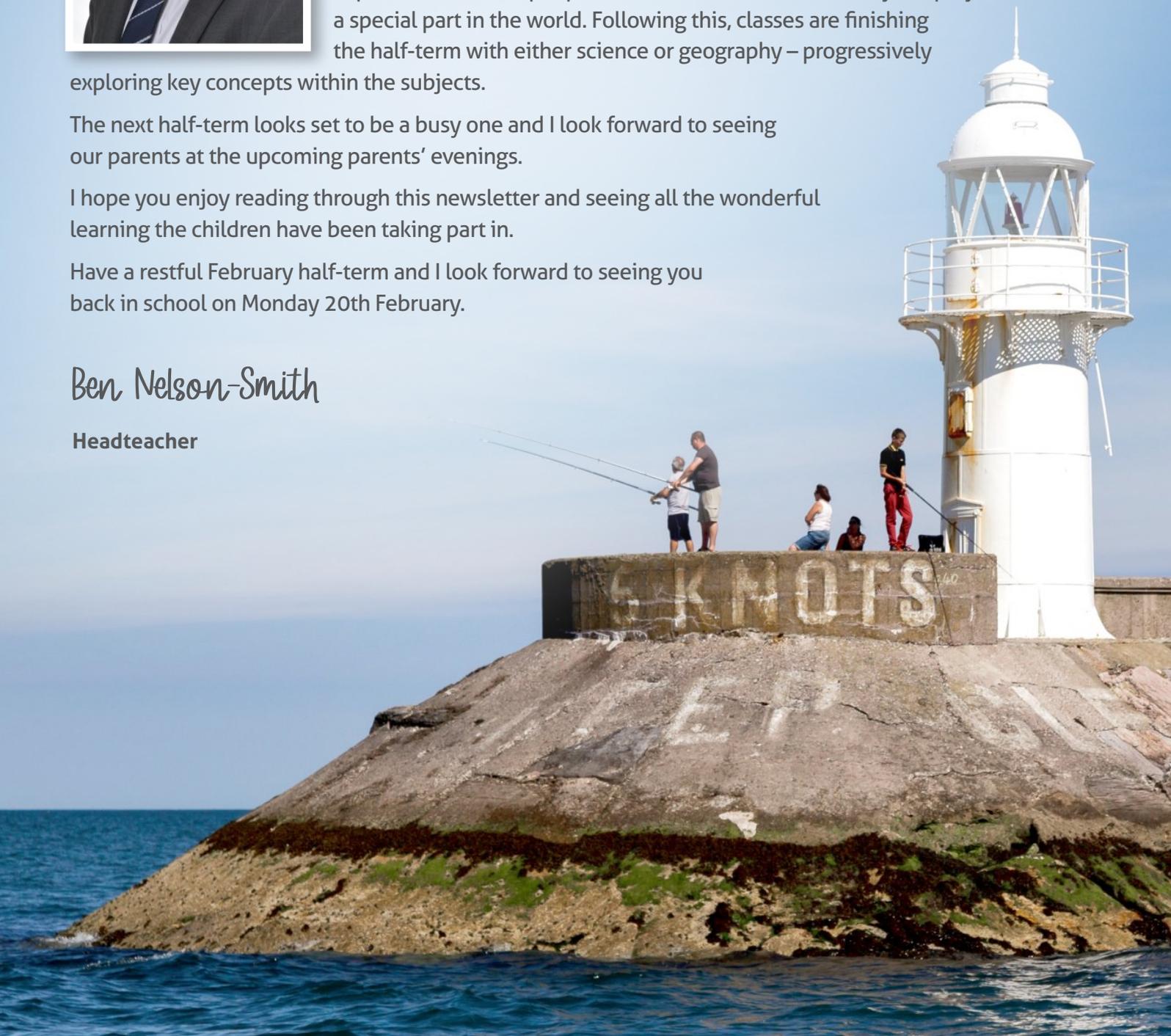
The next half-term looks set to be a busy one and I look forward to seeing our parents at the upcoming parents' evenings.

