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## Newsletter 20 – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### **Class News**

- Nursery - have been exploring what colour 'love' is and investigating 2D shapes  
Reception - have been learning about Chinese New Year and re-telling the story  
Y1 - have enjoyed designing and making their own sweet treats to raise money for the NSPCC's number day!  
Y2 - have really enjoyed Number day and particularly making 'rocky road'  
Y3 - have had a wonderful time celebrating Number Day, including using their measuring skills to bake flapjack!  
Y4 - have had fun learning about and creating their own food chains  
Y5 - have enjoyed using parachutes to investigate air resistance  
Y6 - have really enjoyed making mocktails on Number Day!

Dear Parents,

The children have had a fabulous NSPCC Number Day, they all looked amazing! The school raised £138.80, thank you!

We take our children's mental health very seriously and in school we do a lot to help our children develop healthy minds and bodies. The theme for the National Children's Mental Health week is 'Growing Together' and this is taking place from 7<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> February. In school we will be doing additional activities next week to raise the profile of good mental health, develop our emotional growth and find ways to help each other grow. AFC Bournemouth will be delivering some class sessions and assemblies during the week. Please take some time to talk to your child about it.

Don't forget to check what's been happening in your child's class on Twitter!

- Nursery - @stivesprimaryN  
Reception - @stivesprimaryr  
Year 1 - @stives\_year1  
Year 2 - @stivesprimary2  
Year 3 - @stivesprimary3  
Year 4 - @Year4StIves  
Year 5 - @stivesprimary5  
Year 6 - @stivesprimary6

### **Value of the week – Unique**

During our assembly this week we discovered 'The story of the Chinese New Year' and how the twelve animals measure time. Our Maths Ambassadors also presented an assembly all about Number Day – it was very exciting!



### **Subject Update – Computing**

The teaching of online safety is a key area of our Computing curriculum across the whole school, from our very youngest children in Nursery through to our eldest in Year 6. We believe that educating our young people about the challenges and risks they may face online is essential to help keep them safe and make good choices.

On Tuesday 8th February we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2022. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to join together in helping to create a better internet. The theme this year is 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote at St Ives and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year. The children will be taking part in school through assemblies and lessons within their classes.

We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, you may be interested in downloading the free Safer Internet Day resources for parents and carers which is available at: [saferinternet.org.uk/sid-parents](http://saferinternet.org.uk/sid-parents). Please also find attached this week's National Online Safety guide which gives parents and carers ways to support young people in being good digital citizens.

## **Covid-19**

### **Measures in place:**

- Ventilation – in school will be monitored and we are using CO2 monitors as an indicator of where ventilation needs to be increased. Children may wish to wear a base layer under their school uniform to keep warm.
- Classrooms are sanitised regularly throughout the day
- Daytime enhanced cleaning of common touch points such as doors, light switches etc.

## **Online Safety Alert**

We have become aware of a concerning horror adventure game called 'Poppy Playtime'. The game includes a villain called 'Huggy Wuggy' in the form of a furry blue monster. Various videos have appeared online, including on YouTube and TikTok which depict the character sharing menacing lyrics. Please remain vigilant and be aware of what your child is accessing online.

## **Dates for Diary**

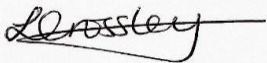
### **February**

- 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> - Children's Mental Health Week  
8<sup>th</sup> - Safer Internet Day  
21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> - Half Term

### **March**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - KS1 Mini Medics  
30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> - KS2 Mini Medics

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Crossley  
Headteacher





# 10 Top Tips for Respect Online: INSPIRING CHILDREN TO BUILD A BETTER DIGITAL WORLD

Our ability to communicate with anyone in the world, at any time, via the internet has grown at breakneck speed. For teachers and parents, it can feel impossible to keep up. Worrying about our young people is understandable, and not unjustified: in 2020, for example, one in five 10- to 15-year-olds experienced bullying online. Our tips highlight ways that adults can support young people's positive online behaviours: by adopting and following 'netiquette', we can show them how to avoid getting into difficulty as they learn to negotiate the continually evolving digital landscape.

