



The Wickford C of E School



Newsletter

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8th February 2019

ATTENDANCE

TARGET: 100%

WHOLE SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE FOR THIS

WEEK: 97.3%

CLASS ATTENDANCE:

Penguin: 100%

Wren: 99.1%

Puffin: 94.1%

Robin: 98.2%

Flamingo: 100%

Parrot: 91.8%

GOLDEN TABLE

Parrot: Devin

Flamingo: Toby

Puffin: Angel

Robin: Jake T

Penguin: Ariella M

Wren: Franklin

Dear Parent/Carer,

One week to go and then we are half way through this year!

BREXIT As the country prepares to leave the EU on 29th March, the Trust would like to assure you that the school has plans in place to mitigate any issues that could potentially arise. As always, the children are our priority and we have procedures in place to ensure that the school will function normally, with a full range of activities, school meals and usual timetables. We have received commitments from our suppliers to fulfill all orders and are confident that business will be 'as normal'.

ADMISSION POLICY New admissions policies for 2020-21 for all Trust schools have been agreed by Trustees and are now published on the school website.

GYMNASTIC CLUB The group watched part of the 2017 Rhythmic championship on Thursday. The children were speechless as the gymnast performed with a hoop. They watched the routine through and were wowed!

I asked Layla if she found watching the extract of the competition useful. She said she was going to try to be just like the gymnast and it gave her ideas to copy and ways to hold her body! It was a great session.

MOMENT OF LOVELINESS I could not have been more wowed than I have been this week. Just look at this photograph of a creation made in Lego Club this week. A very big 'well done' to Logan, Max, Miah and Jake, you worked hard to create a fantastic piece!



TODAY HAS BEEN SIMPLY AMAZING As you know we went to Chelmsford Cathedral today. Experiencing live music is part of our HEARTS Promise and as such we could not miss the opportunity of taking all of our children to absorb the talents of the young musicians from the Forest School, London. It was a pleasure to call Charlie's parents (Robin Class), he has talented skills of a future conductor!

All of the children were enchanted and it was a joy to take the children to such an event. It certainly gave them aspiration of 'Always More' and what can be achieved with hard work and dedication. There are other events planned for the future and details can be found on www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk should you be interested.

LETTER IN RECOGNITION We have received a wonderful letter from Art Solutions, the company that worked with us all to produce the art displayed in the hall. A truly amazing letter; "As we looked around the school we were all extremely impressed with the wonderful displays of the children's work that celebrated their achievements. The warm and nurturing environment that staff provide for the children is wonderful and we appreciate the time and effort that everyone puts in to create such a vibrant environment for the children." The full letter will soon be added to the website.

TOP TECH TIP Please see the attached information regarding 'What Parents need to know about online grooming'.

MILK MONEY For those that have milk in school, the payment of £11.70 for the second half of the spring term will be added to the online payment system at the end of next week. Please check to make sure you have paid any outstanding money owed.

SHARING ASSEMBLY Friday 15th February will be sharing for year 2. Please note the start time of this assembly is 2pm.

MENU There will be a slight change to this week's lunch menu. Monday's option 2 will be Sweet potato and lentil risotto served with mixed salad. Thursday's option 2 will be Quorn sausage 'Toad in the hole' with new potatoes and a selection of vegetables.

PLEASE HELP! On Monday it will be 'Exploring day' for years 1 and 2. As part of Polar Day we will be building models of Antarctica. If you have any plastic or cardboard boxes please bring them to Miss Bristow by Monday. This could be food packaging, bottles and anything you think might make a good mountain or iceberg! Thank you

BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS A reminder that forms for both clubs must be either emailed or handed into the office by the **Thursday** of the week before you require the club for your child. Payment for both clubs must be made using the new online payment system again by the **Thursday** of the week before your child is in the club.

TALK TIME MINUTES Collective worship with Mrs Tarplett and Mrs Doe. Ava, Cameron, Reggie, Gabriela, Hollie, Ali, Charlie and Elsie.

Why is it important that we all come together in assemblies?

The children thought that it is good that we all come together because it makes us learn more and we get to see our friends (FS). We can listen to others ideas, Worship God together and celebrate Jesus and our lives. (Cameron and Ava). It can also help us to make our school better and we get to sing (Reggie and Hollie)

What are your favourite parts of assemblies?

Mrs Doe, singing songs, Special visitors, praying, videos, stories, when people act out the stories.

What can we do to make assemblies better?

More candles, show more respect (no talking in assemblies), watch more clips, more music for us to sing, longer assemblies, think more about our learning and more visitors.

Why is circle assembly on a Tuesday different to other assemblies?

We sing different songs and hear Bible stories. Canon Jane and Reverend Sue sometimes come, we sit in a circle and we listen to stories from the Bible and think about our school using these stories.

HIRE THE HALL

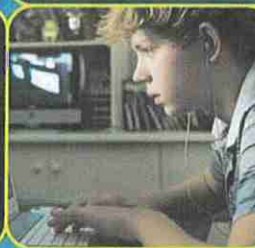
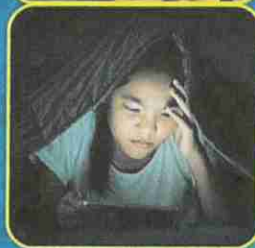
Need to organise a children's party? Need some space to run an event? If so, please note that the school hall is available for hire. Prices start at £85 for a three hour slot, but we can arrange bookings for shorter or longer periods to suit your needs. Just call into the office if you are interested.

Have a lovely weekend! See you Monday.

Mrs Johnson and the CofE team.



