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Our School Community Newsletter!



Autumn B - Week 3 - Friday 23rd November 2018



Thought for the Week

"Compassion is a very important aspect of life, and a fundamental value of human behaviour"

Birmingham School Pupil



NSPCC Speak out. Stay safe assembly



On Wednesday 21st November we welcomed Francis from the NSPCC to our school to present their 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' assembly to link in with our ongoing anti-bullying and safeguarding work. She introduced 'Buddy' and talked to the children about the importance of 'speaking out to stay safe'. She talked about how they can speak to an adult in school or at home if they are not feeling safe.

She also talked about how it is important to work TOGETHER to keep EACH OTHER safe. I was in the assembly and we agreed that children who help keep others safe are like 'superheroes'! They are brave when they 'speak out' about children being unkind to others. We agreed that using words like 'tell-tale' and 'snitch' to label children who do 'speak out' for others are **not helpful** or **safe** words. We prefer to use 'superhero' as it's often a brave thing to do. (Indeed, as adults we all recognise the importance of 'whistle blowing' as a strategy for keeping people safe in the workplace) Please help us support your child in recognising the power of 'speaking out' to help keep everyone safe. This also links in perfectly with this half terms value COMPASSION where children are being encouraged to think about how other people might be feeling.

Your child is also learning the Childline number off by heart by chanting and dancing to 0800 1111. Buddy posters have also been placed around the school so children have reference to the number at all times too.

Growing together,

Every day,

In every way.



Research continues to show that immersing children in books and reading for pleasure has a profound impact on a child's academic achievements, life chances and enjoyment. The Book Trust is the UK's largest reading charity and always has a range of fantastic tips and lists!! With Christmas approaching and gift lists getting longer, we thought you might find it useful to explore a range of age appropriate recommended reads. Please follow the links below to find out more....

Books for 0 - 5 years

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/1/100-best-0-5/>

6 - 8 years

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/1/100-best-books-6-8/>

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Latest new books

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/best-new-books/>

Reading tips from the Book trust

Reading books with children is a great way to spend family time. Research shows that exploring books can have lots of benefits for kids, and it's also just fantastic family fun. But we know that not everyone feels comfortable about reading aloud or sharing stories, which is why we've put together some helpful hints for parents and carers.

Here you'll find advice about reading as a family, including video examples of enjoying books with children and a guide to what makes a good storyteller. You can also find top tips for engaging reluctant readers and encouraging older children to read.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/>



The Book People Book Fair



Next Wednesday 28th November until Tuesday 4th December we will be running a Book Fair. This is a great opportunity to buy books as Christmas gifts at fantastic prices! The book stalls will be open to parents, after school by the school office, from 3.00pm - 3.30pm. On Monday 3rd December we will be taking each class to look through the books themselves. If you would like your child to buy a book then please send money in to school on Monday 3rd December in a clearly labelled, sealed envelope. We have put a Book People flyer in your child's book bag today to give you a taste of what's going to be on offer. Allowing children to choose a book they like is a really important part of them learning to love books and experience the thrill of buying one themselves too!



Children's Christmas Fair - Friday 7th December - 1.00 - 3.00pm



With the Christmas Fair only two weeks away we are now on the look out for donations to fill the stalls! Thank you to everyone who donated chocolates today. The children always love the chocolate tombola, the teddy stall and the gift tombola too! So, over the next two weeks we would love it if you would be kind enough to make the following donations...

Date	Donations requested
Friday 30 th November	Gifts (toiletries, unused gifts) that children could use to give to mummies and daddies as gifts

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Friday 7th December

Teddies for the Teddy tombola

Please bring your donations into school on the date above and place them in the trays which will be positioned outside the school classrooms for the next three Fridays. Thank you in advance of any donations.



Christmas Nativity Play 2018



Thank you to everyone who responded so quickly to the request for our Nativity tickets. The 5.00pm performance is now full so if you have yet to request tickets then you will be allocated the 2.00pm performance slots. The children have already started to learn the songs for the play...as always, it's going to be a cracker!!!!



Food donations for the Foodbank



As shared at the Harvest Festival, we now have a permanent basket by the school office to collect donations for our local foodbank. Thank you to those families who pop in each week to make their donation. After consulting with staff and to link in with our value of **COMPASSION**, we have also decided that rather than asking for £1.00 donation for the Nativity programs before each performance, we would like you to consider donating an item of food/s to our foodbank collection. Please bring it along at either 2.00pm or 5.00pm and drop it into the basket. Thank you for supporting our actions for **COMPASSION**.



Christmas Theatre Trip



Thank you to all of the families who have already paid online for the Christmas Theatre trip. There are still 24 families who have yet to pay. Please pay by Friday 30th November or come and chat to me if you are unable to pay. Please remember that paying online allows you to give consent for your child to go on the trip.

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Educational Events and Activities



Date	Time & place	Event
Wednesday 28 th November - Tuesday 4 th December	3.00pm - 3.30pm daily By school office	Book People Book Sale
Monday 3 rd December	From today	Christmas Post Box opens for children's cards
Friday 7 th December	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Children's Christmas Fair
Friday 14 th December	2.00pm 5.00pm	Whole school Christmas performances (2 tickets per family)
Tuesday 18 th December	From 1.00pm in the classrooms	Class Christmas parties
Wednesday 19 th December	12.00pm - 1.00pm	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 20 th December	Morning and afternoon	Christmas trip to the theatre
Friday 21 st December	Last day of term Children to be collected at ANY TIME between 1.00pm and 2.00pm from their classrooms. <u>School will then close at 2.00pm</u> for the Christmas holidays to tie in with Coleshill Primary School closing times.	

