



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 09



STOKE HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEADS NEWS

Good Afternoon Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy and felt like an extremely long term but we are finally here at half term. The children really deserve a rest over the holiday. Over the last seven weeks we have had all sorts of activities going on in and out of school. If you don't follow our Facebook page @Stokeheathprimaryschool please do so to keep up to date with everything going on.

It was lovely to see so many parents at Parent's evening this week. If you didn't manage to get in or missed your appointment then please let the office know so we can rearrange for you.

Over the next couple of weeks we are saying goodbye to a couple of members of staff. Mrs Reid is moving to America and Mrs Symonds-McGrory is moving to Scotland! We would like to say a big thank you to both of them and we wish them well in their next steps.

Have a great holiday.

Louise Kelman
Head Teacher

ATTENDANCE

The attendance for this term each class is as follows

| Class | % Attend |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 1A | 95 |
| 1B | 93.7 |
| 2A | 94.2 |
| 2B | 94.1 |
| 3A | 96.1 |
| 3B | 96 |
| 4A | 92.7 |
| 4B | 96.3 |
| 5A | 93.7 |
| 5B | 96 |
| 6A | 95.9 |
| 6B | 96.1 |
| NA1 | 95.7 |
| NA2 | 80.9 |
| NB1 | 85.7 |
| NB2 | 91.5 |
| RA | 94.8 |
| RB | 93.8 |
| Whole School Attendance | 94.2 |

STRIKE DAY

Thank you for all of your support on the last strike day!

There is another strike day on the 1st March. There will be a letter sent out today. Please make sure you read this to know if your child's class is open or closed.

Thank you again for all your support around this!

CHANGES TO LUNCHTIME

Following feedback from the children about what they like and dislike around lunchtime we have made some changes.

We have changed how the food is served to the children, it is now coming from the kitchen plated up and warm for the children to enjoy! As you will be aware the menu is changing after the half term break.

We will be making more changes around lunchtime after the Easter Break however we will make you aware of those next half term!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

27TH FEBRUARY

Children Return to School

1ST MARCH

Strike Day

3RD MARCH

World Book Day

6TH MARCH

Reception Trip to Leicester Museums and Galleries

WC 13TH MARCH

Science Week

22ND MARCH

Nursery A Parents Meeting

23RD MARCH

Nursery A Parents Meeting

CHARITIES

Year 3 have held a Toy sale to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital! They have raised **£231.11!**

A massive thank you to everyone who donated toys, helped with selling and everyone who bought toys!



Birmingham
Children's Hospital
Charity

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Last week Meeta came in to do some mindfulness and introduce tapping techniques to our year 2 and year 6 children. We are using the technique to help students regulate and relieve anxiety.

Emotional freedom technique (EFT) is an alternative treatment for physical pain and emotional distress. It's also referred to as tapping or psychological acupressure.

People who use this technique believe tapping the body can create a balance in your energy system and treat pain. According to its developer, Gary Craig, a disruption in energy is the cause of all negative emotions and pain.



Year 3 /4 Girls Football Tournamnet

Some of our year 3 and 4 girls took part in a city wide football tournament at the AT7 Centre this week!

The tournament was set up to celebrate the Lionesses at the Coventry Building Society Arena tomorrow!

Have a look at our Facebook page to see a video from the event!



ONLINE SAFETY

We are aware of some children accessing Omegle. It is a website that pairs random strangers for live text or video chats. It has an age-rating of 18+! If your child is using Omegle, they are at risk of viewing inappropriate adult-themed content, cyber bullying, and unmoderated chat.

Omegle can access a user's Facebook information and strangers can send requests to someone's Snap Chat and WhatsApp accounts.

Omegle chat picks another user at random and there is very little way of knowing who your child may be chatting to.

Please monitor your child's device regularly to check the content that they are accessing.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Omegle is a website that pairs random strangers for live text or video chats. It first launched in 2009 and its slogan is "Talk to strangers!" There is an option for adult (18+) content and a section for people aged 13+ with parental permissions. Anyone can use the site. Users simply go to Omegle.com and then choose "Text" or "Video" chat and the page states how many users are currently online. Depending on the time of day this can be hundreds of thousands. Omegle markets itself as a great way to meet new friends however has been known to feature pornography and inappropriate content within chats, so it's important parents are aware of the risks associated with the site.

AGE RESTRICTION
18+
Warning: 18+ requires parental consent for users under 18

What parents need to know about OMEGLE

NO AGE VERIFICATION MEASURES
Omegle is completely free to use and allows users to communicate with others without the need to register, supply an email address or create a profile. This means users can remain anonymous and it's hard to track who your children are talking to. Furthermore, there are no age verification measures and other than agreeing to the terms and conditions, your child can easily start online engagement with strangers and potentially access more adult-themed content.

