

Newsletter 3

19th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,
As we come to the end of the Autumn half term, I have a few notices for you.



Learning God's Way

Headteacher: Mr M Jee

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school@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk

stmargaretsprimary.org.uk

Anti-Bullying Week 2023

We will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week 2023 which is from Monday 13th - Friday 17th November. On Monday 13th November, the children can wear odd socks to school to celebrate how different and unique we all are.

The theme this year is "Make A Noise About Bullying". We will be discussing what bullying means to us, how banter can turn into something more hurtful, and what we can do to stop bullying.

That together, we can make a difference and take a stand against bullying.

Uniform

Please note that the sweatshirt hoodies are only to be worn for PE and not a substitute for the school jumper/school cardigan which should be worn as part of the school uniform.

Black History

Through the month of November, we will be honouring the contributions and accomplishments of the Black community. Black History Month provides great opportunities to highlight key moments in Black history. It is important to celebrate the contributions of everyone to our society and support the multi-culturalism and diversity that helps shape our communities.

Remembrance Ceremony

We will be holding our Act of Remembrance in the upper playground at school on **Friday 10th November** at **11am**. Parents are warmly invited to attend this brief ceremony - please arrive at school no later than 10.50am.



PLEASE NOTE

Traffic Management outside school

On **Monday 20th November** there will be a two week period whereby we will have traffic management on the road outside of the school. This will mean that the footpath at the bottom of the access road and the access itself into the school, will not be accessible to pupils and parents during this period.

Alternative provisions for the school crossing will be put in place and thereby hopefully avoiding some of the confusion from last time.

Vacancies:-

We are very excited to be opening our brand new Special Support Centre in January 2024! We currently have two vacancies for two Learning Support Assistants to join our Centre Manager, Mrs Mary Ballingal, in "The Tomlin Centre" to help create a supportive environment for children with social and communication differences. If you are interested in applying, please see our website for further information. Closing date 2nd November 2023

Colourful Christmas Hampers 2023

Exciting Festive Hampers To Be Won!

This year St Margaret's are bringing you some festive fun for a chance to win a Christmas Hamper like never before!

We would kindly ask each child to bring in an item of their **YEAR GROUP COLOUR**, which will contribute to a large Christmas Hamper. Our Beautiful Hampers will be showcased and then placed into a Christmas raffle for a lucky winner.

Items ranging from festive treats, festive toys, unopened toiletries, alcohol, and non-perishable items would be gratefully received.

PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR YOUR YEAR GROUP ITEM COLOUR

RECEPTION:	<u>MULTI COLOURED</u>
<u>YEAR 1:</u>	<u>RED</u>
<u>YEAR 2:</u>	<u>PURPLE/PINK</u>
<u>YEAR 3:</u>	<u>BLUE</u>
<u>YEAR 4:</u>	<u>SILVER/WHITE</u>
<u>YEAR 5:</u>	<u>YELLOW/GOLD</u>
<u>YEAR 6:</u>	<u>GREEN</u>



Please bring in your donation on TUESDAY 7TH NOV in exchange for children wearing their own clothes

Dates
for your



REMAINING INSET Days

May I remind you that the school is closed for staff training on

Friday 20th October 2023

Monday 19th February 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

CAN YOU HELP?

Forest School Need volunteers

Sessions will run on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons 1.15pm – 2.45pm.

If you feel you could give up one or two afternoons a week, please email the school office.





School Absence

Absence for any reason, please notify the school office either by phone 01903 785416 or email school@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk

May I remind you that Headteachers are NOT allowed by law to authorise absence in term time except for 'exceptional circumstances.' Children are in school for 190 days per year. Holidays in term time cannot be included as 'exceptional circumstances' except in very rare cases. As such Headteachers are not permitted to authorise such absences and the Local Authority (NOT the school) may issue a fine.

In the exceptional case where you may have to request absence from school please complete the form available on the school's website or from the school office at least one month in advance of the first date of absence.

Would you like to join our PTA?

We always welcome new faces, and new ideas.

We appreciate everybody has busy lives but even a few hours every now and again to help our PTA would be gratefully appreciated.

If you are interested please contact pta@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk or come and speak to the school office.

Join the PTA!



We Need Your Help



And finally After a busy half term we wish everyone a safe and restful break. We look forward to seeing you on Monday 30th October.

Yours sincerely
Mike Jee
 Headteacher



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WIZZ

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

12+ App Store
Teen Google Playstore

Wizz is a networking app which allows users to connect and chat with other people around the world. Its principle is similar to a dating platform: users have a profile with up to three photos, along with optional interests and hobbies tags. This allows other like-minded people to be recommended in searches. If a user likes what they see on someone's profile, they can initiate conversation through the instant message feature; otherwise they swipe on. The app does use age verification technology when an account is created and groups users by age.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

OVER-SHARING

Immediately after setting up an account, users start receiving friend requests (mainly from the opposite gender). For many young people, this will be exciting and a boost to their confidence. As young people tend to be more trusting online and may believe what others tell them, however, this can lull them into dropping their guard and revealing personal information to strangers.

CATFISHING AND PREDATORS

Wizz uses Yoti, a digital ID system, to verify users' age. The AI only detects approximate age, though – so an older person who looks younger could be grouped with teens (or vice versa). Also, profile pics on Wizz don't have to match the face of the person who did the initial age verification: it would be fairly easy to create a fake account using another person's photos with a made-up name and age.

