



NEWSLETTER

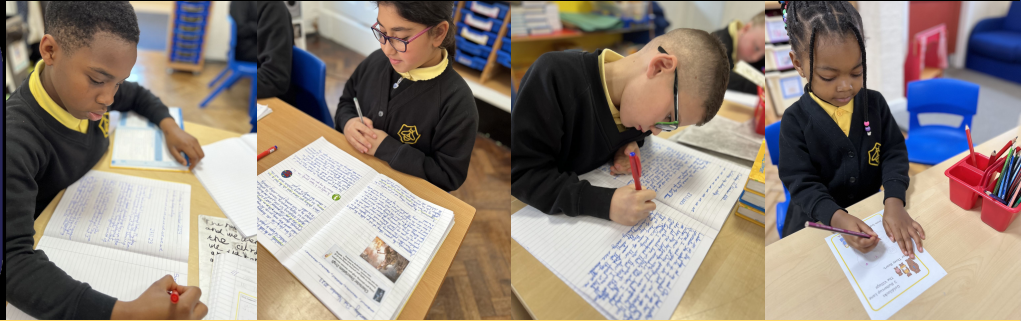
FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2023

ISSUE NO.12

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



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EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

Welcome to our first newsletter of the festive period. On Friday this week, the children arrived at school to the handiwork of our secret elves who, on Thursday night, decorated the entrance to welcome in December and bring some Yuletide cheer. It promises to be a jam packed month at Warren Farm with opportunities to come together as a school and community to celebrate the festive season.

Our Christmas Fayre on Friday 15th December promises to be our biggest and best ever. Miss Kelly and Miss Hannigan from 3/4SK along with their Christmas committee would certainly give Santa's little helpers a run for their money, ensuring that we all have a Christmas Fayre to remember. I must say a huge thank you for your bottle donations last week and donations of chocolate and biscuits today. The response has been overwhelming and really demonstrates the strong partnership that we have been built between school and parents. Next week our final donations will be toiletries and gift sets.

To coincide with our Christmas Fayre, we will be holding our Christmas Jumper day on Friday 15th December. An opportunity for Children and parents/carers to put on your favourite Christmas jumpers and join in the fun as we raise money for 'Save the Children'. There is no need to go out and buy new clothing, it can be as simple as using what you already have and getting creative with tinsel, decorations or any other themed items.

Looking further ahead, during our final week of this half term our Nursery and Reception classes will be performing their Christmas nativity which is always eagerly anticipated and not to be missed. Mrs Hicklin and the Early Years team are working tirelessly behind the scenes for what promises to be a performance demonstrating **Excellence in Everything** from our youngest learners.

Make it a great weekend

Mr Taylor

Character is how you treat those who can do nothing for you

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 4th December	D & T parent workshops All week Key stage 1
Fri 8th December	Rocksteady Concert 2:00pm
Fri 15th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Fri 15th December	Christmas Fayre 3:30pm-5:30pm
Tue 19th December	Nursery and Reception Nativity
Wed 20th December	Christmas Dinner
Fri 22nd December	Break up for Christmas 1:00pm
Mon 8th January 2024	Children return to school

COURAGE

HONESTY



INTEGRITY

RESPECT

**SELF
DISCIPLINE**



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EARLY YEARS



We've had another fantastic week in Early Years. Nursery have been exploring the outside classroom this week - they have been independent and brave in their learning as they have been practising turn taking and accuracy.

Reception have been looking at Van Gogh's *Starry Night* this week to support our topic, 'Light and Dark'. We have also listened to the song 'Starry Night' by Don McLean, discussing how the song makes us feel. We have then created our own version of *Starry Night* using paints and silhouettes.

As we move into colder weather, please ensure your child has warm outdoor clothes as we will continue to explore our outdoor environment, even in the frost!

KEY STAGE 1

This week in KS1 the children have been testing different materials to find out which is most suitable for the 'Three Little Pigs' to use for their houses. We poured water onto the houses and used a fan to test their durability.

