



Werrington Primary School



Newsletter

18th March 2022.



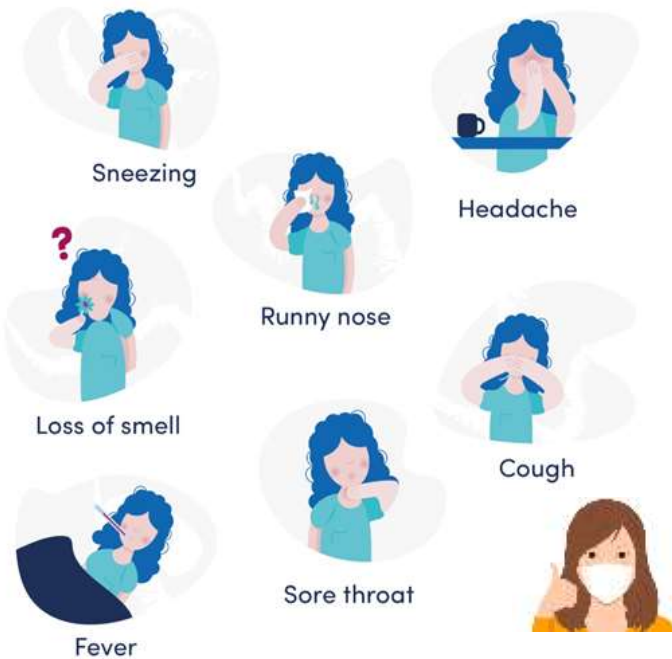
Nursery

All 3 and 4 year olds have a free universal entitlement of 15 hours early education per week, for 38 weeks of the year (term time), which equates to up to 570 hours over a year.

As a governor-run nursery we have one intake of pupils each year, which takes place every September. If you would like your child to **start in our Nursery in September 2022**, please let the school office know as soon as possible.

Be clear on COVID

The most important symptoms we all need to know!



Lateral Flow Tests

Numbers of positive covid cases are on the increase in school. We are continuing to recommend that staff and children test regularly. Free Lateral Flow tests are still available to order online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

We strongly recommend that parents order packs before they stop becoming available for free on 1st April.

Parents' Evening

Parents' evenings are happening next week. They will be online events and appointments can be booked via the usual way.

Year groups/classes are scheduled as follows:

22nd March – 1AW, 1LM, 4GW, 4RD and 6KH

23rd March – 2HG, 2SM, 5CL, 5HT and 6SL

24th March – Nursery, RLD, RMC, 3LW and 3RH

Learning Ladder reports to parents are scheduled to be sent out via Dojo on 4th April.

Poster Competition

We are launching a new competition in conjunction with The Wombles of Werrington to design a poster that will be created using recycled materials and display in the community.

Get creative and design a poster that recognises the importance of recycling. The theme for the poster is **'From Trash to Treasure'**.

The winning design will win £25, courtesy of the 'Wombles' and the design will be created using recycled materials and displayed in the local community.

Entries should be returned to school by Friday 1st April.

NSPCC Marathon Fundraiser.

On the 8th of April, come dressed in your sporty gear and help us raise funds for Adam Smith, who is running the marathon in aid of the NSPCC. We will also be running our own marathon on the day with each child contributing just under 100metres to enable us to collaboratively run 26 miles!

[Adam's Justgiving page for NSPCC](#)

5CL

As you will know, Mrs. Little will be due to take her maternity leave during the second half of the summer term.

I can confirm that we have appointed Miss. Ford to cover Mrs. Little's maternity leave. There will be a 'hand over' period prior to Mrs. Little starting her leave.

Ukraine

The children looked amazing wearing blue and yellow clothing today in support of the people in Ukraine.

All cash donations raised today which will be donated to UNICEF to support Ukrainian families.

Changes to our data management system

On April 1st, we will be migrating from our current data management system, SIMs to a new one called 'Arbor'. The new system has a lot more useful functionality, one of which is a parent app that allows you to update your contact details as and when they change. We will be in touch shortly with details on how you can access the app and your child's account.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

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CENSORED

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

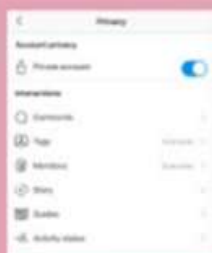
Social Media Settings



Most social media apps are 13+ (WhatsApp is 16+) but - as we are aware some children are using them regularly - we wanted to share some important settings to keep children safe online.



Instagram



PRIVATE ACCOUNT: when this is on, only followers can see your posts and stories and you have to approve followers
(recommended: on)

COMMENTS, TAGS, MENTIONS, STORY: allows you to control who can tag you, comment on your posts, mention you in their story and control your story audience

You can also restrict, block or report a user by clicking on their profile and selecting the three dots in the top right.

You can also remove a follower using this method.



Tiktok



PRIVATE ACCOUNT: when this is on, only followers can see your posts and you have to approve followers
(recommended: on)

SAFETY: Tiktok has lots of options to restrict contact and interaction with video posts
(recommended: friends)

COMMENT FILTERS: you can automatically hide comments that may have offensive words in
(recommended: on)

You can also block, report or remove a follower by clicking on their profile and clicking the three dots in the top right hand corner.



WhatsApp



PROFILE PHOTO AND STATUS: You can change who can see a profile photo and status
(recommended: my contacts)

GROUPS: allows you to stop a contact being able to add you to groups
(recommended for when a friend adds you without permission)

BLOCKED: can add a contact to a blocked list so they can't message you.

You can also block or report a contact/number by clicking on the chat with them, clicking on their number/name at the top then scrolling down!



Snapchat



CONTACT: decide who can message you and send you snaps
(recommended: my friends)

VIEW MY STORY: restrict who can see your story
(recommended: my friends)

GHOST MODE: if this isn't on, contacts can see your location on a map
(recommended: on)

You can also block or report a user by locating their contact, tapping and holding their name and clicking more

Together we succeed.