

SCHOOL NEWS

Safer Internet Day | Parent Council Feedback | Family Challenge

Important Date



Next Tuesday, we will be taking part in this national initiative to promote safe use and understanding of the internet. Every year there is a different theme and this year we will be thinking about this slogan:

**"Create, Connect and Share Respect:
A better internet starts with you"**

All year groups have activities planned on or around the day to explore what this means and to build on our online safety curriculum. Year 5 and 6 will be exploring some of the issues raised in the "Life in Likes" report I recently shared with parents. They will be thinking about how they communicate using various platforms and making well judged decisions about staying safe.

Following on from the success of last year, we will be holding another parent-pupil workshop for Years 5 and 6. This enables us to inform parents of the latest safety guidance for children and to gain an insight into how our pupils are using the internet.

The workshop will take place on Monday 12th February at 9am. A letter will be coming home with Y5 and 6 pupils with further information and a slip to return to indicate if you will be able to attend. We had such positive feedback from parents last year and really encourage you to attend if you can.

Going For Gold Family Challenge

As part of our drive to increase opportunities for our pupils to take part in physical activity, we would like to promote the 'Going For Gold' Family Challenge being organised by the



Stockport Schools Sports Partnership. The theme is the Commonwealth Games and the idea is based around families recording how much physical activity they do together and 'racing' against other families. Prizes are up for grabs! For further information, please see the flier attached to this newsletter which gives you all the details about taking part.

Translate the Website!!

Did you know the school website can now be translated into a huge number of languages. In our school we have Urdu, Spanish, Italian, Albanian, Polish and Vietnamese speakers - to just name a few. If you, or anyone you know, would benefit from this please use the "Select Language" button at the top right hand corner of the home page.

Select Language ▼

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Parent Council

The Parent Council met with myself, Mrs Mallinson and Mr Malone last Monday. It was a very useful and productive meeting. Attached to this School News is the Parent Council Newsletter which tells you everything that was discussed and any responses and decisions made. Thank you to everyone who put their questions and comments forward. The next meeting is being held on 15th March so please continue to contribute to the agenda by contacting your parent rep.

Items to be brought to your immediate attention:

- We are no longer allowing sweets to be brought into school to celebrate birthdays. Whilst some parents said they didn't mind this practice, many others said it didn't complement a healthy diet and they were coming home far too frequently. We will ensure that other occasions where sweets have been given eg teacher gifts, maths activities, will no longer take place. It was felt that the PTA fairs however were unique occasions where parents could decide if children can have sweet treats.
- Bikes and scooters should not be ridden down the side pedestrian entrance into school. They should be dismounted at the gate and wheeled into school. We have had some near misses with small children and pushchairs and do not want any accidents to happen. Persistent offenders will be banned from bringing their wheels into the school grounds.



PTA dates for your diary

Easter Family Fish & Chip Bingo Night:

Friday 23rd March 5 - 7pm

Summer Fair

Friday 6th July 5 - 7pm

Year 1 and 2 Curriculum Session

Many thanks to all the parents who came to the curriculum session yesterday afternoon. We hope you found the information regarding phonics, spelling and how you can help at home useful. We were delighted with how many parents could come and would like to extend our apologies, as we underestimated the interest and found ourselves rather squashed in! If you were unable to attend, please find the PowerPoint presentation and resources for parents on the website class pages. Mrs Wilson has kindly offered to provide a follow up session around maths for Year 2 on Thursday 15th February. A letter will come home for you to indicate your intention to come so that we can ensure we have adequate space. Many thanks to both Mrs Wilson and the staff who provided childcare for the event.

Kingsway Links

The excellent links with Kingsway and the transition programme have really benefitted our Year 5. Here they are enjoying a recent Samba workshop using the school's great facilities, staff and instruments.



Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and
the Etchells staff

