



# February 2023 NEWSLETTER



## Dear Parents & Carers

Isn't it lovely to have lighter mornings and evenings? We're really looking forward to the Spring now! I'm sure you are too! Once again, we've had a very busy half term and it's been wonderful to see trips and visits returning and this becoming part of 'normal school life'.

We've had some wonderful outcomes across the school from our History and Science learning enquiries this term and you can read about some of these outcomes in this newsletter. When we return after half term the children will begin a three week Art learning experience and teachers will inform you of this learning so that you can support your child's learning at home too.

We really appreciate you leaving the playground promptly at the end of the day. This is helping teachers to get to meetings on time and ensuring that they resume their work, which takes them well into the evening.

Finally, many of you have asked how April in Year 2 is doing. Although there is still a long way to go for April and she will need to remain in hospital for some time, we are so pleased to hear from her Mum, Louise, that she is beginning now to show signs of a recovery. As you can all imagine, it has truly been an incredibly worrying time for April's family. I know that the whole family would want me to thank you for all your concern, prayers and positive thoughts and we hope that our 'Day for April' this week will ensure that April and her family remain in our thoughts every day and, that they know they have our continued support and love.

Wishing you all a great half term break,

Best wishes,

*Katy Burns* Headteacher



## GENERAL NOTE

All known and planned dates and activities are on our last "Dates for your Diaries" page. Please ensure you screen shot / print / review so that you know what's happening and when - eg SATs / phonics assessment dates, termly holidays, activity dates etc are all there.

**Do make our newsletters your "go to" as they're full of useful information for you and your child.**



# Internet Safety Week



In class and assemblies this week, we will be looking at how we can educate ourselves around keeping children safe online. We must all ensure that children are viewing appropriate materials online and be proactive in our response to the damaging effect social media and other materials produced online can be for many children. Please be vigilant around what your child views and ask your child about the zip it, block it, flag it code! Please make sure you go through this guide with your child.



[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



## Y3 Trip to Kents Cavern

Year 3 enjoyed their trip to Kents Cavern. They engaged in three different activities: a woodland trail, exploring the caves and artefact handling. Our tour guide was very impressed by the children's excellent behaviour and knowledge of the Stone Age.



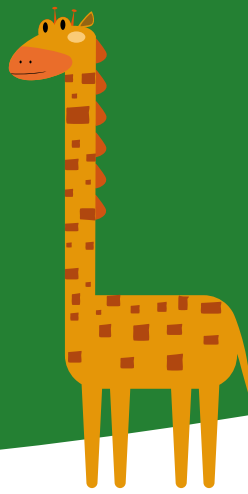
## Y5: WONDERSTRUCK!

On Monday 30th, Year 5 visited Brixham College to take part in a Wonderstruck Science Show. After the show, which was filled with fire, explosions and a deafening engine, the children put their knowledge from the show to the test by creating their very own rockets! The children were a credit to the school and loved the day!





# ZOO TRIP



**On Tuesday 31st January,  
Y2 and Y6 visited Paignton Zoo**

Year 6 had another enjoyable trip to the Zoo this term to launch their new Science learning enquiry about "Evolution & Adaptation".

Their task during the day was to explore as many different animals and plants they could that showed they had adapted to their natural habitat e.g. giraffes showing adaptation through their long necks and tongues and chameleons having the ability to change colour depending on their surroundings.



**Year 2's trip to the Zoo was part of our Science learning enquiry, "Why Do Carnivores Need Plants To Survive?"**

As we meandered around the Zoo, we were on the look out for different types of animals; carnivores, omnivores and herbivores. We saw many different animals like amphibians, mammals, birds and fish. During the trip we took part in an African Safari Workshop, where we looked at the African habitats and animal artefacts, including skeletons and fur.





# Year 6 Leaders

We're so proud of our Y6 leaders who are exemplifying our 5 'R's. Ask your child to tell you about these behaviour rules, they know them well! Each week on Friday we pick two year 6 pupils to sit on the star leader chairs and they

have their name placed on our Y6 leader board to recognise their great efforts to support younger children. Here are our nominated pupils from this half term. Well done to you all!



## Wellbeing Warriors

Introducing Galmpton's first Wellbeing Warriors: Archie, Charlie, Freya, Isabella and Lizzie.

These Y6 pupils are all outstanding role models around school and will be supporting Mrs Fisher to provide 'listening lunchtimes'. They also:

- Are a friendly face and a buddy to anyone feeling lonely at lunchtimes; supporting children to find a quiet space if they need one.
- Aim to raise awareness about the 6 aspects to wellbeing and share strategies to support these.
- Understand and accept that we ALL have different feelings and it's good to talk to others when we need to.
- Listen to others so that they can talk about how they are feeling.
- Provide a listening ear for children around the school but will talk to an adult if a child needs further support for their wellbeing.

Our Wellbeing Warriors have set some weekly wellbeing challenges in school and taught the hand breathing technique to all classes. They each wear a purple star pin badge so that they are easily identifiable around school.

Great job team!

*Mrs Fisher*



## Safe Waiting & Road Safety

We've been considering the road safety for our children at drop off time. After half term, we will trial opening the gates at 08:35 enabling parents and children to wait until 08:45 on the main entrance slope (no access to playground).

**Parents will be responsible for their children until 8.45am and are expected to wait with their child as staff will not be in attendance.**

We are trying to give you as much safe waiting space as possible prior to children entering school.

With regard to road safety, please drive slowly through the Village. We have had a couple of near misses reported in recent days. Obviously, the drivers may not be associated with school, but we must ask this of you.

