

Head Teachers Note:

Hi everyone

It was good to see you all at Parents Evening this week, we're so pleased with all of the positive comments you have made about the new curriculum. The children are most certainly enjoying the new themes and we're sure you agree that the work in their books is impressive.

Thank you for all of the bottle tops you are re-cycling. Our giraffe is looking very colourful and filling up fast. Keep your eyes open in the Shropshire Star over the next few weeks as we are expecting an article on our school.

Have a great half-term and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 25th February!

Julie Bratt

Dates for your diary



Tuesday 25th February:
Return to School

Thursday 5th March:
World Book Day!

Thursday 19th March:
Reception Rangers class
assembly (Miss Stokes)
09:10am

Thursday 26th March:
Reception Rangers class
assembly (Mrs Matthews)
09:10am

Thursday 2nd April:
Shooting Stars class
assembly
09:10am

Friday 3rd April:
Break up for Easter

Monday 20th April:
Return to School

This Week's Class Heroes:

Reception Rangers:
Thomas and O'Shea

Shooting Stars:
CJ

Racing Rockets:
Florence

Cosmic Comets:
Zachary

Skyflyers:
Jack

Starships:
Reanna

Voyagers:
LJ

Explorers:
Brooke

Red Arrows:
Danielle

Well Done!



This Week's Attendance:

Reception Rangers (M): 96.5%

Reception Rangers (S): 100%

Shooting Stars: 99.1%

Racing Rockets: 97.4%

Cosmic Comets: 98.6%

Skyflyers: 96.2%

Starships: 93.2%

Voyagers: 98.0%

Explorers: 95.2%

Red Arrows: 98.1%

Have a great Half Term

School Returns on Tuesday 25th February



Meals cost £2.40 per day for children in Nursery and KS2 (Years 3 to 6). KS1 (Reception, Y1 & Y2) are free.

Menu w/c 25th February 2020

Marvellous Monday

Beef Bolognese / Veggie Bolognese

Tasty Tuesday

Pork Sausage / Vegetarian Sausage

Wicked Wednesday

Roast Chicken / Quorn Fillet

Thrilling Thursday

Selection of Wraps / Panini

Fruity Friday

Cheese & Tomato Pizza / Tuna Pasta Bake

Please see the website for full details of the menu



All clubs run from 3:20pm and until 4:30pm.

Details of the new club timetable, to start W/C 25th February 2020, are shown below:

Monday

KS2 Football (Boys & Girls) - £10 per half term

Football kit, shin pads and football boots

Tuesday

KS2 Multi Sports Training
Indoor and Outdoor P.E Kit

Wednesday

KS1 Multi Sports - £10 per half term

Note: 4:15pm finish

Indoor PE kit

Friday

KS2 Football (Girls) - Free

Indoor P.E kit

If your child would like to join one of the clubs, please contact the school office.



British Ironworks Eco Project

You may have noticed that we have now welcomed a large purple metal giraffe sculpture.

This is part of the British Ironworks Eco project and requires being 'fed' by as many plastic bottle tops as possible! Please remember to bring them in and feed our new friend with them.



World Book Day

World Book Day is the 5th of March. Children can come into school this day dressed as their favourite book character! We look forward to seeing all the wonderful costumes and characters!

Online Safety

This week on the 11th February was safer internet day and it has been brought to our attention the rise in the use of the app TIKTOK and the risks that this app holds for children.

We have been sent some guidance, which I have attached, explaining the age restrictions and what exactly TIKTOK is. Please also see below link for more information:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/what-parents-need-to-know-about-tiktok>



Parking

Can all parents/carers please ensure they do not park on the yellow zigzag lines or block our neighbours' entrances.

Please can you not block the entrance to the carpark particularly when dropping off or picking up from zoom. It causes a traffic jam and makes it difficult for other users of the carpark.



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-synching and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

TIKTOK

MATURE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up for the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are light-hearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slew of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overtly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.

INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-synching and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.

TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor Musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



Safety Tips For Parents

TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the app limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media stardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.

ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.

EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, keep a close eye on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to turn it into a bonding opportunity with your child also. You could even unleash your inner performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.

LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.

Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



SOURCES:

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

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ROBINSON'S THEATRE ACADEMY



HALF TERM WORKSHOP
WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
10.30am - 3.30pm



For ages 5 - 12 yrs



At the Sports and
Social Club, Cross
Road, Albrighton, WV7
3QT



£20 per child

COME ALONG FOR A DAY OF
DANCING, SINGING,
DRAMA, CRAFTS & GAMES!!



Please contact Kellie Robinson to
book a place

07812 345748

kellierobinson78@hotmail.com





THE
**ALBRIGHTON
TRUST**

Holiday Activities

February 2020

www.albrightontrust.org.uk

Monday 17th February Creative Crafts

Make a Bird Feeder to take home to feed our native birds during this critical time of the year.

10am & 1pm sessions. £5 per person



Wednesday 19th February Wild about Nature

Enjoy our Wild about Nature sessions, fun activities and games while learning about the natural world. Learn how to light a natural fire using a fire steel or you could create clay creatures, handmade bird feeders, leaf pressed designs. Every session is different. 10am & 1pm. £5 per person.



Thursday 20th February Coached Angling

Coaches available to help novice or inexperienced Anglers, they will learn to put bait on a hook, cast a line, land a fish, unhook fish safely, handle fish and return safely to the water.

Equipment supplied - 10am & 1pm sessions. £5 per person



Please book your place by calling
01902 372441 or email:
moat@albrightontrust.org.uk.



Holiday activities are open to all young people of all abilities/disabilities.

Albrighton Primary School and Nursery
are pleased to announce the opening of...

Twinkling Stars

Day Nursery

'Creating awe and wonder through play'

BRAND NEW SETTING!

Opening in the New Year!

Babies
to 2 years

Open 50 weeks
of the year
7am - 6pm

Secure, nurturing and
stimulating
environment

Ofsted
registered

E-mail: nursery@albrighton-pri.shropshire.sch.uk

Phone: 01902 372558

Newhouse Lane, Albrighton, WV7 3QS