

# Newsletter 6

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022



Learning God's Way

## School Inset Days

School will be closed on **Thursday 31st March** for staff training. Please note that this is a change of date from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

Please note the change of date



## Safer Internet Day

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February**

All the classes will be doing an internet safety lesson from <https://saferinternet.org.uk>

Also, Junior classes will be looking at the website BBC Own It and they will have a chance to get involved with the quizzes and games that link to ways to stay safe online.

Don't forget  
Parents'  
Evening!



**TAKE ACTION**

## Parent/Teacher Consultations

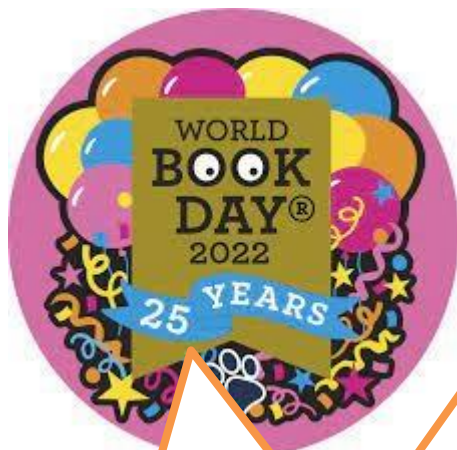
As with many schools, we have a large number of children away with COVID. Some children have symptoms and some are asymptomatic. We are also having to juggle staff on a daily basis and this is made more difficult due to a lack of supply teachers.

For this reason, we have decided that the parents evenings will be online as last term rather than having large numbers of parents and children mixing in school.

This is disappointing as we would like to show you children's work. However, hopefully in the summer term we will be able to arrange a time for you to share your child's work and discuss their progress with the class teacher.

Your appointment time will remain the same and teachers will be online via Google Meet as last term. Link details will follow.

Please note, on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February**, school will end at **2.45pm** to give teachers the chance to get home and online ready for parent consultations (having 14 meetings in school at the same time overloads the Wi-Fi!!).



*Learning God's Way*

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### World Book Day Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Come dressed to school as your favourite book character and if possible bring a copy of the book to share with your class.

There will be a book token coming home with your child and we will be celebrating book day in school in a special way.



At the end of this half term we are welcoming two new members of staff, Mr Parent and Miss Atkins as Learning Support Assistants



#### Pottery Classes

Did your child enjoy the pottery in school during Art Week? Would you be interested in a four week pottery course for your child in which they would complete a project within a small group of children. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact

[allthingsbisqd@gmail.com](mailto:allthingsbisqd@gmail.com)

for further information



### Packed Lunches

Please remember that we are a nut free school due to a number of children in Key stage 1 and Key Stage 2 having severe nut allergies. We have noticed some children with peanut butter sandwiches at lunch and would ask that these not be included, to help keep children safe.



### Community Hub – Support for all families available

Those children and families not eligible for FSM will be able to access support for food, fuel, clothing, and essentials via the WSCC Community Hub.

The Community Hub can be contacted on 0330 222 7980 and is open 08:00 – 20:00 Monday to Friday and 09:00 – 17:00 weekends and bank holidays. Further information can be found via West Sussex County Council website. Should you require any further information or advice about the scheme, please contact [welfarecommunities@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:welfarecommunities@westsussex.gov.uk).



### Building work

You may have seen that there is building work underway in the lower playground. This is to lay a water pipe from a new housing development behind the top school field to link up with Arundel Road. The works will continue for about 5 weeks but will not disturb the children. We are in daily contact with the construction team to ensure site safety.

### Cobnor and Dalesdown

There will be a second Year 6 Cobnor meeting (7.00pm) and Year 4 Dalesdown meeting (8.00pm) via zoom for parents on **Tuesday 8th February** for those unable to make the first meeting. An email invitation will be sent early next week.



