

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

This has been another very busy couple of weeks for the school, with a range of events and activities helping the children learn about a whole range of topics through to the end of term.

In my last newsletter, I mentioned about the Internet Safety Briefing for parents and carers held after school on the Friday. It was a hugely valuable session held annually, which always proves an eye-opener for parents. I attend each year and am always amazed at the range of information covered and it is always good to have a reminder about the sort of sites which many children access, but which may be putting them in a vulnerable position. I attach the flyer given to parents which lists some of the resources available to you to check that your systems at home are safe, and that your children are not using sites that are inappropriate. The website <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> is a brilliant resource for checking age ratings of different games and websites, with many, including Youtube, Snapchat and Instagram having a 13+ rating.

Last Friday, Oak Class had a brilliant day at Berwick St Leonard learning about farming and wildlife at a Countryside Day. A brilliantly organised wide range of activities showed the children everything from combine harvesters to honey-production, letting them examine a range of crops, see sheep being shorn and being in touching-distance of birds of prey. As always, the children were superbly behaved and a real credit to the school.

#### Staffing Update

Mrs Hancock, one of our teachers in Hazel Class, will be leaving us at the end of this term. She has been a very valued member of our staff team since she joined us at Christmas and I would like to thank her for all her hard work and dedication to the school. Mrs Oliver is also changing her role to a leadership position to help the school to address quickly the areas for improvement identified in our recent inspection. We held interviews for their replacements yesterday and, once the final safeguarding checks have been carried out, I will make arrangements for you to meet them. I am hoping they will be here next week for our Transition Day on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July to give you the chance to put names to faces.

#### Parking Plea

Until recently, there have been some traffic cones between the end of the yellow zig-zag lines, by the car-park, and the end of our neighbours' house. Please do not park in this area as the road narrows significantly at this point (our coach last Friday could barely squeeze past) and curves away. With cars parked there, visibility is seriously reduced, safety is compromised and it is awkward for our neighbours to access their property. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

I hope those of you who were able to come into school this afternoon were impressed with the work the children have been doing in school. The rehearsals for Alice – the Musical are coming on well, and next week we will be on stage without scripts! Please help your child memorise their lines, including for the songs, as we can then be working on the acting!

Tomorrow we have our INSET day, so no school for the children. I hope you all have a lovely long weekend.

With best wishes

James Stanford


Reminders:

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Induction Day

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July – Sports Day



## Parents Online Safety Information

 <p>O2 NSPCC Let's keep kids safe online</p>	<p><b>NSPCC/O<sub>2</sub> Parents Online Safety Helpline</b> Free service to give advice to parents. The helpline is available 24 hours and can help you to set up devices, explain how to have conversations about issues with your children or give you advice on actions to take if an incident happens. Also, book an appointment with an O<sub>2</sub> Guru. Tel: 0808 8005002</p>
	<p><b>NSPCC Online safety webpage</b> Comprehensive information and advice for parents and carers including technical tools, reviews of apps, conversation starters. <a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/">https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/</a></p>
	<p><b>Internet Matters</b> Advice for parents of children of all ages – learn about it, talk about it, deal with it <a href="http://www.internetmatters.org/">www.internetmatters.org/</a></p>
	<p><b>Common Sense Media</b> Detailed reviews of games, websites and apps with the aim of helping parents make informed decisions about whether they are suitable for their children <a href="https://www.commonsensemedia.org/">https://www.commonsensemedia.org/</a></p>
	<p><b>AskAboutGames</b> Joint venture between Video Standards Council and the games industry trade body, AskAbout Games can answer questions about age ratings, are looking for tips about safe and beneficial play, or want to discover the best games to play. <a href="http://www.askaboutgames.com/">http://www.askaboutgames.com/</a></p>
	<p><b>Safe Schools and Communities Team (Dorset)</b> Advice and links about different issues relating to young people including internet safety <a href="https://www.dorset.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/safe-schools-team/">https://www.dorset.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/safe-schools-team/</a></p>



## Parents Online Safety Information



**Consider using Parental Controls** on broadband and mobile phone data. All major companies should provide this free of charge and it can be set up using your online accounts. Be aware of the limitations in that parental controls will only block content that flags itself about being inappropriate. It is also possible to switch the Wifi off at certain times or limit it to certain connected devices.



**Consider controls on devices - laptops, phones, tablets, games consoles, handheld game devices, TVs, smartspeakers.** These controls can limit the times the device can be used, whether apps/games can be downloaded, the internet can be accessed or purchases made. Apps are also available that provide similar controls on devices. It can be helpful if children have their own profile or device. Note that these controls become less useful as children get older.



**Check privacy settings on websites and apps.** Ensure that any social media, games or apps are set to the appropriate privacy setting to prevent unknown or inappropriate people from viewing or contacting children and young people – this can be found under Settings in most websites/apps. Often the default setting for these types of account is public meaning that everyone can see content, including pictures and videos. Also check that locations are not being shared under GPS or Location Services settings.



**Talk, talk, talk.** The most important thing for parents and carers is to have lots of conversations with their children and young people about what they are using, how these games/website/apps work, why they enjoy them, who else is using them etc. In this way they may be able to identify any risky content, inappropriate contact or conduct at an early stage.



**Develop your knowledge.** Understand how the different apps, website and games work (see the websites on the other side of this sheet). Help them to use the tools available on each account or app such as blocking and reporting.



**Agree within the family** how and when devices can be used by adults and children - if possible write this down and stick it on the fridge. This should include how devices will be monitored and what sanctions will be if the agreement is broken.



**Dealing with an incident.** Get advice from the NSPCC website or helpline about the best course of action. Minor fall outs between friends online may be able to be sorted out without involving others. Know how to report online, but also when to report to school or police if your child has a problem.