



## **Weekly Bulletin 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

### **Headteacher's Message**

As a school we are committed to helping children to learn about staying safe online. Similarly, we recognise 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 advice below from Durham County Council schools' online safety team.

This week you will have received information about our Reading Café and Book Fair which begin next Monday. This will hopefully be an opportunity for you to come into school, read with your children and visit the book fair.

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 Music in school and children from Y6 have shared an update below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

### **Music**

Last Friday, some Y5 and Y6 pupils visited the Gala Theatre in Durham to watch the Durham University Palatinate Orchestra perform Scheherazade. Between each piece of music, we learned more about the story and the different instruments played within the orchestra. We also learned about a musical motif - a piece of music played to represent the main characters. It was lovely to be back in a theatre, listening to live music! - Cyrus, Nancy and Ella



## **FOSS**

My thanks go to FOSS for organising the school disco. It was great to see the children and parents back in school for such an event. It also helped to raise money for upcoming school trips, planters and a theatre production of Oliver Twist in school, all of which help to enrich the provision for our children. On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April, Shincliffe CE Primary School staff and children welcome M&M Theatrical Productions for a wonderful performance of Oliver Twist. The lively team of actors will lead us through Oliver's story and the troubles he faced before finally finding his happy ending. Both children and staff will be able to enjoy being part of the experience and join in with show.

## **Festival of Languages**

Next week we will be taking part in the Festival of Languages. We will be having visitors into school to teach children Japanese in Y2 and Punjabi in Y6. Other classes will be learning a range of languages from Mandarin to Spanish with a bit of Harry Potter French!

## **Dates**

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

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March Book Fayre and Reading Cafe

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Reception Zoolab Workshop

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Y2 Visit to Durham Cathedral

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Y4 Visit to Seaham Beach

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 9:15am – Y3 and Y4 Easter Assembly

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 3pm-4.30pm – FOSS Easter Coffee afternoon

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 9:15am - Easter Service – All welcome

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Break up for the Easter holiday

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April – School re-opens for Summer term 1

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April – M&M Theatrical production of Oliver Twist

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Y2 Visit to Beamish

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Bank Holiday

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May Y6 SATS week

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Reception Dinosaur Workshop

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Y1 Visit to Hall Hill Farm

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Y2 Visit to St. Mary's Lighthouse

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July – School closes for Summer holiday.

## **Durham County Council Online Safety advice**

*Things to think about:*

### **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 ChildLine and CEOP?

<https://www.childline.org.uk/> and <https://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

### 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.
- 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

<https://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
- 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.
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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 <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/> and using the “Click CEOP” reporting button.

### **St. Mary’s Church Notice**

**Sat 26 March. 4.00 p.m - Wild Church: Celebrating International Forest Day** – Outside St. Mary’s Refreshments, All age Activities: Prayer station, Fire-pit and mallows, paper trees, leaf identification, plant a tree, March Marian Garden and a short service including the Science of Trees. Our gathering is for everyone, a warm welcome is extended for everyone to join us.

**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 justice and worship will be led by Mr Rumbles, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Peter, Fr Bill and the pupils.

*Some further information on this half term’s value:*

Justice is . . . . .

Looking after each other so that everyone has a fair share of what they need.

Justice and mercy are key themes of the writings of the Old Testament prophets. Biblical justice is **more** than fairness and equality, it is a strong bias towards the weak, the poor and the socially disadvantaged are cared for, whether they ‘deserve’ it or not. In God’s eyes every person is precious and oppression or discrimination, on any grounds, has no place. God’s justice is gracious—He always acts justly and he calls on people to do the same.

*Some things to think about:*

- How can we take responsibility for one another?
- How can we ensure all are treated fairly?
- How and why do we support charities in our school?
- *How can we be inspired to recognise injustice in the world and think about our own role in fighting it?*

‘Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.’ Martin Luther King, Jr.

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