



HOLY TRINITY

C.E. PRIMARY ACADEMY (HANDSWORTH)

The Newsletter 11

15.3.19

This Newsletter is available on our Website: www.htcepa.bham.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to those of you who brought your children back to school for Bedtime Stories last week. It was great seeing the children enjoying sharing a story together. Also, thank you for the great costumes for World Book Day. The children looked fantastic and hopefully it has sparked their enjoyment of reading. We have had a book fair in school this week, which has added to our half-term theme of reading, I hope that you have been able to pop in to purchase a book.

You should have all received a copy of the Ofsted inspection report last week. As I said in my letter that went out with the report, this is not the outcome that we were wanting and we are not happy with the tone of the report as we don't feel that it shows the many strengths that we have. I would like to take this opportunity to again tell you that BDMAT are fully supportive of the school and that together we are making our concerns known in the right way. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. P. Burns
Headteacher

Non Uniform Day

We will be holding a non uniform day on Friday 29th March. We are asking for a donation of £1, which will go to school fund, for the children to come dressed in their own clothes for the day.

Pupil Premium Funding

Information for parents

Introduced in 2011, **the pupil premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children.** This is based on research showing that children from low income families perform less well at school than their peers. Often, children who are entitled to pupil premium face challenges such as poor language and communication skills, less family support, lack of confidence and issues with attendance and punctuality. The pupil premium is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow the gap between them and their non-disadvantaged children nationally.

Pupil premium is awarded to children if they are currently receiving free school meals or if they have qualified for free school meals in the last 6 years. We are currently given £1320 for each pupil that is eligible for the pupil premium funding from Reception to Year 6. As this is additional money into school we have to account for how we plan to spend the money each year and then evaluate the impact of this at the end of every academic year. This information can all be found on our website.

Schools can choose how to spend their pupil premium money. Here at Holy Trinity we evaluate the needs of the current pupils when we plan how we are going to assign the funding each year. Recently, we have allocated some of the additional funding to:

- Employ teaching assistants to work on one-to-one or small group support throughout school
- Employ SEN teaching assistants to work with specific children
- Employ a full time Pastoral Manager, to support children and families
- Subsidising Educational and residential trips

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following: income support; income-based Jobseeker's Allowance; support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; the guaranteed element of Pension Credit; Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190); Working Tax Credit 'run-on' paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit; Universal Credit.

It is vital that you notify us of any changes in your circumstances as you will hopefully be aware that the additional money your child could be entitled to could make a massive difference to them. Even if your child is in receipt of Universal Free School Meals, and is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, please let us know of any changes in your circumstances.

Afternoon Tea

Well done to our Afternoon Tea winners for Spring 1. The winners are: Deniqua in Reception, Mahnoor n Year 1, Elias in Year 2, Cheidal in Year 3 , Jamel in Year 4, Christabel in Year 5 and Zara in Year 6. The children joined myself and Miss. Fisher on Wednesday and we all had a lovely time.



Dates for your diary

Friday 22nd March - 12.30pm Parent Coffee Time

Friday 5th April - 12.30pm Parent Coffee Time

Tuesday 9th April - 10.00am Easter Service (hopefully in Church)

Friday 12th April - Children break up for Easter holiday

Monday 29th April - Children return to school

Tuesday 30th April - No swimming for Year 3

Friday 3rd May - 12.30pm Parent Coffee Time

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday Monday

Tuesday 7th May - Year 3 swimming

Thursday 9th May - Year 3 Class Assembly

Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May - SATs week for Year 6



Dates for the year

Friday 12th April - Children break up for Easter

Monday 15th April - Friday 26th April - Easter holiday

Monday 29th April - Children return to school

Friday 24th May - Teacher Day

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May - Half Term

Monday 3rd June - Children return to school

Friday 19th July - Children break up for Summer

**Please note that
children do not
need to attend
school on Teacher
Days. These days
are for staff training.**

It's important to note that new challenges are arising on the internet all the time. We have created to this guide to raise awareness of the issue and offer advice on helping parents to talk to their children about making safer decisions online. See also our '7 conversation starters' guide for more tips on better communication with your child.