I hope you enjoy reading through this newsletter and seeing all the wonderful learning the children have been taking part in.

Have a restful February half-term and I look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 20th February.

Ben Nelson-Smith

Headteacher



PRE-SCHOOL

In preschool we have been listening to the story, *Don't Be Afraid Little Pip* which is all about a penguin who wants to learn to fly.

We have been thinking about things we are passionate to do/learn and ways we can challenge ourselves. The children have also learned about the polar regions and have explored ice.





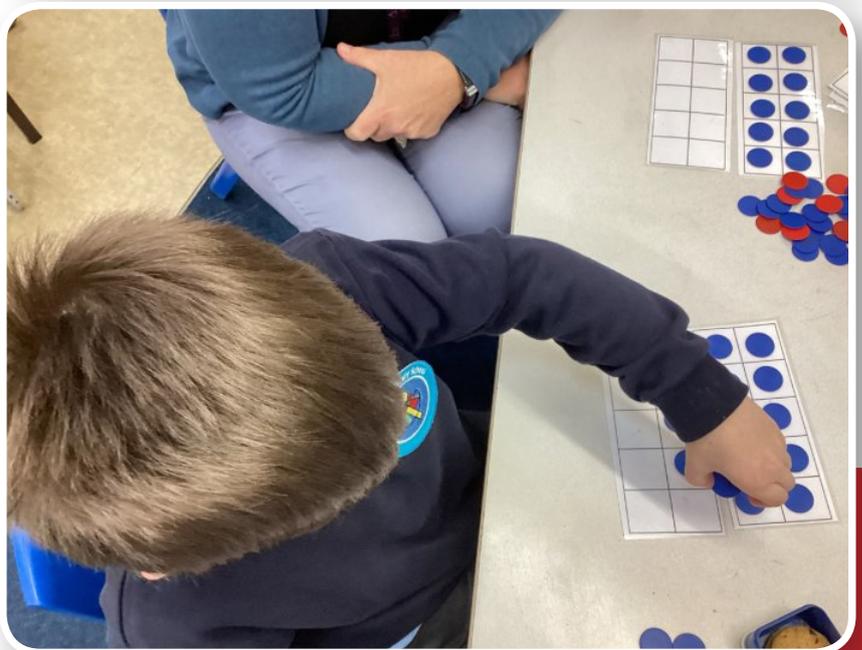
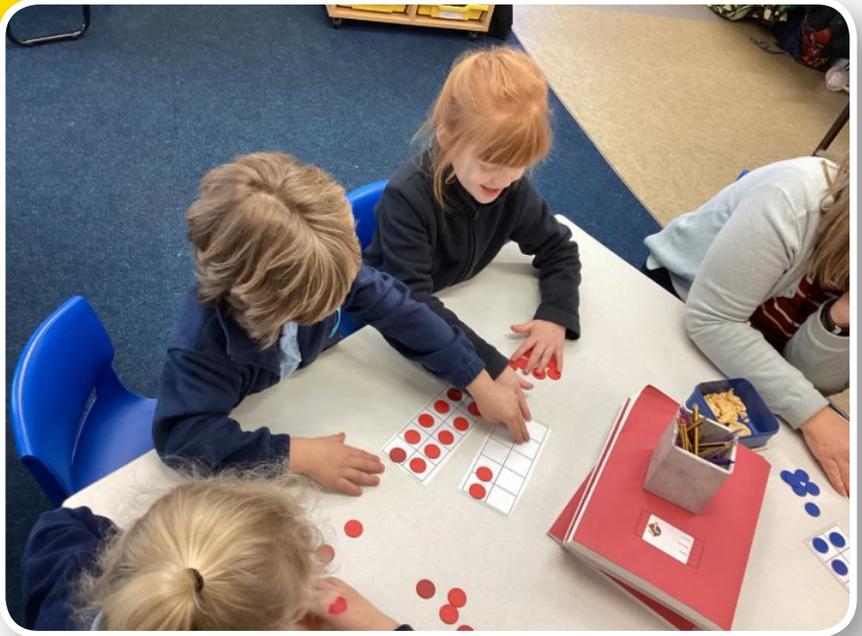
We have been busy learning about where we live.
We have learnt about different types of houses and have learnt that we live in the town of Brixham.
We have located Brixham on an aerial map.
We have been encouraged to share different places that we have visited in Brixham.
We worked hard to create a class collage all about Brixham.

