STOPSLEY WEEKLY

Ambition • Endeavour • Success

Headteacher's Letter

Dear all,

Welcome back everyone after the half term break. The shorter days and the appearance of frost are certainly confirming that winter is finally here.

Thank you to all of our Year 11 parents, carers and students for your participation and engagement in our first virtual parents' evening of the year. It is heartening to hear that they have all been busily preparing for the upcoming mock examinations and keen to access all the support being offered before, during and after school from our teaching staff.

This week I have been fortunate to visit St Matthew's Primary School, Bushmead Primary School and Wenlock C of E Junior School to announce the winners of our Open Evening competition and donate books to their libraries. I am very grateful to the Headteachers, staff and students for the warm welcome we received and congratulations once again to those lucky winners of the Kindle Fire.

Year 7 Parents and carers will be warmly welcomed next week for our Year 7 workshop evening. The evening will provide an opportunity to meet with tutors and receive somes additional insight and guidance inot key aspects of your child's school life.

To all of our parents, carers, students and staff who are celebrating Diwali we hope you have a blessed, healthy and prosperous Diwali.

Hands

Face

Space

St Matthew's Primary School

Bushmead Primary School

Wenlock C of E Junior School

Term Dates Autumn

Term Ends - Friday 17th December

Spring Term 2022

Term Starts - Tuesday 4th January - Staff Training

Wednesday 5th January - Whole school returns

Follow us on Twitter @StopsleyHighSch

Attendance Notice

Can parents/carers please inform the school if your child is unwell as we are monitoring attendance. Parents/carers please report this in the normal way by contacting school attendance number on 01582 870912 or the attendance email address attendance@stopsleyhighschool.co.uk

Flu Immunisations

Next Week students will be sent home with a consent form for parents / carers to complete and return to school by Monday 15th November.

Fantasy Foot Ball Premier League

MANAGER OF THE WEEK	TOP 10
STUDENT Jack N	1st. Mrs Rees - 645 points
STAFF Miss Butcher	2nd. Brandon B - 614 points
MANAGER OF THE MONTH Mrs Rees	3rd. Jake H - 609 points
	4th. Taylor M - 602 points
	5th. Jack N - 600 points
	6th. Robert L - 597 points
	7th. Daniel B - 592 points
	8th. Mr Wise - 579 points
	9th. Thomas R - 571 points
	10th. Mr Scarisbrick - 568 points

This week the students have been learning about different cultures and celebrating Diwali. They made some sweets in their cooking session.

The students have also enjoyed learning about Remembrance Day in their Humanities lesson and have started to make their own poppies to display in the Centre.

Bedfordshire Community Health Services

Luton Children & Adults Community Health Services

NHS

Children's Occupational Therapy Service

for children and young people who experience difficulties with everyday activities

You can find information and access the resources listed below on our webpage:
www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/Bedfordshire/services/occupational-therapy

- 'You make the difference' video - for parents and carers of children aged under 5, to promote use of hands and independence skills.

- Sensory Processing Awareness Training - online video, planning wheels and strategies.

- Development Skills Package - provides information to support the development of the skills notes below.

SCAN ME

This information is also available in easy read or other languages, please see the website or scan the QR code to use our RECITE function.

easy read and translation

- Play
- Eating
- Dressing
- Self-care (eg washing)

- Managing at school (e.g. school tasks and helping a child with a physical disability with supportive seating or to get around their classroom)

Further information (including details of your Local Offer pages) can be found at:

www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/Bedfordshire/services/occupational-therapy

Child Safety Online:

Why children use social media

- Entertainment
- Belonging
- Confidence
- Popularity
- Self-esteem
- Expression

A practical guide for parents and carers whose children are using social media

Social networking is hugely popular. Many young people are sophisticated in the way they use social media apps and websites, tailoring their communication for different audiences, and accessing them from a range of devices including smartphones, tablets, and games consoles.

But social media, like all forms of public communication, comes with some risks. Not all of these risks turn into actual problems; and if children never face any risks, they never learn how to deal with them. By helping your child understand what the risks are, you can play a big part in preventing them from turning into problems.

Understand the risks children may need to deal with

What they could see or do:

- Seeing or sharing of violent, sexual and pornographic content
- Inaccurate or false information and extreme views
- Promotion of harmful behaviours including self-harm, anorexia and suicide
- Over-sharing of personal information
- Actively or unintentionally getting involved in bullying or hurtful behaviour

Who they might meet:

- People who might bully, intimidate or frighten
- People posing behind fake profiles for:
  - Mischief-making
  - Sexual grooming and stalking
  - Blackmail and extortion
  - Identity theft and hacking

How this could affect them

- Fear of missing out leading to excessive use or exaggeration
- Getting upset by things they have seen and being uncertain about what to do
- Engaging, or being pressured into engaging in more risky behaviour either by accident or by design
- Developing unrealistic, and perhaps depressing ideals of body image and gender
- Becoming subject to peer pressure or interactions that are intense or too difficult to handle
- Creating an online reputation that may create problems for them in the future

Practical tips to help minimise the risks your child might face

It's good practice for apps and websites to have safety advice and well-designed safety features which can make a real difference to how safe your child will be when using them.

Work through safety and privacy features on the apps that your child is using, or might use. Make sure they understand the point of these and how to use them. Don't be put off by believing your child knows more than you: the tools are actually quite easy to manage.

- **Ask them to show you** which social media apps they use and what they like about them. Talk about how they use them and what makes them so engaging.

- **Explain how you can use privacy settings** to make sure only approved friends can see posts & images.

- **Check if any of their apps have 'geo-location' enabled**, sharing their location unintentionally.

- **Show them how to report offensive comments** or block people who upset them.

- **Check 'tagging' settings** so that when others are posting or sharing photos online, your child's identity is not revealed. Also, get people's consent before sharing photos.

- Encourage your child to **come and talk to you** if they see anything that upsets them.

Keep talking and stay involved

In a mobile age, children can't be completely protected, even by the best privacy controls; another child may use different settings. So it's important to keep talking to your child about the implications of social media.

Getting a sense of what they think is a useful place to start; you may be surprised by how much thought they may have given to the issues Encourage your child to think carefully about the way they, and others behave online, and how they might deal with difficult situations.

- People may **not always be who they say they are online**: how can this create problems?

- Why is it **unwise to meet** anyone in the real world that you've only ever met online?

- Even if you think your messages are private, remember that words and images can always be **captured and broadcast**.

- People **present themselves differently online** - do they really look like that? Are they always having that good a time?

- Be aware that screens, and especially being anonymous, can lead people to say things they **wouldn't say to someone's face**.

- What does **being a good friend and a likeable person** online look like?

- There can be **pressure to be part of a particular group** online or to be seen to be **following a certain set of ideas**. How can you take a step back and make your own decisions?

For more information

You can find out more about how children use social media, the apps they use, the risks they face, how to use privacy settings, and advice and tips about how to talk to your children at:

www.childnet.com/sns

www.internetmatters.org

www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

www.parentzone.org.uk

www.thinkyouknow.co.uk/parents

www.askaboutgames.com

To make a report

Concerned about online grooming or sexual behaviour online? Contact CEOP: **www.ceop.police.uk**

If you stumble across criminal sexual or obscene content on the internet you should report it to the Internet Watch Foundation: **www.iwf.org.uk**