



## **Weekly Bulletin – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019**

### **Headteacher's Message**

It was lovely to see so many parents and friends at Wednesday's Year One Class Worship. The children did a fantastic job of sharing information about the importance of water with parents and pupils and they can be proud of their efforts. In response to the children's awareness raising, we will be supporting Water Aid. Further details are in a note sent home by the School Council. A huge thank you to Miss Newman and Mrs Stewart for preparing the children.

Next week, we will once again be celebrating Chinese New Year in school. Each class will participate in some activities to learn about the traditions and cultural celebrations. Chinese New Year is on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February and marks the Year of the Pig. People born in the Year of the Pig are said to be honest, good-tempered, kind-hearted, positive and loyal. They have a calm appearance and a strong heart.

We are working closely with students from the University of Durham and three Chinese students are spending time with Year 5, Year 2 and Reception Class to teach children about life and festivals in China.

Year 5 will be delivering their class assembly in school next Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> February at 9.10am, and Year 5 parents and carers are warmly welcomed.

The festivities continue in Durham and Year 5 have been invited to participate at Durham Town Hall on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February. All parents and children are welcome to join in the celebrations organised by the Durham International Office. There will be storytelling, Chinese language sessions, craft activities, performances and much more, as well as the traditional lion dance performances.

This link gives you the full programme for the activities during the day.

<http://www.durhambid.co.uk/events/chinese-new-year-events-durham-city>

Best wishes

Mr Tait

### **Diary Dates**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Safer Internet Day

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 09:10am – Y5 Class Assembly – Chinese New Year (Parents welcome)

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Progress Reports sent home (Years 1-6)

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February – FOSS School Disco

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Y5 Chinese New Year celebrations – Durham Town Hall  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Parents’ Consultation Evening  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February – School closes for half-term holiday  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February – School re-opens  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February – Y2 Great Fire of London Workshop (In-school event)  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 10:00am – Eucharist for Lent (Parents welcome)  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day and World Book Day Lunch  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Reception Zoolab  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Easter Lunch  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April – School closes for Easter  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – School re-opens

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

### **Noticeboard**

- Young Photographer and Young Writer competition – closing date Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February.
- School holidays for 2019/2020 now available on the School website.

### **Traffic in the Vicinity of the School**

As you will be aware, we work in partnership with the Parish Council and Durham Police to address issues of parking and access to the school by car. Durham Police conducted a ‘Speedwatch Survey’ on Tues 22nd January between 8.45 and 9.15am along the perimeter road around the estate in order to get some statistics regarding speeding. Of the 58 cars measured ALL exceeded the current 30mph limit with some traveling at speeds of 45 mph. Many of the cars were carrying children. I ask all parents to consider the safety of our children and drive responsibly when using the roads within Shincliffe. This is in order to ensure the safety of all of our children.

### **Safer Internet Day and Online Safety**

Next Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February, is the annual Safer Internet Day. As a school we will be marking the day with information and awareness-raising class-based activities for the children. Staying safe online is everyone’s responsibility. It might be helpful to think about:

- Where you keep devices – Keep them in public areas of the house!
- What is being shared- checking the settings carefully.
- Who are your child’s online friends?

#### *Further information to support parents:*

The school will help children to learn about staying safe online, but recognises that the primary responsibility for online safety at home lies with parents and carers. Your help is needed to help your children adopt safe use of the digital technologies at home.

It is important that we are all vigilant when children are using devices and act to ensure they are protected from people who may pose a risk to them. Children can accidentally or deliberately be exposed to illegal, unwanted or unpleasant content, comments or activity online and there are steps you can take at home to minimise this risk.

We know that new apps and sites appear daily online and it would be unrealistic to ask parents and carers to understand all of them. The sites and services that your child likes to use may change regularly, but the messages they need to keep themselves safe will remain the same – think before you post, be kind online and ask for help if something makes you feel worried, upset or uncomfortable.

