



Churchfields Infants' School

Weekly Newsletter

Autumn Term, Issue 15
5th January 2024

Value of the
month
Responsibility

Growing Together: Every Day In Every Way

Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

Happy New Year and welcome back to school. We hope that you had a relaxing break.

Thank you to all who sent warm wishes, cards and gifts to our staff at the end of term. We really do appreciate your kind words and thoughts.

I am impressed how quickly the children have settled back into their learning.

During the first hour back, I received visits from a number of children in Reception for fabulous writing using their phonics skills. A big well done for earning a Golden Headteacher Award so quickly.

I look forward to watching the children learn and grow throughout the term.

Philosophy Friday

Have a go at this question at home with a grown up!

Would you rather have a pet snail or a pet fish?

Why?

DIARY DATES:

Nursery Open Evening
10th January 5-6pm

Nursery Tours
11th January at 10 am

Year 2 Workshop
17th January

Nursery Workshop
18th January

Nursery Stay & Play
30th January

Reception Workshop
31st January

Year 1 Workshop
1st February

Parent Consultations
8th February 3:40 - 6 pm

Parent Consultations
12th February 3:40 - 7 pm

For other important dates, please visit the Calendar page on our school website.



150 Years Of Churchfields School

We have a special year ahead of us as we see our school celebrate 150 years.

We have planned a series of exciting events with the PTA and Junior school so watch this space for further details!

If you would like to be a part of the PTA, please contact: pta.churchfields@gmail.com.



Congratulations Miss Foxley!

We are delighted to announce the early, unexpected arrival of Miss Foxley's baby boy. Both mother and baby are doing well. We know you will join us in wishing Miss Foxley congratulations and best wishes for the future.



Curriculum Workshops

We believe that children achieve their very best when we work in partnership with our families. This term we will be resuming our popular parent workshops that provide a valuable opportunity for you to understand how you can support your child at home with their learning.

Workshops will be virtual and will begin at **5pm**. The links with details will be sent out to Year 2 and Nursery shortly. Year 1 and Reception links to follow at a later date.

Year 2 - 17th January

Nursery - 18th January

Reception - 31st January

Year 1 - 1st February

Returning To Routine

We know coming back to school is difficult after a long break especially when the mornings may be dark and cold but please ensure that your child is on time for school so they can settle back into the routine as quickly as possible.

It is unsettling for children to arrive after their friends and they can feel embarrassed entering the classroom when everyone is already seated. Being late also means they may miss the first few minutes of the teaching session, which impacts on their learning.

We know a number of parents are still arriving late and walking their child to the classroom. This means our staff need to monitor the door rather than attend to the children that have arrived on time, which again delays learning. Please ensure your child is in line by 8:55 so they can enter school with their friends.

Lateness also puts additional pressure our office team who are trying to deal with queries both in person and on the telephone. We need to reduce the number of children who through the office once the gates are closed.

Finally, Mrs Anderson and Mrs Beck have a responsibility to secure the site and lock gates at 9:00 to keep everyone in school safe. This is delayed when children arrive late to school as we wait for parents to leave the premises. Please be reminded that the gates open at **8:45 am** and children should be in the playground, lining up with their friends by **8:55 am** when the bell is rung. The gates are locked at **9:00 am** to allow enough time for parents to leave, rather than to enable late children to enter.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation on this matter. We look forward to seeing you at school by 8:55 on Monday morning. Have a wonderful weekend.

Nursery Open Evening

We would like to invite prospective parents and carers of children due to start in September 2024, to an open evening on **Wednesday 10th January** when you can come and view the nursery, chat to the nursery teachers and ask any questions you might have.

Feel free to drop in between **5 and 6 pm** - no need to book.

School Admissions 2024

If your child is starting Reception, transferring from infant to junior school, or transferring from primary to secondary school in September 2024, you must apply online at www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/schooladmissions/. Application rounds are now open and must be **submitted by 15th January 2024**.

The deadline for parents and carers to apply for primary school places for children born between 01/09/2019 and 31/08/2020 is on **15th January 2024**. Please note that where parents are intending to request deferred entry for their summer-born children, they still need to apply by this deadline.

Further information on applying for primary school, as well as the link to the e-Admissions portal, can be found at <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/primary-school-admissions/>.

Nursery Stay & Play

Spend some time playing with your child in Nursery! Nursery are hosting a Stay and Play on **Tuesday 30th January**.

Morning session 8:45 – 10:00 am

Afternoon session 1:00 – 2:00 pm
(from 12:45 pm for parents of afternoon children)

Please remember not to use mobile phones while on-site. Younger children are welcome but must be kept with you.



E-Safety Tip of the Week!



YouTube

Please see attached an informative poster about YouTube; this includes lots of advice and helpful tips.



NSPCC

internet
matters.org

Be Internet Legends.



Phone: 0208 505 0386

Website: www.churchfieldsinfant.com

E-mail: admin.churchfields-inf@redbridge.gov.uk

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 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 highly 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 connect with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Communicating with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and even to encouraging online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommendations (links related to what the user has previously watched or their interests) tend to be targeted to be helpful but can also lead to single-clicking onto the risk of content that may be inappropriate for your child's age. Children who watch a video may also be recommended other videos from the top 25 items, which may 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 loss by that the community online, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. These profiles publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that can be particularly risky when children can be easily persuaded to participate and may seem to be fun. Most challenges tend to be safe, but some others may lead to children being exposed to a variety of things. The 'prank' was one of the most popular, which can cause serious harm, as well as many other examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have subscribers paying for a web browser extension or the Chrome extension, promising to save users time clicking on their preferred links. Customers imitate YouTube by adopting fake names and profile pictures, and sometimes offer cash gifts as part of their scam. 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 content) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from changing their age, inappropriate content on the platform, we advise recommending enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



CONCEPT

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts where they encourage their fans to follow, leading to open discussion about this with your child. It's easier to find out how and where they might be following if you check out their social media channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It also allows you to restrict what videos, searches and recommended videos, in general, a Google Family account gives you an overview of how your child is using their Google account and help you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.



MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people. Many of these children. Younger children will watch different content in their areas, of course, and need 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.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'public' or 'unlisted' – as 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.



LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases, such as ads 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 discovering a post for sales quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



Meet Our Expert

Elizabeth (aka @Lizmoor) has worked as an editor and journalist at the gaming industry news and gaming guide, IGN & the award-winning charity and its community, working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



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