EXPLICIT CONTENT

During our research, conversations on Wizz very quickly turned sexual. Users frequently suggested taking it to Snapchat (Snapchat's disappearing image feature can make it conducive to sharing explicit selfies), connecting on other social media, swapping nude or semi-nude pictures, or holding sexual chats. These users created an impression of the platform being sleazy and unsafe for young people.

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MEET STRANG

INTIMATE IMAGES

It's not unheard of for young people to be coaxed into sending suggestive images of themselves over apps of this kind. Given that Wizz connects users with strangers, who may not be honest about their real intentions, a teenager might conceivably be persuaded to share sexually suggestive selfies by someone who they believed they had a trusting relationship with.

NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

The app claims to provide a secure and inclusive environment, but our researcher couldn't find any parental controls or safety features in evidence. If you report another user for inappropriate behaviour, you are offered the option to block them – but there's no indication as to whether the block has actually been successful, and there was no follow-up contact from the developers.

SECRETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Wizz sent our researcher occasional 'mystery' friend requests from a blurred-out profile. To discover the sender's identity, users can either watch a video (usually an ad for a game or app) or take out a monthly subscription. Critics might suggest this could be a way to exploit young people's curiosity into making them pay for the app, and that the 'secret admirers' are bots rather than real people.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT OUT

If your child has downloaded Wizz, talk to them about why they like it and who've chatted with. Have they shared any personal details with this person or connected with them on other social media platforms? Refresh your child's memory of the various risks that can arise from engaging with strangers online and get them to consider using a similar app with more robust safety features.



BE SUPPORTIVE

When connecting with strangers on apps like Wizz, seemingly innocent chats can quickly progress to become sexually explicit and lead to nudes being sent. Make sure your child knows to come to you if they're uncomfortable about anything they've been sent or been asked to send. If they've already shared something that they now regret, reassure them that you'll support them no matter what.

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Young people are far more inclined to see the good in others; they often overlook the fact that scammers set up fake accounts on apps like this with the intention of getting money or personal data. Remind them that not everyone online is who they claim to be, how easy it is for someone to create a bogus profile, and why it's vital to think twice about sharing anything on networking apps.



KEEP THINGS TRANSPARENT

It might feel awkward, but regular chats about your child's online life can be beneficial. If they seem suddenly anxious or secretive around their phone or tablet, they may have something they need to get off their chest. You could also consider not allowing digital devices in their bedroom, especially overnight – that's when a lot of the riskier conversations on apps like Wizz tend to take place.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.wizzapp&hl=en_GB&gl=US | <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/sexual-offences/sexortion/>



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety

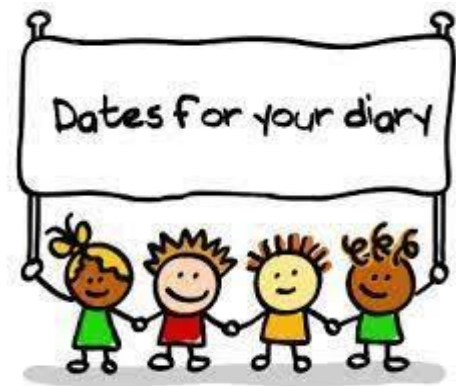


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@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.04.2023



Items highlighted in red are new or amended dates

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – Autumn Term 2023

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 17th October	1.00 – 3.00pm	Flu Immunisation programme offered for the whole school PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE
Thursday 19 th October	4.00pm – 7.00pm	Parents Evening
Friday 20 th October	ALL DAY	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET DAY
Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October		Half Term
Tuesday 31 st October	5.30pm	St Margaret's Church Light Party (see flyer attached)
Thursday 2 nd November	6.00 – 7.00pm	PTA Firework Display (see flyer attached) CANCELLED
Tuesday 7th November	6.30pm	Year 6 Cobnor Residential parents' meeting
Friday 10 th November	11.00am	Remembrance Service
Wednesday 22nd November	6.00pm	Year 4 Dalesdown Residential parents' meeting
Thursday 30 th November	am	Panto performing at school
Saturday 2 nd December		PTA Christmas Event – Breakfast with Santa
Thursday 7 th December		Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 11 th December	9.15am 10.00am 1.30pm	Years 4, 5 and 6 Church Service at St Margaret's Church (Parents invited to attend) Years 1, 2 and 3 Church Service at St Margaret's Church (Parents invited to attend) Year 1 and 2 Christmas play dress rehearsal to ½ school
Tuesday 12 th December	9.30am 1.30pm	Year 1 and 2 Christmas play dress rehearsal to ½ school Year 1 and 2 Christmas play to parents and carers
Wednesday 13 th December	9.30am 2.30pm 6.00pm	Year 1 and 2 Christmas play to parents and carers EYFS Christmas Nativity to parents Carol Service
Thursday 14 th December	Pm	Christmas parties in classes
Friday 15 th December		Last Day of School
First day back after Christmas is Tuesday 2 nd January 2024		

St Margaret's C.E. Primary School, Arundel Road, Angmering, West Sussex, BN16 4LP

To develop a life-long love of learning; to grow spiritually and reflect Jesus in our words and action; to foster self-respect and love for others; to provide opportunities for ALL to flourish; to serve our community; to prepare and equip for an ever-changing world.