



# Friday Flyer

19 April 2024

## Headteacher Update

Welcome to the Summer Term - not that you may think so if you looked outside at the weather this past week. Once again we have a term full of learning, fun and a few surprises along the way but I guarantee it will be an eventful one.

As we enter our final term I have been looking back on our journey so far since September and it has been such a fantastic academic year to date, so I want to ensure we finish on a high note. This term will see our Year 6 pupils take part in the SATs assessments and also their residential transition trip to France. We will also have various trips and whole school events planned such as Sports Day, Summer Fairs and our day trip to Belsay Hall; so much going on!

To start off this term we do have some very exciting news - we are getting Chickens in school, courtesy of Mrs Moffat and the PTA. I thought that it would be a wonderful idea if we had some animals in school so the children can watch them and understand more about them. Our equipment is on order and once it is all operational we will be looking to move our latest school members into situ. As you may have seen on Class Dojo this week, our children have already met chicks. To be honest I did want a pig but we can start off small!

Other good news this week is that I have secured our Year 3-5 residential for the next academic year to Dukeshouse Wood in Hexham. All children in these classes should have received a letter this week detailing the costs so please do complete the form to let us know if you would like your child to attend.

Finally, keep an eye on your email inbox for a letter dropping soon. I'm sure you have all worked out by now, I don't like to sit still and my latest idea for our whole school is potentially one of my most exciting yet...

As we round off this week we have had our usual Celebration Assembly however as it is the first week back and we want the children to be thoroughly warmed up and raring to go, we have delayed Hot Chocolate until next Friday. Well done to all of the children this week, it is not easy coming back to school after a few weeks off and they have been amazing!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

**Craig Shaw**

*Value of the Month - Confidence*

*Language of the Month - Portuguese*

### Dates for the diary...

Dates will be added to this document as the term progresses.

Spring Term 2024		
Monday 22nd April		Dukeshouse Wood visit
Thursday 25th April	11-30am - 4.05pm	Dance festival
Thursday 2nd May	9.00am	Willow Class Reading Cafe
Monday 6th May	School closed	May bank holiday
Tuesday 7th May		Willow class vision screening
Monday 13th May	All week	Year 6 SATs
Monday 20th May	9.00am	Alder Class Reading Cafe
Friday 24th May	3.15pm	School closes for half term
Monday 10th June	9.00am	Maple Class Reading Cafe
All dates may be subject to change		

Remember you can track our key school events through our website by clicking on the News and Events tab and then School Calendar

### Parking...

Please may I politely ask that we don't park on the road at the entrance to Belsay Bridge. This is a private road and the residents have asked that we could please not park here.



Your support on this would be very much appreciated.



## Keeping children safe online...

# SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

## for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

### NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nifty dress! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

### RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

### TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling awkward, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings. Instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

### STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

### DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

### IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

### ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or distressed.

### REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

### THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

### SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos; this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Sarah Kitchener is a leading expert in children's online safety, as well as a former teacher and parent. She has been involved in many projects and campaigns to help children and young people stay safe online. She is also a member of the National Online Safety Advisory Board.



The National College

NOS National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

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Class	Attendance
Willow	98.29
Maple	97.10
Alder	100
Oak	96.30

Please refer to the graphic below which shows the significant impact of absence over time.

Attendance	Description
98 -100%	Excellent
95-97.9%	Good
92-94.9%	Caution (below national)
90- 91.9%	Cause for concern
89.9 or below	Persistent Absence Serious Concern

### **Did you know?**

Poor attendance suggests to colleges, universities and employers that these pupils are unreliable.

The NHS has recently published a really useful document to refer to when your child has a suspected illness and you are not sure if they could come to school. It can be found [here](#).





## The week in Willow Class

A fantastic first week back and it has been lovely to hear all of the wonderful adventures everyone has had during the holidays. Lots of families have been very busy with lambing and I hope everyone is still finding time to have a rest from this.

This week we have revisited the story The Three Little Pigs. We have read many alternatives to this story and are always very excited to know how the story will end. We received a special letter from Mummy pig asking for our help. We have worked hard to design a new house for the little pigs and also made a wanted poster to help her to know what the Big Bad Wolf looks like. Mr Shaw was very impressed with the gold standard work he could see when he visited our class. Well done Team Willow!

We were very lucky to have special visitors in class this week. Mrs Moffat brought in 3 chicks for the children to see. We had a great time holding them, making sure they could stay warm and making sure they had enough water and food. James and Rory spent most of their Discovery Time watching them and making sure they were safe.



Today we have another special visitor in our class. Ruairidh has very kindly brought in his Hermann tortoise. We are looking forward to spending time taking care of him today.