Grooming is when someone befriends and builds an emotional connection with a child to gain their trust for the purposes of sexual abuse or exploitation. They can do this both offline and online, with technology and the Internet being commonly used to initiate and facilitate contact with a child. Gaining victims' trust is a key part of engaging them in sexually explicit behaviour. The groomer, who can either be a stranger or someone a child already knows, tends to use tactics such as engaging in small talk or exchanging personal information with the child about hobbies and relationships, using flattery and gifts to build a rapport or even making threats and intimidation to gain control. This can take place over varying periods of time – from a few days to several years.



What parents need to know about

ONLINE GROOMING

NUMBERS OF GROOMING OFFENCES ARE SOARING

In April 2017, a new government law came into force in England and Wales to allow police to charge adults who send sexual messages to children through mobile phones and social media. In the first year since the law change, there were 3,000 police-recorded offences of sexual communication with a child – a figure 50 per cent higher than experts expected in the first year.

ALL CHILDREN ARE AT RISK

According to a 2018 NSPCC report, a quarter of young people have experienced an adult who they don't know in real life trying to contact them online. One in four said they had been sent messages, images, videos or other content that made them feel sad, worried or uncomfortable. One in 10 girls and one in 20 boys under the age of 13 said they had received unwanted sexual messages.



CHILDREN ARE VULNERABLE TARGETS

Groomers use psychological tricks and methods to try and isolate children from their families and friends and will often choose to target more vulnerable children who may be easier to manipulate. In order to seek potential victims, predators are likely to use apps and websites that are popular with children and young people. Groomers can use a 'scattergun' approach to find victims, contacting hundreds online to increase their chance of success.

LIVE STREAMING CONCERNS

Predators may use live video to target children in real-time using tricks, dares or built-in gifts to manipulate them. Grooming often takes the form of a game where children receive 'likes' or even money for performing sexual acts. Social media channels, such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat, all have live streaming capabilities, but there are many apps which children can use to live stream, including Omegle, Live.me, BIGO Live, YouNow and many more.



GROOMING CAN HAPPEN RAPIDLY

Grooming is generally a slow, methodical and intentional process of manipulating a person to a point where they can be victimised. However, according to researchers at the University of Swansea, online grooming can also be very rapid, with analysis of chat logs revealing that it can take just 18 minutes for some predators to arrange to meet their victim. The fastest predators used sophisticated, persuasive, language-based strategies to rapidly build trust, including the use of small talk and praise which quickly escalated into requests for sexual messages.

ANYONE CAN GROOM YOUR CHILD

Many people expect groomers to be adults posing as children, but this is not always the case. Data from University of Swansea reveals that groomers' use of identity deception (around age, location and appearance) is fairly low. This can be because they approach many children, limiting their ability to lie. The worry is that honesty can be more damaging to the victim since they are more likely to feel as if they are in a real relationship.



National Online Safety

Top Tips for Parents



IT'S GOOD TO TALK

It's unlikely that you can stop your child using the Internet, nor can you constantly monitor their online activities, but you can talk to your child on a regular basis about what they do online. By talking openly with them about online relationships, they can quickly ascertain the kind of behaviour which is appropriate or inappropriate. Ask them whether they have any online friends or if they play online games with people they haven't met. This could then open up conversations about the subject of grooming.



DISCUSS SAFE ONLINE BEHAVIOUR

Make it clear to your child that they should not accept friend requests from people they don't know and to verify friend requests with people who they do know. They should never agree to chat privately with a stranger or someone they don't really know. Remind them that they should never divulge personal information, such as mobile phone numbers, addresses, passwords or name of their school.

DISCUSS HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Talk to your child about what a healthy relationship looks like and how to detect someone who might not be who they claim to be. Explain that groomers will pay your child compliments and engage in conversations about personal information, such as hobbies and relationships. They may admire how well they play an online game or how they look in a photo. Groomers will also try and isolate a child from people close to them, such as parents and friends, in order to make their relationship feel special and unique.

BE SUPPORTIVE

Show your child that you will support them and make sure they understand they can come to you with any concerns they may have. They need to know they can talk to you if someone does something they are uncomfortable with, whether that is inappropriate comments, images, requests or sexual comments.

LOOK OUT FOR WARNING SIGNS

Child safety experts have identified key grooming patterns and advise parents to look out for:

- Secretive behaviour about what they are doing online.
- Internet or smartphone usage late at night.
- Going to unusual places to meet up with friends you have not heard of.
- They are clingy, have problems sleeping and eating or even bedwetting.
- A lack of interest in extra-curricular activities.
- Having new items, such as clothes or phones, which they can't explain.
- They seem withdrawn, anxious, depressed or aggressive.
- Having older boyfriends or girlfriends.

HOW TO REPORT

If you're worried that your child is being groomed online or sexually exploited, you can report your concerns to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Safety Centre, which is part of the National Crime Agency at www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre. Reports are read by a Child Protection Advisor who will make contact by phone or email to work with you to make a plan to keep your child safe. If you think a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999 or NSPCC on 0800 800 5000.



SOURCES: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/research-reports/how-safe-children-2018-report.pdf>, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/06/17/police-reveal-3000-sex-grooming-crimes-against-children-young>, <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/ paedophiles-arrested-hundreds-police-warning-live-streaming-nca-online-dangers-uk-grooming-children-a8092851.html>, <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/news-opinion/facebook-tops-list-online-grooming>, <https://projects.swan.ac.uk/onlinegroomingcommunication/>



Mess! Fun! Food!
FREE Kids crafts, activities,
games, stories, & songs!
plus FREE tea for each child

MESSY WISE AND FOOLISH BUILDER



2-4pm,
Saturday 9th February 2019

St Andrew's Church, London Road, Wickford
Kids must bring an adult