



Friday 8th March 2024

## Hello from the Head

It has been lovely to have some dry, spring like weather this week and the Children have enjoyed going up onto the field at lunchtimes towards the end of the week. It has been another really positive week in school with some brilliant learning taking place. On Tuesday, Oak class visited Barnstaple Museum and Rock Park. They had a super time and were a credit to the school. On Thursday, we celebrated World Book Day—it was great to see the range of costumes that the children dressed up in and the theme of bedtime stories was a definite winner. Thanks to everyone who submitted an amazing "Extreme Reading" entry—they were fabulous and a real Challenge to judge. We had our own Masked Reader Competition in school.

A huge thank you to the PTFA for their hard work with the Wonka Bars, the Mother's day gift shop and all they do for the school.

Since September, the school has been working in partnership with Ventrus MAT and the staff have benefitted from professional development opportunities and the chance to work with other local schools on school improvement.

Just a reminder that next week is parent consultations on Monday and Thursday after school. Next Friday is Comic Relief, please come dressed in red on Friday.

Have a lovely weekend.

## Collective Worship

On Monday we looked at the protected characteristic of age. We have also been focusing on World Book Day.

# Things to Remember

- Please do not park on the school site at normal pick up and drop off times. The safety of the Children and pedestrians is paramount. Please park Carefully and Considerately on the roads near to the school and use the pedestrian path. We only have parking for blue badge holders.
- Swimming is on Tuesdays for Year 2 and Year 5 (ASH and WILLOW class). Please make sure that your child has their swimming kit for Tuesdays.
  - Please make sure that your child has suitable clothing for the weather conditions.
    - Please ensure that your child is completing their home learning each week.

# SMUPS News



## CERTIFICATE WINNERS

Each week, we celebrate brilliant learning in our celebration assembly.

We give out certificates for Resilience, Resourcefulness,

Relationships, Risk and Reflectiveness as these are our

Building Learning Powers.

ACORNS: Charlie P & Charlie J

OAK: Finley & Oliver

ASH: Amelia & Ava

PINE: Lilly, Alfie G & Joe

BEECH: Mila & Darcey

HOLLY: Sophie & Jacob

WILLOW: William & Summer

ELM: Zavier, Lily & Jimmy

Well done to Harry B for earning his 100,000 words certificate on Accelerated Reader

Well done to Daisy for earning her 250,000 words certificates on Accelerated Reader.

Well done to Steve, Freddy, Nora, Mila, William H, Isaac, Greg, Eliza F, Ben, Heidi, Cobo, Joe R, Isaac and Isabella for being this weeks TTRS winners.

Well done to Daniel, William, Ruby W and Elyssia for being this weeks Numbots winners.

## Dates for your diaries

Monday 11th March: Holly and Pine visiting Eastleigh 1:30-2:15pm

PARENT CONSULTATIONS: 3:15-5:30PM

Thursday 14th March: PARENT CONSULTATIONS: 3:15-5:30PM

Friday 15th March—Red Nose Day: Wear Red

Wednesday 27th March - PM PTFA Easter Egg Hunt

Tuesday 26th March—Year 5 and 6 trip to Exmoor

Thursday 28th March: Last Day of Term and Year 6 and Reception Weigh and Measure

Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April: EASTER HOLIDAYS

Snapchat is a photo- and video-sharing app which also allows users to chat with friends via text or audio. Users can share images and videos with specific friends, or through a 'story' (documenting the previous 24 hours) visible to their entire friend list. Snapchat usage rose during the pandemic, with many young people utilising it to connect with their peers. The app continues to develop features to engage an ever larger audience and emulate current trends, rivalling platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

IGG ME

#NOFILTER

### CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects on the app with people they know, they may still receive friend requests from strangers. Snapchat's links with apps such as Wink and Hoop have increased this possibility. Accepting a request means that children are then disclosing personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features. This could allow predators to gain their trust for sinister purposes.

There are many features that are attractive to users and keep them excited about the app. Snap streaks encourage users to send snaps daily.

Spotlight Challenges give users to the chance to obtain money and online fame, and the Spotlight feature's scroll of videos makes it easy for children to spend hours watching content.

and posts on Snapchat not suitable for children. The hashtags used to group determined by the poster, so an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate placover function lets swipe through snippets of news stories and trending articles that often include adult is currently off this feature.

Sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse. While pictures do disappear – and the sender is notified if it has been screenshotted first – have found alternative to images, such as taking pictures with a separate device.

Snapchat's filters and snapchat's filters and are a popular way for enhance their 'selfle game'. designed to the 'beautify' photos unrealistic body image expectations and create feelings of inadequacy. Comparing themselves unfavourably against p

My Places lets users check in and search for popular spots nearby — such as restaurants, parks or shopping centres — and recommend them to their friends. The potential issue with a young person consistently checking into locations on Snapchat is that it allows other in their friends list (even people they have only met online) to where they currently are and they regularly go.



## TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add function helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this feature potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed cog icon).

Talk to your child about what is and isn't wise to share an Snapchat (e.g. don't post explicit images or videos, or display identifiable details like their school uniform). Remind them that once something is online, the creator loses control over where it might end up – and who with. Additionally, Snapchat's 'spatlight' feature has a #challenge like Tikrok's: it's vital that your child understands the potentially harmful consequences of taking part in these challenges.

## **CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS**

Snapchat has recently announced that it is rolling out a new safety feature: users will receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Your child can send Snaps directly to friends, but are visible to everyone they have added, unless they change the settings. If they use SnapMaps, their location is visible unless 'Ghost Mode' is enabled (again via settings). It's prudent to emphasise the importance of not adding people they don't know in real life. This is particularly important with My Places, which allows other Snapchatters to see the places your regularly visits and checks in. Additionally, it's important to be cautious Shared Stories as this allows people list

## TALK ABOUT SEXTING

It may
(and one young people can be reluctant
to have) It is important enly
non-judgementally about sexting, scus
legal implications of sending, receiving
sharing explicit images, well as the possible
emotional impact. Emphasise that your child
shauld never feel pressured into sexting
that if they receive unwanted explicit images,
they should tell trusted adult straight away.

## BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does your child on Snapchat and begins to them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending explicit images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and choose report or block. There are options to they are reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading for example).



ticurces tratis of Mhot Social medicional young peoples mental heath (Liberiuses - Children's Commission Helpe//mostrable.com/orticle/mapohat-status-snap-maps/heurope-true s5staty Commissiones (2017) to





F



SOUTH MOLTON C OF E EXETER ROAD, SOUTH MOLTON, EX364EN

# **CHILDREN WELCOME**

Refreshments will be available, please bring your own alcohol

For more information visit SMUPSPTFA ON FACEBOOK