Ruairidh is going to show our school value of confidence and explain all of the important information to us. Well done Ruairidh!

Thank you to everyone who shared photos on Tapestry from during the half term break. The children loved sharing the photos and telling everyone what they had been doing. If anyone still has any photos to share please feel free to add them on and we will look at them next week. I have shared photos from during the week on Tapestry so you can see more of what we have been up to.

Hopefully this wonderful weather continues to be as lovely as it has been this week and you manage to spend some time outside. You might be able to plant some sunflower seeds and be more successful than the current ones, although the class sunflower has grown a lot during the half term break.



**Miss Houghton**



## This week in Maple Class

We've had a wonderful first week back in class and enjoyed sharing photographs and talking about all the exciting things we've been doing at home over the Easter break with our families. We were very lucky on Tuesday to have three very cute visitors in the classroom, Pecky, Fluffy and Chirpy! Thank you April for bringing your chicks in to meet us!



In PE, we had our first tri-golf lesson with Mr Smith, we developed our control and coordination using a putter to hit a ball towards a target. We're looking forward to further improving our skills next week!



In Computing we predicted the outcome of a command using the bee bots and learned how to match and run a command.



**Miss Dixon and Miss McNickle**



## **This week in Alder Class**

A very exciting first week back to kick off our Summer Term. We have had lots of fun things happening in school this week and have all come back raring to learn.

We started off the week by looking into Greek Myths in English. We started off by understanding exactly what a myth was before then looking at Theseus and Minotaur. We discussed why the names were trickier to read and how during this topic we may need reminding of names but we had so many children already very knowledgeable about the Ancient Greeks that they were happy to help. We then worked in partners to find some exciting new synonyms to describe the Minotaur using the thesaurus before creating our own super sentence which had to include expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, similes and adverbs. We have also explored subordinate clauses this week and used our spellings words of the week to create our own sentences using them.

In History we also started our new topic of Ancient Greece and we used our timeline to help us identify when Ancient Greece was and understand where it came in relation to our other topics. We then used the atlas to identify different areas in and around Greece and learn about its history and population.

We had very special visitors in our class this week as Mrs Moffat brought in her new chicks for us to meet. We were all able to hold the chicks and ask Mrs Moffat lots of questions as well as share our own stories about family chicks and pets which was lovely.

We also had a brilliant PE session this week starting our new topic of rounders. We quickly warmed up before refining our throwing and catching technique. We were able to coach each other and observe what worked well and what we needed to improve. We then ended by applying all our learning with our first rounders match of the year which we loved! It was also very kind of the sun to make an appearance which allowed us to use our amazing field space.





Well done as always Alder Class on a brilliant week and I am very excited for all the exciting things coming up in the final term of this year (I can't believe we are there already). As always have a brilliant weekend and please share anything fun you get up to.

**Miss Cruse**



## This week in Oak Class

...And we're back! We have jumped straight back into a full curriculum with the very best of attitudes.

Although it has been a huge shame to pop Romeo and Juliet back on the shelf for now, we have thrown ourselves into our new text of "Pig Heart Boy." The level of inquisition and questioning that we have had already about heart transplants and medical science has been amazing. We've had the opportunity to read and share a story together for the first time since I arrived and it has to be said that the level of engagement has been superb. It's a real pleasure to see a whole class of Year 5s and 6s enjoying a story as these guys do!

On the subject of hearts, our Science topic has kicked off with an exploration of the function of human organs which again, showed a real willingness and passion for scientific research. We managed to define some of the key vocabulary, particularly around the heart that gave us a great baseline knowledge of the subject matter in our new class read.

In history, we have begun to explore the tricky subject matter of human rights and it was absolutely fascinating to see which of the 30 basic human rights that our guys deemed as the most important. A great insight into our great minds.

We even had time for some special visitors in our classroom courtesy of Mrs. Moffat. See below to see how happy they made us!



**Mr. McLeod**

Belsay School



## THIS IS OUR GAME !



**PERFECT FOR  
5 - 7 YEAR OLDS !**

BIG MOMENTS STARTS WITH ALL STARS CRICKET !

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**CALLING ALL  
8 - 11 YEAR OLDS !**

NEW SKILLS, TEAMWORK & FRIENDSHIP THIS SUMMER!

[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/SCCDYNAMOS](http://tinyurl.com/SCCDYNAMOS)

**JOIN US AT:** Stamfordham Cricket Club

**WHEN:** Friday Nights from 10th May 2024

**TIME:** All-Stars - 17:30-18:30 & Dynamos 18:30-19:30

**CONTACT:** Mel Hedley - [stamfordhamcricketclub@gmail.com](mailto:stamfordhamcricketclub@gmail.com)

**INFO:** Search Stamfordham Cricket Club on Facebook