

Woodchester Endowed Church of England (VA) Primary School News

Our church school community seeks to inspire children and adults to love, learn and flourish together so we may become everything God has created us to be.

Christian Value— Compassion

Friday 9th February 2024

'Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many' (1 Corinthians 12; 14-16)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to our Year 6 parents who were able to attend the SATS information evening recently. We hope you found the information about Y6 assessment useful, even if you did have to sit a couple of test questions!

Our Forest Green Rovers mascot, Poppy, has been very busy supporting the team recently and welcoming their new manager. A huge thank you to Poppy and her family for giving up their time to support our local team. Poppy has enjoyed meeting the captain, and more importantly, meeting the FGR mascot! Thank you Poppy for being a wonderful ambassador for our school.

Thank you to those parents who have returned their Parents' Questionnaires—they will be reviewed by governors and shared with parents in the near future. Thank you also to those parents who have booked appointments for the forthcoming parents evenings. Appointments are still available for booking via Microsoft Teams—please contact your child's class teacher if you need any help with this. Don't forget that children will be bringing home their mid-year reports today.

Have a lovely half term—fingers crossed the weather improves slightly!

Mrs Loomes, Mrs Pennington and Peggy



MESSY CHURCH

Wednesday 21st February 3:20-4:45pm

Our next Messy Church will be on **Wednesday February 21st**, the first Wednesday after the half term holiday.

Our theme is **"Down through the Roof"** where friends bring a paralysed man to Jesus to be healed and, as they couldn't get into the house, they climbed up to the roof, made a hole and lowered him down.

We have lots of super crafts planned, including decorating heart biscuits, flip books for older children, weaving and lots more for all ages. As usual there will be yummy cakes and biscuits for everyone.

Young people must be accompanied by an adult please.

Come when you can, we look forward to seeing you all.

Liz Hale and Messy Church team.



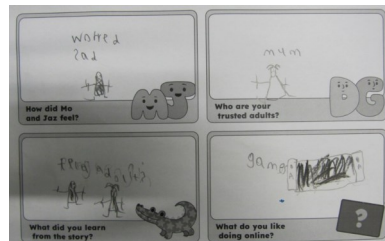
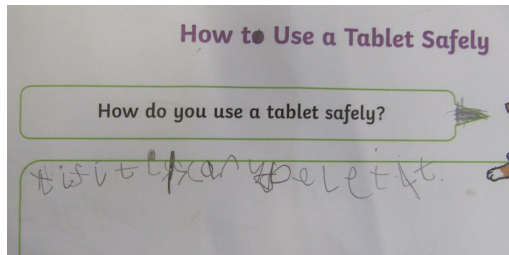
SAFER INTERNET DAY

Technology moves on at a rapid pace and this year's campaign for Safer Internet Day focused on how the internet can influence the way that young people think, feel and act online and offline.

Ash Class learnt about how to use a tablet safely, with children giving advice such as asking an adult to help you, not clicking on something exciting because it might be grown up and remembering that some games are not friendly for children. Some very sensible ideas from Ash Class—thank you!

Beech Class listened to the story of Mo and Jaz, two children who use the internet to play games. When something happens in their game that makes them feel worried, they realise they need to let an adult know. The children then considered what they would do in that situation.

Both Juniper and Willow classes considered the role of social influencers across the internet. Discussions included how online content can change people's thoughts, feelings and behaviour whilst some children then designed their own influencers that would make the internet a more positive place.



STAYING SAFE ONLINE



Children access the internet in many different ways these days, and at times it can be overwhelming when trying to set controls, work out what is appropriate or know where to go for help. We have signed up to a new information service which provides regular updates on internet safety for schools, staff and parents. We have attached this month's newsletter and some general information about Safer Internet Day.



Online Safety Newsletter

February 2024

WhatsApp

You must be at least 16 years old to register for and use WhatsApp. WhatsApp is a free messaging app that allows you to send messages, voice notes, photos and videos.

What should I be aware of?

Group chats: One of the key features is the group chat function. Everybody in the group, even if they are not one of your child's phone contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat. In settings, you can change who can add your child to groups. You can leave a group chat at any point so talk to your child and encourage them to leave any chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Location sharing: you can share your location on WhatsApp. Talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use but also the potential danger of sharing their location, for example with strangers.

Blocking/Reporting: Show your child how to block and report other users or inappropriate content. You can find out how to do it based on your child's device here:

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>

Further information

NSPCC provide further advice and tips to help keep your child safe:
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

New devices

If your child has a new device, have you set up parental controls?



Consoles

All consoles offer parental controls such as limiting the time spent on the device or restricting who your child can communicate with. Find out the specific settings below:

- PlayStation: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>

- Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>
- Nintendo Switch:

<https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>



Mobiles/Tablets

You can set up parental controls and restrictions on most mobile devices, which can limit what your child can access. Additionally, make sure appropriate settings are applied on the apps your child is using.

- Apple devices: <https://www.apple.com/uk/families/>
- Android devices: <https://families.google/familylink/>

Further information

Internet Matters provide a checklist here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe>

LEGO Fortnite – PEGI 7

Lego Fortnite is free to play (in game purchases are available though). The game has been rated as PEGI 7, meaning that the content is suitable for children over the age of 7. However, you should be aware that this game can be played with up to seven people (or solo). Lego Fortnite is only accessible on Fortnite, so you must download the main game. When setting up an account, if your child is under the age of 13, then they will be given a 'cabin account,' therefore certain features will be disabled (such as communicating with other players) unless you override them.

Please ensure you set the parental controls as appropriate for your child, we also recommend setting the appropriate settings on the console itself.

