



Newsletter

<http://www.oldparkprimary.co.uk>

Newsletter 30: 20th May 2024

Message from the headteacher

Good morning, I hope that everyone enjoyed the lovely sun that we had over the weekend. It is hard to believe that it is only one week till we finish for half term. As you will know all of the Year 6 pupils sat their SATs exams last week, and they all did an amazing job. Despite the challenges that they faced during the exams they never gave up, kept going, never complained and all tried their best. All of the staff involved were so proud of all the pupils as we couldn't have asked more of them. Year 6 definitely embraced our value of the half term, resilience! Year 6 finished the week with a day at Telford town park where they also spent some time of the Skyreach high ropes course. Can I also remind all adults to ensure that when they are on the school site they act in a polite and respectful way to each other and the Old Park staff. By doing this it will ensure that during drop off and pick-up the school is a safe and secure place for our whole school community. Many thanks for your support with this.

Value of the half term



Sports fixtures

We have lots of pupils competing in sports fixtures and competitions over the week. Details of these can be found below:

- Tuesday 21st May: Y5/6 girls cricket
- Wednesday 22nd May: Y3-6 golf
- Thursday 23rd May Y5/6 boys sports games county finals.

Please ensure you send your child in the correct clothes, with a water bottle, and if the weather remains sunny a hat and suncream.

ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the following classes for beating Mr Foster's 96% attendance challenge that he set last week:

FG, 2C, 2V, 4H, 5F, 5W, 6A and 6W.

A special well done to **2V** who had the highest attendance last week.

Scooters & bikes

A reminder that pupils or adults should not be riding scooters or bikes on the school site. When you come through the gates please dismount and then store them in the sheds or walk with them. This is for everyone's safety so that we do not have any accidents involving collisions. Thank you for your support with this.





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Diary Dates

Summer 1

Tuesday 21st May	Year 2 Great Fire of London workshop in school
Thursday 23rd May	Year 5 and 6 boys School Games County Finals
Friday 24th May	Last day of half term
Monday 27th—Friday 31st May	Half term

Term dates 2023-2024

8th April 2024	Summer term starts
27th - 31st May 2024	Half term
3rd June 2024	Staff PD day
Friday 19th July 2024	Last day of term
Monday 22nd July 2024	Staff PD day





Newsletter



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough



Telford and Wrekin
FAMILY HUBS

SOUTHWATER DROP IN



Every Wednesday 9.30am - 12:30pm
Southwater Library – children's section

- Advice and signposting
- Information on parenting/ courses
- Support and guidance around accessing local community activities
- Family hubs information



Provided by
Strengthening Families
and Dandelion Peer
Parent support



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

▶ YOUTUBE ▶

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.



MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.



LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



Meet Our Expert

CJare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunavolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunavolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

