



SPARKLE NEWS

Spring Term 1: 2024

Friday 2nd February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

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Coming Up:

E-safety day—Tuesday 6th February Chinese New Year celebrations in school
 Thursday 8th February (New Year is on 10th February)
 Parent's evenings w/c 18th March

Welcome to this week's edition of Sparkle News. We have lots to celebrate this week including a successful NSPCC Number Day, a well attended book fair and school success in the Look Who's Talking Oracy competition (see page 2). These events take a lot of work so thank you to all of the staff for making these events so successful and thank you to all of the parents and carers for helping the children find costumes and for contributing so generously.

Our year 5 mini police also did a great job this week enforcing parking rules outside of school. Parking seems to be an issue which is getting worse rather than better. It is very clear where parking is not allowed by the zig zag lines painted on the road—please follow the rules for the safety of all. There is a cap park by the shops which is just a 1 minute walk to the school gates.



A celebration of some of the 'sparkling' moments from this term

Look who's talking oracy competition

Thank you to all of the children who took part in the Look Who's Talking oracy competition and thank you to all of the parents and carers who supported their child to write and practise a speech. There was a very high standard of entries across the school and although I really enjoyed listening to all of the children's speeches I did not enjoy picking school winners as the children were all really good! I was impressed with the content of speeches as well as the confidence and clarity of delivery. Most of the entrants had learnt their speech off by heart and were able to perform without prompt cards—very impressive. The winners of the school round were:

KS1: Frankie Winter talking about Crocodiles

Lower KS2: Harry Symons talking about spies

Upper KS2: Sophie Hodgson talking about batman

The Tewkesbury round has already taken part and I am delighted to congratulate both Frankie and Harry who both won their district rounds and will not represent Tewkesbury at the county round.



Spring Term Clubs

Clubs are now in full swing and the children are really enjoying the variety of clubs on offer. Thank you once again to all of the adults in school that run our extra curricular activities for our



A celebration of some of the 'sparkling' moments from this term

Tewkesbury Swimming gala— January 23rd



🌟 Team John Moore finished overall in a fantastic second place. In addition, both Rosie and Barney also won their individual finals. I hope you will join me in sending a huge congratulations to each member of the team: Ella, Rosie, Ed, Jacob, Luke and our captain, Barney. A truly sparkling performance in the pool from you all 🏊‍♂️ 🏊‍♀️ 🏆 🙌 🌟 Thank you to parents and family members for helping with transport too.



NSPCC Number Day was a huge success. The EYFS and KS1 children were treated to an assembly by Miss Man and Mr Treacy led the KS2 assembly. There were also lots of exciting activities in class—see class pages on dojo for more photos.

SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

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You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos: this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 17.01.2023

We now have a link on our school website to the following parental support topics. Click the link and then scroll down to parental resources to access any of the topics below.

<https://www.thejohnmooreprimary.org/keeping-children-safe>

Parental Resources

We recognise that as primary carers, parents and guardians have an important part to play in keeping their children safe. To support them in doing this we have created a range of free resources which you can make available via a link on your school website.

The screenshot shows the SSS website navigation bar with links for Courses, Audit, Reviews, Resources, About us, and Support, along with a Log in button. Below the navigation bar are five resource cards:

- Ten Top Tips for Parents - Tackling Sleep Problems in Children and Teens** by Sam Preston, SSS Learning Safeguarding Director
- Top Tips for Supporting Your Child Through School Anxiety** by Sara Spinks, SSS Author & Former Headteacher
- Top Tips for Improving School Attendance** by Sara Spinks, SSS Author & Former Headteacher
- Child Mental Health & Wellbeing - for Parents** by Sam Preston, SSS Learning Safeguarding Director
- Your Mental Health & Wellbeing - 10 Top Tips for Parents** by Sam Preston, SSS Learning Safeguarding Director



Thank you for supporting our book fair— we now have £688.75 in rewards to spend on new books for our school. Thank you also to Mr Cambridge and his willing band of helpers who organised and ran the event for us.

Dates for your diary

Monday 12th– 16th February	Half Term
Thursday 7 th March 2024	World Book Day
w/c 11 th March 2024	STEM week
Tuesday 19 th March 2024	Parent's evening 3.30-6.30pm
Thursday 21 st March 2024	Parent's evening 3.30-6.30pm
Friday 22 nd March 2024	End of term. School finishes at normal time.
Monday 8 th April 2024	Start of the summer term