Larks and Owls will be open from 2.00pm until 3.00pm on the last day (Friday 21st December) **They will close at 3.00pm prompt.** Please let Gaynor know (01675 432990) if you would like your child to have a space from 2.00pm - 3.00pm on the last day.

Christmas holidays from Monday 24th December 2018 - Friday 4th January 2019

Teacher training day - Monday 7th January

Children back in school - Tuesday 8th January

Important note - please be aware that these dates and times are subject to change. Please read the weekly newsletters for most up-to-date information. Class trips and visits will be communicated separately.



Attendance - 'Every Child, Attending Every Day'



Good attendance (97%+) is key to academic success and missing just one or two days each half term can have a detrimental impact on a child's learning and progress. The LA may send out fines to families who are deemed to be 'persistently absent'. Our Attendance Policy can be found on our school website if you need further clarification.

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Our target for this year is 97%. This week we achieved 97.6%, well done everyone! **A HUGE well done to YR Robins who achieved 100% this week!** Please remember ANY requests for holiday leave during term time **will not** be granted.

How does your child compare?

Attendance during one school year	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons

Position	% attendance	Class
FIRST PLACE	100%	YR Robins
SECOND PLACE	98.3%	Y2 Barn Owls
THIRD PLACE	94.3%	Y1 Blackbirds



Our Golden Rule focus for this half term is



'We listen, we don't interrupt'

Our Value for this half term is 'COMPASSION'



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Our Personal, Social and Emotional 'Jigsaw' theme for this half term is

'Celebrating Difference'

We are learning that as we grow and develop we need to...

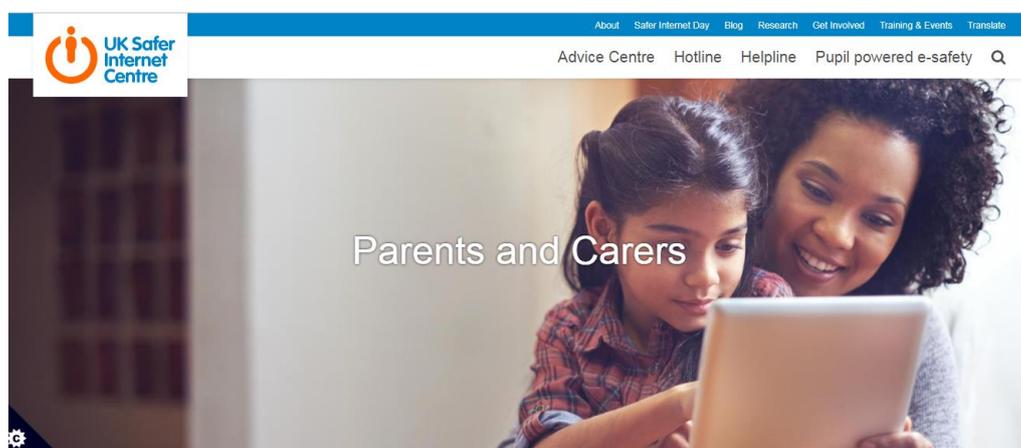
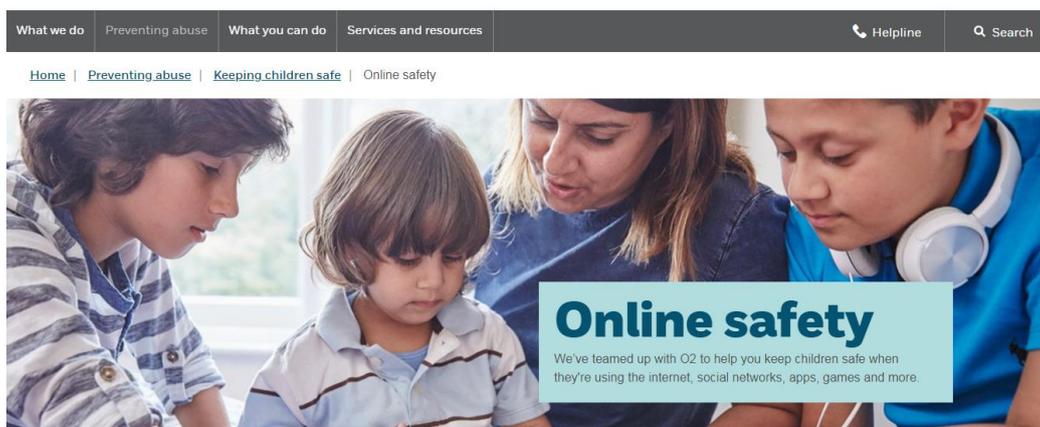
- Accept that everyone is different
- Include others when working and playing
- Know how to help if someone is being bullied
 - Try to solve problems
 - Try to use kind words
- Know how to give and receive compliments

Kindest regards

Mrs Debby Hughes - Headteacher head2569@welearn365.com

Mr Jonathan Smith - Chair of Governors governors2569@welearn365.com

[Find out more about how to keep your child safe on-line](#)



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