

Value of the month - Simplicity

Friday 8th February 2019

Dear Parent,

Another busy term is flying by and half term is nearly here. Term 2 ends Friday 15th February and term 4 starts Monday 25th February.

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 5th February

We are very aware that children use the internet for many things and we want them to be safe doing so. We had a safer internet day on Tuesday 5th February where the children enhanced their learning about how to keep safe online. On Monday we had two local PCSO's visit the school to give all pupils a talk on keeping safe on the internet. Yesterday they returned to give a talk on stranger danger.





Fortnite: Battle Royale (age: 12+)

Fortnite is a multi-player online game where up to 100 players are dropped on an island and then fight each other until they are the only person left. Fortnite is immensely popular at the moment and parents should be aware that Battle Royale does include an online chat feature (audio and on-screen text). The chat facility means that players can be exposed to offensive language or mature content from strangers. It is strongly recommended that the chat facility is switched off or children are supervised whilst playing. Battle Royale is free to play but players can purchase additional packs to access additional items e.g. weapons. The game does ask players to make additional in-game purchases whilst playing, though these are not required to play the game.

Advice from the UK Safer Internet Centre

(Source: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/parents-guide-fortnite-battle-royale>)

- Have an open and honest conversation with your child. It's important to involve yourself in your child's online life and a simple and effective way to do this is by talking to them about their life online. Try to maintain an open dialogue with your child and find opportunities to talk to them about what they love to do online. Parents can help children access the amazing resources the internet has to offer whilst keeping them safe online at the same time. Asking your child about how they play Fortnite and what they like about it is a great way to start a conversation.
- Play with them. It may seem daunting, but one of the best things that you can do is to engage with the gaming environment and begin to understand what makes Fortnite so attractive to young people, as well as giving yourself an idea of the reporting tools available within the game.
- Know how to make a report. On Fortnite you can report players who are behaving inappropriately by using the in-game feedback tool located in the game Main Menu; you can also make a report by emailing the creators of Fortnite.

World Book Day

On Thursday 7th March, we are taking part in World Book Day more details to follow.



Parking

The school car park should not be used for parking before or after school. If a friend or another member of your family is picking up, please can you make sure they are aware of this rule.

Scooters & Bikes

Polite reminder: Please can you ensure that pupils and siblings do not ride their bikes or scooters in the school grounds, as the safety of children and adults on the school grounds is very important.

Uganda

The children may have told you that I am visiting Uganda during half term and the first week of term 4 to visit schools. This is a self-funded trip and I will be visiting many schools to work with teachers and schools to support some of their professional development. The children have been helping me raise some money for the blind school that we support through St John's Church each year which I will also be visiting. The school council have organised a toy sale to help raise money for the blind school. I will be taking any money we raise directly to the school to use towards much needed resources.

Raising Concerns

Just a reminder that if you have any concerns about your child/ren:-

1. Initially contact the class teacher as they know your child the best
2. Contact a member of the school leadership team, Mr. Richardson (Assistant Principal KS2 lead), Miss Lawro (EY/KS1 Assistant Principal) Mrs. Johnson (SENCO)
3. If the concern remains unresolved then contact the Principal
4. If still unresolved, the school Chair of Governors through the complaints procedure.

Supporting Positive Mental Health

We are always looking at ways to support positive mental health for our pupils and want them to be happy as they start the school day. I have included some tips from Action for Happiness on how you may like to encourage your child to start the day in a more mindful way.



START YOUR DAY THE MINDFUL WAY



Do you often wake up and rush to get on with your day? Do you switch on your devices as soon as you can? Experiment with starting your day in a more mindful way and notice what you feel as a result. Pick a day and give these activities a try...

WHAT DIFFERENCES DID HAVING A MINDFUL START TO THE DAY MAKE?

WAKING UP

- ★ Lie in bed, stretch and wiggle your fingers and toes. Notice how that feels.
- ★ Sit up and notice three things that you like in the room.
- ★ Get up, take a big stretch and shake out your arms and legs. Notice how that feels.
- ★ Take a big breath in... and breathe out very slowly...

GETTING READY

- ★ Pay attention to the temperature, sound and feel of the water as you shower or wash.
- ★ Notice the smell of the soap you use.
- ★ How does the towel feel as you dry yourself?
- ★ As you get dressed, notice how each item of your clothing feels and sounds as you put it on.
- ★ Breathe in deeply.. and then out.

MINDFUL BREAKFAST

- ★ Turn off your gadgets.
- ★ Eat slowly and mindfully
- ★ Notice the feel, smell and taste of each mouthful. Do they change as you chew slowly?
- ★ Carefully tidy your dish or plate away. Notice any sounds, smells or textures as you do this.

ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL

- ★ Listen to and look at your surroundings.
- Notice:
 - the scenery;
 - the people;
 - the sounds;
 - the smells;
 - the colours you can see.
- ★ Before your first lesson starts, take a moment to focus on your breath to help you get ready to listen and learn.

WHAT COULD YOU DO TO START EVERY DAY MINDFULLY?



schoop®

We have heard from a number of parents recently that they are not receiving Schoop alerts. Schoop have requested that if parents have any problems with the app or don't appear to be receiving Schoops that they contact Schoop Support directly.

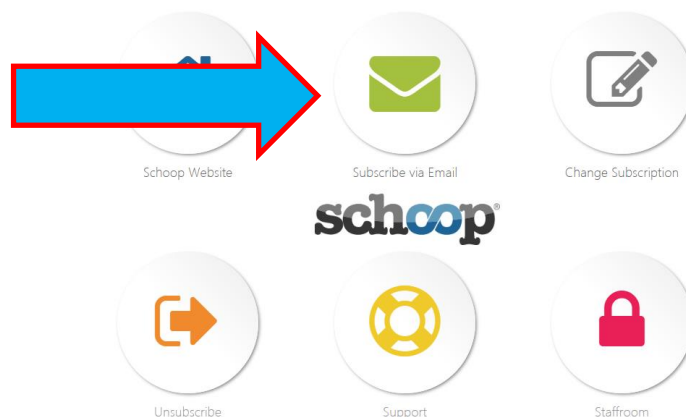
This can be done in two ways:

1. Online by clicking the link below
<https://schoop.co.uk/> and selecting the
“support icon”



2. By calling the Schoop support team on 029 2078 2975

We would also like to remind parents that they don't necessarily need to download the app in order to use Schoop. You can choose to receive messages and alerts direct to your email. To set this up, use the same link above but select the “subscribe via email” option.



Dates for your diary

Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day PGL meeting/ Yr. 6 SATS information for year 6 parents 3:30pm (more details to follow nearer the time)
Tuesday 12 th March	Jaguars/Tigers trip to the Big Pit (more details to follow nearer the time)
Tuesday 12 th March	Yr. 2 SATS information for parents 3:00pm (more details to follow nearer the time)
Wednesday 13 th March	Junior Music Festival
Friday 15 th - Friday 22 nd March	The Book People Book Fayre
Friday 15 th March	Mid-year reports to parents Red Nose Day
Tuesday 19 th March	Parents evening 5.00-8.00pm
Wednesday 20 th March	Parents evening 3.30-5.30pm
Thursday 28 th March	Science Day/Green Day
Friday 29 th March	Dragonflies class assembly
Monday 1st April- Wednesday 3 rd April	Year 6 residential





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Class Assemblies

Parents are invited to watch their child's class assembly. The assembly will start at 8:50am. In the assembly you will get a flavour of what the children have been learning in class.



Proud to be part of The White Horse Federation Multi Academy Trust

