



St Nicholas C of E Primary School

24th January 2020

Term 3

Letter 4

Mrs Smith's Message

What another busy week at St Nicholas. This term seems to be flying by! It was lovely to see many parents at the Year 2 parents lunch, and don't forget it's year 3s family lunch next week.

Currently, I am sat listening to Question Time as I write this and the dangers of social media and young children having phones too early is being debated once again. I am so worried about the numbers of children who are being put at risk every day because they have free access to the internet via phones and tablets. This week problems with children using their phones and social media inappropriately has caused problems with friends. Please can I ask that you check your children's phones frequently and speak to them about how to stay safe online. Many of the children are using TikTok and posting films both on this app and on Youtube. Do you know if this is your child? Do you know who they are speaking to and what they are posting? Information regarding Internet Safety can be found at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> and links can be found on the school website.

Many pupils are talking about TikTok and staff have expressed their concerns that even pupils in year 1 have spoken about being on TikTok. Attached, as an additional page on the newsletter, is some information about TikTok that I have found, I hope it helps you speak to your children about being safe on-line.

Also, children should not wear smart watches to school and if they are wearing Fitbits they should not be able to receive messages when they are school.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe.

Kindest regards,
Nicki Smith

House Points



This Week - Overall

Huish	53	1317
Foxcote	61	1304
Tyning	35	1180
Ludlow	82	1334

Class Attendance

Cam	92.4%
Lox	95.3%
Brue	98.5%
Dart	99%
Avon	97.9%
Kennet	90.4%
Mells	94.7%
Yeo	97.3%
Severn	96.3%
Huntspill	97.3%

Spelling and Maths Shed

We are extremely pleased to see so many children now reaching 100 correct times tables in under 10 minutes. Keep practising if you are not quite there yet. Remember to use Maths and Spelling Shed at home to help with this.

Current leader board:

Spelling - Individual	Spelling - Classes
1. J. Jessica T	Year 2
2. Sharusha R	Year 5
3. Elsie-Leigh T	Year 1

Times Tables - Individual	Times Tables - Classes
1. Harvey T	Year 5
2. Sharusha R	Year 2
3. Crystal M	Year 4

Save the Date

- Tuesday 4th February
3:30pm & 5:30pm - Year 6 SATS Meeting
- Wednesday 5th February
12:30pm Year 3 Family Lunch
- Friday 7th February
8:55am KS1 Celebration Assembly
- Tuesday 11th February
2:30pm Year 6 Parent Event
- Friday 14th
8:55am SPIRIT OF ST NICHOLAS
END OF TERM 3
- Monday 24th February
TERM 4
- Friday 28th February
KS2 Celebration Assembly

Outside School Achievements



A Time To Talk

In each class ask your child about:

Cam/Lox: Can you find some facts out about a Polar Bear?

Brue: Where are the coldest places in the world?

Dart: Can you plan a healthy meal to eat?

Avon/Kennet: Can you name any famous mountain ranges?

Mells: Can you write three sentences using comparative adjectives?

Yeo/Severn: Can you think of something fun to do without using any technology?

Huntspill: What happens to your heart when you exercise?



Our Values

In R.E. the year 3 and 6 children have been looking at the Easter story. The children read through the story together and talked about the different events. Hayden in year 6 hosted a fantastic debate about the resurrection of Jesus and some of the children's opinions were very interesting. Super R.E. this week!



PTFA

Happy new year to you all! Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 11th Feb** after school, in school. Please join us for Easter Bingo planning plus a general discussion about other potential events. Snacks and drinks on offer and children of all ages welcome. We've had some new faces join us lately and we'd love to welcome more!

Please bear in mind that some events may not run as they have been previously, as the school grows and depending on the number of volunteers we have at the time. If you have any thoughts or preferences, please either come to the meeting or let us know beforehand.

Thank you,

Class Awards

	Star of the week	Maths Magician	Wizard Writer
Avon	Zachary H	Sebastien C	Romeo N
Kennet	Diesel D	Rio J	Milo G
Mells	Blake C	Scarlett C	Isaac N
Severn	Harry W	Josh L	Jayden-Lee J
Yeo	Mesha B	Vinnie P	Kezia N
Huntspill	Corey W	Michael B	Ruby B

TikTok - Is the app dangerous for children?

A **BBC Trending** investigation found video-sharing app TikTok failed to remove online predators who were sending sexual messages to teenagers and children. Over three months, the investigation collected hundreds of sexual comments posted on videos uploaded by teenagers and children. While the company deleted the majority of these comments, the users who posted them were able to remain on the platform, despite Tik Tok's own rules against sexual content directed at children.

The BBC was also able to identify a number of users who, again and again, approached teenage girls online to post sexually explicit messages on their videos.

In the course of this investigation, the BBC came across several accounts run by children under 13.

Some are as young as nine years old. The newest social media craze is at the centre of a fresh warning to parents. TikTok - the online platform where users as young as 13 can share videos of themselves for the world to see - is plagued by predators, according to an expert in the digital landscape.

What is Tik Tok?

TikTok (formerly called Musical.ly) is a social media platform that lets you create, share and discover 15 second videos. You can use music and effects to enhance your videos and you can also browse other people's videos and interact with them. The app launched in late 2017 and has already accrued more than 500 million active users. **Though there is an age restriction of 13 years or older, experts fear it is impossible to police.** Yasmin London, executive director at social media and cybersecurity group ySafe says the issue is far more **prolific than** parents may first realise.

"Anywhere where kids have the opportunity to talk with adults, there's always that risk." She described the platform as having a bright exterior, with users lip-syncing to popular songs, but having a "dark underbelly".

When privacy isn't private

Privacy settings are one of the major red flags TikTok has, Yasmin London says. While one of the provisions in the apps terms and conditions is the user's sole responsibility for their actions, the default setting on new profiles is "public", meaning anyone can search, see their profile and make contact. "Predators are accessing kids more and more through direct messages and accounts that are public," Yasmin London fears. "A lot of the time, they're pretending to be someone they're not and asking children to send photos to them"

Why not change to private?

Changing a profile to private may seem like the easy fix, regardless of the social media platform.

But Yasmin London says it isn't that simple. "The problem is validation," she says.

"Likes, followers and engagement deter people, especially teenagers, from turning their profile to private. When they're thinking like that, security can really fall to the sidelines."

What can parents do?

The key with any online safety issue is a conversation, Yasmin London says.

"Having an understanding of the apps, how they work and how to report is important. There's a lot of people and a lot of content circulating every day. If we see something that's not right and we don't report then we're just ignoring the issue."

The app has a user age of 13 and should not be used by children younger than this. Every child using the app should be monitored.



O₂ | NSPCC
Let's keep kids safe online

TikTok

13+

Official
age rating

At a glance

Expert view of the risks...

