

'Improving the quality of family life'

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IMPORTANT DATES

Half Term: Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May
Coffee Morning: Wednesday 17th June

eSafety

Building Safe Online Habits

Create a calm, predictable online routine

Set fixed times for using tablets, games or Youtube. Use visual schedules or times so children know what to expect.

Use 'Safe Search' tools

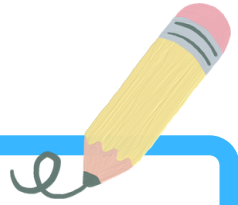
Turn on Youtube kids, Google Safesearch or app-specific parental controls. Show children the 'Green Tick' websites/apps they're allowed to safely use.

Practice Simple Safety Rules

'If someone asks your name - Ask an adult'
'if something makes you worried - ask an adult'
Keep phrases short, visual and rehearsed!



Message from Headteacher



This month has been an inspiring one across our secondary provision, with pupils demonstrating growing independence, maturity and confidence in every area of school life. From developing safe online habits to engaging in sensory-friendly routines that support emotional regulation, our students continue to show resilience and readiness to learn each day.

A particular highlight has been the launch of the Snowflake Café and our wider Careers and Preparation for Adulthood programme. Pupils have embraced real-life learning with enthusiasm, preparing food and drinks, handling money, taking orders and working collaboratively. These experiences, alongside the integration of the Skills Builder framework, are helping pupils strengthen essential life and employability skills that will support their future pathways.

We are also delighted to see pupils accessing a growing range of work experience and community-based learning opportunities. These meaningful encounters with the world of work help build confidence, communication and independence, and we look forward to expanding these partnerships further.

Our community celebrations, including a special birthday trip to the cinema, and learning about Cinco de Mayo and Flores de Mayo, have brought pupils together in joyful and inclusive ways. These shared experiences help strengthen friendships, cultural understanding and a sense of belonging.

As part of Mental Health Awareness Month, pupils explored strategies for wellbeing, including consistent routines, movement breaks, and opportunities to talk and connect. Thank you to families for reinforcing these habits at home; your partnership is invaluable in supporting pupils' emotional development.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Phonics and Preparation for Adulthood Coffee Morning next month, a wonderful opportunity to learn more about how we support pupils' communication, independence and future readiness.

Thank you for your continued support and for being part of our Snowflake School community. Together, we remain committed to improving the quality of family life and ensuring every pupil is supported to thrive.

Warm regards,
Sumen Starr,
Headteacher, Snowflake School

Occupational Therapy

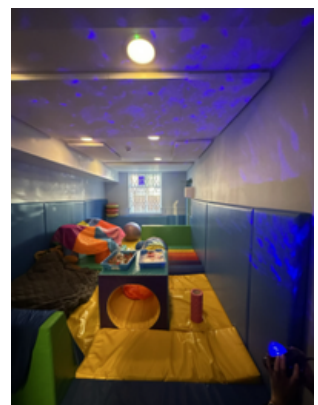
As the days get longer and brighter, mornings can still feel overwhelming for some pupils. Sensory mornings are a great way to help children feel calm, regulated, and ready to learn before the school day begins.

A sensory-friendly morning routine might include:

- Low lighting or natural light
- Calm movement activities (stretching, wall pushes, yoga poses)
- Heavy work or proprioceptive input (carrying equipment, resistance activities)
- Access to sensory tools (fidgets, weighted items, chew aids)
- Reduced noise and clear, predictable routines
- These strategies can support emotional regulation, attention, and transitions.

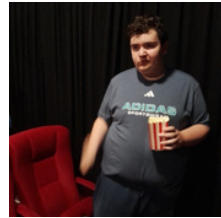
★ OT tip for May:

Consistency is key. Try using the same few calming activities each morning so pupils know what to expect and can build independence over time.



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Special Birthday Celebration



We had the pleasure of celebrating one of our pupils' birthdays. All pupils enjoyed a special trip to the cinema to watch Despicable Me 2. There was popcorn, birthday cake, and plenty of smiles throughout the day. It was a wonderful opportunity for pupils from across the school to come together, spend time with one another, and celebrate as a community. We would like to thank the birthday pupil's parents for their kindness in inviting everyone to share in this special day.



Snowflake Café

We are excited to launch the new **Snowflake Café** and wider **Careers and Preparation for Adulthood programme** across the secondary provision this term. The Snowflake Café has been designed to provide pupils with meaningful, real-life learning experiences that develop communication, independence, teamwork and employability skills through practical enterprise activities. Pupils will take part in preparing food and drinks, weighing and measuring ingredients, handling money, recording profit and loss, taking orders and working collaboratively as part of a team.

Alongside the café, we are also embedding the Skills Builder framework throughout the curriculum to support the development of eight essential skills for life, learning and future employment: **Listening, Speaking, Problem Solving, Creativity, Staying Positive, Planning, Leadership and Teamwork**. These skills will be interwoven across classroom learning, community visits, enterprise opportunities and work-related learning experiences to help pupils repeatedly practise and generalise their skills in meaningful contexts.

We are also proud to be expanding our work experience and employer engagement opportunities for pupils. Students will begin accessing supported work experience placements and community-based learning opportunities with local organisations and businesses to help prepare them for future pathways, independence and adulthood. The Snowflake Careers and Preparation for Adulthood offer is designed to ensure pupils develop confidence, communication, emotional regulation and functional life skills while building awareness of future education, employment and community opportunities. We are incredibly excited to see our pupils grow in confidence as they begin applying their learning in real-world settings.



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Cinco de Mayo

Pupils enjoyed learning about Cinco de Mayo during our assembly, exploring Mexican history and culture, including traditional music, celebrations and importance of the day.



Flores de Mayo

Pupils were able to explore Flores de Mayo celebration. It was wonderful to see everyone engaged and enjoying the colourful presentations and shared learning experience.



Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Awareness Month gives us a valuable opportunity to reflect on the importance of emotional wellbeing for both children and adults. At our school we recognise that each pupil communicates, experiences and manages their feelings in different ways.

Small everyday actions can make positive difference to wellbeing both at school and at home.

- consistent routines
- time to talk and listen
- opportunities for movement and outdoor play
- noticing changes in mood or behaviour.

By working together with families and carers, we can continue to build a caring community where every pupil is supported to thrive.



Days out



Coffee Morning

We would like to invite you to our Phonics and Preparation to Adulthood Coffee morning on **17th June 2026**, from **10:30am to 11:30am**.

It will be a lovely opportunity to meet our team and learn about how we support our pupils in preparation for adulthood.

A letter with further details and how to attend, either in person or online will be sent home.

We are looking forward to welcome you there!

