

Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

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'And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.'

Hebrews 10:10

19th April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Start of Term 5 Newsletter

As we head into the final two terms of the academic year it is clear the year is certainly flying by. I hope you have all enjoyed the Easter break, an important time in the Christian calendar, and were able to take the opportunity to spend some quality time with your families.

Thank you to all who attended the recent Parent Consultation Evenings, I hope you found them both informative and useful. Please do complete the return slip, if you have not already done so, at the end of your child's report, all feedback is welcomed to ensure we can further develop our partnership. Through my monitoring of Teaching and Learning and having read all the children's reports, in the 10 days running up to the Parent Consultation Evenings, it is clear that all of our children have been working really hard. This is also evident in the progress within all Year Groups. I hope this continues as we return to school.

Coronation of King Charles III

It seems no time at all since we were celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II with our events in school taking place during Term 5 last academic year. Following the very sad passing of Queen Elizabeth II last September you will be aware that the Coronation of King Charles III is planned for the weekend of the 6th to the 8th May (with the 8th May deemed an additional Bank Holiday for this academic year).

As a school we think it only right to mark such an historic occasion within school, as we did with the Jubilee, and as such plans are afoot for a celebration within school on Friday 5th May. Further details with regards to this will follow once we have finalised our plans but we look forward to acknowledging and celebrating such an important period in the history of the country within school.

E-Safety

Our work around e-Safety and particularly social media continued during Terms 3 and 4, following our whole school support of Internet Safety Day. May I also take this opportunity to remind everyone that, as a school, we continue to work hard to teach the children how to use social media both responsibly and respectfully. Your support in demonstrating this to your child is greatly appreciated. Should you have any concerns please do not hesitate to come in to school to discuss them.

Recently, within Lincolnshire, there has been an increase in children accessing inappropriate content online and as such we have been asked to share the following guidance from the Community Safety Service.

Inappropriate Content Online Advice for Parents from Community Safety Service

Over the last few months, we have seen an increase in the number of schools reporting that students, while at home, have accessed content which is not always appropriate, some of which has been quite scary or upsetting. We have also had a report of worrying trends on TikTok encouraging nudity from its users. This can have legal implications for our children and young people that they often aren't aware of.

While there is no perfect way to eliminate this risk, we feel that there are things parents and carers can do to support their children online, reduce the risk or manage it after the fact. Remember to keep lines of Communication open with your children and young people. Just like we ask them how their day was at school and what they got up to it is equally important to have this conversation about their Online lives. If you can keep technology out of the bedrooms and private spaces this is also an effective tool in safeguarding our children.

Here are some more practical steps parents and carers can follow:

- *Contact their Internet Service Provider (ISP): Companies that provide broadband such as BT, Sky and Virgin, offer free protection for parents and carers. They can filter your internet connection directly, without having to install anything. Guide on how to use this can be found here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/>*
- *YouTube is a fantastic resource, but not all the content is appropriate for children and not all YouTube channels are made for young audiences. YouTube has an app just for children – YouTube Kids – but many people don't realise that the main YouTube app has a restricted mode. Check out more about how it works here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/youtube-app/>*
- *Parental Controls for Devices - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/>*
- *Games consoles have features that can limit what games they can play based on the age ratings and can even turn off certain features to allow gaming to be a little safer. To learn more about these features visit <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/>*
- *Games are also rated based on the content; not how difficult they are. 18 rated games can have very graphic violence, adult language and themes, sexual content, and horror elements. Learn a bit more about appropriate games by visiting <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child/> or visit this site for more about game ratings <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/peqi-games-ratings-explained>*
- *Social Media privacy guide - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/>*

Have you heard about Tik Tok Family Pairing <https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/tiktok-introduces-family-pairing> Family pairing allows adults to link their accounts to their teenagers account so you can customise their safety settings such as content, privacy and well being settings.

It's important to remember that no filters or controls are 100% effective so make sure your child knows that they can, and should, talk to someone if they see or hear anything upsetting online so we can offer them some reassurance. This information from Thinkuknow might be useful <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Im-worried-my-primary-aged-child-might-see-something-inappropriate-online/>

As stated previously, we are always more than happy to host an e-Safety event for parents/carers if there is any interest – it can easily be added to our growing list of parent/carer workshops. Please speak to your child's Class Teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team if you are interested.

