



Farnborough Road Infant School

'LEARNING, CARING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER'

Newsletter 7 8th December 2023



Christmas Concerts

We are looking forward to entertaining all our parents and getting everyone in the Christmas mood next week with our Christmas Concerts.

Tuesday 12th Butterflies 10.45am
Reception 2pm

Wednesday 13th Reception 9am
Ladybirds Mrs Tickle 10.15am
Year 1 2pm

Thursday 14th Year 1 9am
Ladybirds Mrs Duckworth 10.45am
Year 2 2pm and 6pm



Huge THANK YOU to Ema McCoy and Alice Keighley and their PTA Team. Breakfast with Santa and their Secret Santa Shop this week have given the children lots of fun and happy memories.

THANK YOU TO YOU ALL



This week we said a very sad goodbye to Lewis Wright an ex-FRIS/FRJS boy who lost his long battle with cancer. Lewis will be remembered very fondly by all our staff. His smile always lit up any room.



Christmas Party!

Children can wear their own clothes on their Christmas Party Days

Nursery and Reception Tuesday 19th

Year 1 and Year 2 Monday 18th

Deadline for Reception Applications



If you haven't already made your application on - line for Reception 2024 please don't forget to do so by 15th January

Lunchtime Assistants Required



Would you be interested in a role within our school? We currently have vacancies for Lunchtime welfare assistants



6.25 hrs per week or supply work. Please ask for an application form at the school office



Give the gift of a good night's sleep and a warm, comfortable place to dream.

Scan the QR code below to donate to the Time For Bed campaign and help the 18,000 children in Merseyside living without a bed, to get a better start to each and every day



www.timeforbed.org.uk



Donations will be made from members of the public visiting the church.

The Spring term will see the return of the Toast Shop. Our school council representatives will be selling Toast on 13th and 14th March

The Summer Term they will be promoting a Sleep Hero Day when children will be invited to come to school in your Pyjamas on Friday 14th June.

More details to follow.

By supporting their charity we are spreading the word about their appeal

School Council Chosen Charity

This year our School Council have nominated Time For Bed as their chosen charity of the year. They will be organising a number of fundraising events throughout the year.

Their first event is the Christmas Tree Festival at St John's Church

They have asked the children to make bed related decorations to promote the charity Beds, Night Caps, dream catchers, sleep masks, bed time reads, pillows, blankets now adorn our tree.

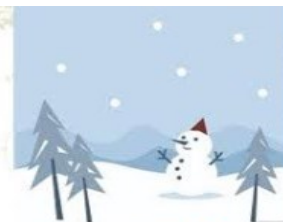
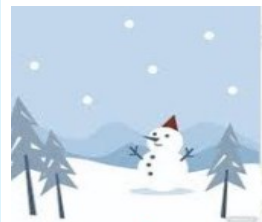


We all know how important a good nights sleep is. Research shows that children who regularly get the right amount of sleep (10-12 hours) have improved attention, behaviour, resilience, learning, memory, and overall physical and mental health.

By working in partnership with Merseyside schools Time for Bed support children living in bed poverty and arrange delivery and assembly of free bed bundles to children aged 0-18 so they can get an all important good nights sleep.

Our school values are:

COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE HONESTY RESPECT and **LOVE AND KINDNESS**



Winter Challenge 2023

<p>Activity 1 Winter Reading Challenge Go to the website below to create your profile. Read 3 or more books and complete the challenges set. Send a picture of your certificate and you will receive 3 credits. wintermini.org.uk</p>	<p>Activity 2 Active Challenge Take part in one of the Sport England challenges, you could try the socks in a box challenge, the wall ball challenge or any others you like the look of. Don't forget to send a picture. https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/competition/socks-in-the-box-60-second-challenge</p>	<p>Activity 3 Create some characters. Save some used cardboard toilet rolls and create some characters with them. You could decorate them as a snowman or penguin or create your own characters. Here's some ideas: https://whatmomsllove.com/kids/christmas-toilet-paper-roll-crafts-for-kids/</p>	<p>Activity 4 Tasty treats! Have a go at making a winter tasty treat...you could make marshmallow penguins or snowmen biscuits... https://www.eatsamazing.co.uk/category/fun-food-for-kids/creative-food-tutorials/winter-themed-recipes</p>
<p>Activity 5 Scavenger hunt! Why not get outside for a walk and take pictures of as many of the following things that you come across: Shadows, a tree stump, a puddle, a squirrel, a worm, fallen leaves, a spiders web, a log, some ice, a feather, a road sign, some birds. I look forward to seeing what you've seen.</p>	<p>Activity 6 Write a winter themed story Use your imagination to write a winter themed story. Think of an idea, create your main character then decide where the story is set. Have a beginning, middle and end! https://readingeggs.co.uk/articles/2015-06-19-story-writing-for-kids/ I can't wait to read them all!</p>	<p>Activity 7 Create a snow globe Have a go at making a snow globe by recycling a used jam jar or similar, find a small figure that could go in it and follow the instructions on this website https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/how-make-snow-globe Don't forget to send a picture.</p>	

