



St Nicks Weekly News

Friday 15th September 2023

Headteacher's Message

It has been a great week here although a little bit wet! I am hoping the weather improves for the weekend so that you can all get out and about. There has been lots going on in school and we have had our first careers visitors in for this year. We have also had our first swimming sessions with Rhino Class leading the way! We are starting to get lots planned in for the coming term and there will be lots of opportunities for you to come into school and support your child with their learning. Next week we have our first football matches of the year so good luck to the teams representing us. Mrs Raisin and myself will be interviewing candidates for the position of Prime Minister next week so watch this space for details of the upcoming elections. Our older children are for the most part doing a great job of walking themselves to and from school but please can I ask that you speak to them about not arriving too early and making sure that once they are on school grounds that they do not attempt to wander back out again. Thank you to you all for ensuring that children are appropriately dressed for school. Just a reminder that children should not be wearing jewellery to school and that children with longer hair should have it tied back for school and definitely for PE for health and safety reasons. Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Bikeability Training Dates

Wednesday 20th September 2023	Thursday 21st September 2023
----------------------------------	---------------------------------

Please see the training dates for the pupils who have secured a place for the bikeability sessions.

Please ensure your child has their bike in school the morning of each training day and that they are dressed appropriately for the weather.

A reminder text will be sent to parents closer to the time.

Thank you and please speak to the office team if you have any further questions.

Dates for your diary

- Year 5/6 Commando Joes after school club – Tuesday 12th
- Tigers Trust rugby club Year 3 and 4 -Mondays after school from 18th Sept.
- School photos – 26th September
- Bikeability – 20th & 21st September
- 27th October – end of term
- 6th November – return to school

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, UKiA, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES
Deciding which online games are OK to play which should be avoided is tricky. Some sites allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them threats. Research. Research your child of the history around stronger online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS
Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Some of the best games are designed to be played in short bursts, while others (online board games, for example) aren't best stopped or paused or a regular habit. A quick break every hour or so is a good practice, and research suggests some things to do to these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS
There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't understand how much they're spending. If you're looking for a good deal on a game, you could agree to buy one alone or agree to buy one together, so you could settle on a limit amount that your child is allowed to spend on it. Some games reach over a month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS
Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game, it's worth checking the age rating. It's also worth discussing the reasons behind the age rating, so you can emphasize that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could look to make this boundary by involving games' boxes together with shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS
If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers online. What do they usually do to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their gamits come by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Don't forget, though, that they may try to extend this as they're enjoying it. Try agreeing up with your child or challenge for them during screen time – if they do, they'll need to take extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER
Setting time aside to play video games together can be fun and a bonding experience. Unfortunately, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about it. A positive way of encouraging them to play together is to suggest that you play together. Some games or tasks might be easier if they're together. Try something to build together: if you're 'level up', don't ask to try out the level up game or challenge. Be Pro Gamer, which doesn't require high skills.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS
Help your child to monitor their emotions when they play. Emotions level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Ask them what to learn from other players, for example. Ask them what they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of a new game or challenge. Try to steer your child towards more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS
A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately trying to annoy you. Your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if it's here they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable. What behaviour by others is not okay? Reporting and blocking is usually a good idea, and it's important that they become reporting or blocking.

Meet Our Expert
David Gowers is a chief specialist in technology, video gaming, social media and the internet. He has written for government, industry, education, gaming and the media. He is a frequent speaker at conferences, seminars, and is a frequent contributor to the media. He is also a frequent contributor to the media. He is also a frequent contributor to the media.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonline_safety | NationalOnlineSafety | @nationalonline_safety | @national_online_safety

School Dinner Menu WC -

Week 3

Weeks commencing; 18/09, 09/10, 06/11, 27/11, 18/12, 22/01

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mexican style chicken enchiladas	Italian Style Mince Beef Pasta Bolognese	Roast gammon Yorkshire pudding & gravy	Yorkshire all day breakfast	Jumbo Fish Fingers & Tomato Sauce
Golden Veg rice Mixed veg	Crusty Roll Baby Carrots & Garden Peas	Broccoli, cauliflower mix Sweetcorn	Baked beans Bread	Chunky Chips Garden Peas Bread Sweetcorn
Shortcake and custard	Oaty fruit crunch and cream	Chocolate Crackle & fruit	Chocolate cookie and fruit	Jam coconut sponge & custard
or	or	or	or	or
Fresh Fruit or Low Fat Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit or Low Fat Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit or Low Fat Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit or Low Fat Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit or Low Fat Yoghurt

After school clubs

We currently have two after school clubs running these are

Commando Joes Year 5/6 – Tuesdays

Tigers trust Year 3/4 Tag rugby – Mondays

All pupils who have secured a place on these clubs have been informed via text message.

Please can we ask that parents inform the school office if your child is not able to attend the club or they no longer require the place.

We have pupils waiting on the reserve and these places can be filled.

Many thanks for your support with this.

School Attendance Reminders

- Report absences to the office by 9.15am
- Attendance monitoring is undertaken weekly and looks at under 96%, letters will be sent out and if the school has concerns a meeting will be arranged.
- Absences for exceptional circumstances during term time, including holidays, should be requested by completing the form available from the office 4 weeks prior to the absence date (as per Edukos policy).
- Holidays during term time will be subjected to the penalty notice policy and if criteria is met a penalty notice will be issued as per government policy. The current rate is £60 per parent per child if paid within 21 days, and rises to £120 per pupil per parent if paid between 22 and 28 days.

ParentPay

Thank you to those parents that have already signed up for Parentpay.

Please can all that have not already done so activate their accounts with the letters your child brought home.

All payments for trips, school meals, music will be taken via Parentpay.

The ONLY cash we will accept is for the breaktime tuck shop.

Thank you.

Tuck shop

Please be reminded that our daily tuck shop is cash only.