

MAGDALEN GATES PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWS BULLETIN 7th February 2023

Dear parents and carers,

In Monday assembly this week, the children and I held a really positive discussion about staying safe online as it is Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 7th February. As part of this discussion, I asked the children the three questions that the day is trying to teach and recorded their answers too. I think that the children's answers help to guide us all towards how we might work together to help them to feel safe online.

What issues really matter to children and young people? Keeping your online identity safe. How to stop people that you don't know from contacting you. How to be responsible online.

What changes do they want to see? People that you don't know should not be able to contact you. You should be able to delete anything that is online about you.

How can we all work together to advocate for them moving forward? Parents and carers know what is being used online. Children could make videos to share their opinions online.

If you and your child would like to contribute to this initiative, please follow this link:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023/safer-internet-day-2023-films>

FSM (Free School Meal) Application

If your household income has changed recently please do consider applying for Free School Meals. Mrs Armstrong in the office is happy to help filling in an application form or with any queries you may have about applying. We can assure everyone the process for applying is straightforward and all applications are treated in confidence.

All pupils in Reception and KS1 are automatically entitled to a free school lunch; however, registering your child for free meals will entitle them to additional support with the cost of school visits, PTA events and extra-curricular clubs, as well as raising additional funds for the school.

World Thinking Day – 22nd February

The Guiding and Scouting members have been celebrating this special day since 1926 and it remains a day for all members to think of each other and celebrate their friends around the world. As World Thinking Day falls on a school day this year if your child is a member of Rainbows, Brownies, Cubs or Scouts they are very welcome to wear their uniforms to school on this day. Alternatively, they can display their promise badges on their usual school uniform

EAL MEETING

We had a wonderful turn out to the EAL parents information afternoon on Friday 27th February. Mrs Lynn and Mr Turnpenny will be arranging another date very soon!

Reporting School Absence

We would like to remind parents of the need to contact school each day your child is absent. We ask that you provide information regarding the symptoms which your child is displaying. This can help us identify particular illness or viruses which we may have in school.

Bikeability

Congratulations to some of the children from Year 5 and 6 that undertook *and passed* their Level 1/2 Bikeability training last week. The Instructor commented on how polite and attentive the group had been. What a credit they all are to the school!

The children all gained confidence in riding their bikes, whilst developing important safe cycling skills. The training supported the children in developing a positive attitude towards road use, increased their knowledge and understanding of the road and traffic environment. It also built the riders confidence to use their bicycles safely on the local roads.

Upcoming Diary Dates

February

9th – 9am Session 1 Parents Invited to Personal Development Information meeting

2:15pm Session 2 Parents invited to Personal Development Information meeting

10th – 8:30am Yr6 Reading Breakfast

School closes for Half Term

School reopens

Monday 20th Feb 2023

20th AM EYFS School Nurse Hearing & Vision

27th Yr6 Residential Trip to Horstead Activity Centre

March

2nd – WORLD BOOK DAY More info coming soon!

3rd 8:30am Yr5 Reading Breakfast

3rd PM – Yr6 return from Horstead Activity Centre

8th Yr1 – Visit to Bridewell Museum

17th Red Nose Day

24th – School Reports Yr1 – Yr6

28th – Parent Conferences Yr1-Yr6

29th - Yr 3 How Hill Residential

30th – Parent Conferences Yr1-Yr6

31st – Yr3 return from How Hill

POPCORN CHALLENGE TIPS

Ask your child to choose what they'd like to read. They'll feel more interested in the story if they've picked it out themselves. (And don't worry if they keep returning to the same story, either!)

If you can, turn off the TV, radio and computer. It's easier for both of you to enjoy the story without any other distractions. Sit close together. You could encourage your child to hold the book themselves and turn the pages, too. Take a look at the pictures. You don't just have to read the words on the page. Maybe there's something funny in the pictures that you can giggle about together, or perhaps your child enjoys guessing what will happen next.

Ask questions and talk about the book. Picture books can be a great way to talk through your child's fears and worries, or to help them deal with their emotions. Give them space to talk and ask how they feel about the situations in the story. **Have fun!** There's no right or wrong way to share a story – as long as you and your child are having fun

School Contact Details

School Office hours – 8:15am – 3:30pm

Telephone 01603 622675

Email Office@magdalengates.co.uk

Out of school club contact –

01603 343881 3.30pm-5.30 pm only