

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to term four! How quickly the school year is passing.

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks for the messages of support from the school community while I was off with Covid in February. They cheered me up immensely and were very much appreciated.

Now that Covid restrictions have eased nationally, staff have already started planning exciting events, trips and visitors to support the children's learning across the curriculum. These will differ between Key Stages so please look out for any emails about these in the near future. We are still keeping important precautions in place, such as the additional hygiene practices we have been implementing, and the avoidance of large gatherings of pupils and parents. This is for everyone's safety. We will closely monitor the impact of the removal of restrictions over the next few weeks. Further easing will occur in school over time in a considered manner.

The rules of isolation for pupils has changed. Although they are no longer required by law to self-isolate with COVID-19, they are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people to reduce the chance of transmission.

**Pupils should therefore only stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or have tested positive.**

If they have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, they should also get a PCR test as soon as possible. The main symptoms of COVID-19 are still identified by the NHS as being:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

I appreciate there are a plethora of other symptoms associated with different variants but I am obliged to quote the [official symptoms listed by the NHS](#).

If pupils have COVID-19, they should stay at home while they are infectious to others. This can be for up to **a maximum of 10 days**, unless they are unwell, from when their symptoms start. Many people will no longer be infectious to others after 5 days.

You can use a rapid lateral flow test on your child from 5 days after their symptoms start (or the day they had the test if they do not have symptoms), and another the next day. If both tests are negative and they do not have a high temperature, they are less likely to pass COVID-19 to others and can return to school. If their test result is positive on day 5, you can carry on doing rapid lateral flow tests with them every day until they get 2 negative test results in a row.

The government have indicated that rules will be updated further by 1<sup>st</sup> April. I will update you further at that time.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Simon Fletcher.



## World Book Day 2022



Wow, what fun we had this week celebrating World Book Day! At Churchfields we like to do things differently and this year we were celebrating the amazing world of WORDS! We were all so impressed with the words you chose to come as for your costumes. They showed amazing creativity and imagination which we all know makes a wonderful book. It prompted lots of discussion all day about how lots of different words could be used to describe your costumes, not just one.

There was so much going on all day. Book scavenger hunts, book tasting sessions, creative writing, writing miniature story books, guess the word, paired reading, wordle, aburdle, and inventing a story maker's dream! Above all else, loads and loads of reading!

All the staff and children would like to say a big thank you to everyone at home for helping, designing, creating and making the costumes!



## Gem reward:

Falcon and Robin Classes had their Sapphire Gem reward on the afternoon of World Book Day. The children played different games and were working towards earning their new Topaz gem with amazing collaboration and team work.



## Mathletics

It's certainly put a smile on Miss Ottner's face to come back after the holidays to a gold certificate! Our golden girl is Laurie - well done for all the hard work and effort you've put into Mathletics over the year. Lots of other hard-working children on this list too - some even earning two certificates. Well done everyone!

**GOLD:** Laurie

**SILVER:** Oliver CJ, Josiah, Laurie, Leighton, Quita, George P

**BRONZE:** Benjamin (x2), Oliver CJ (x2), Florence, Ethan, Josiah, Alexis (x2), Maddox (x2), Hector G (x2), Samuel H (x2), Oliver H, Isla, Laurie, Leighton (x2), Livinia (x2), Quita, Ryley (x2), Joseph (x2), George P (x2), George R, Isabella R, Thea

Well done also to lots of children who have been earning passport certificates recently: Henry F, Ethan, Leo, Lennon, Dylan, Freya, Dexter, Teddy D, Hector N, Evelyn C, Jamie, Henry H, Hannah, and Hector G. We can really see the progress you are making in maths over the year. Don't forget these can be signed off by parents and children in the back of the home-school books



# Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Friday 04 March 2022

Future Inset Days  
Friday 08 April    Monday 06 June    Friday 22 July

Term 4	
Thursday 10 March	<b>Kestrel Class Swimming Melksham Blue Pool</b>
14 March - 18 March	STEM Week (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths)
Thursday 17 March	<b>Kestrel Class Swimming Melksham Blue Pool</b>
Friday 18 March	Red Nose Day
<b>Monday 21 March – Friday 25 March</b>	<b>No teacher led after school clubs this week</b>
Tuesday 22 March	Parents' evening until 7:30pm
Thursday 24 March	<b>Kestrel Class Swimming Melksham Blue Pool</b>
Thursday 24 March	Parents' evening until 6pm
Tuesday 29 March	KS2 Langford Lakes trip
Thursday 31 March	<b>Kestrel Class Swimming Melksham Blue Pool</b>
Tuesday 5 April	Broughton Gifford Cricket Club Taster sessions Atworth AM & Monkton Farleigh PM
Wednesday 06 April	Open the book at MF amphitheatre
Wednesday 06 April	Whole School Easter Service 1:15pm St Michaels Church Atworth
<b>Friday 08 April</b>	<b>INSET DAY/End of Term 4</b>

Contact details:  
E: [admin@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk)  
T: 01225 703026  
[www.churchfields.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.churchfields.wilts.sch.uk)



