

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to thank the whole school community for their support and understanding over the previous week. I appreciate the challenges the sudden closure of the Monkton Farleigh base had on parents, pupils and staff at both bases, and am grateful for your positive response to enable us to keep everyone safe. Particular thanks to Monkton Farleigh staff and Mrs Genner for ensuring remote learning was ready to go by the start of the week, and parents and pupils at the base for engaging with this after little notice. I understand the many difficulties that had to be overcome for this to happen.

As previously, I will require any pupil COVID-19 cases to be reported to me at [head@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:head@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk) during the Whitsun holiday under the following circumstances please:

- 1) Your child tests positive within 48 hours of them last attending school **OR**
- 2) Your child develops COVID-19 symptoms within 48 hours of them last attending school then subsequently tests positive.

If neither of these conditions apply, parents should inform the school about any positive result within their household after the Whitsun break. The main symptoms of COVID-19 are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or/and a loss or change to the sense of smell or taste. If you or your child has any of these symptoms, please get a [PCR test](#) and stay at home until you receive the result.

I hope everyone manages to enjoy some of the good weather that appears to be coming our way over the upcoming half term week. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 7th June.

Kind regards,

Simon Fletcher.

## Mathletics

No gold certificates this week, but plenty of keen mathletes working hard. Well done to

everyone for earning a certificate this week.

**SILVER:** Theo, Oliver CJ, Ethan, Josiah, Oliver H, Emily J, Leighton, Vinnie

**BRONZE:** Theo, Alex C, Oliver CJ, Ethan, Josiah, Alexis, Maddox, Rufus, Oliver H, Lillie, Isla, Lauren, Tomas, Emily J, William J, Leighton, Livinia, Ted L, Vinnie, Violet, Emily M, George P, George R, Isabella R

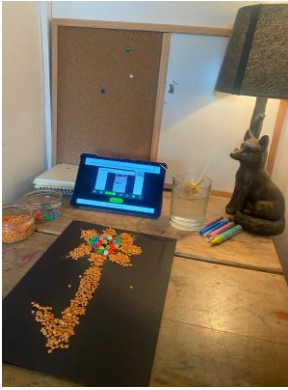


A lot of pupils have been working really hard on their passports recently, and we have been super-impressed with their enthusiasm! We hope the sheets sent with this week's newsletter will help parents to understand the objectives but if you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Well the last week of term wasn't how Falcons quiet expected it to go! The children have been real super stars and have worked so hard on their remote learning, I have been so impressed by all of the outstanding work that has been sent to me; it has really made me ☺. Here is a small example of the work I have been sent.

Thank you Lovely Falcons and see you back at MF on Monday the 7th June. Have a well-deserved Half Term all. Love Mrs C x

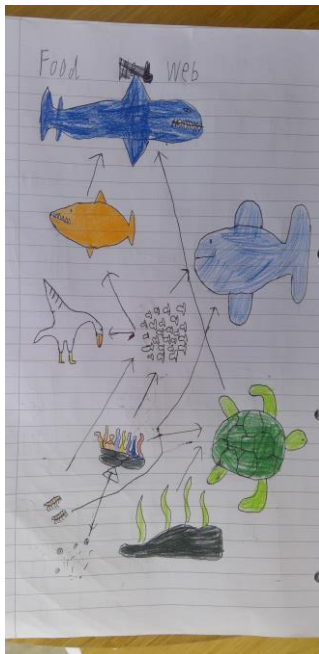




## Turing pattern project

Kestrels have been taking part in a collaborative project looking at a real-life application of maths. Over to Henry to describe what we've been doing:

Recently we have been learning about Alan Turing and his ideas about patterns that are found on certain animals. We are using algorithms to calculate the pattern on a giant pufferfish. We have to do some calculations then add our main number to our answer to get the answer of just one square on the answer grids. Our purpose of doing this is to help the University of Sheffield use pixels and algorithms to understand the fish's skin pattern.



A huge thank you to the children and parents in Robins class from Mrs Genner.

Thank you so much for the lovely learning that has been submitted this week. It has been a real pleasure looking after your classes Remote Learning. You should all be very proud of yourselves and deserve a pat on the back. Have a wonderful half term holiday. Lots of love Mrs Genner x



Kestrels found out about the folk artist Kerry Ambrosino and were inspired by her work to design flowers using pastels. Maisy, Martha and Leah then drew a tree on our display, carefully designed to showcase all 32 individual creations!