## WHAT IS NETIQUETTE?

Just like etiquette is a set of rules which guides and governs our interactions with others in everyday life, netiquette – etiquette on the net – is the framework which helps inform how we communicate with people online. The rules of engagement often aren't the same as a face-to-face meeting, so it's important that we can accurately 'read' situations in the digital world and know how to act appropriately.

### 1 ACCEPT DIFFERENT RULES

A lot of our interaction with others is helped by non-verbal signals like body language and facial expressions. Online, of course, many of these clues are missing. Talk to your child about why this makes misunderstandings more likely to occur in the digital world and why keeping in mind that online communication is a very different process can help to prevent difficulties from arising.

### 2 PRESS 'PAUSE'

It's so easy to do things quickly online that most people (adults included) habitually send or respond to messages without considering the consequences. Pushing 'the pause button' buys a young person some time while they ponder the golden rule: "Would I still say this if the other person was right front of me?" You could practise this with your child on some made-up tricky situations.

### 3 THE INTERNET IS ADDICTIVE

Apps and sites use sophisticated algorithms and clever marketing to keep us engaged, while notifications on our devices are designed to draw us back in. It's no wonder that people continually return to the digital world, sometimes spending long periods of time there. You and your child could trial turning off notifications on certain apps and instead agree a time to check for updates manually.

### 4 BEWARE THE DARK SIDE

Getting a hurtful or unhelpful comment on social media or in a group chat can make the recipient feel publicly shamed. That's painful for anyone – but especially for a young person whose status in a group is integral to their sense of identity. Encourage your child to think about the best and safest way to send a message: for example, doing it as a private message rather than a public post.

### 5 HARMFUL INTERACTIONS

Unfortunately, it's very easy to send a hurtful message or to spread gossip and rumours online. We all know this happens regularly. Not having to deal with actually seeing the other person's distress usually doesn't help people to make a positive decision in the moment. It's important that trusted adults help children to visualise the potential consequences and have empathy for others.

### 6 APPRECIATE DIFFERENCES

We're all built differently; some people are simply more emotionally sensitive than others. Young people can be particularly affected by negative online communication, such as group shaming. Even a single message (which might seem trivial at face value) can cause deep anguish. Trusted adults should be prepared to be patient and listen to any difficulties their child might have had online.

### 7 ACCENTUATED ANXIETY

Young people's online lives create a lot of anxiety. Messages go into a 'black hole' until someone responds, there are more reasons to compare ourselves negatively, and social media can make us feel like we're missing out. Encourage activities such as sports and hobbies to balance this out, and remember that merely blocking out thoughts (by gaming, for instance) isn't the same as relaxation.

### 8 PRO-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

A huge positive for the internet is how it helps people to feel connected and makes being kind and helpful easy to spread. When young people get involved in pro-social behaviours online, it creates a positive feedback loop which makes them feel good. Show your child examples of when you've done or said something positive online, and praise and encourage them when they do the same.

### 9 BE A GOOD ROLE MODEL

One of the best things we can do as trusted adults is to role model positive online behaviour. Just letting your child see that you know when it's time to put your phone away and do something more productive can set a strong example. Some families set aside particular times of the week (such as mealtimes or a family walk) where digital devices aren't allowed and conversation takes precedence.

### 10 SHOW COMPASSION

Mistakes can feel much bigger online, because they're so public. If a young person does or says something regrettable on the internet, it's important to support them to forgive themselves, learn any lessons and move forward positively. Even as adults, we can often stumble when learning how things work in the fast-moving digital world, so it's important to have compassion for ourselves, too.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Carole Francis-Smith is an experienced counselling psychologist who, through her research, specialises in promoting safe and ethical online communications. She consults with businesses and organisations to support positive and effective communication online, often by considering some of the more hidden aspects of the mediums.



National  
Online  
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday