



Charleton C of E Academy

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 19th April 2024

Dear Families,

Welcome back! It is fantastic to see all your smiling faces again as we return from our Easter break. We hope you had a rejuvenating holiday filled with relaxation and fun.

As we step into the summer term, we couldn't be more excited about the warmer weather that has greeted us this week. After a rather rainy holiday period, the sunshine is indeed a welcome relief. Let's soak up those rays and enjoy the brighter days ahead.

This term promises to be full of exciting adventures and new learning opportunities. We're eager to delve into fresh topics, explore intriguing concepts, and embark on educational journeys together. Whether it's diving into new books, experimenting in science, or unravelling the mysteries of history, there's so much to discover and learn.

As mentioned before the holidays, I am thrilled to invite all parents to our Praise Assembly on Monday morning at 8:55. Beforehand, there will be a brief 10-15 minute parent briefing with the focus of the week being based on our exciting new project, the Optimal Learning Approach. These opportunities to come together are very exciting and I look forward to sharing more information with you over the coming term.

Finally, it is with a mixture of sadness and warm wishes that we announce the departure of Mrs. Jeffery from Charleton C of E Academy. After many, many years of dedicated service as our administrator, Mrs. Jeffery will be embarking on a new chapter of her career as she takes on a role closer to her home at Prince Rock Primary School in Plymouth. Her presence and contributions to our school community have been invaluable, and we are truly grateful for her unwavering commitment and support over the years. While we will miss her dearly, we wholeheartedly wish her every success and happiness in her new endeavour. As we bid farewell to Mrs. Jeffery, please be rest assured that we are actively working on plans to appoint a new administrator. We will keep you informed once these plans are finalised.

Mrs Ruston

Dates for the Diary

Monday 22nd April – Praise Assembly 8.55am
Tuesday 30th April – Whole School & Year 6 Photo
Wednesday 1st May – Forest School
Monday 13th May – SATS Week
Wednesday 15th May – Forest School
Monday 27th May – HALF TERM WEEK
Monday 3rd June – Non Pupil Day

Beesands & Start Point

The sunny weather makes a great start to the summer term!

As historians, we are delving into London's past from the 1600's, learning what it was like to live in our vibrant capital city 400 years ago; the smells, noises and architecture. As scientists, we are starting our investigations about plants. We observed different fruit and vegetables, noting how they look on the outside and comparing them to their insides. We also looked closely at different seeds and all the children planted a sunflower seed.

As artists, we were wowed by the amazing images produced by Australian artist Gloria Petyarre. We have been moving and grooving in our music lesson aptly named 'Come dance with me'. Forest school was a joy this week, the sunny weather bringing life to our outside area, with plants and leaves blossoming and growing and lots of insect life.

We have started our teeth brushing sessions, so every day after lunch we brush our teeth for 2 minutes!



Croft

As we kick off the new term in Croft Class, our curiosity as historians has led us on an exciting journey into the world of the ancient Egyptians. Delving into the depths of history, we've begun to unravel where they fit into the grand timeline of civilization.

In our role as writers, we've ventured into realms of imagination, crafting captivating story openers inspired by Phillip Pullman's enchanting tale, "The Firework Maker's Daughter."

Our artistic endeavours have transported us to the serene landscapes of Claude Monet's masterpieces, sparking lively discussions as we pondered the beauty and technique behind his renowned works.

Amidst our academic explorations, we were delighted by a special visit from the lifeguards, adding a splash of excitement to our week. Here's to the start of a term filled with learning, creativity, and unforgettable experiences!



Stars of the Week

Luella – for her enthusiasm when tidying up

Mahli- for her continued efforts in maths where she perseveres with her learning and tries her hardest



Values of the Week

Monroe – for the value of honesty as you will always get an honest answer from him

Chloe- for the value of responsibility where she is taking control of her own learning in her preparation for SATS



Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%

*Our whole school attendance is currently **95.7%***

Class attendance is currently:
 Start Point Attendance 95% Croft Attendance 96%

ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?


ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL
Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government claims that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	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
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons


89% & Below

Drastic effect on academic achievement




95%-90%

Cause for concern



100%-96%

Excellent



Is my child too ill for School?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. The link below has some useful information on when children should stay at home.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Home Learning – Start Point

Reading for KS1 and Reception.

Can you look for signs of spring? Take a photo or draw a picture.



Home Learning – Croft

Continue to read at home as much as you can and regularly log onto TTRS for small chunks of learning.

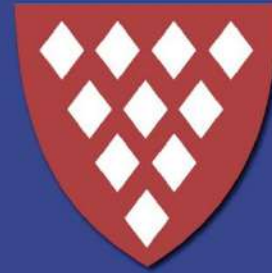
Take some time to research pictures by Monet. Which ones do you prefer?

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What's On

**Kingsbridge
Community
College**



OPEN MORNING

**Wednesday 5th June
9.30am to 11am**

Book your place here



Tel: 01548 85264

Email: admissions@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk

www.kingsbridgecollege.org.uk - Balkwill Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1PL

**KINGSBRIDGE
TENNIS SUMMER
COACHING
07825346288**



LEVEL UP

BOOK NOW

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/Tennis/Coaching/Coaching/Junior>

Online Safety

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/gaming-2>

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/articles/parents-ultimate-guide-to-fortnite>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help our children have safe conversations about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. It's end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients, not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging. WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

AGE RESTRICTION 16+
in UK and European part of the world

...MSG ME...

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EVOLVING SCAMS
WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious emergency, plus a scam where fraudulent trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) ask or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS
To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS
WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "forwarded" icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

ONLINE

VIEW ONCE CONTENT
The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this "disappearing" content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK
Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate "locked chats" folder, stored behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION
WhatsApp's "live location" feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list (or in a mutual group chat) can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

NEWS

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION
Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING
Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp: it's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS
It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats (without needing approval, you can give permission to 'My contacts' or 'My contacts except...'). Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY
Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a "locked chats" folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert
Dr Claire Barron is a cognitive safety consultant, educator and researcher who has investigated and implemented online safety and cyber security policies for schools. She has written several research papers and co-edited two reports for the Australian Government concerning internet use and online behaviour of young people in the UK. Click here to read more.

...HEY OSCAR...

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/en-gb/faq-fake-news> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/verify> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/en-gb/faq-what-is-2-step-verification> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/privacy> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/faq>

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TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. Its main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

TIKTOK



AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up to the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are light-hearted or designed to make people laugh. However there have been a number of videos reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and young teens engaging in sexually suggestive content. More recently, suicide-themed related videos have been widely circulated. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be common to come across explicit and age-inappropriate content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.

INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.

TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.



ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



Safety Tips For Parents

TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use TikTok, make sure you take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have an open dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Even if it doesn't make you popular, keep a close eye on what your child is viewing and sharing on TikTok. Whilst the app has moderation tools, videos can still slip through the net so it's important to regularly check in on what they're watching. Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with it. You could then even watch some videos with your child, turning it into a bonding opportunity also.



LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a relatively safe space for your child to express themselves. However, in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



FAMILY SAFETY MODE

TikTok Family Safety Mode allows parents to link their own TikTok account to their child's. It's a great way to oversee your child's digital wellbeing by giving you direct control over their safety settings and being able to remotely turn features on and off. This includes managing screen time, the ability to send and receive direct messages (and with whom) and the ability to restrict the appearance of content that might not be age appropriate.



SOURCES: www.tiktok.com

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety

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