Year R



Year 1

In Year 1 we have been continuing our Learning Journey. We have used Google Earth to look at where we are in the world. We have learnt that Brixham is a town and in the county of Devon. We now know that Devon is in England and England is part of the United Kingdom. We found out that the United Kingdom is part of Europe and Europe is one of the seven continents.



SHAPE

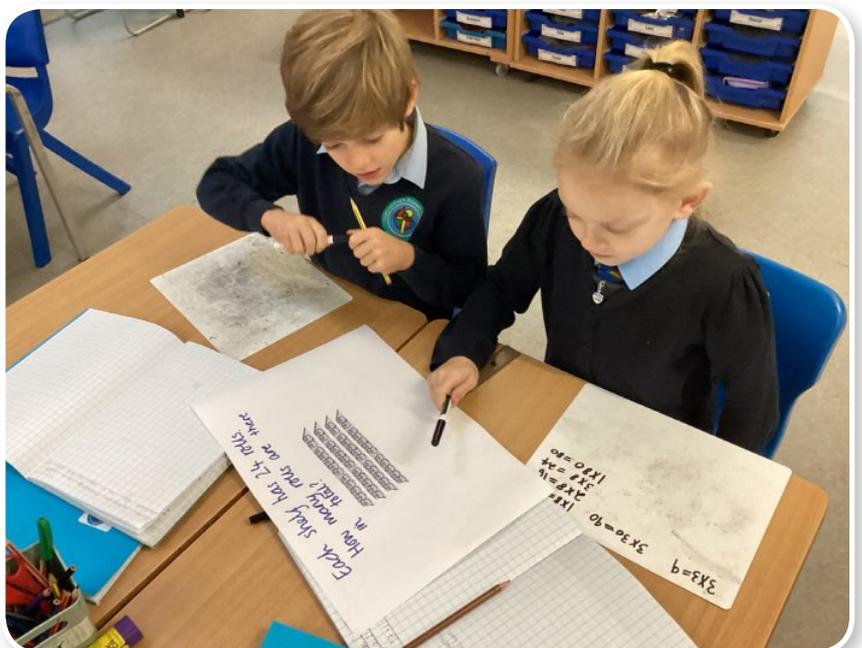
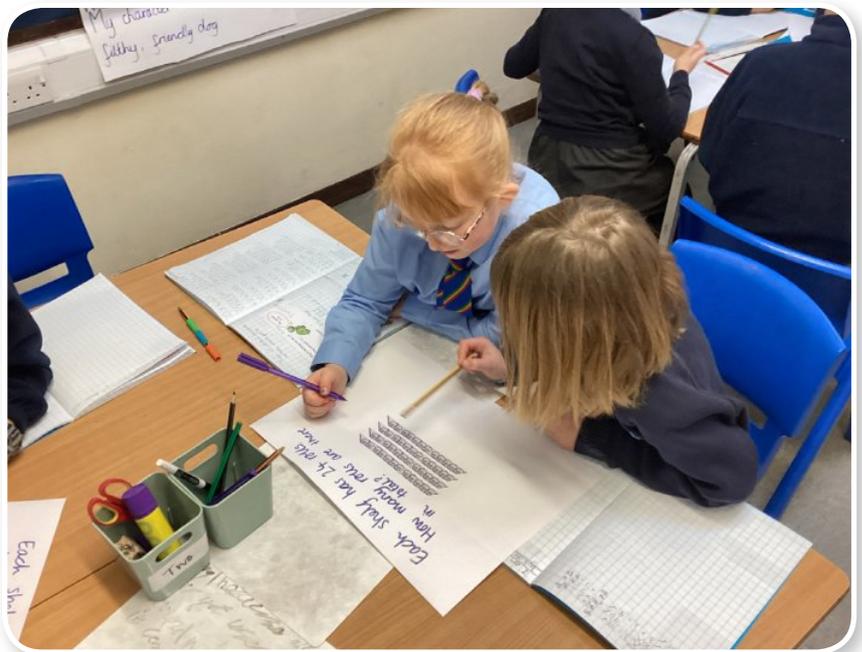
Year
2

