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Head of School: Mrs D Petersen

3rd July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We are delighted to welcome back some extra pupils next week following the relaxing of social distancing to 1m plus. As a small school, we have such limited places but have had to prioritise for the last couple of weeks of the Summer term. Safety and hygiene controls will all still be in place, with regular hand washing and deep cleaning. Overall, we are looking forward to a slight increase in numbers so that extra pupils can have some 'normality' for the end of term.

SAFEGUARDING: Gaming: a video guide for parents and carers

Online gaming can offer many positive experiences. It can give children and young people the chance to escape into a virtual world, to learn, and to connect with others. However, there is a risk of children and young people viewing inappropriate content in games and being contacted by adults seeking to exploit them.

With an increased use of the internet during lock-down, we are seeing an increase in issues arising from online gaming. Bullying is behaviour that hurts someone else. It includes name calling, hitting, pushing, spreading rumours, threatening or undermining someone. It can happen anywhere – at school, at home or online. If bullying happens in school, it is not tolerated. Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place online. Unlike bullying in the real world, online bullying can follow the child wherever they go, via social networks, gaming and mobile phone. If online gaming occurs outside of school, we can help by discussing this with parents concerned, advising on steps to take as well as educate our pupils further in our internet safety curriculum coverage.

Thinkuknow have also produced a new video guide and accompanying article, developed in collaboration with The Association for UK Interactive Entertainment (Ukie), that helps parents and carers to understand:

- How in-game chat works;
- How it might be abused by others, and;
- What they can do to help keep their children safe whilst using in-game chat

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/presentations-for-parents/?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=176d7bc4c3-TUK_ONLINE_SAFETY_AT_HOME_30_06_20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-176d7bc4c3-64907562



There is some excellent advice also on the NSPCC website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>

Please do monitor your child's gaming closely; we will do our best to educate them in what is acceptable online. Thank you.

Covid-19 updated guidance for parents

UK Government publish Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak:

These settings provide enriching activities that give children the opportunity to socialise with others outside their household and promote their wellbeing. We also recognise the importance of these settings in providing additional childcare options to parents and carers, particularly those with younger children, who may need to return to or continue to work during the school holidays.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

FISH are offering child care during the summer holidays based at St James Primary School, Okehampton. They will be offering a range of activities, and hope to ease the pressures of juggling work life with family in the school holidays. The cost will be £25.50 per day and will run from 8.00am - 6.00pm.

Please complete the form below to register your interest and FISH will be in contact with you.

Places are limited to 45 children.

If you would like further details on FISH please use the following link:

www.funinschoolholidays.co.uk

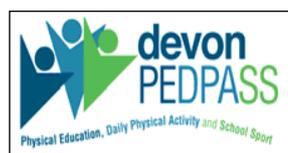
www.funinschoolholidays.co.uk

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=kG0HO7J4vUqeBcIPJiicRnIQax2A75VKtdlTAzqF251URVpIOU1DWEs0UDBUWkZIR1BSTzBPRjRDWC4u>

Action for Children offer free parenting support

Every parent needs a little help sometimes, and especially during lockdown. That's where Action for Children can help.

Action for Children, who deliver our children's centre services in Devon, are offering online parenting support for families with children aged 0-19. From where to go for help, to coping with challenging behaviours, to how to keep your children entertained at home, you can find advice and practical help on their website. Have a question about parenting? Action for Children's online coaches are available for free, confidential 1-1 live chat called TALK.



Available from Monday to Friday, they're there to listen and support you with all your parenting queries.

Stay safe and have a great weekend!

Kind regards

Mrs Petersen

GALLERY

