

Thames View Primary School Newsletter



Responsibility

Resilience

Respect

Special events coming soon

- 20th October
Parents Evening
- 21st October last day of term
- 31st October & 1st November staff development days
- Children return 2nd November

Mrs Rogers Message

This week, some of our Year 6 pupils took part in a Hockey Competition at Holcombe Hockey ground. We are so proud of these students, who came 5th out of 19th teams and showed our school values for the duration of the competition, Respect, Responsibility and Resilience. Year 3 have been exploring their topic for this term of Food Glorious Food, by learning to make a Tray Bake cake and learning how to cut (and eat) vegetables, mainly carrots! Year 1 and 2 are having their daily phonics lessons following our new phonics scheme, Essential Letters and Sounds. A parent workshop will be coming soon for any parents who would like to know more about this. Nursery have been exploring their outdoor and are currently having a transformation in their Nursery to make it into a Gruffalo Woods, after the book by Julia Donaldson. The school dogs have now successfully completed their dog training and are now our dog mentors. Many of you will have seen their brand new orange coats this morning and the dog mentors will be on both playgrounds in the mornings to see our children, as well as on their timetables after half term to support and reward more children. The PTA Halloween discos are tonight, so we look forward to seeing lots of our children having fun with their friends! I hope you all have a lovely weekend and stay safe, Mrs Rogers.

Parents Evening

This year, we will have two formal parents' evenings, one on the 20th October and one on the 12th July. These will take place in the school halls. You will be able to book an appointment on arbor. These appointments are now open for next week's parents evening. On the evenings, the inclusion/wellbeing team will be available with the wellbeing dogs for parents to meet. There will also be Miss Bailey, our PE teacher to answer any questions. Chartwell, our school caterers will be available in our key stage 2 canteen, so do visit our Thames View Rainforest Café and try some school dinner samples!

Quote of the week

"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is You-er than You."

Dr Seuss

Homework

Since Edmodo is no longer active, we are currently looking at alternative digital platforms for homework as a Trust. We will be switching to Microsoft teams and will be updating parents when we are active. In the meantime, we will continue to send paper homework and spellings. Timetable Rockstar's and Spelling Shed should still be accessed on a regular basis. If parents need any support with this, please let your child's teacher know.



The Gruffalo in EYFS

We have been renovating the Nursery in the theme of the Gruffalo and other Julia Donaldson books to show our houses throughout the school, including for our youngest children. Here is the start of the transformation. If any parents have any Julia Donaldson themed toys/cuddly toys that we could add to the environments, please do bring them in to the school office, we want to ensure the environment of our school is as lovely as possible!



Golden Ticket



Golden Ticket is every Friday and a child in each Key Stage 2 class can win the golden ticket for outstanding effort, behaviour and for showing our 3 school values, Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.



STARS OF THE WEEK



PE champions

KS1: Florence
KS2: Eden



Weekly Class Attendance: KS1: Fortune KS2: Windsor
Sparkles Stars of the Week AM: Kai PM: Safiye

Class	Star of the Week	Reading	Writing	Maths
Pippin	Ava	Dexter	Dixon	Asher
Sunrise	Summer	Nathan	Arabella	Theo
Elstar	Tommy S	Luna	Elliot	Bella
Kanzi	Frazer	Vinnie	Fraser	Mustafa
Fortune	Samuel	Raven	Theo	Rae
Liberty	Dilan	Sophie	Maria	Clara
Opal	Owen	Peyton	Elyas	Nancy
Topaz	Daniel	George C	Layla	Lola
Victory	Toby	Jacob	Heidi	Freddie
Enterprise	Cooper	Dylan	Lyall	Preston
Windsor	Joseph	Ruby	Alice	Theo
Blenheim	Jude	Erin	Olamide	Olisha
Pioneer	Reggie	Sukhmani	Summer	Archie
Discovery	Jacob	Emily	Isla	Faron



Momo is a sinister 'challenge' that has been around for some time. It has recently resurfaced and once again has come to the attention of schools and children across the country. Dubbed the 'suicide killer game', Momo has been heavily linked with apps such as Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube, and most recently (and most worryingly)... YouTube Kids. The scary doll-like figure reportedly sends graphic violent images, and asks users to partake in dangerous challenges like waking up at random hours and has even been associated with self-harm. It has been reported that the 'Momo' figure was originally created as a sculpture and featured in an art gallery in Tokyo and unrelated to the 'Momo' challenge we are hearing about in the media.