Reminder: next week is KS1 Design and Technology parent workshops:
 1/2YG - Monday 4th December 2:15pm
 2HM - Tuesday 5th December 2:15pm
 1CO - Friday 8th December 2:15pm



ATTENDANCE

As we enter the month of December, it is evident that we are now very much in 'coughs and colds' season. The DfE guidance states that it is appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. If you are unsure about whether to send your child/ren to school, please refer to the following NHS document or ring school directly. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

As a leadership team, we have recently carried out analysis of our daily attendance. It showed that our attendance dips slightly on a Friday. It is good for all of us to be aware of this so that we can ensure that we maintain 'Excellence in Everything' from the beginning to the end of the week.

NAH	95.4%
RMH	90.7%
1CO	96.6%
1/2YG	92.3%
2HM	96.3%
3AB	95%
3/4SK	94%
4DN	95.9%
5AG	92.3%
5/6NW	95%
6BP	93.3%

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Thank you for your donations of sweets and chocolates this week. Friday 8th December will be another non-uniform day with donations of gift sets or items that can be used for the tombola.

The Christmas Fayre will take place on Friday 15th December from 3:30 - 5:30, we have lots of exciting things planned such as: elfridges, hook a cracker, adopt an animal, lucky dip, put the nose on the snowman and many more surprises. It will be a cash only event and will take place in both halls at either side of the school. Come along and help us celebrate the festive season.





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SAFEGUARDING

This week's focus is on Prevent. Prevent is the government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extreme causes. The prevent strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism. From July 2015 all schools have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism. It is important that we ensure children feel safe to discuss any issues so that they understand how to protect themselves from harm. Children are spending more and more time online and this makes them vulnerable to being groomed as part of the radicalisation process, you should ensure that parental controls are on all devices and that you are able to monitor online exchanges. For more information please visit <https://www.educateagainsthate.com/>

SEND

School Health Support Service (School Nurse Team)

The service aims to give confidential advice, care and support to schools, children, young people and their families. They aim to protect and promote the physical and emotional health of children, to ensure they get the most from their education. This service is available for all children who are enrolled to attend a Birmingham mainstream school. The service, work closely with schools around supporting medical needs, medical needs training for school staff and poor school attendance related to health. If you have concerns over health needs for your child please come and ask for an appointment to see Miss Gosling.

CHILD OF THE WEEK

NAH	Darcie-Rae Bates
RMH	Phoebe Maddix
RLM	Ecaterina Cojuhar
1CO	Ayan Bustiuc
1/2YG	Kyle Chen
2HM	Macie Haine
3AB	Kaylan Haines
3/4SK	Kamal Dana
4DN	Jayden James
5AG	Sarah Williams
5/6NW	Jack Edwards
6BP	Dylan Maya

LOWER KEY STAGE 2

For our DT topic on pneumatics, the children will be designing, making and evaluating their own monsters with moving mouths! This week we have started designing our monsters and we have some extremely creative ideas. It's been great to see everyone's imaginations come to life! If possible, could you please send in small boxes with lids such as egg boxes, teabag boxes and burger boxes that have lids (please keep them in their original shapes). These boxes need to be in school for the week commencing Monday 4th December 2023.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

This week Year 6 continued with their F2D project: FREE 2 DREAM CLOTHING is a premium fashion brand which embodies UK street lifestyle. We can't wait to see the children's hoodie designs! 5AG have completed their Bikeability training and have loved every minute of it (especially learning about how to keep safe on the road and cycling around the local area.) Children in the choir are busy preparing for the Christmas Fayre which will take place on Friday 15th December. We look forward to seeing you there!





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ELF-RIDGES!

A WORKSHOP DEDICATED TO HELPING KIDS GIVE PRESENTS TO LOVED ONES THIS CHRISTMAS!

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 WORKSHOP

AND GIVE THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO
 PICK OUT PRESENTS FOR THEIR
 FAMILY, WRAPPED UP BY OUR ELVES!

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WORKSHOP
NO GROWN-UPS
ALLOWED!!!



A WORKSHOP DEDICATED TO HELPING KIDS GIVE PRESENTS TO LOVED ONES THIS CHRISTMAS!



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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 nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools ...

WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments, pornography, and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self-harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deepfakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

Meet Our Expert

Luke Ramsdon is Senior Deputy Headmaster and Director of Safeguarding for the St Benedict's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes in the YES (among other journals) on school leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



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