Momo is a sinister 'challenge' that has been around for some time. It has recently resurfaced and once again has come to the attention of schools and children across the country. Dubbed the 'suicide killer game', Momo has been heavily linked with apps such as Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube, and most recently (and most worryingly)... YouTube Kids. The scary doll-like figure reportedly sends graphic violent images, and asks users to partake in dangerous challenges like waking up at random hours and has even been associated with self-harm. It has been reported that the 'Momo' figure was originally created as a sculpture and featured in an art gallery in Tokyo and unrelated to the 'Momo' challenge we are hearing about in the media.

What parents need to know about MOMO



CHILDREN'S VIDEOS BEING 'HIJACKED'

There have been recent reports that some seemingly innocent videos on YouTube and YouTube Kids (such as 'surprise eggs', unboxing videos and Minecraft videos) have been edited by unknown sources to include violence provoking and/or other inappropriate content. Even though YouTube monitor and remove videos that include inappropriate content, clips can be uploaded and viewed thousands of times before they get reported and removed. As a parent, it's difficult to spot these videos as the harmful content doesn't appear until partway through the video.

DISTRESSING FOR CHILDREN

Popular YouTubers and other accounts have been uploading reaction videos, showing their experience of the MOMO challenge. Some of the videos include a disclosure message warning that the content may be "inappropriate or offensive to some audiences" and that "viewer discretion is advised" but these videos are still easily accessed by clicking 'I understand and wish to proceed'. The image of the 'Momo' character can be deeply distressing to children and young people and it's important to note that it may slip through parental settings and filters.

SUGGESTED VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

Video apps such as YouTube include an 'up next' feature which automatically starts playing another video based on the video just watched. Due to YouTube's algorithm, users are shown 'suggested videos' that they may be interested in. The thumbnails used on suggested videos are purposefully created in a way to encourage viewers to click them. During our research, we found that when watching one Momo related video, we were shown countless other Momo themed videos and other scary content which would be age-inappropriate for children under 18.



**National
Online
Safety**

Top Tips for Parents

TELL THEM IT'S NOT REAL

Just like any urban legend or horror story, the concept can be quite frightening and distressing for young people. Whilst this may seem obvious, it's important for you to reiterate to your child that Momo is not a real person and cannot directly harm them! Also, tell your child to not go openly searching for this content online as it may only cause more distress.

BE PRESENT

It's important for you, as a parent or carer, to be present while your children are online. This will give you a greater understanding of what they are doing on their devices, as well as providing you with the opportunity to discuss, support and stop certain activities that your child may be involved in. As the nature of each task become progressively worse it's also important to recognise any changes in your child's behaviour.

TALK REGULARLY WITH YOUR CHILD

As well as monitoring your child's activity, it's important for you to discuss it with them too. Not only will this give you an understanding of their online actions, but those honest and frequent conversations will encourage your child to feel confident to discuss issues and concerns they may have related to the online world.

DEVICE SETTINGS & PARENTAL CONTROLS

Ensure that you set up parental controls for your devices at home. This will help to restrict the types of content that your child can view, as well as help you to monitor their activity. In addition to this, it's vital that you are aware of your device and account settings to ensure your child's utmost safety. For example, on YouTube you can turn off 'suggested auto-play' on videos to stop your child from viewing content that they have not directly selected.

PEER PRESSURE

Trends and viral challenges can be tempting for children to take part in; no matter how dangerous or scary they seem. Make sure you talk to your child about how they shouldn't succumb to peer pressure and do anything they are not comfortable with, online or offline. If they are unsure, encourage them to talk to you or another trusted adult.

REAL OR HOAX?

As a parent it is natural to feel worried about certain things you see online that may be harmful to your child. However, not everything you see online is true. Check the validity of the source and be mindful of what you share as it may only cause more worry.

REPORT & BLOCK

You can't always rely on parental controls to block distressing or harmful material. People find ways around a platform's algorithm in order to share and promote this type of material. Due to this, we advise that you flag and report any material you deem to be inappropriate or harmful as soon as you come across it. You should also block the account/content to prevent your child from viewing it. Also encourage your child to record/screenshot any content they feel could be malicious to provide evidence in order to escalate the issue to the appropriate channels.

FURTHER SUPPORT

Speak to the safeguarding lead within your child's school should you have any concerns regarding your child's online activity or malicious content that could affect them.

If your child sees something distressing, it is important that they know where to go to seek help and who their trusted adults are. They could also contact Childline where a trained counsellor will listen to anything that's worrying them.

The Childline phone number is
0800 1111.



SOURCES:
<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/sick-videos-youtube-youtube-kids-14052196>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-47359623>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

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