



Snowflake School

SECONDARY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2025
Issue 1

'Improving the quality of family life'

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IMPORTANT DATES

Term Dates: 27th October – 31st October
Parents Evening: Week beginning the 10th November 2025
Coffee Mornings: 25th November 2025

eSafety

Tip of the Month

Parental controls for streaming Apps

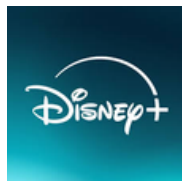
As streaming services like Netflix and Disney+ become more popular for children, it's important to set up parental controls to ensure age appropriate content;

Netflix

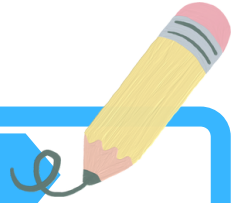
1. Open the Netflix app or go to the website and sign in
2. Go to 'Account' in the menu
3. Scroll to profile & parental
4. Select the profile you want to set controls for.
5. Click on 'change' under 'viewing Restrictions' and set the desired maturity rating.

Disney+

1. Open the Disney+ app or go to the website and sign in.
2. Go to your profile icon in the top right corner.
3. Select 'Account'
4. Under 'Profile' settings, chose 'Parental Controls'.
5. Set a PIN and choose the content rating level for each profile.



Message from Headteacher



Welcome back to a new school year at Snowflake! It's been wonderful to see our pupils settling into their new classes and routines with such enthusiasm. Whether your child is returning or joining us for the first time, we're excited to support their learning and development throughout the year.

Your child's class teacher will be arranging a whole-class parent meeting (Structured Conversation) before half term. This will be a great opportunity to meet other parents and hear more about what your child is learning.

Parents' Evening will be held on: Week beginning the 10th November. We're also looking forward to welcoming many of you to our **first coffee morning of the year**, where our **Therapy Team** will be sharing practical ideas for home and examples of strategies used in school. It's a lovely chance to connect with other families and enjoy a warm drink together.

We were thrilled to welcome back **Jay Kumar** for another fantastic **Diwali dance workshop**. The children absolutely loved it and it was a joyful celebration of movement and culture.

Meet Our Assistant Headteachers (AHTs)

We're pleased to introduce our Assistant Headteachers this year:

- **Conor** – supporting curriculum development and pupil progress



Conor has a background in a wide variety of schools including state, independent and SEN. He studied at University College Dublin where he was awarded a BA in English and History, an MA in Social and Cultural History and completed his teacher training. Conor is passionate about literacy and language development and supporting young people's communication needs. One of his core beliefs is that all pupils learn differently and that we must build a culture where their needs are supported in order for them to thrive and achieve their full potential.

- **David** – leading on wellbeing and inclusion.



David has been in the teaching profession for over 23 years, which includes 15 years in Senior Leadership. Child development and ensuring inclusivity for children is what motivates him every day, and he is delighted to be a part of the Snowflake family, where we provide our children with nurture and guidance, getting them ready for those all-important next steps.

They are both passionate about supporting our pupils and families and look forward to meeting you at upcoming events.

Thank you for your continued support. Please remember to use **Earwig and the Home school communication books** to stay in touch with your child's class team. We're looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Warm wishes,

Sumen Starr

Headteacher, Snowflake School

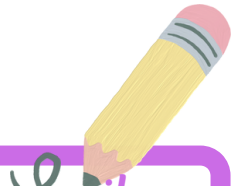
We're reaching out with a request to help us expand our school library. We're working to give our students a wider variety of both fiction and non-fiction books, encouraging a lifelong love of reading and providing them with valuable resources that support their learning.

We would be incredibly grateful for any book donations you may be able to contribute. Perhaps you have books at home that your children have outgrown or are no longer reading. These books could find a wonderful new home in our library, enhancing the experience for all our pupils.





'Improving the quality of family life'



Reminders

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Support for pupils at home

Use clear, simple language

Expose your child to new words and ideas and allow them to practice their language skills. Engaging in conversation with your child helps them to build their vocabulary, improve their listening skills, and develop their ability to express themselves.

Make it fun

Encourage your child to role-play different scenarios and situations, such as going to the doctor or ordering food at a restaurant. Playing with your child will help them to practice their communication skills in a fun and interactive way.

Reward them

Reward your child for participating in and progressing in speech therapy exercises. The reward can be a small treat or an activity they enjoy.

Use visual aids

Use visual aids, such as flashcards or pictures, to help your child understand the exercises and connect the visual aids to the sounds and words they are learning.

Be consistent

Being consistent in speech therapy for children in the home is essential because it helps them develop a sense of predictability and routine, making them feel more comfortable and secure.



Encourage Open Conversations

- Create space for your child to talk about their day, interests, or worries.
- Use open-ended questions to spark deeper thinking:
"What made you laugh today?"
"If you could change one thing about school, what would it be?"
- Avoid yes/no questions — they limit opportunities for expressive language.

Model Problem-Solving Language

- Talk through challenges out loud so your child hears how to reason and reflect:
"Hmm, the bus is late. Let's think — should we wait or call someone?"
- Use phrases like "Let's figure it out," or "What's our plan?" to build resilience and flexible thinking.

Preparing for Adulthood

Making Appointments

- Practice role-play: calling the dentist, booking a haircut, or emailing a teacher.

- Support your child in using scripts or prompts if they feel anxious.

Expressing Needs and Preferences

- Encourage your child to speak up about what works for them — in school, friendships, or routines.
- Use sentence starters like:
"I find it easier when..."
"I need help with..."
"I prefer to..."

Using Planners and Schedules

- Help your child use visual planners, phone reminders, or checklists to manage time and tasks.
- Celebrate when they take initiative — even small steps matter.

Black History Month

This month, we are celebrating Black History Month by learning about and honouring the achievements of Black individuals throughout history. Pupils will continue to take part in a range of activities, exploring the contributions of important figures such as Martin Luther King Jr, Dianne Abbott, Lewis Hamilton, and Anthony Joshua. Taking part in these sensory rich activities shows the importance of fairness and celebrating the importance of kindness, fairness, and celebrating everyone's differences.



**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**

Diwali

Last week's Diwali workshop was a joyful celebration of music and movement. Children learned about the Festival of Lights through energetic dancing and rhythmic interactive performances. The sessions brought together our classes, capturing the essence of Diwali with laughter, creativity and festive energy throughout the day. To those of our community celebrating Diwali:

Shubh Diwali!

