



# NEWSLETTER

## FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2023

### ISSUE No.20

#### EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



**EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME**

## Messages from Mr Taylor

### Parents Evening

It was great to welcome parents and carers to our second parents evening of the year. This gave us the opportunity to share children's books and demonstrate the excellent progress that they are making. It was great to see so many in attendance over the two evenings where teachers, children and parents spoke enthusiastically about the changes they have seen. We asked parents to complete our second parent survey of the year and one parent commented "The changes in the last couple of months seemed to be hard at first, but these are all coming together now and the benefits are obvious". This comment captured the difficulties that change can often bring whilst highlighting the impact that positive change has brought in ensuring 'Excellence in Everything- Achieving greatness that lasts a lifetime'.

### Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday this week, children across the school carried out work for Safer Internet Day which aims to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. During this annual event, lots of local and national organisations came together to protect our safety online. Children explored a range of topics including: consent, ownership, data privacy, cyber bullying, digital identity and social media. One day alone cannot make the internet safe, but by continuing to work together we can have a big impact on the safety of our children online.

### Vision and Values

This week we look at the fourth of our new school values which is - in the words of the late great Aretha Franklin - **R.E.S.P.E.C.T**. The idea of respect is more than just being polite. Respect means that you accept somebody for who they are, even when they are different from you or you don't agree with them. Respect in your relationships with others builds feelings of trust, safety and wellbeing. There are many ways to teach children the importance of respecting others and it all begins with ensuring that they treat others the way they want to be treated. Respect is another step on the journey towards 'Excellence in Everything - Achieving greatness that lasts a lifetime'.

Mr Taylor

## DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Wed 15th Feb	1/2KT visit Think Tank
Thu 16th Feb	3/4SK visit Safari Park
Fri 17th Feb	Valentines Disco (p.m)
Fri 17th Feb	Break up for Half Term
Mon 27th Feb	Return to school
Thur 2nd Mar	World Book Day
Fri 10th Mar	Nursery visit Hatton Park
Fri 17th Mar	Red Nose Day

**Respect is a  
two-way street. If  
you want to get it,  
you've got to give it**



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## WORLD BOOK DAY 2ND MARCH 2023

This year, World Book Day is on **Thursday 2nd March** with the theme **"You Are a Reader"** to celebrate its 25th anniversary. The idea this year, is to really promote reading for pleasure to encourage a love of reading amongst children (and adults) of all ages. This will be a great opportunity to dress up as your favourite character from a book or story. While some of you may decide to buy costumes, you will find lots of simple but effective ideas online that you can make yourself.



Introducing 2023's  
£1/£1.50 books  
for all ages



## SCHOOL VISITORS

Over the last few weeks, we have had a number of visitors from education in our school. This week, a Headteacher from a recently graded outstanding Primary school visited and commented positively on the 'exemplary behaviour... improvement in the school environment... and the transformation of children's books'. Well done all! #ExcellenceInEverything

## F2D ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP

This week, children in Year 5 and 6 were joined by Dan and Marc from F2D to receive their hoodies from the entrepreneurship workshop that they attended earlier in the year. You can see from the smiles that the children were really proud of the designs that their teams created. A fantastic opportunity to work with this company and yet another example of how we broaden our children's horizons through the curriculum.



## ATTENDANCE



We continue to share the importance of good attendance across the school. At parent's evening this week, you will have seen the new displays outside every classroom to show how well your child's class is attending school. Children are very competitive and want their class to be top of the leaderboard in our celebration assembly every Friday. Please support them and their education by ensuring that they are **In School....On Time...EVERY DAY!**

NAH	88.7%
RSB	93.4%
RLM	97.5%
1CO	86.7%
1/2KT	88.8%
2HM	88.3%
3CW	87%
3/4SK	91%
4DN	96.7%
5AG	90.9%
5/6NW	97.2%
6EC	94.6%

## MOBILE PHONES

Some children who walk to and from school may have a mobile phone to notify parents that they have arrived at school or home safely. A reminder that all phones must be handed into the class teacher when children arrive at school. They will then be taken to the school office where they will remain secure until the end of the school day when they will be returned.

## TERM DATES

### Spring Term

Finishes: Friday 31st March 2023 at 12:00pm  
Half Term: Monday 20th February 2023 - Friday 24th February 2023  
Easter Holiday: Monday 3rd April 2023 - Friday 14th April 2023

### Summer Term

Starts: Monday 17th April 2023  
Finishes: Friday 21st July 2023 at 12:00pm  
Half Term: Monday 29th May 2023 - Friday 2nd June 2023  
Summer Holiday 2023 commences Monday 24th July 2023





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### SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school uniform is an important part of our identity. At Warren Farm, uniform provides a sense of belonging for children enabling them to feel part of a team. Please ensure that your child wears correct uniform to school everyday including correct **black** footwear and not trainers. P.E kit is also an extension of our uniform and we expect children to have the correct P.E kit or swimming kit in school on the correct days.