There are two worlds available - Survival or Sandbox, you can find out more about each world here so you can decide which would be best for your child:
<https://www.lego.com/en-gb/themes/fortnite/lego-fortnite-parents-guide>

YouTube

YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13 (however, children of all ages may use the Service and YouTube Kids if enabled by a parent/legal guardian).

What if my child is under the age of 13?

If your child is under the age of 13 then your child should use either YouTube Kids or a Supervised Account. Which option you choose, will depend on your child's age and your requirements.

- **YouTube Kids** – this is a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age you select:

- Preschool (ages four and under)
- Younger (ages 5–8)
- Older (ages 9–12)

- **Supervised accounts** – this is a parent-managed version of YouTube. You can select one of the following options, again depending on your child's age and your requirements:

- Explore - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
- Explore more - Generally for viewers aged 13+.
- Most of YouTube - This setting includes almost everything on YouTube except for videos marked as 18+ and other videos that may not be appropriate for viewers using supervised experiences.

Google have created a table to show the differences between YouTube Kids and a Supervised account to help in your decision:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

Posting videos

You should be over 13 to post videos. If your child does post videos on YouTube, ensure they understand what information they should keep private and what to do if they receive negative comments. Talk to them about the different settings available -

1. Public: anyone can view the video.
2. Private: video can only be viewed by users that you select.
3. Unlisted: only people who have the link to the video can view it.

YouTube have produced these safety tips for teens when posting content:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244>

How can I make YouTube safer?

- Explore YouTube together and see what they like to watch. Make sure your child understands that they can talk to you if they see anything that makes them feel uncomfortable online.

- **Restricted mode** - is an additional setting (when logged in via a Google account) to restrict the availability of mature content.

- Ensure your child knows how to report inappropriate content/comments.

Find out more here: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802027>.



A Guide to the Online Safety Bill

The Online Safety Bill is a new set of laws to protect people online. The laws will make social media companies more responsible for the safety of their users on their platforms. The Government have created a guide to the new laws detailing how the laws will protect children and adults. For example, the new laws mean social media companies will have to show how they are enforcing age limits.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/a-guide-to-the-online-safety-bill>

YouTube Content Warning

The INEQE Safeguarding Group have published a report warning about the YouTube cartoon series called Jeffy. Due to the content being animated, viewers may believe that it is suitable for children to watch when in fact the content is inappropriate. You can find out more here:

<https://ineqe.com/2023/11/09/safeguarding-update-youtube-cartoon-jeffy>

World Events

There are a lot of distressing events happening around the world, which your child may see online. Childnet have published an article discussing how you can support your child when they see something worrying or upsetting online. The article also directs you to other organisations that you can contact if you require further help and support:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/navigating-violent-online-content-from-global-events/>

ECO COUNCIL



The Eco Committee have had a busy term, planning and organising their first Eco Day. Thanks to all your support, they managed to raise £118.82 and also received donations of both plants and bird food. Members of the Eco Committee have already been filling up the bird feeders and they have started to plant up some pots. They've noticed that the birds have already started to feed from the feeders and the sound of bird song in the school grounds is definitely getting louder!

Last year, the Eco Committee worked closely with the Parish Council to support their work on the new play area in the village. The Eco Committee are keen to continue to work on projects within the community and so Peter, a Parish Councillor, came to speak to the children about how they could help. They're going to continue to support the new play area by visiting, checking and reporting on the wildlife that's observed. As well as this, they've been finding out about the Woodchester Litter Pick which is taking place on Sunday 17th March and Stroud Buzz Club which is for anyone who would like to support bees!

A huge thank you to all of our eco council members and Mrs Jordan for their enthusiasm and support of these very exciting projects.



Woodchester Litter Pick

**Please come along and help
tidy up the village!**

Sunday 17th March

10:30am – 4pm

Meet us at your convenience at
the Frogmarsh lay-by on the A46
or Woodchester Village Hall



**Litter picking equipment
and Hi-Vis vests will be
supplied, however, you
may wish to bring a pair of
hard wearing gloves**

Please read the health and safety advice provided and wear the safety clothing issued to you. If walking on roads please exercise appropriate caution. Children should be accompanied. The annual litter pick is organised by Woodchester Parish Council.

Stroud BUZZCLUB

*at The Walled Garden
behind the Museum in the Park*



Sunday 3rd March
11am - 1.30pm

We are welcoming Spring with Jemima, a dance and movement teacher. She will help us interpret what we see in the garden into movement, followed by creative drawing. Peter will also give a brief report on his visit to Buzzclub Ghana.

Miss Daisy will provide hot and cold drinks and cake.

This session is for adults and children.

Entry is free, although donations are welcome.

Come for all or any part of the time and become a Bee Guardian.



2024

HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 12th February 2024—Friday 16th February 2024 (inclusive)

- 19.02.24—Term 4 Begins
- 19.02.24—Parents' Evening
- 20.02.24—Parents' Evening
- 21.02.24—Cross Country Competition
- 21.02.24—Messy Church
- 23.02.24—FOWES Disco (details to follow)
- 28.02.24—Final Juniper Swimming Session
- 06.03.24—Swimming (Hawthorn Class)
- 07.03.24—Whole School Workshops and Assembly—Thames Water Workshop
- 07.03.24—Country Dancing Festival 6pm
- 20.03.24—Easter Service (whole school—St Mary's Church, Woodchester) 9:30am
- 20.03.24—World Maths Day
- 21.03.24—PCSO Visit—Year 6
- 22.03.24—Final Day of Easter Term (3:15pm)

EASTER HOLIDAY

**Monday 25th March 2024—Friday 5th April
2024 (inclusive)**

- 08.04.24—First Day of Summer Term
- 06.05.24—May Day
- 13.05.24—Key Stage 2 SATS Week begins
- 15.05.24—Messy Church 3:20pm
- 24.05.24—Final Day of Half Term (3:15pm)