If your child wishes to download a new app then we would recommend considering some of the following points:

#### Listen

- Take an active interest in your child’s online life and talk with them about how they use technology.
  - Ask your child why they want to use the app? How did they hear about it?
- Discuss with them how they will keep themselves safe and make sure they know:
  - How to block and report other users and content
  - To speak to a trusted adult if they see anything or something happens online that makes them feel worried, upset or uncomfortable.
  - About websites such as Child Line and CEOP? [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk) and [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

#### Functionality

- Make sure that you understand how the app works so you can decide if you are happy for your child to use it. You may even wish to set up an account yourself first.
- Consider:
  - Does it allow video chat or the sharing of images?
  - Does it allow user to communicate with ‘random’ strangers?
  - Does it allow anonymous chat?
  - Does it allow in-app purchases?
  - Can you restrict access to the content that your child shares?
  - How will your child’s personal data be used by the app?

#### Reviews

- What do other people (i.e. other parents and carers) have to say about the app?
  - Ask your friends and family members or take a look online. You may be able to find reviews via search engines or using tools such as [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk) and [www.commonsemmedia.org](http://www.commonsemmedia.org)

#### Age Restrictions

- You can usually find age restrictions within the apps terms and conditions. This is not the same as the app/google store rating.
- The age limit for many popular social networking sites is thirteen. This is due to American Legislation called COPPA. The age limit is not based on suitability of content and instead applies to any website, app or online service which collects, stores or uses children’s personal information. Some apps will have age limits of 18+ as they are exclusively designed for use by adults.
- If children use apps that are aimed at an older age group then this may leave them vulnerable to being exposed to unsuitable content (including advertising), as well as being contacted by strangers.

#### Safety

- Many popular apps will have ‘help’ and ‘safety’ sections, either within the app itself or via its website. Some apps will even have content specifically designed for parents and carers.
  - [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk) has some useful parent guides which highlight safety tools on popular devices, and signpost to report mechanisms.
- Does the app have any privacy settings? If so then help your child to apply them appropriately – for example is it possible to set the app so that only trusted friends can see information they post?
- Explore the block and report features. Can your child block or report concerning users or inappropriate behaviour?
- If the app doesn’t have safety or help sections or doesn’t provide the ability to report and block then you may wish to consider if it is safe for your child to use.

#### Boundaries

- Talk to your child about safe and appropriate online behaviour.
- Consider setting up a family agreement regarding how their internet use will be supervised and how long they can spend online. Resources to help can be found at [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com) and [www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/)
- Apply appropriate parental controls to all devices: [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk) and [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)
- Discuss your expectations about the types of content and information they should share online, rules relating to adding friends and meeting people in real life.
- Do they understand:
  - That content posted online should never be considered to be private and may be copied and shared?
  - That they should behave online the same as they would in “the real world” and be kind?
  - How to be secure online such as by using safe and strong passwords. You can visit [www.getsafeonline.org.uk](http://www.getsafeonline.org.uk) for more advice

If you are worried that your child is at risk of harm or criminal offence has been committed then you can report your concerns to the Police or First Contact (Durham County Council). Please do not notify suspicious profiles of your actions, as this could enable them to delete material which might be required for any Police investigations. You can contact the Police via 101 or via 999 if there is an immediate risk to a child’s safety or First Contact (Durham County Council) on 03000 26 79 79. You can also report online sexual abuse to CEOP by visiting [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk) and using the “Click CEOP” reporting button.

If the school can be of any further assistance, then please contact Mr Tait or Mr Rumbles via the School Office. Additional information and resources are available via the school website.

#### Christian Values

We are continuing to explore the value of hope and worship will be led by Mr Tait, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill, Fr. Peter and the pupils.

We will be thinking about stories of hope from the Old Testament.

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. [Shincliffece@durhamlearning.net](mailto:Shincliffece@durhamlearning.net)

The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents’ section of the website.