

School Newsletter—Wednesday 30th September 2020

We are halfway through Autumn Term 1 and- as always in school - time is flying by! Covid-19 continues to challenge us all and I would like to say a HUGE thank you to all members of our school community for your co-operation. Understandably, anxiety is high and I want to reassure all parents that we are doing everything that we can to minimise the risk to everyone. We continue to act on advice from the Department for Education, Public Health England and the NHS. Please remember that we are here to support in any way that we can and are all in this together!

In the first few weeks of term, teachers have spent time getting to know new classes and also assessing where each pupil is, in terms of their learning following extended periods of closure. We have now begun the process of addressing any gaps which have formed, whilst continuing to respond to any personal, social or emotional needs during ongoing uncertainty. We are so impressed by the emotional resilience being shown by our pupils. It is wonderful to have them all back in school.

Mrs Middleton, Head of School

Online Safety:

Since our return in September we have seen a large increase in the number of pupils who are talking about playing games or watching online videos at home. Our role in this, as part of our safe-guarding duty, is to speak to parents about the content they are discussing in school. It is ultimately a parent's choice what they allow their child to view/play and we will advise based on the information that we have about the content.

School utilises support from the National Online Safety education group to keep up to date with games/apps/video content as there are new ones appearing daily! PEGI ratings are always a good starting point in terms of age-appropriate content.

However, other resources are also available. Common Sense Media offer parents the opportunity to research movies, apps and games before allowing children to access them. A quick search brings up a recommended age rating which has been suggested by fellow parents:

WWW.COMMONSENSEMEDIA.ORG

All pupils in school have had a special online safety assembly in school last week as part of our commitment to educating children on how to keep themselves safe.



National Online Safety **7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety** #WakeUpWednesday

- Which apps/games are you using at the moment?**
THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE, BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.
- Which websites do you enjoy using and why?**
AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY, ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.
- How does this game/app work? Can I play?**
SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING, WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM, IF THEY ACT LIKE 'THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.
- Do you have any online friends?**
CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD, FOR EXAMPLE, "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.
- Do you know where to go for help?**
ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE MORAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.
- Do you know what your personal information is?**
YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.
- Do you know your limits?**
CHILDREN MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DEVICE OR GAME ADDICTION. TALK TO THEM OPENLY ABOUT HEALTHY HABITS AND ASK WHETHER OR NOT THEIR SPENDING TIME ONLINE OR PLAYING A GAME IS AFFECTING THEIR SLEEP, PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL OR IF THEY ARE GENERALLY LOSING INTEREST IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. YOU MAY LEAD ON TO ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSING THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME LIMITS WHEN AT HOME.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /nationalonlinesafety Phone - 0800 368 8061

Remote Learning

Our remote learning offer (in the event of bubble closures) has been published and is available on our school website.

As you are all aware two classes have been working from home for the past two weeks due to precautionary self-isolation. These classes have been accessing daily learning from school via MS Teams and have really enjoyed it!

We are very grateful to parents for their support and for taking the time to feedback on this new approach.



Where individual pupils are isolating due to family members being symptomatic or being symptomatic themselves, paper packs will be posted out by the school office.



Follow us on Twitter: @Suttonparkpri
We regularly tweet key messages, examples of learning from in school and celebrate achievements too.

Our most recent tweets are also displayed on our school website for those who do not use Twitter.

Class emails:

Our class emails are now set up and provide a direct route of communication between parents and class teachers. These have been created for 2 reasons:



- 1) To replace the usual face-to-face contact with teachers during drop off and collection (this is not allowed currently due to our Covid risk assessment)
- 2) To support with remote learning, where applicable.

The enquiry@ email is also still in use for any general queries or messages to the school office.

The school phone number is only in use for URGENT/ EMERGENCY messages. Again, this is a control measure of our Covid risk assessment. The office staff have been asked to remind parents of this when calling with non-urgent enquiries.

It is essential that we continue to work together and we thank you for your support with this—and all—risk assessment measures.

PE

PE lessons began last week after all staff received additional risk assessment training from our Trust Sports Lead.

This ensures increased safety measures including the enhanced cleaning of any resources/ equipment used.



It was great to see the children arriving to school in their new PE kits last week. Children should wear their SP PE kits on their PE day instead of their usual uniform.

Trainers should be worn on PE days and will be kept on for outdoor lessons. Pumps/ plimsolls should be worn for any indoor PE lessons and can be sent to school in a named plastic carrier bag (no fabric bags please). These can remain in school on pegs to save them travelling forwards and

Friday enrichment—Junior Jam

It has been wonderful to witness our pupils in Years 4-6 engaging with new and exciting curriculum



content on Friday afternoons. We have some very talented drummers, expert coders and budding linguists! Keep an eye on our Twitter page for weekly updates.



Grandparents Day—Sunday 4th October 2020

For the foreseeable future we sadly will not be able to host whole-school events. We are therefore unable to celebrate Grandparents Day in school. This is such a shame as last year, we welcomed over 100 into school for a reading event.

We hope that despite current lockdown measures and restrictions, you are able to celebrate in some way with the grandparents in your lives this weekend.

