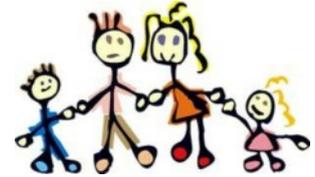




love for learning * learning for life *

Outwoods Primary School Newsletter



5th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I can't believe that we are nearly at the end of another half term! It has been a very busy term with Young Voices for Year 5 and lots of different trips and visitors in school.

There will be a non uniform day on Friday 14th February - all proceeds will be given to the 'Warwickshire & Solihull Blood Bikes' charity that does amazing work nationally and in the local area. Have a lovely half term and remember that the children are back in school on Wednesday 26th February - have a great Ball Game and enjoy the pancakes!

Mrs Taylor

World Book Day- Thursday 5th March



In the week beginning 2nd March we will be celebrating book week. During this week children will be sharing old favourites and some new titles with their friends and teachers. There will be spot prizes for children sharing their favourite books and opportunities for the whole family to talk about and enjoy books together. On the day itself (Thursday) we will be asking the children to dress up as a word to help extend vocabulary. Don't worry- more information to follow!



Attendance

Please continue to send your child to school on a daily basis. Our target at Outwoods is 95.5%, the December flu bug hit us hard but we are trying very hard to improve attendance this term.

At school, as teachers, we can really see how poor attendance impacts negatively on a child's progress and indeed happiness as they feel they are constantly 'catching up'.

If we have any concerns about your child's health, we will not hesitate to contact you; their wellbeing is our prime concern and we are happy to give Calpol at dinnertime if children require it.

Beanie and Baseball hats both achieved 99% attendance last week and Bluebells were 100%!



...every school day counts!

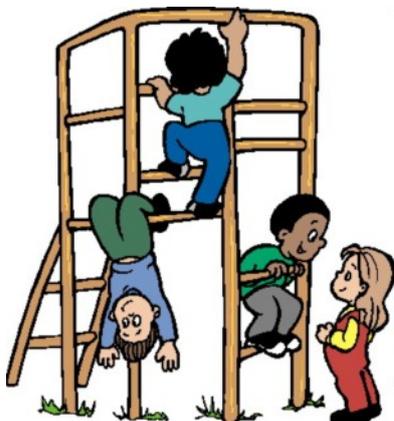


SATS Preparation

The children in Year 2 and Year 6 are busy preparing for their end of Key Stage tests. To help them we are offering work books for reading, grammar and maths available from the school office priced £5.00 each. Look out for the order form!

Climbing Apparatus - Upper School Playground

You'll no doubt have seen the red tape around the climbing equipment recently. It is still out of bounds whilst we wait for it to be repaired, which we are hoping will be very soon - as the children love to play at break time. Please support us by keeping your children away from the apparatus after school. Until it is repaired it is not safe for use. Thank you.



Valentine's Disco

Tuesday 11th February



Infants 4.30 p.m. to 5.45 p.m.

Juniors 6.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.



Entrance is £2.00 on the door. Tickets available from the Upper and Lower school office if you'd like to beat the queue. There will be tuck bags (50p) and tip tops (20p) on sale during the night.

All children must be collected promptly by a responsible adult.



Online Payment System

Did you know you can pay for your child's school dinners, breakfast club, school trips, swimming and music lessons online? Each child has an online account which you can log into to make easy payments. If you are having trouble accessing your online account please call us on 01827 712372 or pop into the office and we will be happy to help.



Free information to support families with children and young people aged 0-25 across Warwickshire. Topics include: finding childcare, clubs and activities, special educational needs and disabilities, parenting support, support with bullying and help with finances. Helpline: 0845 090 8044/01926 742274 Email: fis@warwickshire.gov.uk Web: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis



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Warwickshire FIS

Sports Relief

This year we will be joining in with the fund raising for Sports Relief on Friday 13th March. After half term, wristbands will be on sale from



the upper and lower school offices. We are planning to do something special for the children on this day - more details to follow.



Important Dates

Please remember that school closes on Friday 14th February for half-term and re-opens on Wednesday 26th February.

The last day of term will be a non-uniform day for a donation of £1 in aid of Warwickshire & Solihull Blood Bikes.



Safer Internet Day 2020



Safer Internet Day 2020 | Tuesday
11 February

Safer Internet Day will be celebrated globally on Tuesday 11th February 2020. At Outwoods we made sure that we got involved with themed classroom activities and around the school, and will be continuing to over the next few weeks.

We take the important role of safeguarding our children very seriously and share the mission to make the Internet a better place for children and young people with leading charities and organisations such as the UK Safer Internet Centre.

