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Headteacher: Mrs L Crossley

## Newsletter 22 – 18th February 2022

### **Class News**

Nursery	- have enjoyed exploring role play this week, including playing restaurants and car washes!
Reception	- have been exploring capacity by predicting and measuring how much containers can hold
Y1	- have loved using atlases to locate and label big cat habitats around the world
Y2	- have really enjoyed painting in their 'wax-resistant' art lesson this week
Y3	- have enjoyed creating their own Scratch animations during their Computing lesson
Y4	- have worked really hard on practising their assembly and were AMAZING!
Y5	- have enjoyed being creative with poetry this week
Y6	- have learnt all about coral reef biomes and the importance they play socially, environmentally and economically

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all managed to stay safe in Storm Eunice. It has been a fabulous half term with some excellent learning and progress made by all the children. Have a wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Value of the week – Respect**

We have spent time talking about Random acts of kindness and seeing how many random acts of kindness we can do throughout the school, it has been amazing, well done!

### **Subject Update – MFL**

Immersing our children in different languages and cultures is incredibly important to us. Learning a new language allows children to begin to show a curiosity into new words, sounds and cultures while also improving critical thinking and social skills. At St Ives, in addition to our curriculum content, throughout the school we answer the register in different languages and in our Spanish after school club children have been learning how to greet and introduce themselves through a range of role play and games.



### **World Book Day – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

The first Thursday back after half term is World Book Day. As always, children are asked to come into school dressed as a character from a book they know or love. To really embrace the spirit of the day and what it celebrates, we ask that no football kits are worn.

### **Reading Book Reminder**

Next half term each KS2 class will be reading a new text. Please ensure you purchase or borrow the new book in preparation for your child's new classwork. The new books are as follows:

Year 3 -	Varjak Paw
Year 4 -	The Firework Maker's Daughter
Year 5 -	The Boy at the Back of the Class
Year 6 -	Pig Heart Boy

### **School Lunches**

Please remember to order your hot school meals by Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February at midnight ready for returning after half term.

## 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

Wink is a messaging app that allows children to connect and communicate with other users. Wink sets 'appropriate content' guidelines and claims to monitor this with a "combination of technology and 24/7 human moderation". Many profiles on the app, however, do display images that would be inappropriate for children. A related worry is that the abundance of suggestive profile pictures could easily convince a child that this is an acceptable tactic to follow: especially if they're seeking to boost their popularity on the app. This week's guide has useful guidance for parents and carers who may be concerned about their child's use of Wink.

### Dates for Diary

#### **February**

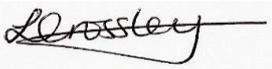
- 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> - Half Term  
28<sup>th</sup> - Return to school

#### **March**

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

Finally, just a polite reminder that we are a nut free school, therefore products containing nuts must not be brought into school please. We have a number of children and staff with nut allergies.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Crossley  
Headteacher



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WINK

AGE RATING

13+

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Wink is a messaging app which allows children to connect and communicate with other users. In a similar style to Tinder, Wink uses the swipe method for browsing profiles and accepting or declining them. Once two users have accepted each other by swiping on one another's profile, they can then communicate and play games online together. The fact that Wink allows children to share photos, personal information and their location with other users has caused significant concern.

### POTENTIAL FOR GROOMING

Wink accounts can't be made private – so when a young person uploads images and shares their social media usernames, it's easier for potential groomers to stalk and locate them online. The fact that children prioritise having an abundance of friends is also a concern: they're more likely to accept someone just to build their friend count – possibly including users with sinister intentions.

### ACCIDENTAL OVER-SHARING

Many young people don't consider privacy when they choose to share their social media usernames on their Wink profile. This allows other people to connect with them on multiple platforms strengthening their online presence and reputation. Some children post photos which reveal aspects of their personal life to other users – showing their house, school, friends and family, for instance.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many popular messaging apps contain profiles featuring profanity, nude or semi-nude photos and users openly looking for a "wifey" or "hook ups". Users can send messages anonymously, which engenders a sense of power and freedom. Children often engage in inappropriate behaviour more willingly when it's anonymous, even if it's not the sort of thing they would take part in normally.

### CYBERBULLYING

Being anonymous online provides some users with an incentive to bully others through toxic private conversations. Anonymous bullies can send hurtful messages or pressure young people into sending inappropriate content. Being a victim of cyberbullying can result in children becoming depressed and showing low self-esteem. If your child is exhibiting these signs, it's time to step in.

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Wink encourages repeated engagement through signing in daily, making connections, building up a message 'streak' and publicly sharing stories. The reward is 'gems', which allow users to connect with more people, play games and edit their profile background. This can lead to children spending an excessive amount of screen time on the app, which of course can be detrimental to their health.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DO YOUR RESEARCH

If you do decide to allow your child to have a Wink account – or you find that they already have one – it's vital to talk to them about how to use the app responsibly and keep themselves safe. You could also consider exploring Wink yourself and becoming familiar with the app before letting your child download it, as there are no security settings or parental controls that can be put into place.

### OFFER YOUR SUPPORT

While it's not always easy to talk about inappropriate content with your child, it's crucial that they understand the impact of sending or receiving it. They also need to feel that they can speak to you about it without worrying about consequences. Emphasise that, if your child receives any messages that make them feel uncomfortable, they can block the sender and report them to the app.

### BE WARY OF SHARING

It's important that your child stays aware of what they're sharing online. Remind them about the importance of not posting personal information like their full name or which school they go to. Many users share their other social media account details on Wink to build their friend count, but we would recommend advising your child not to give strangers multiple avenues to contact them.

### DISCUSS LOSS OF OWNERSHIP

It's essential that young people understand that once content goes online, the sender no longer has any control over where it will end up. While your child may feel like they can trust their online 'friend', that person is still a stranger. Even sharing an inappropriate image, for example, could then be used as leverage – as their 'friend' threatens to release it publicly unless the child sends more.

### BALANCE SCREEN TIME

Before having a chat with your child about screen time, ask yourself if you're being a positive role model. Get your child thinking about how much time they spend on the app: is it healthy? Is it affecting their offline relationships with people? Is it impacting their mood? If so, you could suggest some activities you can do together which aren't so reliant on digital technology.

### BE CAUTIOUS OF NEW CONTACTS

Remind your child that not everyone online is who they say they are, and some users have harmful intentions. If someone on Wink is asking them lots of personal questions or suggests meeting up in real life, these are definite red flags. Encourage your child to ask for help if they're unsure about a particular profile. Remember, the app has a block button: your child shouldn't be afraid to use it!

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Rutheford is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday



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## Helix Trampoline Club

Within the club structure at Helix we aim to help each individual fulfill their potential through Recreational & Elite sessions

Coaching sessions run every week on these particular days at Canford Sports Centre, Wimborne

Day	Time
Thursday	6:15pm - 8:30pm (Elite / Development)
Friday	6:00pm - 7:30pm (Recreational)
	7:30pm - 9:00pm (Elite / Development)
Saturday	9:00am - 11:00am (Recreational)
	11:00am - 1:00pm (Elite / Development)

For more information on Helix Trampoline Club or you would like to be involved in our sessions please visit our web site at [www.helixtrampolineclub.co.uk](http://www.helixtrampolineclub.co.uk). Or phone our head coach,  
Russell Mobey: 07896 608 808