


















18th October 2019 Newsletter

October	
Half Term Monday 21st October –Friday 25th October Children return on Monday 28th October.	
Tuesday 29th	Year R Halloween Party – straight from school until 4.30pm Tickets available from the office
Wednesday 30th	Year 1 & 2 Halloween Party- straight from school until 4.30pm Tickets available from the office
November	
Monday 4th & Weds 6th	Phonics and reading workshops for Reception parents – 2.15pm
Tues 5th & Fri 7th	Phonics and reading workshops for Year 1 parents – 2.15pm
Thurs 7th & Mon 11th	Phonics and reading workshops for Year 2 parents – 2.15pm
Friday 8th	9.00am Dolphin class assembly
Friday 15th	9.00am Starfish class assembly Children in Need day – chn wear own clothes- School Council have decided this can be anything colourful.
Friday 22nd	9.00am Penguin class assembly
Friday 29th	9.00am Birthday Assembly parents with children who have a birthday in November are invited to attend
Monday 2nd December	Christmas bazaar– in school hall after school
Monday 9th December	9.15 and 2.15pm Reception Christmas productions – parents/carers welcome (details to follow)
Wednesday 11th December	9.15 and 2.15pm Year 2 Christmas productions – parents/carers welcome(details to follow)
Friday 13th December	9.15 and 2.15pm Year 1 Christmas productions- parents/carers welcome (details to follow)
Every Monday (term time only)	Parent and Baby/Toddler group – Puppies room 1.15pm-2.45pm

	<i>Weekly school attendance</i>	<i>Days missed across the school this week</i>	<i>Best class attendance for the week</i>	<i>Overall attendance for the year</i>
	93.05%	91	96.90	95.09%

	 Reading award	 Star of the week	 Active Award	 Star Table	 Feet on Friday
	Tyler	Blake	Jessica Beau	Chelsea	Wihelmina
	Aaliyah	Aleksander	Alfie Oliver P	Oliver	Mickey
	Kyle	Astraea	Amelia Zishun	Isla	Zishun
	Amira	Isabella	Reuben Maeve	Chloe	Kyra
	Kareesha	Ethan	Milly Edward	Edward	Lilly-Rose
	Isla	Miko	Archie Ariella	Anire	Harrison
	Amelia	Lydia	Tiffany Jacob	Louie-Joe	Riley
	Lydia	Jaxson	Joshua Danielle	Ava	Noah
	Josh	Gracie	Ariana Leo	Sophie	Lucas

Bonus Coin Winner of the Week – Squirrel

Punctuality Pup – Turtle

It was great to see you at parents' evenings this week, hearing lots of wonderful things about your child. If any reason you were unable to attend, please contact your child's teacher or the office to make an important. As you know we operate an 'open door' policy and you are welcome to contact your child's teacher if you need to outside of these meetings. An appointment can be made with the teacher in person or via the school office via telephone or email: office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk. Have a great half term!

Parent view

We value your opinions about the school. Ofsted have set up parent view where you can evaluate the school by answering a few key questions. You may have completed it last year but we urge you to complete it again for this new academic year as the questions have been adjusted and Ofsted will look at this year's data prior to an inspection. You can only complete it once so thank you if you have already done so! You can access this using the following link:
<https://mobile.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Attendance

It is important that your child attends school every day unless they are unwell. If you are unsure whether to send your child in, please read our attendance leaflet, which has been forwarded to you via parentmail, for further advice or call the office. You must let the office know on the first day of your child's absence via our attendance line or parent mail. Holidays in term time are not authorised.

Every day and minute counts!

What we have been learning.....

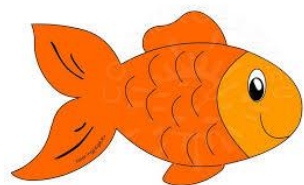
EYFS



This week in EYFS we have been thinking back about our first term at school. In Literacy we discussed and then brainstormed the things that we have enjoyed / not enjoyed so much? We thought about what we would have liked to change and why? In Maths we have been sorting a variety of natural and mathematical objects. We used both given criteria and our own i.e. I am putting all of the leaves in this hoop and all the conkers in this hoop. Please have a try at this at home! In Art we used the natural objects that we had sorted in maths to create our own transient art pictures. It is amazing how imaginative we became! In RE we read a story from the bible and discussed the meaning of the word miracle and how in the story a miracle had occurred. In PSED we have been thinking about how and when we celebrate our birthdays.

Over half term please keep consolidating the sounds that are in their reading record books and while playing see if your child can count out a given number of objects from a larger quantity.

Year 1



We have had a great last week of term this week. We finished our Science topic by learning all about fish and their features. The children then wrote some facts about them in their English. In Maths we have been looking at number lines and how we can use them to help us in our mathematical learning. We have also enjoyed an RE morning where we learnt how other faiths show that they believe. We have really enjoyed the Under the Sea topic and are so glad to hear at parents evening that many of your children have too. We have been amazed by what they can remember and have loved all of their creative homework throughout the term. We are sending a new creative homework home this week for half term, have fun with it! We are really looking forward to getting immersed in Disney starting with the man himself Walt Disney in week one! Have a super week off, we look forward to seeing the children refreshed and ready for some more fun learning next term.

Year 2



What a great term we have had in year 2! This week we have explored what happened during the great fire of London and the impact it had on modern day living. We discussed what everyday life was like back then and the changes in the houses once they were rebuilt after the fire. In English we have written eye witness reports as if we were there in 1666 at the time of the great fire. In maths we have continued to learn about addition and subtraction for numbers that bridge the 10s boundary. We hope that next term is as fun as this term has been! Thank you to all parents who have come to parents evening, it has been a pleasure to discuss the amazing learning your children have been doing this term!