Collect extra Children's University credits during the Christmas holiday by completing this challenge. Each activity is worth 1 credit. Send evidence of your activity to SeftonCU@elevate-ebp.co.uk This could be a photograph, video, a work sheet, or writing about what you did. Remember to include your name and the school you attend!



Please bring Children's University Passports into school during the first week back. Deadline for credits to be collected is Thursday 11th January.

REMEMBER to complete the Winter Challenge and you can also purchase a CU Passport online on our website and collect extra credits from non school clubs and other learning destinations



After the Christmas holidays Mrs Hughes and Miss

Iddon will both be starting their maternity leave.

We wish them both well and look forward to hearing about their baby news in the new year.



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

Congratulations to all the children who have had 100% attendance this term, certificates will be given out at the end of term. Letters will be sent out before the end of term for those children with attendance below 90%. As we have a statutory duty to inform parents that we will be closely monitor's these children's attendance the following term. We have however taken into account those children who have had Chicken Pox this term as we realise this has had an impact on children's attendance and that this will not continue to impact their attendance going forward.

DON'T FORGET : SCHOOL CLOSSES ON THURSDAY 21st DECEMBER 2PM and REOPENS ON WEDNESDAY 8th JANUARY at 8.45AM



Does your child use a Dummy?



Babies like to suck, so dummies can help to soothe at bedtime or when your baby is tired or cross. But regular and extended use of a dummy, particularly in toddlers can create problems with your child's speech.

- * It is important that you try to wean your child away from dummies, preferably by 12 months.
- * Start to reduce the dummy when your child is 6 months old. Reducing the use of the dummy

1. Gives your child a chance to build up the muscles in their mouth (e.g. moving their tongue), babble and talk

Dummies can prevent babbling— and important step in learning to talk.

Remember learning to talk can be tricky and needs lots of practise

Discourage the use of a dummy during the daytime when your child can practise chatting and use their language skills.

2. Is better for the growth and position of your child's teeth

3. Reduces the risk of colds and ear infections

REMEMBER always take the dummy out when your child is trying to communicate with you.

If your child is over 12 months old and still has a dummy it is important to try to make a clean break

Christmas is a time of year in which children can be persuaded to give their dummies to Father Christmas or the reindeer .



The Last Noo Noo is a good book to read at bedtime. You can lend a copy of this book from our Caterpillar class or Nursery classes.

Key points

It's up to you to decide when it's time for your child to stop using a dummy.

Start by limiting the times your child can use the dummy e.g. certain times and places like their cot/ bed

Then use the dummy less and less when re-settling during the night

Set a date for no more dummy. Celebrate and reward your child when they let the dummy go and don't go back!

Online Safety Newsletter December 2023

Minecraft

Minecraft remains ever popular and with Christmas ahead of us, maybe your child will be receiving this game as one of their presents. Minecraft Legends is rated as PEGI 7 meaning it is suitable for those over 7 years of age. The App store rate Minecraft as 9+.

You should be aware that there is a multiplayer option so players can chat to each other, and in-app purchases are available. Parental controls are available, either within Minecraft or on the console itself e.g. Nintendo Switch or PlayStation. Find out more here:

<https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/article/parental-controls>

Toxicity in game play

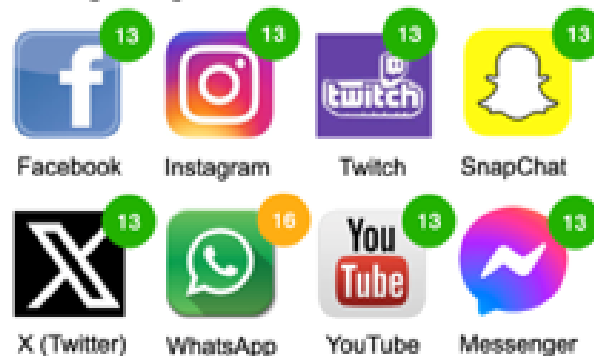
Safe In Our World and Ubisoft (creators of games such as Assassins Creed) have co-developed the 'Good Game Playbook'. The playbook will be sent to players reporting disruptive behaviour as well as the individual reported. This is to support the person affected as well as to try and educate the person reported about the harm their behaviour might have on others.

