



The Wickford C of E School Newsletter

Little Teds
Pre-School

Headteacher: Mrs. Louise Johnson
3rd May 2019

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ATTENDANCE

TARGET: 100%

**WHOLE SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE FOR LAST
WEEK: 99.3%**

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Penguin: 99%
Wren: 100%
Puffin: 100%
Robin: 99.1%
Flamingo: 100%
Parrot: 97.7%

GOLDEN TABLE

Penguin: Shannel
Wren: Logan
Puffin: Sophie C
Robin: Dylan
Flamingo: Stanley
Parrot: Gabriela

PADDINGTONS

Penguin: Ozan, Henry D,
Louie T and Harry C
Wren: Franklin, Emily H,
Albie and Sofia
Puffin: Ella, Zachary,
Sophie K and Ryan
Robin: Murewa, Ava K,
Dylan and Evie T
Flamingo: Ronnie W,
Charlie, Jack W, Ava M
Parrot: Zayn, Ali, Presley
and Matias

Dear Parent/Carer,

A lovely week, the children have been focused on ways to show respect through their words and actions. We have talked through using a knife and a fork, how to leave the dinner table and how important it is to remember good manners whilst eating.

Mrs Boswell is always very proud of our children during lunchtime and seeing the effective running of the dinner experience is amazing. Foundation Stage will soon be introduced to china plates and 'real cutlery and glasses', this high expectation will then be consistent across the whole school.

HAIRCUTS A reminder about haircuts. Please be cautious not to have hair lengths that differ greatly in length (shaved and lengthy) or have carvings shaved into them. These are not part of the dress code.

SUMMER TERM PLANS During this final term Foundation Stage are working hard to focus on achieving the Good Level of Development, Year 1 have the Phonics test and Year 2 their SATs. Please ensure children are in school and ready to learn. Attendance is vital all year but particularly when we are supporting children in reaching these levels.

ATTENDANCE BADGES 61 were awarded this term for Bronze and Silver this week. Well done, this is an increase on last term and up considerably from this time last well.

GOLD READS As you are aware we encourage reading at home and run the Reading Challenge through the school year. This term we will be celebrating the number of Gold reads with a very special reward and this will be decided by the children. On Tuesday we will ask the children to express their opinion and set the incentive for the school. I will keep you posted as to what they decide.

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE We do this in many ways but one way that we have been discussing with our children this week is the use of the 'red triangle'. This is a method of passing on immediate nonverbal information to the nearest adult found, should the adult in the classroom be taken ill or need medical attention. The children have engaged in practice scenarios this week and performed superbly, we are very proud of them! Whilst of course we hope that such a situation will never occur, the procedure has been put into place before but being alert and aware, help was found quickly. Next week we will be holding a Talk Time about this and I will share the children's thoughts and opinions with you.

TOP TECH TIP Please see the attached sheet for advice on Children's Devices.

SPORTS DAY We are now able to confirm that sports day will be held on Friday 28th June 9.30am-12pm in the Memorial Park; weather permitting! There will be further information nearer the date.

SHARING ASSEMBLY Friday 10th May is sharing assembly for year 2.

LITTLE TEDS The grounds of Little Teds have been cleared during the holiday, the old greenhouse dismantled to open up the outside play area. It is a pleasure to see the children enjoying this area and learning from the environment. The provision is a vibrant, stimulating place to be.

MOMENT OF LOVELINESS A group of Year 2 children proudly came to show me their written responses to comprehension tasks this week. They were all awarded Head teacher stickers, keep up the hard work please.

Year 1 have been busy helping to improve our grounds. Gardening club have a challenge as the weeds begin to sprout and all help was appreciated. The pots are beginning to look great, they show how we care and tend for our school grounds.

The smells coming from the teaching kitchen have been amazing this week, Mrs Waite has been busy supporting the children in learning basic skills such as how to crack an egg, Matilda, Murewa and Jamie wowed us all with their ability! The wafts of cheese straws through the school have been delicious and Robin Class have loved the experience.

We had such a treat today. We were visited by a very inspiring athlete; Montell Douglas. The children were brilliant when completing their circuits with her and we were all absolutely wowed by how amazingly talented, resilient and determined this woman is. The children were so well behaved and demonstrated superb sportsmanship skills. We are overwhelmed with the money that has been raised and over £200 will go towards new sports equipment for the school. Thank you all for your support. Here is a link to her achievements.

<https://www.teamgb.com/athletes/montell-douglas>

HIRE THE HALL

Need to organise a children's party? Need some space to run an event? If so, please note that the school hall is available for hire. Prices start at £85 for a three hour slot, but we can arrange bookings for shorter or longer periods to suit your needs. Just call into the office and let them know what you are planning. We will try our very best to help.

Enjoy the bank holiday weekend, see you Tuesday.

Mrs Johnson

Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you're able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn't difficult to do, as you'll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.



2

PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES



You can set up restricted users on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu (look for a cog icon) and select the 'Users' option. Here you can add a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but first select 'Parental Controls' in the play store.

3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES



For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences/settings menu and within 'General' there is an option for 'Restrictions'. Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.

4



THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES

As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device in your home connected to the Internet: a games console, a media hub, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the Internet.

5

MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER



Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo!, have a 'safe search' setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the Internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for 'safe search'. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't be.



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#WakeUpWednesday

9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

6

REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS



Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook's introduction of facial recognition software.

7



DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE

Location software sounds useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to locate your child too. For safety, it's a good idea to disable location software on all devices or at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why these can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.

8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES

Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.



9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME

Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It's critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. Guidelines published by The Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health suggests it's more important to consider the 'context and content' of what the screen is being used for. Still, it is helpful to put limits on devices using 'Guided Access' functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.



Meet our expert

Emma Davis was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old, she's had vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.