We know that many of our children have devices where they can connect to popular and ever changing apps. Unfortunately, we have heard of cases of parents discovering that their children have been talking to adults online, who are posing as children and trying to befriend or 'groom' our young people and of children's private photographs and profiles being shared with strangers online. Here is a brief overview of some of the most popular apps our children tell us they have been using:-

- **Roblox** - This is a very popular multi player game that connects people world wide and allows them to create their own games, There have been warnings recently about inappropriate content and parents are advised to monitor their child's account (as with all online games).
- **Tiktok** - This is a video sharing social media app which allows users to create, share and view videos. **Children are required to be at least 12 years old before they can create an account.**
- **Skype** - a video and messaging app. **Children are required to be at least 13 years old before they can create an account.**
- **Instagram** - an online mobile photo sharing, video sharing and social networking service which enables its users to take pictures and videos and share them on a variety of social networking platforms. **Children are required to be at least 13 years old before they can create an account.**
- **Facebook** - a social networking site. **Children are required to be at least 13 years old before they can create an account.**
- **Whats App** - An instant messaging app for smartphones. **The user agreement requires users to be age 16 or older.**
- **Snapchat** - Snapchat is very popular, easy to use and is a good way of keeping in touch with friends. There is a feature that reveals location and parents are warned this could potentially pose a risk to young people. Parents should monitor the usage and settings need to made private. **Children are required to be at least 13 years old before they can create an account.**
- **You Tube** - YouTube is used to watch music videos, comedy shows, how to guides, recipes and more. Teens also use the video-sharing service to follow their favourite vloggers (video blogger), subscribe to other YouTubers and people they are interested in. **Children are required to be at least 13 years old before they can create an account.**

Children are often creating 'groups' to which others are joining. This means that all information is shared with anyone who is in the group so privacy is lost and in some cases strangers have been added to the group.

Our children are living in a society that has become dependent on powerful computers, including smart phones, iPads, interactive online games and virtual communities, and most children now have access to the 'world wide web.'



Websites such as Facebook, Roblox, Instagram, Skype and Whats App to name but a few, offer fantastic opportunities for communication and social connections, however they are created with their audience in mind and many of these sites and apps are specifically for those over 13 years old. When monitoring your son/daughter's internet use, please remind yourself of the concerns of social media:

- Many sites use 'targeted' advertising and therefore your child could be exposed to adverts of a sexual or other inappropriate nature, depending on the age they stated when they registered.
- They may have lied about their age to get an account, making them appear older than they are, increasing this risk.
- Young people may accept friend requests from people they don't know in real life which could increase the risk of inappropriate contact or behaviour. The general rule is, if they aren't friends in real life, they shouldn't be 'friends' online.
- Language, games, groups and content posted or shared on social media is **NOT** moderated, and therefore can be offensive, illegal or unsuitable for young people.
- Photographs shared by users are **NOT** moderated and therefore young people could be exposed to inappropriate images or even post their own.
- Underage users might be less likely to keep their identities private and lying about their age can expose them to further risks regarding privacy settings and options.
- Social media sites can be exploited by bullies and for inappropriate contact.
- Social media sites cannot and do not verify its members, therefore, it is important to remember that if your son/daughter can lie about who they are online, so can anyone else.

Should you decide to allow your child to have an online profile we strongly advise you:

- Check their profile is set to private and that only their friends can see information they post.
- Monitor your child's use and talk to them about safe and appropriate online behaviour such as not sharing personal information and not posting or messaging offensive /inappropriate messages or photos.
- Monitor your child's use of language and how they communicate to other people, ensuring swearing and abusive language is discouraged.
- Have a look at advice for parents on the social media sites.
- Set up your own profiles so you understand how the site works and ask them to have you as their friend on their profile so you know what they are posting online.

Make sure your son/daughter understand the following rules:

1. Always keep your profile private.
2. Never accept a friend you do not know in real life.
3. Never post anything which could reveal your identity including photographs wearing school uniform where possible.
4. **Never post anything you wouldn't want your parents or teachers to see.**
5. Never agree to meet somebody you only know online without telling a trusted adult.
6. Always tell someone if you feel threatened or someone upsets you.



We recommend that all parents visit the CEOP Think U Know website for more information on keeping your child safe online www.thinkuknow.co.uk www.connectsafely.org www.net-aware.org.uk and www.getsafeonline.org Once again, I will point you in the direction of www.internetmatters.org.uk as it provides some of the clearest guidance, images and instructions I've seen. **The official site of Safer Internet Day has an extremely useful parents pack which gives a wealth of activities to do with your child concerning Internet safety.**

www.saferinternetday.org

<http://www.internetmatters.org/controls/interactive-guide/> and www.common sense media.org/game-reviews

both give valuable advice for parents on online activity and gaming.



Through lessons provided at school, assemblies, safer internet day, and PSHE lessons, we do our best to provide our children with the awareness and knowledge they need in order to recognise and avoid dangerous, destructive, or unlawful behaviour and to respond appropriately. However, it is only through a collaborative effort between parents and teachers that we will succeed in creating responsible and safe cyber citizens.

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at the school or your child's class teacher or our ICT subject leader, Miss Burrows.