You can read the handbook here:

<https://safeinourworld.org/news/ubisoft-safe-in-our-world-partner-to-combat-in-game-toxicity/>

Get to know Age Ratings

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. **Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?**



Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online, using social media or downloading other apps – check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI include further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence, if accessing the app/game etc.

It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls.

Further information

Parent Zone have published this article about why age ratings matter: <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/age-ratings>

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

It can be difficult to keep up to date with new technologies and to know if there are any related risks that we need to be aware of when using new technologies. AI is being talked about a lot, so it is worthwhile learning more about it now to help support/answer questions if our children show an interest. Twinkl provide a brilliant overview of AI here:

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/parents-guide-top-tips-for-navigating-generative-ai-safely-with-kids>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.
Current as of the date released 1.12.23.

Our school values are:

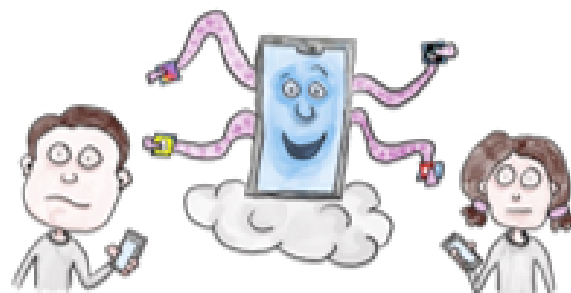
COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE HONESTY RESPECT and LOVE AND KINDNESS

Snapchat

What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is a social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. **You must be 13+ to sign up.** Users can send messages (snaps)

to others that can only be seen for a set time e.g. 10 seconds and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours.



What should I be concerned about?

There are risks to using Snapchat, including the risk of your child viewing content that is not appropriate for them, location sharing and contact from strangers.

Family Centre features

Family Centre includes features such as allowing you to see who your child is friends with, who they are communicating with (not the contents of conversations though) and who your child has sent messages, photos or videos to in the last week. You will also be able to report any accounts that you are concerned about as well as restrict sensitive content. Snapchat have also published a safety checklist to help support conversations about how to use Snapchat safely:

- <https://parents.snapchat.com/en-GB/parental-controls?lang=en-GB>

New safeguarding features

Snapchat have recently announced their newest features to help protect 13-17-year-olds. The first feature is in-app warnings so a pop-up warning will now be displayed if someone tries to add them as a friend that they don't have mutual contacts with, or the person isn't in their contacts.

The second feature is 'stronger friending protections.' Currently 13-17-year-olds must have several mutual friends in common for that user to show up in search results or as a friend suggestion, but this number has been increased. **These two features are available to users aged 13-17-year-olds, this is one of the reasons why it is always important for your child to sign up with their correct date of birth, so they can benefit from any such features.**

- <https://values.snap.com/en-GB/news/new-safeguards-for-snapchatters-2023>

Safety tips

Please make sure the appropriate privacy settings are set up on Snapchat and your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary:

- <https://support.snapchat.com/en-GB/article/privacy-settings2>

More information

- <https://www.virginmedia.com/blog/parental-controls/snapchat>

Fake Profiles and Cyberbullying

Setting up a profile impersonating somebody else with the intention of being unkind to others, to cause embarrassment to the individual is a form of cyberbullying.

If your child has set up a fake profile, talk to them about how this is a form of bullying and therefore not acceptable.

It is important that we talk to our children about the issue of cyberbullying and let them know that if they are ever a victim of it then it is not their fault, and they should tell you (or a trusted adult) straightaway. Talk to your child about reporting and blocking tools on social media or online games and show them how to use them to report any form of bullying.

You can read more about cyberbullying here:

- <https://www.childline.org.uk/in-fo-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/types-bullying/bullying-cyberbullying/>
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>

Additionally, Report Harmful Content have listed how you can report impersonation accounts on the different social media networks here:

<https://reporthisharmfulcontent.com/advice/impersonation/>

