

Newsletter 7

1st March 2022

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term. I hope that you and your families had a well-earned rest.

I have a few notices.

INSET – school closure

A reminder that school is closed on Thursday 31st of March for staff training.

Take Note

Covid Arrangements

Following the government's recent announcements on covid restrictions the rules are pretty much the same without the legal requirements.

If your child has symptoms of covid or is positive on a lateral flow they should isolate for 5 days at home as a minimum and then should have 2 negative lateral flows, 24 hours apart, before returning to school. This will help to keep the rest of the school community safe.

School Uniform

We are expecting that every child will be wearing school uniform for the second half of this year. It's got a bit scrappy since lockdown but we would like to see children wearing the correct uniform as below. It is especially important that children in Year 6 get used to always being smartly turned out as they prepare for secondary school. There, the rules regarding uniform are very strictly adhered to. St Margaret's logo jumpers and ties are available from Brigade (our online supplier). You will find a link on our website.

Please see examples of some of our Year 6 finest!



There will soon be a second hand uniform sale with good quality jumpers and other items available.
PLEASE ENSURE ALL UNIFORM AND COATS ARE NAMED!!!

Congratulations!



A big cheer for Konrad P in Bodiam Class who has reached the finals of the Sussex County TT Association Table Tennis competition in Wolverhampton with the best players from the whole country (each county champions).
Good luck Konrad!



Pottery Club

We are starting a pottery club in school on Mondays and/or Tuesdays.

If you would like to find out more information, please contact
allthingsbisqd@gmail.com



World Book Day Thursday 3rd March

A reminder that this Thursday is World Book Day.

Children are invited to dress up in their favourite book character.



Jubilee Celebration

We have been successful in our bid for a grant for £500 from the Angmering Parish Council to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. We will be holding a competition for the children to design a welcome garden to go next to our new school entrance. More details to follow.

New School Entrance

Our new school entrance is complete and the sliding doors work! All visitors should now use this entrance and sign in using the InVentry system if coming into school. **All children who are late for school MUST come in through the main entrance to be signed in.**

Please be aware that new electric gates will be installed in the carpark over the Easter holidays. There will be a pedestrian gate with a video call button for visitors in the school day. This is an important addition to our safeguarding procedures and makes the school much more secure. Please also note that if the covid situation continues to settle down we will be reviewing the times of the school day and staggered starts. More information on this will be sent in due course.

Parents' Forum

There will be a Parents' Forum via Zoom on **Thursday 7th April at 7.00pm**. One area for discussion will be our Behaviour and Attitudes Policy which we are currently reviewing and a copy of which will be in draft on the school website in due course. Your views would be greatly appreciated. There will also be a opportunity for general Q&A.

parents
forum

we
you to want
your have
say
Join us

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.

18

CENSORED

EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

W&#**!

TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become "TikTok famous". While most aspiring stars hoping to be 'the next big thing' will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.



HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next means it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase 'TikTok coins', which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 99p to an eye-watering £99 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopify, which allows users to buy products through the app.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 18s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 18s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

Meet Our Expert

Parven 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.



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#WakeUpWednesday

SOURCES: TikTok.com



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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The Ukraine - helping children cope with world conflict.



The five ways to wellbeing are evidence based ways of looking after your mental health. Here, we think about how they can support children during a time of heightened anxiety and fear amid world events. Children under 7 are unlikely to take on board much of what is going on, so it can be best to wait for them to bring it up. With older children and teenagers, adults have less control over where their information comes from. Ask them questions to determine what they know and correct any misconceptions. With older children, respond to questions but don't overload them with facts. Keep messages simple and offer reassurances about the distance and the minimal risk of events directly impacting them or their families. Teens might have 'what if' questions - help them reality check these 'what ifs', explore what they could do in certain situations and focus them on the things they can control.



Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.
I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled
and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

Yours sincerely,
Mike Jee
Headteacher