In Year 2, we have been exploring shape. Our outcome is to design our class carpet using a shape success criteria. So far, we have found edges and vertices on both 2D and 3D shapes, used lines of symmetry to complete shapes and made repeated patterns. In our Relationships Education experience, we have been working on retelling the Invisible. It has really helped us to understand why some people in our community feel invisible and what we can do to help them. In our story, we have used commas in a list, the power of three and imagery.



Year 3

In maths, Year 3 have enjoyed working collaboratively. At the beginning of half term we were learning about multiplication and division. We used our knowledge of our times tables to work together to solve problems. We have also been learning how to measure in centimetres, metres and millimetres. We worked together to measure different things around the classroom and discussed what type of measurement we would use for each object.



Year 4: Area & Shape

In maths, Year 4 have been learning about how to find the area of a shape. We used our knowledge to compare shapes with different areas. Our final outcome was to measure the area of the playground using a range of resources such as metre sticks and trundle wheels. We then used the measurements to draw a map of the playground in our maths books. Finally, we drew a wish list of 'zones' on the playground map and measured their area.



Year 5

It might have been a very slightly shorter half term but Class 5 have been incredibly busy both in class and out of class! We had the privilege to visit Brixham College to watch the Wonderstruck science show which involved finding ways to create force to send rockets flying. There was smoke, flames and some big bangs and then we got to make our own rockets to send across the field. We may be biased but believe one of our groups won the 'whose rocket will fly the furthest?' competition.

In our Geography, we've been learning what causes someone to flee their country. At Forest School, we've learnt about what resources we would need to create and sustain a settlement. From a very wet first week there, we learnt the need for both shelter and the warmth of a fire! The children spent some time thinking creatively about what they could do to find and grow food. They've had a go at making a recipe for drop scones (like pancakes) and considered how they would get the ingredients if it wasn't all readily available in a local shop. In class, we turned tables into countries with varying amount of resources and money and began trading. It enabled a great conversation about how difficult it is for developing countries to gain wealth and deepened our learning about what might cause someone to flee their country.



Year 6

In PE, Year 6 have been learning about Dance. Dance gives pupils a rare opportunity to be genuinely creative in PE and express emotions and feelings through movement to music. This creativity can be shaped in many ways including exploring themes, music, dance styles and patterns as well as drawing on their own imagination through activities such as role play. Year 6 have been engaging in Dance Battles, collaborating on and showcasing their own choreography.



Attendance Matters

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life. If you have a difficulty getting your child to school, please make an appointment with Mr Nelson-Smith, who monitors attendance and lateness.

- **There are 365 days a year**

You only have to attend school for 190 of those.
That leaves 175 days to do everything else.

- **If you are 5 minutes late every day...**
that adds up to 3 days lost per year

• **If you are 15 minutes late every day...**
that adds up to almost 10 days lost every year.

- **If you are absent from school for 1 day a week throughout your school life...**
you will be missing 2 years of your education.

- **If you are absent from school for 1 day every half a term throughout your whole school life,** you will miss a total of 3 months education

- **90% attendance throughout your school life**
= missing 1 whole year of education

If your child is away from school please keep us informed, i.e. before 9am of the first day of absence with the reason why they are absent. If you have not informed the office before 9am, we follow safeguarding procedures and will try to contact parents/carers/those on our contacts list to ascertain a reason for absence. Schools must record unauthorised absences and report them to the Department for Education. If a child is away from school for some time you may receive a visit from the Educational Welfare Officer.