### SAFEGUARDING

All schools and colleges are bound by guidance created by the DfE. Keeping children safe in education is what we use to ensure that our safeguarding policies and procedures mirrors those set by the guidance. All staff read the guidance and have a good knowledge of the processes needed to ensure that all children are safe. Keeping children safe in education highlights the importance of multi agency working and the different signs or triggers for all school staff to be aware of. If you would like more information about this, please click on the link below:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1101454/Keeping\\_children\\_safe\\_in\\_education\\_2022.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1101454/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2022.pdf)



NAH	Madison Colley
RSB	Luke Greatrex
RLM	Alec Woodward
1CO	Ana-Maria Costandache
1/2KT	Kamal Dana
2HM	Irene Pemhenayi
3CW	Isabelle Esuruoso
3/4SK	Imaan Khan
4DN	Leah Parkes
5AG	Lexie Halford
5/6NW	Carter Felton
6EC	Ezriah Oriaku

### PARENTS EVENING - PARENT SURVEY

Thank you for taking the time to complete our parent survey during parent's evening. We had an amazing 145 responses which were overwhelmingly positive. Here are some of the highlights:

- "The school is ensuring that my child is striving for excellence"
- "My child is being well supported by the teachers; he is thriving",
- "The school and team are amazing"
- "Can see that the school is improving for the better since the new Headteacher and Deputy. Keep up the good work"

I acknowledge that there will always be areas of improvement and we will continue to work together with parents to ensure that we are providing 'Excellence in Everything'.

Survey results - February 2023	
My child is happy at this school	99%
My child feels safe at this school	99%
The school has high expectations for my child	97%
The school communicates well with parents	96%
My child does well at this school	99%
I would recommend this school to another parent	98%





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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that trusted adults know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down 'rabbit holes' that aren't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing such 'legal but harmful' content, lives are being impacted – sometimes to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which so enthral young people, but we can still help children to be aware of their mental wellness: recognising when something isn't OK... and knowing what to do about content that upsets them.

### 1. UNDERSTAND THE ALGORITHM

Algorithms rank content by user interest: someone who regularly interacts with sports news, say, will see the latest results at the top of their feed. Likewise, if a user browses content that can cause harm, that's what will be recommended to them in future. Someone who's had a bad day and looks for posts which reflect their mood will find similar content being suggested to them more and more.

### 2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS

Avoiding the default feeds on social media platforms limits the amount of recommended content that's shown. Users can opt to only scroll through the accounts they follow, use restricted modes, or highlight posts that they don't want to see more of. Explore the platform safety settings to see how you can take control of what your child's phone shows them when they open the app.

### 3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN

Chatting about what your child's seen online keeps you aware of the content they're interacting with. Don't assume that platforms are screening out inappropriate material, or even that your child would recognise content as being harmful. Discuss who they follow, what posts they like and what comes up in their feeds: if alarm bells ring, it could be time for a more in-depth talk or to seek support.

### 4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT

If your child stumbles across unsuitable content on social media, there's the option to hide that post as well as indicating you'd prefer any similar material not to be suggested in future. On some platforms, you might also be able to block posts that contain specific words, which is an excellent way to start taking control of what your child sees online.

### 5. SET DAILY LIMITS

Phones and most apps can tell you how much they're being used. Spending too long online can mean a child misses out on other activities that are important to all-round wellbeing. You could set some family rules – for everyone to follow – around device use, such as screen time limits and tech-free spaces. Involving your child in creating this agreement makes them more likely to stick to it.

### 6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY

Keeping a discreet eye on how your child is using social media can help ensure they're not entering potentially dangerous situations. As they grow up, of course, children need space to exercise their independence – but you can still occasionally ask to see what they're looking at. Be transparent about your own social media use and try not to sound judgemental about your child's.

### 7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS

Even for adults, it's tempting to check an email or message as soon as the alert sound pings. Push notifications encourage people to open their apps and spend time on their device, so turning them off will help your child to practise mindful use of tech. Most of us have other things that we need to focus on as a priority – and those notifications will still be there later, when we have more time.

### 8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER

Giving children internet-enabled devices and complete freedom to explore platforms on their own can result in exposure to hugely damaging content. You could consider making a particular area at home a designated space to use phones, tablets and so on – making it much easier to monitor what content your child is viewing and (if necessary) steer them away from any potentially harmful paths.

### 9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, a balanced diet and restful sleep for our mental wellbeing. Spending hours on social media can cause us to sacrifice other activities that our brains need to feel well – so encouraging your child to put down their phone and enjoy something that doesn't involve a screen can be immensely beneficial.

### 10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE

Most platforms default children's accounts to private, so only people they've accepted as friends can see their posts. This reduces the risk of bullying or unkind comments, but – just like offline life – the digital world can still make children feel as if they need to act or look a certain way to fit in. Talk to your child about peer pressure, and listen to any concerns so you can provide the support they need.

### Meet Our Expert

Shazia Sarwar-Azim is executive headteacher at a specialist primary school and, as an emotional therapy coach, works with school leaders to focus on the SEND, mental health and wellbeing agenda. A passionate advocate for vulnerable learners, Shazia is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and the author of *The Rainbow Within*, a book which supports children with SEMH needs.



Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-6206655>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-6206655>

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