Fund Raising

Thank you all very much for your continued generosity in supporting our fundraising events so far this year. With your help we really are making a difference to others.

“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.” Hebrews 13:16.

Most recently we supported a number of events including fundraising for the National Literacy Trust and Red Nose Day. Thank you for your support with fundraising for Amelia Siddall who recently completed the London Landmarks Half Marathon on Sunday 2nd April. I know Amelia was very grateful for the support of the community with her fundraising so a huge thank you must go to all of you. I'm sure you will all join me in wishing her congratulations for this achievement.

In the coming weeks Emma Weatherhill is also completing the Moon Walk, a 26 mile walk overnight, raising money for cancer charities. To support Emma in her fundraising we are holding a non-uniform day on Friday 28th April. Children can come to school in non-uniform on the day for a donation of 50p. We will also be holding a raffle with tickets on sale for 50p. Further details re both of these will follow later this week.

Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust – 10 Years of Success!

As you will know, as a school, we are part of the Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust family of schools. This year marks their 10th year as an Academy Trust and as such a number of celebrations are planned for Terms 5 and 6, including a whole Trust live service of celebration for the 20 Trust schools and also a 10 mile sponsored walk over 10 days. Further details re these events will follow over the course of the summer terms.

Parish Post

We are currently in the process of reviewing and updating the Parish Post so we can ensure parents and carers are receiving the most relevant information about school. As part of this we intend to include further information about the curriculum, including the different curriculum subjects and also more information about personal development of pupils including linked to social, emotional and mental health as we know this is something that many parents often ask about. If there is anything further that you would like to see included in the Parish Post, please either speak to your child's class teacher or email via feedback@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk. The intention of the Parish Post is to share information with you about school and as such we would like to include, if feasible, aspects that are prevalent for parents and carers.

Parking

Please remember to park courteously for the safety of all our community whilst respecting our neighbours. Please park legally allowing the safe use of the road and pavements for all. Do not park on the public footpath as it makes it dangerous with the numbers of people using them.

If you are just dropping your child off, please park up and ensure their safe exit from the vehicle on to the pavement so they can then walk safely into school. The closer to school you get the more congested it is so if you are able to park further away or even walk all the way to and from school this would be appreciated, particularly given the promise of improved weather ahead.

We continue to receive a small number of complaints from local neighbours where driveways are being blocked as a result of parking. We are all a community and it is important that we work together for the benefit of all. If you could please bear our neighbours in mind when parking, this would be very much appreciated.

Sun Safety

As the Easter holidays have seen the arrival of a little sunshine and warmer weather, could we please ask that you send your child into school prepared for the weather. If you could please ensure your child has a hat to keep the sun off their head during the times of the day when they are outside and a drinks bottle in school each day filled with fresh water to ensure your child stays hydrated in the warmer weather. Please see the Sun Safety letter for further details.

And finally, let's pause for thought...

Imagine there is a bank account that credits your account each morning with £86,400. It carries over no balance from day to day. Every evening the bank deletes whatever part of the balance you failed to use during the day. What would you do? Draw out every penny, of course? Each of us has such a bank. Its name is TIME.

Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off as lost, whatever of this you have failed to invest to a good purpose. It carries over no balance. It allows no overdraft. Each day it opens a new account for you. Each night it burns the remains of the day. If you fail to use the day's deposits, the loss is yours. There is no drawing against "tomorrow." You must live in the present on today's deposits. Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success! Make the most of today.

To realise the value of:

ONE YEAR, ask a student who had to re-sit an exam.

ONE MONTH, ask a football manager before the end of the season.

ONE WEEK, ask the leaders of political parties in the run-up to the election.

ONE HOUR, ask parents waiting to meet their child after their first day at school.

ONE MINUTE, ask anybody who has just missed a train.

ONE SECOND, ask someone who just avoided an accident.

ONE MILLISECOND, ask the person who won a silver medal at the Olympics.

Treasure every moment you have! Treasure it more when you share it with someone special. Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That's why it's called the present. As we head into Term 5 I hope all our pupils make the most of the time and opportunities given to them.

Kind Regards,



Diane Mulley
Head Teacher