



Ashwater Primary School

Newsletter No.19 Spring Term.

9th March 2022

01409 211228

Dear Parents,

Last Thursday was World Book Day and the children looked super in their costumes. Thank you to parents for helping with these. It was a great day and brought some much needed joy to children and adults alike. In assembly, the children had an opportunity to show their costumes and tell us why they had chosen to dress up as a particular character.

The children then shared work inspired by the book 'Leaf' by Sandra Dieckmann. The younger children learnt about the melting of the polar ice caps and made polar bears in Wild Tribe. The older children wrote letters from the animals to Leaf the polar bear, in which they apologised for being unkind when Leaf first arrived (having been forced to leave his home as a result of the ice-caps melting). Their writing was of excellent quality and very empathetic, showing a real understanding of the need to welcome and 'take care' of new people, particularly if they are escaping difficulties. This is particularly apt in the current world situation



I was also delighted with the children's 'Support Balloons'. The children have thought carefully about who they can go to for support if they have a worry or feel sad. Well done to all the children and I hope they will think of these people when they need someone to 'Take Care' of them. The paper copies that came in to school will be put on display.

We had an excellent turn-out at the PTFA meeting on Monday, our first live one for a long time. Many thanks to the PTFA for their on-going commitment and support, particularly in continuing to fund raise during the pandemic, despite the challenges; a clear example of their 'Aim High' attitude in order to 'Take Care' of the school and children.

Medicines and Inhalers

A reminder that if your child has an inhaler or regular medication, please ensure you ask the GP for enough so one can be left in school. These will be kept in the classroom medical box. Please check each term that they have not reached their expiry date.

Year 6 SATs Meeting for Parents

This took place yesterday and was well attended. A copy of the PowerPoint will be shared on the website shortly.

Non-uniform Day Friday 11th March in aid of Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal

There will be a non-uniform day on Friday with a suggested, optional theme of yellow and blue. Please don't buy any special clothes if you don't have these colours. We would much rather the money went straight to the charity than on new clothes. Children can always wear their school shirt with blue jeans or make a yellow and blue badge. A suggested donation of £1 will be greatly appreciated.

Non-uniform Day Friday 18th March in aid of Comic Relief

Children can wear non-uniform (no theme) and a red nose if they wish. A suggested donation of £1 will be greatly appreciated.

Wild Tribe Food

During Wild Tribe sessions, children may be given hot chocolate and marshmallows. Please see the ingredients later in the newsletter and please let us know if your child CANNOT have these.

Class Assemblies

As we were unfortunately unable to have the Christmas shows, we are inviting parents and carers to join for Class Assemblies as follows:

Wednesday 30th March, 9:10 am - Class 1 (including Pre-School)

Wednesday 25th May, 9:10 am - Class 2

Parent Consultation Wednesday 23rd March 1:30 – 5:30 pm

This will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teacher. As we are a small school, we feel it will be safe to return to face-to-face meetings because the number of people on-site at a given time will be low. However, we appreciate that some parents have enjoyed the flexibility that virtual meetings have offered so if you feel you would prefer to have a Zoom meeting, please let the office know and we will do our best to accommodate this, though it may be at a different time. **Bookings will be available from Friday 11th March**, via the office.

Easter Bonnet Parade, Wednesday 6th April 9:10 am at the Village Green

This will be an event where parents, carers and the local community will be able to watch the children parading in their Easter Bonnets. We will ask parents to drop children to the Green in the morning. Further details and permission slips will be shared nearer the time.

Updated Policies

For your information the Marking Policy was updated earlier this year to include a section on marking home work and home learning. It can be found on our website here: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/The-Carey-Federation-Marking-Policy-January-2022.pdf>

Our Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notices for parents, children and staff were also updated and can be found here: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/key-information/gdpr/>

Parent Governor

I am delighted to tell you that Becky Osbourne, a Halwill parent, is the new parent governor for the Federation Governing Body along with Rachael O'Donnell (Ashwater parent).

Wildtribe



Clubs

Tuesday	Club: Tag Rugby Teacher: Warren	KS1 & KS2	Starts on 1st March – 12 th April Runs for 7 weeks £1 per session
Wednesday	Club: Football Teacher: Scott Hayler	KS1 & KS2	Starts on 2 nd Mar – 13 th April Runs for 7 weeks £1 per session

The Carey Qualities

Each Friday children are awarded certificates in our Celebration Assembly for making a significant effort to develop one of our Carey Qualities. Last week the following children were awarded certificates. Well done to them all.



For building Relationships	For being Resilient	For being Resourceful	For being Reflective	For being Respectful
Harley Millie	Joshua Faith Ben Bradley Claire		Gemma Charlie	

Safeguarding

Here is some information on how parents can support children with what they are seeing or feeling, in regards to the Ukraine situation:

Supporting your child if they see upsetting content online about what is happening in Ukraine

(Childnet): <https://www.childnet.com/blog/supporting-your-child-with-upsetting-content/>

We should not hide from children what is happening in Ukraine (Schools Week/Children's

Commissioner): <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/we-should-not-hide-from-children-what-is-happening-in-ukraine/>

Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help

them avoid misinformation (Department for Education) <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/>

Safeguarding at Ashwater

The Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Alford

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Cawsey

Miss H Frayne

Attendance Officer:

Miss S Revers

Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs G Marshall

Want to talk to your child about on-line safety? Click here for more information: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>



**Please remember to order your
School lunches via school-
money by Friday of each week.
This helps us cater correctly.
Thank you.**



Contacting Ashwater School

The school office (01409 211228) is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings 8.30—11.30 and Thursday and Friday mornings 8.30—10.30. If you urgently need to contact a member of staff when the office is closed please either call the Classroom direct line or contact Halwill school on 01409 221476.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



WHATSAPP



WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes – encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2019, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being 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.

POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat 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.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

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.' It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe – but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CLICK HERE

CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person'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 that your child's profile is better protected.

EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. 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 – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.

REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't 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'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.

LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group 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.

THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, 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 true or not.

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.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.03.2022

Dates for your diary:

March

10th & 11th	Bikeability Years 5 & 6
11th	Non uniform day—'Yellow and Blue' in aid of the Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal. £1 donation
18th	Non uniform day—Comic Relief. £1 donation
23rd	Parent Consultation 1.30pm—5.30pm
24th	Tempest Photography
30th	Class 1 assembly (including Pre-School) 9.10am

April

8th	End of Spring Term
25th	Start of Summer Term

May

2nd	Bank Holiday
25th	Class 2 assembly 9.10am
30th May—3rd June	Half Term

July

22nd	End of Summer term
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September

1st	Inset Day
2nd	Inset Day

November

23rd	Tempest Photography
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