RISK OF CYBERBULLYING
The anonymity of Omegle can increase the risk of cyberbullying on the site. Engaging in chat with strangers means that topics of conversation can lead about anything including discussions about looks, body image or the sharing of other personal information. With the availability of video chat as well, this could lead to children being coerced or forced into carrying out activities online which could then be used against them.

UNMODERATED CHAT
Omegle encourages video chat as much as it can, prompting users during their text chat to activate their web cam. Whilst text chat has a degree of moderation, the content in Omegle's video chat rooms is not moderated by administrators and, at any time of the day, there can be thousands of users online. This means that your child could easily come across illegal, offensive or otherwise inappropriate content. Omegle currently offers no function for reporting online abuse or inappropriate behaviour on its site and instead only offers advice to please be careful, to also advise to 'Be Omegle at your Omegle peak'. Disconnect if anyone makes you feel uncomfortable.

PRIVACY RISK VIA FACEBOOK
Omegle can be linked to a user's Facebook account to match their interests and chat with other users. This means that Omegle can access your child's basic Facebook information and Facebook friends may potentially view Omegle activity. In addition, users can save the chat log and share the link without the other user's knowledge. It is not uncommon then for users to request help related to Snapchat, Instagram or WhatsApp for further interaction, moving the conversation into a more personal setting.

RISK OF EXPLOITATION
Omegle chat picks another user at random and does a very little way of knowing who your child may be chatting to. This can lead to a number of risks including contacting users pretending to be of similar age, identity theft (even sharing information to consent), racial and sexual or homophobic grooming lines covering others for a time or for something they need normally do.

ADULT THEMED CONTENT
Unfortunately, Omegle is infamous for its pornographic content and it is not uncommon for users to expose themselves or engage in sexual acts. If a user starts to chat, there are several chat webcams will automatically be switched on before the action to end chat can be selected. There is also 'preview' in smaller thumbnail windows. As video chat is so easy to access, it means that unintentionally viewing more mature, inappropriate or even though images can't always be avoided.

DISCUSS RISKS WITH YOUR CHILD
It's important to speak to your child about the dangers of Omegle. Gaining and educating young children in an age-appropriate way regarding the possibility of Omegle being accessed. Explain to your child that Omegle is not completely anonymous and that other users could do use Omegle to exploit others. Try to emphasize the risk of revealing details and that engaging online is not different to engaging offline.

PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION
Omegle does not provide advice about how to protect your personal information so it's important that children are aware of what they should and shouldn't share online and with whom. If they use Omegle, always advise against sharing any personal information such as their real name, age, phone number, address and other personally identifiable information. This also includes details of their social media accounts or gaming ID's. You should also adjust your child's Facebook settings to control what information is shared with Omegle.

REPORT CONCERNS
If your child comes across any inappropriate content or something which upsets them on Omegle, then it's important that they are able to discuss it with you and that you provide them with the support they need. If you think the content is illegal, then it must be reported to the police.

DISCOURAGE VIDEO CHAT
Try to discourage your child from using video chat on Omegle. Not only is there no filter or moderation in place, but children may be coerced into sharing intimate images or videos of themselves, which if they are under 18 and may be used against them. Omegle text chat has a level of moderation controlled by Omegle through software and several actual moderators. The software moderates, identifies and prevents certain words and sequences of words to try and prevent bullying and grooming however is still not a 100% failure.

TRY OMEGLE YOURSELF
It's always an excellent idea to get a feel for the website or app your child is using so that you can see and understand the risks and help yourself. More importantly, it will also demonstrate to your child how you explain the risks and dangers regarding you decide to speak to your child about Omegle and what they need to be aware of.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS
Omegle is a website chat service. Children can only access the app itself on their phone and would need access to a PC or laptop to engage in video chat. If you have genuine concerns over what your child could see or do on the site, you can add www.omegle.com to the list of websites that Omegle can still be used via a web browser on an iPad, tablet, smart TV or gaming device and similar controls would need to be implemented on each of these devices separately.

Meet our expert
Jonathan Taylor is an online safety expert and former Crown Internet Investigator for the Metropolitan Police. He is a specialist in online grooming and exploitation and has worked extensively with both UK and international schools in delivering training and guidance around the latest online dangers, social media apps and platforms.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

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COVENTRY CLOTHING



Clothing Coventry presents



Vintage Clothes Sale

and Fete



Cake Sale, Raffle, Tombola
& much more



Saturday 4th March
10 - 2



Registered Charity 1197270

Earlsdon Methodist Church
Albany Rd, CV5 6NF