Middy supervisor vacancies

We are looking for two midday supervisors to cover when needed. You would need to be willing to work from 11.35- 1.00pm as needed. If you would like to support our delightful children at lunch time and work as part of an amazing team, please contact the school office for a job description and application form. No experience is essential as all training given at school but a passion for working with children and making a difference is necessary! Closing date for completed applications is Monday 28th October 2019.

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Aldi sticker

We are still collecting the stickers given out by Aldi. The whole poster has to be completed to enable us to get free sports kit. As you can see from the picture below, we have made progress from last week but still have a long way to go! Aldi stop giving them out on 4th November so if you collect any over the half term we would much appreciate you sending these into school with your child.



We're collecting
Team GB stickers with
Aldi's Kit for Schools.

Help us collect 300 stickers to complete
our poster and we'll receive an exclusive
sports kit plus a chance to win

£20,000!



Ashford Vineyard – Half Term Activities

The Ashford Vineyard Kids Team have organised the following activity during the half-term holiday. All children are welcome to go along (no need to book)



Tuesday 22nd October: 3.45-6pm @ The Warehouse, Ashford Vineyard, Cobbs Wood Industrial Estate, Brunswick Road, Ashford. A Popcorn and family film for half term. Bring friends and family, and a picnic tea, everyone welcome for a family sim. (Popcorn, children's drink, tea and coffee for adults, and ice cream will be provided.)



Remember you can continue your acts of kindness at home over the half term – all minutes will be counted on 31st October. Please send in details of any acts of kindness which your child has been involved in, during the week.



It can be challenging for parents and carers to know whether children are spending too much time on their devices. Furthermore, it's even more of a challenge to know whether a child is addicted to the internet and social media. As technology is becoming more pervasive, children and young people are experiencing tech-related dependencies. Do we as parents and carers have the knowledge to identify and support children and young people who may be developing an addiction to their devices?

47%
of parents
said they thought their children spent too much time in front of screens



What parents need to know about SCREEN ADDICTION

SMARTPHONE ADDICTION IS A RECOGNISED HEALTH CONDITION

Children as young as 13 are attending 'smartphone rehab' following growing concerns over screen time. There are now help centers in the UK which deal with screen addiction for children and adults showing the seriousness of device addiction.

IT CAN CAUSE SLEEP DEPRIVATION

7 out of 10 children said they had missed out on sleep because of their online habits and 60% said they had neglected school work as a result. It is important that children get the sleep they need in order to focus the next day.

CONFIDENCE, SUPPORT & ACCEPTANCE

The Children's Commissioner report 'Life in Likes', explored how children aged 8-11 are using social media today. It showed that children are using their devices to speak to their online friends about their problems and seek acceptance and support, removing face to face interactions.

APPS CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Apps have been designed with 'psychological tricks' to constantly keep grabbing your attention. One example of this is on the app Snapchat, where you can gain 'streaks' when interacting with your friends. If you don't respond, you lose the streak. This addictive nature of apps aims to engage children and keep them coming back for more.

LOSS OF INTEREST IN OTHER THINGS

Your child may become less interested in anything that does not include their device. You may notice that your child is missing school time and generally being less engaged with other activities in the home. It is important to discuss this with your child as soon as you notice a behaviour change.



National Online Safety

Top Tips for Parents



LIMIT SCREEN TIME

In today's digital age, technology is an important part of a child's development so completely banning them from their device will mean they are missing out on a lot, including conversations and communication with their friends. Rather than banning them from using their devices, we suggest setting a screen time limit. Work out what you think is a suitable and healthy amount of time for your child to be on their device per week. Remember that your child may need to use devices for their school homework so only set screen limits on recreational time on their device. Once you have established this, have the conversation with them to discuss why you are implementing a screen limit. There will be others in your child's friendship group who will not have screen limits set and will be sending messages when they do not have access to their phones.



LESS TIME MEANS LESS EXPOSURE

There are many risks associated with devices, such as cyberbullying, grooming, sexting, viewing inappropriate content etc. Less time spent on a screen means that a child will be less exposed to these risks.

MOBILE-FREE MEAL TIMES

Have you tried to settle your child by giving them a tablet at the dinner table or restaurant? This may seem like a quick fix to calm them down but in reality, it is encouraging them to use their device as a distraction from conversation and dealing with their emotions. We suggest removing all technology from the dinner table and having conversations with your family about how their day has been.



ENCOURAGE ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES

It may seem like an obvious solution, but encouraging children to play with their friends, read a book, or playing outdoors will help them realise they can have fun without their device. Playing football, trampolining, camping, going for a walk or swimming are all healthy replacements for screen time. Try to join them in their outdoor activities to show your support.



LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children model their behavior on their peers, so if their parents are constantly on their device, they will see this as acceptable. Try limiting your own screen time and follow the same rules you have set for them. If you have asked your child to not use their device at the table, make sure you don't. Try setting house rules that the whole family abide by.



REMOVE DEVICES FROM THEIR BEDROOM

Setting a rule about removing devices from bedrooms will help your child to get the sleep they need and be more focussed the next day at school. 20% of teenagers said that they wake up to check their social network accounts on their devices. Even by having a device switched off in their bedroom, they may be tempted to check for notifications.



Sources

<https://www.independent.co.uk>
Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report 2017. <https://www.ofcom.gov.uk>
<http://uk.businessinsider.com/how-app-development-keep-us-addicted-to-our-smartphones>
Journal of Youth Studies <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/1360-0567/2016-1432189>
University of Leeds <https://medhealth.leeds.ac.uk/news/article/1274/loss-of-sleep-damaging-for-children>