Twineham CofE School

Nurture Togetherness Resilience Creativity

Spring Term 10th February 2023

Diary Dates (newly added dates in red)

13th-17th Feb	**Half Term**
27th Feb	Twineham's World Book Day!
2nd Mar	Proposed Strike Day
	—Potential school closure
14th Mar	Yr 3&4 Sports Festival
15th Mar	Proposed Strike Day
	—Potential school closure
16th Mar	Proposed Strike Day
	—Potential school closure (Yr 3&4 Tennis Festival to be rearranged)
21st & 23rd Mar	Parent's Evenings
24th Mar	WELLY WALK!
29th Mar	Easter Service @ St Peter's
30th Mar	FOTs 'Break the Rules' Day
	details to follow
3rd-14th April	Easter Holidays
17th April	INSET
18th April	Children's first day back at school

The Fire service came to visit Buttercups and Oakwood this week. We got to try out hoses, stamp on their boots and find out that they do much more than put out fires.!

Safety Spot

Please make sure the green gate is always shut. Please can all families make sure that you always close the gate behind you when you leave school (even if you are at an after school club). Twineham is a brilliant, friendly, little community but we need to be vigilant as there is a public footpath between the gate and field.

Climbing Frame Thank you so much for your offers of help on the climbing frame. Thanks to you it should be coming down over half term. We will leave the posts in the ground for the time-being to use for dens and obstacle courses and will develop further 'loose part' play for Buttercups.

Friends of Twineham School News

Another huge thank you for all your support for Young Entrepreneurs. We are still totting up figures but hope to have raised £500 for the school which is fantastic! All the children's business were amazing—so much soi that Mrs Cotton awarded everyone a certificate.

Special mentions go to: Ludo for his vision, Sam, Rhys and James for their fantastic accounts, Milo, Oscar, Silva, Mimi and Benji for creative concepts and Elfi and Boden for sheer hard work! The winners of the trophy are Cooper and Theo who raised the most money with their ingenious re-use of empty cartridges.

DATE FOR YOU DIARIES—The Summer Fair will be on 2nd July 2023. I know it seems far away but please get your thinking caps on and keep the date free!

Thank you to all those who were able to come to our Open Afternoon. We loved sharing our work with you.

Internet Safety

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day. All classes took time to think about being safe online. The key message this year was to talk about it—the potential dangers, but also all the fun stuff that we can do on the internet and how we can learn and play together on it safely. Please see the last page for some great guidance for parents.

We also recommend the NSPCC website: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/ which has lots of advice on parental controls and information about the latest apps and their age recommendations.

Worship Spot

We thought about Jesus and internet safety this week! How just like Jesus we can try to be beacons…

reposting happy, positive posts online is a great way to help others, including our friends. It will also help you to feel more optimistic and happy every day.

Every child is a gift and every child is gifted

This Week's Celebrations...

On Thursdays, we celebrate children who have been doing some great learning, showing amazing behaviour for learning or living out our school values. This week we have focussed on togetherness.

Friday 10th February

Buttercups: Tula

Poppy: Aaro and Frankie

Willow: Alex C and Benji

Oakwood: Theo P and Ludo

A huge congratulations to all our Young Entrepreneurs too!

Poppy class had a fantastic visit to the Sealife centre in Brighton. The staff there were really impressed with Poppy's knowledge of habitats and life under the sea.

Are you following us on Facebook?
If not, give us a like to see photos and fun times at Twineham:
https://www.facebook.com/TwinehamPrimary

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.
Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about
DIGITAL LIVES
The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people, far more so than for previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the internet, games and apps, and limit the benefit of their positive aspects. At the same time, we do have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex – and often sensitive – subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.
Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life ...
MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR
Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you're keen to learn about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy educating adults and will happily chat about what they use the internet for, or what games and apps they're into and how these work. Asking to see their favourite games and apps in action could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention – such as chat functions which might require a settings adjustment to limit contact with strangers. Keep listening even if your child pauses for a long time: they could be considering how to phrase something specific, or they may be gauging your reaction.
BE OPEN AND HONEST, APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE
At various stages, children and young people become curious about puberty and how their body changes; about relationships; about how babies are made; and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they tend to be less likely to go looking online for answers – which can often provide them with misleading information and, in some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content. Don't worry if you don't immediately know the answers to their questions – just find out for yourself and go back to them once you have the facts.
REMIND YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU
In my role I work with many children and young people who admit being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content they've viewed online, in case it leads to having their devices confiscated. Emphasise to your child that you're always there to listen and help; reassure them that if they do view harmful content, then they are not to blame – but talking about it openly will help. Children shouldn't be expected to be resilient against abuse or feel that it's their job to prevent it.
DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL
Here, you could give examples from your own digital life of the online world versus reality – for example, those Instagram posts which show the perfect house: spotlessly clean, never messy and immaculately decorated. Explain to your child that there are many other aspects of the online world which are also deliberately presented in an unrealistic way for effect – such as someone's relationship, their body, having perfect skin and so on.
TRY TO REMAIN CALM
As much as possible, try to stay calm even if your child tells you about an online experience that makes you feel angry or fearful. Our immediate emotions frequently influence the way we talk, so it's possible that your initial reaction as a parent or carer could deter a child from speaking openly about what they've seen. Give yourself time to consider the right approach, and perhaps speak with other family members or school staff while you are considering your next steps.
CREATE A 'FAMILY AGREEMENT'
Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about device use can be immensely beneficial. You could discuss when (and for how long) it's OK to use phones, tablets, consoles and so on at home; what parental controls are for and why they're important; and why it's good to talk to each other about things we've seen or experienced online (both good and bad). Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that, as trusted adults, we want to make sure they are well informed and kept safe. Allowing children to have their say when coming up with your family agreement also makes them far more likely to stick to it in the long term.
KEEP TALKING!
The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. You could try using everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.
Meet Our Expert
Rebecca Jennings of RAISE (Raising Awareness in Sex Education) has almost 20 years' experience delivering relationships and sex education and training to schools, colleges and other education providers. A published author on the subject, she also advises the Department of Education on the staff-training element of the RSHE curriculum.
National Online Safety
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