



The weekly newsletter from Woodstock CE Primary School

22 May 2023 Edition: 29

# LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good weekend and managed to get out and enjoy some of the wonderful sunshine and blue skies. Fingers crossed summer is almost upon us. It has been a very busy half term, and with this week being an exciting one with our annual Creative Arts Week. Lots of exciting activities are going on over the week including samba drumming and dance workshops, mosaic making and costume design and making. Friday afternoon at 2.45pm the children will be parading their costumes and showing off their carnival dancing and drumming for parents to see. The school gates will open at 2.45pm, and once the parade is finished, children will return their classrooms to be seen out as usual at 3.10pm. We look forward to seeing you then.

## Parent Help Needed: School Library

Mrs Christie has asked me to put a parent plea out for help with our school library. We have an amazing resources library which the children access throughout the week. We have had an overwhelming number of book donations from our school community which is wonderful, however, the books need cataloguing and sorting through to add to our already rich library collection. If you have some time you can give to support us, or set up a team of parents, we would much appreciate this. Please contact the office via email to express your interest in this and we can arrange dates and times.

## Mental Health Awareness Week

Last week we continued to raise the profile of the importance of everyone's mental health and wellbeing, with a particular focus on 'feeling anxious' and also 'kindness,' to ourselves and each other, through our PSHE and RSE sessions across the school. We are very lucky to have Mrs Boutayeb's vast experience of supporting children's mental health and wellbeing, and she kindly shared some useful websites that you may wish to explore with your child and family, to further support the work of the school at home.

https://schoolofkindness.org/mental-health-awareness-week

https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week

https://mentalhealth-uk.org/mental-health-awareness-week/

https://yoursafetypal.com/mental-health-awareness-week/

# **Curriculum Updates**

It was lovely to welcome so many of Duckling's parents into school last week for their parent curriculum assembly. The children really enjoyed sharing their learning with each other and it really did showcase all the children's hard work and efforts over the term.

Well done to all the Year 2 children last week who did their Key Stage 1 SATS assessments. The children were very positive, and we know they all did their very best.

Children in Years 3&4 went out on a visit to the Synagogue in Oxford to learn more about the Jewish faith and to find out about the various festivals that they celebrate. As always, the children made us very proud of how they represented our school on the visit.



Years 5&6 visited Blenheim to support their theme War and Peace, learning more about Winston Churchill and WWII. The children visited the Churchill exhibition and the took part in a spy mission escape room, which is a new learning experience Blenheim offer. The children also went to the new Blenheim Adventure Park and had a thoroughly fun time!



Remember, Monday 5 June is a staff Inset day and school will be closed, with children returning on Tuesday 6 June. Thank you as always for the continued support you give to our school, it is always very much appreciated and hugely valued. Enjoy the May half-term break when it arrives at the end of this week.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Poole Deputy Headteacher

# **Safeguarding Children Updates:**

# What to do if you have concerns about a child

If you have any concerns about a child relating to Safeguarding, please get in touch with one of our Safeguarding Leads immediately by contacting the school directly on 01993 812209 or by email <a href="mailto:safeguarding@woodstock.oxon.sch.uk">safeguarding@woodstock.oxon.sch.uk</a>.

If you are unable to speak to a member of our Designated Safeguarding Team at school and have a safeguarding concern, please contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) directly who will be able to advise you.

If you have a concern about a child, please call MASH on 0345 050 7666.

# **Collective Worship Weekly Theme**

Week Beginning: 22/5/23 Collective Worship			A. Land
Key Idea: Share the good news			
Biblical Link:	Mark 16:15 'He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation'. (NIV)		
Core Value:	Joy	Dear God, Thank you for the World Wide Web, Help us to use it wisely – to learn more, to share good news and to spread joy, Amen	
Understanding Christianity Theme:	Gospel		
Worship Song:	You shall go out with joy		

# **Our World**



## Fun with the Hedgehog Club for all the family

## Available to book on the website today:

May half term activity days for 5-12-year-olds

The first dates for summer activity dates (more dates coming soon)

Summer term of The Hedgehog Club at Cogges for children from crawling to 4 years old. Book your outdoor fun today at www.thehedgehogclub.co.uk

Any questions do get in touch with Mandy on thehedgehogclub123@gmail.com

## 28th May 2023: Family Fun Day

Spring in All its Glory! Come and join in the fun looking at all the signs of spring in Singe Wood, near Hailey. The session will start at 10am and finish at 12.30pm.

The session will take place in Singe Wood, which is managed by The Wychwood Forest

Trust who are kindly letting us use it for this one-off session. We will be den building, getting crafty with natural materials, exploring, climbing, and cooking on the fire. It is open to children of all ages up to 12 years and their families. (All children must be accompanied by an adult.) It costs £17 per child, £2 of which is a donation to The Wychwood Forest Trust.

Book your outdoor fun today at www.thehedgehogclub.co.uk.

Any questions do get in touch with Mandy on thehedgehogclub123@gmail.com











# 10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

# AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: It tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

# **CONTROL CALLING**

Many smarrwatches nave the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

# BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow cals independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth). It will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny Silv card that you slot into the watch - or an eSilM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

# ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

# TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make ther awar of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them cetting the watch in the first lace.

# THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accussing sameone.

# STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Gelaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

# USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

you're worried your child's pending too much time lumped on the sofe staring at creens, smartwatches are great itness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving, come devices will alert the wearer they've been inactive for a long ime and encourage them to do some exercise. Mony watches ecord the user's daily step count and recover allow health metric.

# MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

# BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

# Meet Our Expert

Barry Callins has been a technology journalist and eathor for more than 20 years, working for tilles such as the Sunday Times, Which? PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on 80°C Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the FTV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly boot internet safety issues.















# 12 WAYS YOU CAN HELP TO DEVELOP YOUR CHILD'S PHYSICAL WELLBEING



# SPORT

Encourage your child to take part in sport not just for the physical benefits



# PLAY

Schedule in time for fun activities. Encourage creativity and movement



# **ACTIVE**

Seek out opportunities where you can be active together



# DIET

Support your child to eat a well balanced diet



# **HYDRATION**

Make sure your child is well hydrated throughout the day



# SLEEP ROUTINE

Support your child to get into a regular sleep routine



# **EXERCISE**

Encourage a range of exercise: aerobic and strength exercises



# RECOVERY

Make sure your child has enough time for rest and recovery



# **SELF CARE**

Provide opportunities for your child to practise self care





# SLEEP ENVIRONMENT

Make sure your child is developing a positive sleep environment (think about light, sound, bedding, use of electronic devices)



# **FAMILY**

Involve the whole family in promoting healthy physical habits



# **ROLE MODEL**

Be a role model for your child and demonstrate positive behaviours



**@BELIEVEPHQ**