Tuck Shop Trial

In preparation for Year 2's maths money unit, they have come up with a wonderful idea to set up a tuck shop for the first two Thursdays after half-term. This will help them with their understanding of handling real money and dealing with change.

The tuck shop will be open at breaktimes on the Thursdays – children will be allowed to bring in change on the day. Prices to follow. If we find that this is successful, we may consider making it a regular offer at breaktimes. *Great thinking Year 2!*

Our Curriculum is built on three core values:



Academic Excellence

The acquisition of a deep body of knowledge across a range of subjects. Our curriculum provides a progressive plan for pupils building upon knowledge and skills.

Character Education

Through our character gateways, our pupils grasp possibilities and opportunities of life beyond the classroom – becoming well-rounded individuals.

Learning to Learn

We emphasize the importance of learning how to learn. Pupils are explicitly taught how to work independently, collaboratively and use their creativity to become life-long learners.

Expression

Character Values



Have the **confidence** to present myself in an **honest** and **insightful** way that reflects what I value.



OUR FOCUS IN

Spring Term 2

Every day is an opportunity for the pupils to experience something new. Each half-term we focus on a specific area of our curriculum to develop, whilst inexplicitly developing all aspects of the curriculum.

Some areas of the curriculum are taught on a daily and weekly basis, including maths, reading, PE, MFL and RE. Other subjects are taught in blocks where pupils will fully immerse themselves in the subject to deepen their understanding. This half-term, pupils across the school will be focusing on history and narrative writing.

Pupils develop their understanding of our 5 character gateways through the year, with a primary focus on one character gateway each half-term. This half-term, the school is focusing on the gateway of 'Explorers'. Pupils and staff are discussing and learning ways to further challenge ourselves to be the best version we can be. We also make reference to examples in the bible and in modern day to support us with this.

This half-term, pupils are continuing to learn how to work collaboratively. Pupils are shown how to work together in their classrooms, from making eye contact and listening in reception, to providing constructive feedback in Year 6. Your child's focus can be found at the top of their weekly letter from teachers.

Safeguarding Update



Are you concerned that a Child or Young Person is being harmed or is at risk of being harmed?

Do you think a Child or Young Person needs help?

If the answer is YES, then please contact MASH with any concerns:

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

Telephone: 01803 208100

email: mash@torbay.gov.uk

or

Please speak to one the following:



Mr Nelson-Smith

Headteacher
Designated
Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Mrs Matthews

Deputy Headteacher
Deputy Safeguarding
Lead



Miss Synnott

KS2 Team Lead
Deputy Safeguarding
Lead



Mr Arthur Lucas
Safeguarding Governor



Mrs Wendy Parr
Head of Safeguarding
and Inclusion for ACE



TikTok is a global video community where users create, share and discover 'funny and memorable moments' via short video clips – typically about 15 seconds long. Videos can be 'spiced up' with special effect filters, stickers, music and sound clips. Currently one of the world's most popular apps, TikTok was formerly known as Musical.ly, before it was rebranded by the Chinese company ByteDance that acquired it in November 2017. If your child had previously had a Musical.ly account, all of their videos and personal settings will have automatically been moved to TikTok. In early 2019, TikTok was hit with a record \$5.7m (£4.2m) fine in the US over child data privacy concerns for its record keeping while under the Musical.ly brand.

Publish date: 10/10/18
 Edit date: 06/03/19



What parents need to know about **TIKTOK**

ONLINE PREDATORS

By default, users accounts are automatically set to public when they first create an account. TikTok encourages users to share creative expression through their videos, but if posted publicly, anyone in the world can see your child's homemade content.

There have also been concerns the Chinese government could access data or sway public opinion through the app. If your child's profile is open, strangers can use the app to comment on your child's videos. While this isn't always sinister, it gives potential predators the ability to contact your child through the platform.

