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Newsletter 23 – 5th March 2021

Class News

- Nursery - have been looking at one of their favourite stories 'Jack & the Beantalk.' They have planted beans made junk model castles and used unifix cubes to measure beanstalks
- YR - had a wonderful World Book Day enjoying the book Supertato! We made WANTED posters, worked out subtraction problems and played red word smash!
- Y1 - have enjoyed writing a persuasive letter to one of our storybook characters on World Book Day
- Y2 - have really enjoyed reading their first class book 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark' and writing about Plop
- Y3 - have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in World Book Day, especially dressing up as their favourite characters!
- Y4 - looked amazing in their World Book Day costumes and created lots of excellent learning about the book 'The Dot'
- Y5 - have enjoyed writing stories in the style of Tom Fletcher
- Y6 - have been studying biodiversity and have created posters to explain what this is, why it's important and how we can help biodiversity on Earth

Dear Parents,

You've made it!! On behalf of all the staff and governors I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for your commitment and patience during this period of remote learning, let's hope this is the last lockdown! We are really looking forward to seeing all the children back on Monday.

Lateral Flow Tests for Families

Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Test are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take home, twice-weekly:

- Through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- By collecting a home test kit from a local test site- anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- By ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing

transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

Reminder of gates and times

| Gate | Drop Off 8:40am | Drop Off 8:50am | Drop Off 9:00am |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Pedestrian | Year 6 | Year 5 | Year 3 |
| 1 | Year 1 | Year 4 | Year 2 |
| 2 | Year 4 | Reception | Year 3 |
| 3 | Year 1 | Year 5 | Year 2 |
| 4 | Year 6 | Reception | Nursery |

| Gate | Collection 2:50pm | Collection 3:00pm | Collection 3:10pm | Collection 3:15pm |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Pedestrian | | Year 3 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
| 1 | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 4 | |
| 2 | Reception | Year 3 | Year 4 | |
| 3 | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 5 | |
| 4 | Reception | Nursery | | Year 6 |

School Uniform and PE kits

School uniform – Shorts can be worn from Monday 8th March. Black school shoes are required, unless PE kit day. **White polo shirts to be worn until Easter.**

Blue polo shirts will be required for summer term uniform, **starting after Easter.** These can be purchased through the school office. Please email in your requests and once the office has received payments they will be sent home.

PE Kits

Monday - Reception & Y4 – Trainers and school uniform

Tuesday - Sporty Tuesdays are to continue for all. Reception - Y6 – Full PE kit

Wednesday - Year 5 & 6 – Full PE kit and shin pads

Thursday - Year 1, 2 & 3 – Full PE kit

Friday – KS1 / KS2 trainers rolling fortnightly. Your child will be made aware which Friday they require trainers by their teacher.

Swimming Pool

SISA swimming pool committee will be starting to 'wake' the pool up shortly in preparation for swimming lessons in the second half of the summer term. This is an amazing resource however needs people to help out. If you can offer some time (or expertise) please contact Sam Stewart on samara.spam00@gmail.com.

Internet Safety

Signal is a messaging service, co-founded by the man who also started Whatsapp. Please see the attached guide with some useful information to help protect children from the potential dangers when using Signal.

COVID-19 Testing

Please remember if your child displays any of the coronavirus symptoms, no matter how small, they need to be taken for a COVID-19 test and self-isolate until they get a result. Some children may be asymptomatic or show little signs of being unwell however, it is even more important to be extra vigilant as there has been recent cases in school.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste



What Parents & Carers Need to Know About

SIGNAL



Signal is a multimedia messaging service (previously known as TextSecure) which provides secure chats between users. It is encrypted, so any intercepted communication cannot be read by attackers. Users can send one-to-one messages or set up group chats. The service is free, has no adverts and doesn't track users' location like many other messaging platforms. The app experienced a popularity boom in early 2021 as large numbers of users left WhatsApp over perceived privacy issues.

Disappearing Messages

Messages on Signal can be set to disappear (from both the sender and the recipient's devices) a specified time after they are first opened – potentially as little as five seconds. So it is difficult to monitor the app and see what your child is talking about. Should someone behave inappropriately towards them, unless they record evidence instantly there is no way to prove what has happened – making it difficult to take the proper action.

Risk of Screenshot

Because messages can be set to disappear on Signal, some young people assume that nobody else will ever see them and let their guard down as a result. But a recipient could still capture a screenshot of your child's message before it vanishes from their device. This screenshot – which might be of something inappropriate or deeply personal – can then be shared with others or even made public on the internet.

False Sense of Security

The feeling of total privacy and security within the app can make young people feel like they are invulnerable – and possibly that they could get away with behaving in ways they normally wouldn't. This behaviour could range from the harmful (such as participating in cyber bullying or sharing age-inappropriate images or videos) to the extremely dangerous: perhaps chatting to strangers, who might potentially be predators.

Vulnerability to Hackers

Like virtually any piece of software, Signal has been shown to have flaws in its security. One hacker was able to make a call to a target device using the app and could then listen in on the victim through their phone – without needing them to even answer the call. Afterwards, the hacked user was completely unaware that the eavesdropping had taken place.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Gather Any Evidence Quickly

If your children are old enough to use Signal, they will likely already know how to take a quick screenshot on their phone. It's best to confirm this with them, however, because if they're sent something inappropriate or offensive, they will only have a very short opportunity to screenshot it as evidence of misconduct before the message disappears. Once they've captured the screenshot, they should then come to you or another trusted adult.

Talk about Online Bullying

Before your child downloads Signal, have an open discussion about the potential risks of this app and others like it. Ensure your child is aware of the possibility of bullying or hurtful messages on such platforms. They should understand that the app makers themselves do not help with investigating incidents – and that it may be difficult to prove someone has done something to upset them.

Think before Sending

The messages a young person sends on Signal don't last forever, but the effects of those messages very well might – for your child and for others. You could suggest to your child that, if they're unsure whether to send a particular message, they should ask themselves if they would be comfortable showing the content to you. And if they wouldn't, should they really be sending it at all?

Stay Updated

It's wise to make sure your child knows how to keep their software up to date by downloading the latest version. Developers will often release software updates that (as well as occasionally adding new features or improving functionality, etc.) help to fix any security flaws and stop hackers from exploiting possible weak points in the app.

Consider Online Reputation

Talk to your child about the implications if a message they sent was made public without their consent. Remind them that once an image (for example) is out there, there's no way to control what happens to it or erase every single copy. It's a good way to get young people to start considering how their digital footprint might have repercussions on their future prospects.

Meet Our Expert

Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing how children access services and apps online.



SOURCES: <https://smartsocial.com/signal-app/>, <https://www.signal.org>

Other recognised symptoms in children are a headache, diarrhoea, mottled skin and even just a slight runny nose.

Dates for the Diary:

March

8th Reopening of school

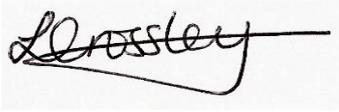
April

2nd – 16th Easter Holidays

16th Check for confirmation of your child's Reception place

19th Beginning of Summer Term

Yours sincerely



Mrs L Crossley
Headteacher