What parents need to know about MOMO

CHILDREN'S VIDEOS BEING 'HIJACKED'

There have been recent reports that some seemingly innocent videos on YouTube and YouTube Kids (such as 'surprise eggs', unboxing videos and Minecraft videos) have been edited by unknown sources to include violence provoking and/or other inappropriate content. Even though YouTube monitor and remove videos that include inappropriate content, clips can be uploaded and viewed thousands of times before they get reported and removed. As a parent, it's difficult to spot these videos as the harmful content doesn't appear until partway through the video.

DISTRESSING FOR CHILDREN

Popular YouTubers and other accounts have been uploading reaction videos, showing their experience of the MOMO challenge. Some of the videos include a disclosure message warning that the content may be "inappropriate or offensive to some audiences" and that "viewer discretion is advised" but these videos are still easily accessed by clicking 'I understand and wish to proceed'. The image of the 'Momo' character can be deeply distressing to children and young people and it's important to note that it may slip through parental settings and filters.

SUGGESTED VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

Video apps such as YouTube include an 'up next' feature which automatically starts playing another video based on the video just watched. Due to YouTube's algorithm, users are shown 'suggested videos' that they may be interested in. The thumbnails used on suggested videos are purposefully created in a way to encourage viewers to click them. During our research, we found that when watching one Momo related video, we were shown countless other Momo themed videos and other scary content which would be age-inappropriate for children under 18.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' - so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube - and, if applicable, with content creators - to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

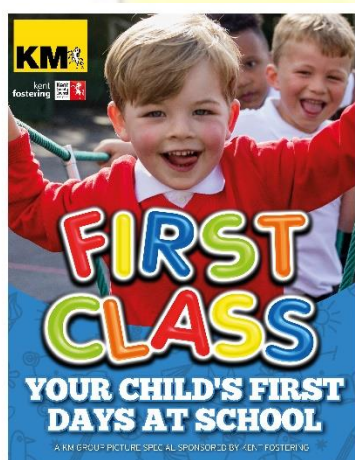
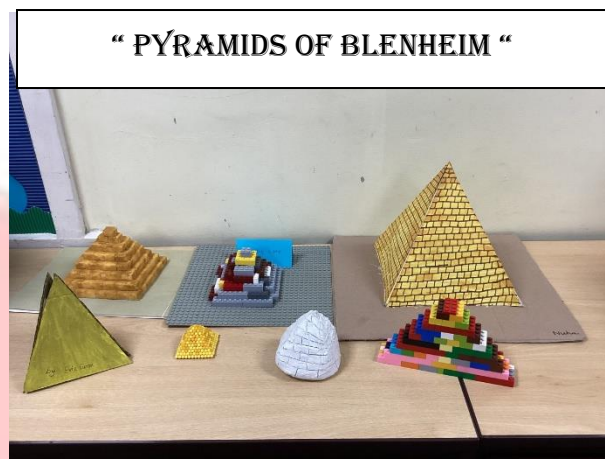
LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Safeguarding Corner

If you have concerns about you child, please come in and discuss these with Mrs Flynn or Mrs Stevens. Each week there will be safeguarding tips here, let us know if we can help! Todays focus is on the MOMO challenge and the risk of online videos, especially on YouTube

As part of their home learning and following on from our geography lesson looking at the human features in Egypt, including the pyramids of Giza, Cairo and the Aswan Dam, Blenheim Class made some 3D models.



Our Reception Classes photographs of their first days at school will be published in the Medway Messenger next week.

We have received the link below to show families when and where the photographs will be shown.

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/whats-on/news/dont-miss-your-copy-of-first-class-274807/>

Harvest Donations - We will be supporting the local Charity Caring Hands. If you would like to donate, please bring any of these items to the class teacher, or school office by Thursday 20th October 2022. Thank you.

Dried Goods:

PASTA	SAVOURY RICE	SMASH	RICE
NOODLES	PASTA SACHETS (ie mug shots)	KETCHUP	GROUND SALT
BLACK PEPPER	cooking sauces jar/packet	TEA	SUGAR
COFFEE	POWDERED MILK		

Tinned Goods:

BAKED BEANS	SOUPS - any flavours	TUNA	VEGETABLES
TOMATOES	SPAGHETTI	RAVIOLI	HOT DOGS
POTATOES	FRUIT - any variety	RICE PUDDING	CUSTARD