IN-APP PURCHASES

As with many apps, there's a paid element to TikTok. Users can buy virtual coins to be exchanged for virtual gifts – for example, if they like a specific video, your child can use coins to purchase emojis to show approval. These can be expensive and easily purchased – there is the option to buy 10,000 coins for £99.99 with a one-click buy button.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok lets users lip-sync to their favourite songs and produce their own music videos. Some of the music choices contain swear words or sexual themes. So not only can children be exposed to potentially inappropriate content but they can broadcast themselves miming or singing these lyrics. In addition to this, some of the outfits and dance moves in videos can be overtly sexual and provocative. There have also been reports of some users sharing concerning content, such as videos that promote anorexia, porn, self-harm and violence.

BEING INFLUENCED

More than one third of children aged 6-17 consider 'social media stars' to be among their top role models. There are millions of creators on TikTok, showcasing their 'talents, moments and knowledge', from singing to dancing to stunts and comedy skits, which receive thousands of likes and comments from around the world, quickly turning people into 'stars'. There is the danger that children may develop unrealistic expectations of how they should look and behave on the app in order to become the next 'star'. They may have feelings of inadequacy and low self-esteem or become swayed by certain opinions. On TikTok, there are always 'trending challenges' and hashtags that users can copy or build upon. Sometimes these challenges can pose risks to young people.



National Online Safety[®]



Top Tips for Parents

DISCUSS THE PITFALLS OF OVERSHARING

Encourage your child to always think before they do, say, like or post anything online. Explain that their 'digital footprint' shapes their online reputation and the way that other people see them. Something they may find funny and entertaining now may impact them in the future. Talk about how to deal with peer pressure and how doing something they think will impress others could affect them. Remind them that they do not have to do anything they are not comfortable with. To ensure that there's no way of anyone tracking your child's location or identity, make it clear to them that they should never film a video in their school uniform or near a landmark that gives away where they live.

HANDLING CRITICISM

While it's fantastic to see your child being creative and expressive and bonding with people with similar interests, they need to be aware that not everyone will be supportive online. Comments can be negative or even cruel. Make sure your child knows how to comment respectfully and handle negative feedback. In the app's Privacy and Safety settings, your child can decide who can react to their videos, who can comment, and who can send them private chat messages. We suggest altering these settings so only their friends can interact with their posts.

REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

If you or your child sees something inappropriate on TikTok, you can flag up an account, video, comment or chat by simply tapping 'Report'. In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' feature, there's also an 'Enhanced Restricted Mode', limiting appearance of videos which may be inappropriate.

USE A PRIVATE ACCOUNT

Setting up a private account means that only people who you and your child approve of can see their creations. To make an account private, tap the three dots at the top right of the screen to access settings. Click 'Privacy and Safety'. Scroll down until you find 'Private Account' and turn this setting on.

SIGNING UP WITH THE CORRECT AGE

When signing up, users are prompted to input a their date of birth. If the inputted date of birth means your child is under 13, the app will block them. However, this doesn't prevent your child from lying about their age. The app is intended for users aged 13+, so explain the rating is there for a reason; to keep them protected from online dangers. It is actually possible to watch TikTok videos without creating an account, so make sure your child, if under 13, hasn't downloaded it.

USE THE 'DIGITAL WELLBEING' SETTING

If you're concerned about how long your child is spending on TikTok, it has a setting called 'Digital Wellbeing' which allows you to manage the amount of screen time your child can have. We also advise that you turn off push notifications in the settings to prevent your child from receiving 'spam-like' notifications from TikTok that encourage users to go on the app.

DISCUSS IN-APP PURCHASES

To lower the risk of your child making accidental in-app purchases, teach them exactly what in-app purchases are and the risks of making them without permission. Tell them that they are not essential to enjoy the app and that if they want to make a purchase, they should always ask you beforehand. In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' feature, there is the option to disable the function of purchasing coins and sending gifts.

Users can also follow the account @tiktoktips, Tik Tok's official account fronted by established TikTok users which offers useful online safety tips for promoting safety on its platform, rather than hiding information in FAQs.

