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Pre-school

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Long Sutton C of E V A Primary School & Toybox Preschool

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2017 NO5

'All Different, All Equal'

This is the theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2017. To begin our Anti Bullying week we are asking all children to come to school wearing odd socks to have a bit of fun and be able to express themselves and appreciate individuality and uniqueness! We believe that every child is unique and that should be celebrated, so this is a great opportunity to discuss this as a school.

During the week the classes will be doing different activities about the importance of uniqueness, valuing each other and understanding what they can do to prevent bullying. I am hoping each class will share some of this learning at the next Well Done (24th November). Our focus during the week will be on the positive side, thinking about differences and celebrating these as we feel that empowering children to celebrate what makes them unique helps them to understand others better and value each and every one of us for who we are.

As a school we do take bullying very seriously and are always trying to support our children to behave kindly to each other and follow the school promises:

- Always try our best
- Be polite and well mannered
- To be kind and caring
- Play together nicely and fairly
- Treat everyone and everything with respect
- To keep each other safe

There are times when things go wrong for some children and we feel it is very important to work with the children to help them understand the consequences of their behaviour. We use Restorative Justice to support this. As a school we have a definition of bullying and think it is important everyone understands this as many adults and children use this term in situations when friends have just fallen out. Our definition is:

'Bullying is on-going, deliberate behaviour that upsets the victim. It is behaviour that is targeted and selective and can be direct (physical or verbal) or indirect (e.g. being ignored or cyber bullying). It may be one person or a group.'

If you have any concerns about bullying you must speak to your class teacher in school and more importantly tell your child to tell someone in school when something has happened. The link below is to Top Tips for children and young people which we will be sharing with them during the week. <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/attachment/Top-tips-for-children-and-young-people%281%29.pdf>

“Walking together and learning together through life's adventure.”

‘Look Smart

Think Smart’

REMINDER—Friday 17th November the school is closed for an INSET DAY

Safeguarding

Gaming information for parents

We know how popular gaming is for children. There are many fantastic games they can be using by themselves, with you or with their friends. There are two new resources that have been published to support you to help children have a positive and enjoyable time sharing games.

Childnet provides a set of resources on their Gaming resources page, including a shopping checklist for purchasing games which may be useful if you are considering purchasing games or devices as Christmas presents:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/gaming-%E2%80%93-resources-parents-and-carers>

The NSPCC suggest 5 ways to help children play safe:

1. **Check the game's content:** Always check age ratings and play the game yourself to know what they will be doing.
2. **Know how to mute, block and report:** Check how to do this in the different games your children use.
3. **Be Share Aware:** Remind children not to move from chats in games to chats on social networks.
4. **Activate safety settings:** Turn on parental controls and privacy settings on gaming consoles, turn off in-app purchases.
5. **Keep the conversation going:** Have regular conversations about the games your children play and take opportunities to play games with your children

You may want to have copies of Childnet's Online Gaming information to give out to families.

The eCadets at Somerst Bridge Primary made a leaflet for families to make sure Roblox is set up safely. This is another resource you might like to share with families, or perhaps work with a group of children to make your own.

Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead – Lizzie Reynolds).

GETSET NSPCC SOMERSETDIRECT

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PTFA Update.

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Twisted Vinyl Band Night at Somerton's Edgar Hall on 13th October. It was a fantastic night and raised an incredible £1,200 towards the PTFA, which will be used to support the ongoing costs of the swimming pool, new books for the library and other enrichment activities for the children.

We would also like to say a big, to everyone who volunteered and helped with the promotion of the event or on the night – we couldn't have run such a successful event without you!



Parent Forum

A huge thank you to those parents who came. I felt it was a very positive session and hope we have some good information to share with you all. One of the things we talked about was 'Top Tips for parents from parents' the first issue of this will come out next week but after that I am hoping that all of you can send in things that you do with your children that help with their learning or benefit your child. I intend to have a section on each newsletter with a new tip from you. So get thinking. The minutes from the meeting should be out next week. I understand that many of you were unable to come due to work or other commitments, each terms session is at a different time in the hope different people will be able to attend. You will also all be asked to give feedback about the school through our annual questionnaire which will be given out at the parents evening. Please can you try to complete this and even better come and discuss it with me during parents evening as we need your feedback to make our school even better for your children.

School Lunches

Thank you for your feedback, it seems very positive, the children do seem to be enjoying the lunches more and there is far less waste, which is very positive. The next menus will be coming out shortly, please look out for them and remember to get the menu and payment back together by a Tuesday morning.



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