## Attendance Data for the period 7.9.22 – 31.1.23 (Target is 97%)

Whole School	95.54 %
Reception	94.63 %
Y1	97.16 %
Y2	93.73 %
Y3	96.98 %
Y4	95.23 %
Y5	95.97 %
Y6	94.94 %

**Well done Y1, you are our half term attendance superstars. Keep it up!**

If you have any questions relating to attendance / absence, please contact the school office who will be able to answer your questions.



Following on from the piece in the last newsletter regarding our Children in Need day, Mark and Jack visited for an assembly and collected the monies we raised for Sound Communities, based in Paignton.



## Kitchen Standards



Mrs Staddon and her team have received a glowing result from Torbay Council's Environmental Health Food Standards Agency's recent visit. It was a 5 star result and our new kitchen, which was installed over the last Summer holidays, was rated by the inspector very highly! Well done to our catering team!



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

Snapchat is a photo- and video-sharing app which also allows users to chat with friends via text or audio. Users can share images and videos with specific friends, or through a 'story' (documenting the previous 24 hours) visible to their entire friend list. Snapchat usage rose during the pandemic, with many young people utilising it to connect with their peers. The app continues to develop features to engage an even larger audience and emulate current trends, rivalling platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

## CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects on the app with people they know, they may still receive friend requests from strangers. Snapchat's links with apps such as Wink and Hoop have increased this possibility. Accepting a request means that children are then disclosing personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features. This could allow predators to gain their trust for sinister purposes.

## EXCESSIVE USE

There are many features that are attractive to users and keep them excited about the app. Snap streaks encourage users to send snaps daily, Spotlight Challenges give users to the chance to obtain money and online fame, and the Spotlight feature's scroll of videos makes it easy for children to spend hours watching content.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat are not suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's Discover function lets users swipe through snippets of news stories and trending articles that often include adult content. There is currently no way to turn off this feature.

## SEXTING

Sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse. While these pictures do disappear – and the sender is notified if it has been screenshotted first – users have found alternative methods to save images, such as taking pictures with a separate device.

## DAMAGE TO CONFIDENCE

Snapchat's filters and lenses are a popular way for users to enhance their 'selfie game'. Although many are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' filters on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations and create feelings of inadequacy. Comparing themselves unfavourably against other Snapchat users could threaten a child's confidence or sense of self-worth.

## VISIBLE LOCATION

My Places lets users check in and search for popular spots nearby – such as restaurants, parks or shopping centres – and recommend them to their friends. The potential issue with a young person consistently checking into locations on Snapchat is that it allows other users in their friends list (even people they have only ever met online) to see where they currently are and where they regularly go.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add function helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this feature could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).



### CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

Snapchat has recently announced that it is rolling out a new safety feature: users will receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.



### TALK ABOUT SEXTING

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it is important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Discuss the legal implications of sending, receiving or sharing explicit images, as well as the possible emotional impact. Emphasise that your child should never feel pressured into sexting – and that if they receive unwanted explicit images, they should tell a trusted adult straight away.



### CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

Talk to your child about what is and isn't wise to share on Snapchat (e.g. don't post explicit images or videos, or display identifiable details like their school uniform). Remind them that once something is online, the creator loses control over where it might end up – and who with. Additionally, Snapchat's 'Spotlight' feature has a #challenge like TikTok's: it's vital that your child understands the potentially harmful consequences of taking part in these challenges.



### KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Your child can send Snaps directly to friends, but Stories are visible to everyone they have added, unless they change the settings. If they use SnapMaps, their location is visible unless 'Ghost Mode' is enabled (again via settings). It's prudent to emphasise the importance of not adding people they don't know in real life. This is particularly important with the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchatters to see the places your child regularly visits and checks in. Additionally, it's important to be cautious about Shared Stories as this allows people who are not on your contact list access to the post.



### BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending explicit images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and choose report or block. There are options to state why they are reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).



## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday



# Galmpton Primary School

## Calendar Dates 2023

Thurs 2nd March	World Book Day – more info will follow after half term holidays
Fri 3rd March	SEN Parent/Carer Forum, 9.00 - 10.30am (limited slots available with Kate Anthony, Educational Psychologist)
Mon 13th March	Parent/Teacher Meetings face to face
Weds 15th March	Parent/Teacher Meetings online/virtual appointments
Fri 17th March	Red Nose Day – more info will follow after half term holidays
Sun 19th March	Mothering Sunday Service in Churston Church
Thurs 30th March	Easter Celebration Day - Egg Rolling, Egg Decorating, Bonnet Parade, Stalls etc (further info to follow)
12th June	Y1 Phonics Screening week
15th - 26th May	Y2 KS1 SATs weeks
9th – 12th May	Y6 KS2 SATs week
Thurs 15th June	Class Photo's (Tempest Photography)
Sun 21st – Fri 26th May	Y6 Bude Residential
Sun 2nd July	Gooseberry Pie Fayre

### 2023 School Holidays & Non-Pupil Dates:

Mon 13th – Fri 17th Feb	Half Term Holiday
Mon 3rd – Fri 14th Apr	Easter Holiday
Mon 1st & 8th May	Bank Holidays
Mon 29th May –	May Half Term Holiday
Weds 7th Jun (inc)	& Non-Pupil Days
Tues 25th Jul	End of Academic Year

## TENNIS BALLS

Huge thanks to Graham Rickard from Churston Tennis Club for the kind donation of used tennis balls. They'll be well used in school in all sorts of activities. If you're considering any tennis coaching for adults / children, get in touch with Graham via Churston Tennis Club for a chat.