SOURCES: support.musical.ly/knowledge-base/community-guidelines, edition.cnn.com/2019/02/28/tech/tiktok-ftc-fine-children, techcrunch.com/2019/02/27/tiktok-is-launching-a-series-of-online-safety-videos-in-its-app, theguardian.com/technology/2019/feb/28/tiktok-video-sharing-app-fined-for-collection-of-childrens-data, [TikTok app](https://www.tiktok.com/@tiktok), [Apple App Store](https://apple.com/app-store/en/wikipedia.org/wiki/TikTok), en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TikTok, mediapost.com/publications/article/319720/social-media-stars-influence-kids-but-parents-still.html, metro.co.uk/2017/03/17/musical-ly-everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-app-your-children-are-obsessed-with-6516068/, [youtube.com/watch?v=aN0654CdUc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aN0654CdUc), [youtube.com/watch?v=VVGZ1Z04jQm](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVGZ1Z04jQm), static.muscdn.com/website/pdf/creatorPlaybook.pdf, [youtube.com/watch?v=8TaQQCNtM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8TaQQCNtM)

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afraid of the dark**

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SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2023



2:30PM TICKETS £5

Box office 01803 415987
tickets.brixhamtheatre.uk



**Libraries
Unlimited**



**Brixham Library
Fun Science Workshop**



Energy Edd will be here to teach Fun Science. We will use the Van de Graff generator, explore electric circuits and make a vibrating robot.
Friday 17th February
2.00pm
£2.00 per child payable on booking.
Booking Essential

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092
To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk

Supported by **Devon County Council** and **TORBAY COUNCIL**



SWIMMING CLUB

Exciting! Spaces available for young swimmers at Brixham Swimming Club: 'The Marlins'.

We are currently looking to recruit young, competitively minded swimmers into our developing program. We have spaces available in Orange Squad which meet for 45 minutes a week on Thursdays at 4:15pm.

The session is led by our head coach Kevin Dart and supported by assistant coaches. It is a perfect bridge for those that have been in a Learnt to Swim program and are now either looking for, or debating, the 'next step'.

The sessions consist of swimming lengths, stroke development and technique with all strokes being covered. Most of our existing

swimmers, who have completed these sessions have now progressed onto our Red and Amber Squads and are able to train up to five times a week!

So, if your child enjoys swimming and is of a competitive nature, why not bring them along for some 'free of charge' no obligation tester sessions.

Ages accepted 6-10 Years and have ideally completed (or are completing) stage 6 or above in the Swim England Learn to Swim Program.

Please email us at:

brixhamswimming@hotmail.com
to arrange a taster session.

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Meet two guide dogs and puppy in training, refreshments available.

FRIENDS OF BRIXHAM LIBRARY

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February
2pm
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To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk.

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Indigos Goes Green Saturdays

Indigos Playground,

Packhall Lane, off Chestnut Drive, Brixham TQ5 0EQ

SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY

A chance to:
Play the 'Duplication
Game', play football and
make peg doll people

SATURDAY 4TH MARCH

Nest making
Den building
Windowsill gardening
Making popcorn

On the first Saturday of each
month from 11.00 – 1.00pm.
For children and families,
FREE but donations welcome.

Come to play outdoors, have fun, try out
new 'green' things and have some lunch!

SATURDAY 1ST APRIL

Wooden egg painting
Easter egg hunt
Cooking wild garlic fritters on the fire
Seed bombs making and planting

FREE but please book

THANK YOU

FOR SUPPORTING RUDOLPH RUN 2022

WOW!
BRIXHAM C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL RAISED AN
OUTSTANDING £1897.50

THE GRAND TOTAL
RAISED ACROSS ALL
SCHOOLS TAKING PART IS
OVER £35,000!



THIS EVENT
WAS KINDLY
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Brixham Primary School

Diary Dates

2023

20/2	Paignton Zoo trip (Y2,5,6) and SEND parents evening
24/2	Y2 Class led worship
27/2	Parents Evening
01/3	Parents Evening
02/3	World Book Day
03/3	Y1 Class Worship
10/3	YR Class Worship
13/3	Science week
15/3	Year 3 trip to Kents Cavern
21/3	Tempest Photography for Yr R & Yr 6
30/3	Easter Church Service