Term 6	
<b>Monday 07 June</b>	<b>Start of Term 6</b>
Wednesday 09 – Friday 11 June	Kilve Court Year 5 & 6 residential
Wednesday 16 June	music workshops Atworth
Wednesday 16 June	R21 Meet the Teacher 5pm Atworth; 5:30pm MF
Tuesday 22 June	R21 Induction afternoon
Tuesday 29 June	R21 induction afternoon
Friday 02 July	Corsham School Year 6 taster day
Tuesday 06 July	R21 induction afternoon
Thursday 08 July	Year 6 pupils Induction at St Laurence whole day
Friday 09 July	Sports afternoon 1pm -3:15pm
Tuesday 13 July	R21 induction afternoon & Teddy Bear's picnic
Thursday 15 July	Year 5 taster Day St Laurence School whole day
Friday 16 July	Yr. 6 Transition Day Melksham Oak
Friday 16 July	Provisional Sports Day
Friday 16 July	Pupil Reports go home
Monday 19 July to Wednesday 21 July	Sports Week
Wednesday 21 July	Last Day Term 6
<b>Thursday 22 July</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>Friday 23 July</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>





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 app of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TEXTME 13+

TextMe is a free texting and calling service. Users can send texts, voice messages, pictures and videos to any phone number in more than 40 countries. The app is free and available to install on any Apple or Android device. On registration, it assigns a 'new' mobile number to each user, effectively making them anonymous. TextMe is not recommended for children below 13 years old but there is currently no way to determine a user's actual age: children under 13 could easily bypass this age criteria since no verification is required to download the app.

### Visible Location

Like many communications apps, TextMe has a feature which allows users to share their location with other people. This function presents a risk if children are not careful about who they share their whereabouts with. It would make it much easier, for instance, for online predators to establish roughly where a child lives and – even more dangerously – discover their current location.

### Exposure to Advertising

Users can earn points on TextMe by watching adverts, completing surveys or playing games within the app. Points can then be exchanged for extra calling minutes or more messaging credits. The desire to accumulate points could result in children spending longer hours on the app and heighten their exposure to advertising content; some of which isn't always age appropriate such as dating websites and dieting products.

### Protection for Predators

Messages and phone calls using TextMe cannot be traced. Indeed, texts and calls made through the app do not even appear on an itemised phone bill. This means that not only can children communicate with other users without their parents knowing, but also if they were to be approached by a predator via the app, it would be difficult for even the authorities to establish the offender's identity.

### Anonymous Users

Users are allocated a 'new' phone number on joining TextMe, separate to any they might already have. This creates a potentially dangerous degree of anonymity, rendering it impossible to know exactly who your child is chatting with. The feature could facilitate online bullying, harassment or sexting, while some people are concerned that it essentially turns any device into a burner phone – often used in illegal activities.

### In-App Purchases and Subscriptions

TextMe is free but does also offer a premium subscription service which removes adverts and unlocks extra calling minutes. The subscription renews automatically on expiry, potentially meaning a rolling charge. Additionally, there is a range of bundles available as in-app purchases for increased minutes and extra text credits, which children could easily purchase inadvertently.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### Keep Locations Private

Try to help your child understand why using TextMe to share their location might not be safe. Even sending it to a genuine friend from their everyday life could be hazardous if they're in a group chat which also includes people they don't really know. In general, it's important to explain to your child that revealing their whereabouts to someone they have only spoken to online is never a good idea.

### Set Spending Limits

Given that TextMe offers numerous options to buy extra minutes and text credits, or take out a premium subscription, it would be wise to set your child a spending limit in advance if you do decide to let them download the app. Alternatively, you could remove any payment methods that are linked to their device, so they cannot make in-app purchases – either deliberately or unintentionally.

### Monitor Digital Wellbeing

TextMe actively encourages users to fill in surveys, play games and watch adverts to earn themselves more credit for calling and texting. This can easily result in children spending an unhealthy amount of time on the app. Should you allow your child to download TextMe, you might first want to establish restrictions on how long they can use it for each day.

### Discuss Online Dangers

It may be wise to discourage children from downloading anonymous messaging apps given the lack of transparency. However, if you do feel that your child is mature enough to use TextMe, it's safest to talk to them about the possibility of predators contacting them through the service. Make sure they know to tell a trusted adult immediately if a stranger asks for personal details or invites them to meet offline.

### Leave, Block and Report

If you discover that a young person is in a group TextMe chat that is making them uncomfortable, or they have been added to a group they do not want to be part of, encourage them to leave. There is an option to block any user who is sending them unwanted messages (swipe on that conversation, tap 'More' and then 'Block'), while any instances of harassment can also be reported via email.

### Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.

<https://go-textme/>, <http://www.textmeinc.com/>, [https://textme-www-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/docs/privacy-policy/privacy\\_policy\\_v27.html](https://textme-www-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/docs/privacy-policy/privacy_policy_v27.html), <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/text-me-second-phone-number/id94489864>, [https://textmezendesk.com/hc/en-us/mobile\\_site-faq](https://textmezendesk.com/hc/en-us/mobile_site-faq), <https://hushed.com/reviews/textme-app-review/>

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#WakeupWednesday

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