



Weekly Bulletin 11th February 2022

Headteacher's Message

This week children have enjoyed celebrating Internet Safety Day and Children's Mental Health Week. Children have explored respect and relationships online as well as how to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology and further information is shared below. Each class also had the opportunity to take part in Children's Mental Health Week where the theme was **Growing Together**. Challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt and trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. The activities focused on encouraging children (and adults) to consider how they have grown, what they need to help them grow, and how they can help others to grow too.

Monday and Tuesday next week are our parent consultation evenings. To keep staff and the school community safe we will be holding our Parents' Consultation evenings online again. If the connection isn't working teachers will telephone and if you need to discuss things further the class teacher will contact you at a separate time. Progress reports for Y1-6 will be sent home today and are a tool to support discussions next week. In addition to this, your child has chosen examples of work from their Maths and English books that they are proud of for you to look at and discuss and celebrate with them.

Each week I want to include a 'snapshot' of some of the things going on in school. For example, news from our ECO team, Worship group, V.I.P. (Very International People) and SNAG (School Nutrition Action Group). This week our focus is on the work of V.I.P. group and they have shared an update below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

V.I.P. (Very International People)

On Saturday 5th February, Year 6 performed in the Town hall. They sang a song from China that two Chinese students (Tang and Xiaoli) taught them. The song was about family and how lucky we are to have family. Year 6 also demonstrated how to make paper lanterns, the lanterns had Tigers on because this year is the Year of the Tiger.

NSPCC Number Day

My thanks go to the School Council and Mrs Richardson for organising our Number Day. The children really enjoyed 'wearing' their numbers and taking part in a range of number-based activities as well as raise money for this worthy cause. The total amount raised was £140 and all money raised will go to support the work of the NSPCC.

Dates

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

Monday 14th & Tuesday 15th February – Parents' Consultation Evenings

Friday 18th February – Break up for February half term holiday

Monday 28th February – School re-opens for Spring Term 2

Monday 4th April – Reception Zoolab Workshop

Thursday 7th April – Break up for the Easter holiday

Monday 25th April – School re-opens for Summer term 1

Monday 2nd May – Bank Holiday

Monday 9th – Thursday 12th - May Y6 SATS week

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day and Online Safety

Tuesday, 8th February, was the annual Safer Internet Day. As a school we marked 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: o 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 and 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 and www.commonssensemedia.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 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 and www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/
- Apply appropriate parental controls to all devices: www.saferinternet.org.uk and 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 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 and using the "Click CEOP" reporting button.

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

St. Mary's Church Notice

WILD CHURCH SPRING TERM DIARY

Sat 17th Feb Wild Church World Social Justice Day: 4.00 p.m. Meet outside St. Mary's Church for Refreshment, Prayer Station for justice, Unicef, String Telephones, Campfire and Short service. Could everyone bring an in-date tin or pasta and we will make an extra Foodbank Collection that day.

TBC Sat March 19 or 26 Wild Church International Forest Day: Refreshment, short service, paper trees, tree identification, plant-a- tree, March Marian Garden.

SAT 16TH April Looking to Easter: St. Patrick: Meet outside Church, its Easter Weekend. Refreshment, ceramic lights to paint, re-telling and building of St. Patrick's Easter fire, prayer station, Celtic (Northumbrian style) prayers and a short service.

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of peace this half term. Worship will be led by Mr Rumbles, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill, Fr. Peter and the pupils.

Some further information about this half term's value, Peace:

The biblical concept of peace is not just the absence of war. It includes peace with God, positive harmony and healthy relationships between people. It involves spiritual as well as material security. Peace, in the sense of total well-being for the whole of creation, is the ultimate goal. Matthew 5:9 says "**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God**".

In the school context peace-making actions can include everything from conflict resolution to creating times and places for stillness and reflection.

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

Some things to think about:

- How do you feel when you are peaceful?
- What sort of things make you feel peaceful?
- How important is peace in your life?
- Do you have a special place where you feel peaceful?

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. Shincliffe@durhamlearning.net The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the Parents' section of the website.

Durham University Holiday Camps

Durham University are back running sport and activity camps from Monday 21st to Friday 25th February at their state of the art Sports and Wellbeing Park. The camps are available to all 5-11 year olds and can be booked on a day to day basis. Costs are £15 per day (09.30am-4.30pm) with a small charge for wraparound care from 08.30am and until 5.30pm each day.

Click the link here to see a short video about what happens at our Holiday Camps.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=you+tube+durham+university+holiday+camps&docid=608029024122065778&mid=11E62CA1B8DC0CD280A911E62CA1B8DC0CD280A9&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>

To book a place for your child, please click here.

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/conference.booking/details/?id=1805>