**Churchfields**  
The Village School  
Atworth & Monkton Farleigh





**Join us for an amazingly fun and creative session run in association with Wiltshire Scrapstore!**

**For families of children aged 0-5 yrs**

**Book your space now!**

**Devises Scout Hut**  
Southbroom Road, Devises  
Wednesday 2nd March 1-2.30pm

**Westbury Community Project**  
Eden Vale Road, Westbury  
Wednesday 9th March 10-11.30am

**Mere Lecture Hall**  
Salisbury Street, Mere  
Wednesday 16th March 10.30-11.30am


**Pewsey Library**  
Ashton Close, Pewsey  
Tuesday 22nd March 11.30-12.30pm

**Baptist Chapel Hall**  
Broughton Road, Melksham  
Wednesday 30th March 10-11.30am

**For more information or to book a space contact the children's centre central line on: 0800 970 4669**

[www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk)

Booking for Scrapstore events will close one week before the scheduled event date



**Family and Community Learning**  
**Fun with Phonics Online**  
**Monday 7 and Wednesday 9 March**  
**10:00-12:00**

**This free\* two session course will help you understand how phonics and early reading are taught in school. You will gain confidence supporting your children at home.**

**Suitable for families with 3 to 6 year olds and older primary school age children who require extra support with phonics.**  
(Helping My Child to Learn Phonics follows this course 15 March x 5 weeks)

**CONTACT DETAILS AND TO JOIN THE COURSE:**  
EMAIL: [FAMILYANDCOMMUNITYLEARNING@WILTSHIRE.GOV.UK](mailto:FAMILYANDCOMMUNITYLEARNING@WILTSHIRE.GOV.UK)  
WEBSITE: [WORKWILTSHIRE.CO.UK/FAMILY-LEARNING/](http://WORKWILTSHIRE.CO.UK/FAMILY-LEARNING/)  
CALL: 01225 770678

\* Learners must be 19+ have been resident in the UK/EU for three+ years, have a child with SEN/EHCP, a military family member, have less than 5 GCSEs A - C and/or be in receipt of benefits or be unemployed. If you feel you don't fit within the criteria, we may still be able to help so please call if you have any questions.

**Wiltshire Council**

Working in partnership with:

**Wiltshire Council**

Find us on Facebook for regular updates

**Wiltshire Children Centres**

**Website: [www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk)**



**Five to Thrive**

Five to Thrive is the simple things that you can do to connect with your child and build a strong relationship. Join us for 5 fun sessions to support you with this.

**Bookstart**

Sharing books, stories and rhymes with your child from an early age can help create a love of reading. Bookstart is here to guide you on your child's reading journey from 0-5 years. 4 week course.

**Being a Parent**

This 8 week course helps parents learn practical communication skills for everyday life to bring up confident, happy and co-operative children. For parents with children 2 years and over.

**One off Events**

Over the year we plan events such as:

- Oral Hygiene
- Self Care and Independence
- Emotions and Feelings
- Back to Work

See facebook for upcoming sessions.

**Early Words Together**

A 5 week course full of fun for you and your child. Learn about how to support your child's speech and language development. For families with children aged 20-40 months.

**Reconnect**



We are running a variety of different sessions to enable families to meet together in your local area. Please contact us for details about "Play, Relax Reconnect", "Buggy Walks", "Walk, Talk and Story" and "Play, Talk and Grow Together".

**Anybody Can Cook**

A fun, 4 week course for you and your child to cook together

**Cook!**





**Family and Community Learning  
Helping My Child  
To Learn Phonics Online**  
Monday 14 March  
10:00-12:00  
5 x 2 hr sessions (free\*)

- Discover how phonics is taught in schools
- Learn about how you can help your children develop phonic awareness
- Explore games and activities to support phonics learning at home
- Gain in confidence to help your children

CONTACT DETAILS AND TO JOIN THE COURSE:  
EMAIL: [FAMILYANDCOMMUNITYLEARNING@WILTSHIRE.GOV.UK](mailto:FAMILYANDCOMMUNITYLEARNING@WILTSHIRE.GOV.UK)  
WEBSITE: [WORKWILTSHIRE.CO.UK/FAMILY-LEARNING/](http://WORKWILTSHIRE.CO.UK/FAMILY-LEARNING/)  
CALL: 01225 770478

\* Learners must be 19+ have been resident in the UK/EU for 3+ years, have a child with SEN/EHCP, a military family member, have less than 5 GCSEs A - C and/or be in receipt of benefits or be unemployed. If you feel you don't fit within the criteria, we may still be able to help so please call if you have any questions.

**Wiltshire Council**

## Melksham Oak Community School



### YEAR 6 'WORKING TOGETHER' EVENING (Science, Art, Computer Science & Business Studies) THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022



Refreshments will be available from 5.40pm onwards.  
Workshops run from 6.00pm – 7.30pm.

If you would like to attend this evening, please email Amie Hayden-Smith, Head of Year 7 at [smitha@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:smitha@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk) to reserve a place.

Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

We look forward to welcoming you to Melksham Oak Community School.

Bowerhill, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6DZ  
Tel: 01225 790700 Fax: 01225 790759  
email: [admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)  
Principal: Mr Alan Henderson





At National Online Safety, we believe in supporting parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, facts and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

**UK AND EUROPE 16+ REST OF THE WORLD**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes – encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to elope them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

#### DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

#### ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false information being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

#### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

#### LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." It is a useful tool for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe – but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

**CLICK HERE**

### CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's still worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'privacy' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.

### EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives again or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'blocking' in the app. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays unshared. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.

### REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or is said to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.

### LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can leave. WhatsApp's group settings allow them to leave. If someone adds a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

### THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.

### DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp gives the user seven minutes to delete a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

### CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been shared at least five times, by double-tapping the message. A green icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.

### Meet Our Expert

Perveen Khan 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 Kala H Chala: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @nationalonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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