

SMUPS News

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Friday 14th May 2021

Hello from the Head!

The rainy weather hasn't dampened spirits too much this week and it has been great to see so much wonderful learning this week.

Pine Class really enjoyed their trip to Hakeford Woods on Wednesday. It was lovely to hear the positive comments the children made about their day and luckily the weather held for them.

We had a visit from our local authority school advisor on Wednesday and we toured the school. She was most impressed with the children's learning behaviours and how settled they were in their lessons as we walked through the corridors. We watched a phonics lesson in Acorns and Ash class and were extremely impressed with the children's fantastic phonics, reading and writing. It was lovely to see how far the children have come in such a short space of time and to see the joy they showed in their learning.

Years Four and Six have been doing extremely well with their swimming and even in just a few lessons you can see the confidence returning and the children progressing in their skills.

We are planning on sending written reports out earlier than normal this year and then we will complete end of year assessments later in June and July with a further update then.

Finally, on the final page of the newsletter is a guide to new devices and how to set them up securely. It is also relevant to any devices that the children have access to. Over the last year, children have become increasingly reliant on technology and we have seen many benefits to it, but it is important that it is used safely.

Have a lovely weekend.

Collective Worship

We are continuing with our theme of justice. We have looked at the concept of equity this week.

Things to Remember

- **Please read with your child each night** and sign their home school diary. This is the single best way of supporting their learning.
- **Years 4 and 6 have swimming on Tuesdays and Fridays.**
- **Basketball Coaching for years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 is on Thursdays.** Please can the children come to school in their P.E. kits on this day.
- With the showery weather of this week forecast to continue, **please ensure your child has a coat.**
 - **Please wear a face covering on school property** when dropping off / picking up.

Certificates and Awards

We had our certificate assembly of the school year today. Well done to our winners.

Acorns: Alfie G, Ryder

Ash: Maylah, Alex

Pine: Whole Class!

Oak: Emily, Freya

Elm: Jack, Joseph, Isabella, Wilf

Apple: Thomas

Beech: Hattie

Holly: Ryan



Ms Leach would like to congratulate all those who successfully applied to join Jaguar Challenge this year:

Callum E, Will H, Jake, Isabella C, Wilf, Harry, Scott, Harry W, Edward, Noah, Joseph B, William W, Jack B.



Wordy Week

Nelson
Mandella



Florence
Nightingale

Who would...

...make a great friend?

...make the best doctor?

...be the best story teller?



Mary Anning



Christopher
Columbus

Did you know...

...that Nelson Mandela became South Africa's first black president on the 10th May 1994 and Florence Nightingale was born on the 12th May 1820.

"In my opinion..."
"I think.... because...."

The current generation are the first children to grow up in a world where digital devices are the norm. Recent studies have found that 88% of British 12-year-olds have a smartphone. Four out of ten 8-year-olds own a tablet. And almost two-thirds (64%) of children aged 8-11 use a games console. It's now rare to find a child who doesn't regularly use internet-enabled technology. Each new device means exciting new corners of the digital world to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips to help you guide your children in enjoying new digital devices safely and responsibly.

1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess. (It's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten).

2. SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't unintentionally do something they shouldn't.

3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with a new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check the age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're surfing the web, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get addicted very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are fun, too. And the device will still be there when they get back.

7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you set a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused so they can perform well at school.

9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) as your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, young people have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday



for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.



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Online
Safety
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