# DALESdown





**GROWING  
TOGETHER**

**WE'RE TAKING PART IN  
CHILDREN'S MENTAL  
HEALTH WEEK**

[childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk](http://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)  
#ChildrensMentalHealthWeek

**RACHAEL**  
*reynolds*  
SCHOOL OF DANCE

**BE ACTIVE  
BUILD CONFIDENCE  
AND HAVE FUN!**

ST. MARGARET'S PRIMARY SCHOOL  
**AFTER SCHOOL STREET DANCE CLUB**  
3:10 - 4:10pm  
**MONDAY - YEARS 1, 2 & 3  
TUESDAY - YEARS 4, 5 & 6**

ONLY **£5** PER CLASS

**NOW OPEN  
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1 & 6!**

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[WWW.RACHAELREYNOLDSDANCE.COM](http://WWW.RACHAELREYNOLDSDANCE.COM)

A circular logo for Rachael Reynolds School of Dance, featuring a stylized white 'R' on a dark background.

community; to prepare and equip for an ever-changing world.



Look out for an information leaflet on an aspect of internet safety in each newsletter. This newsletter you will see information about WhatsApp, which has an age certificate of 16+.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one app of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know About

# WHATSAPP

**16+**  
in UK & EU;  
12+ rest of  
world.

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, and making voice and video calls. The app offers end-to-end encryption, meaning messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient(s). Not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 reportedly caused millions of users to leave the app. But the new policy was widely misinterpreted: it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

### 'Prize' Scams

WhatsApp users occasionally receive messages from unauthorised third parties or fraudsters pretending to offer prizes – encouraging recipients to click a link to win. A common scam involves a warning that someone's WhatsApp subscription has run out; aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details. Other scams include instructions to forward a message to earn a gift or reward.

### Enabling Fake News

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India, some outbreaks of mob violence were reported to have been sparked by false allegations shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Connections with Strangers

To start a WhatsApp chat, you need the mobile number of the person you want to message (they also need to have the app). WhatsApp can also access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts use WhatsApp. If your child has given their mobile number to somebody they don't know, that person could then use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

### Disappearing Messages

By enabling 'Disappearing Messages', users can set messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Users are also able to send photos and videos that disappear after the recipient has viewed them. This media can't be saved or forwarded, making monitoring what children are talking about problematic. Equally, if your child is sent an inappropriate message, it makes it difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot, saving the media as a photo.

### 'Only Admins' and Cyberbullying

Group chats and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

### Live Location Sharing

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." Indeed, it is a useful method for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. But if your child is in a chat with people they don't know, it means they will be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### Report Potential Scams

Advise your child not to engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report that number as spam. They can also report a contact or a group as spam by tapping on the contact or group name to open their profile and scrolling down to 'report spam'.

### Explain about Blocking

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – they would also need to be deleted from the device's address book. The option to block someone is on their contact info screen.

### Create a Safe Profile

Even though someone would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra precaution it's worth altering your young one's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody'. Choosing one of the latter two ensures their profile is protected.

### Leave a Group

If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they no longer want to be part of, show them how to use the group's settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

### Use Location Features Sparingly

If your child needs to use 'live location' to show you or their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives 'live location' options of 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can manually choose to stop sharing their position at any time.

### Delete Accidental Messages

If your child has posted a message in the wrong chat or sent a message that they immediately regret, they can delete it. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' WhatsApp allows seven minutes to delete a message after it's sent – but it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

### Fact-Check Messages

You can now fact-check messages that have been forwarded at least five times in WhatsApp, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was accurate or not. It's a good way to encourage young people to question things they see online.

## Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



SOURCES: <https://www.whatsapp.com/news/2021/01/updates-to-privacy-policy-whatapp-users>, <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-55440000>, <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/technology/whatsapp-updates-latest-mob-hoax-19-warn-messages-app-down-19-01-21-1901191.html>, <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-55440000>



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**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday





In this new once termly section we want to celebrate all the successes and kind acts of our children outside of school. If you have something you would like to share please email it to [goodnews@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk](mailto:goodnews@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk)

Well done to  
Braxtyn in Year 3  
who has progressed  
to Level 2 in  
swimming



Congratulations  
Children in the Infants took part in the Angmering ½ mile  
and came joint 2<sup>nd</sup>!



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.*