

TOGETHER

THE ACRE HALL NEWSLETTER

1st March 2019

This week's attendance = 96.5%

Miss Cook's Class = 100%




Mr Brierley's Class have been creating artwork based on animal fur in preparation for their trip to Knowsley Safari Park



Mr Stevenson's Class have had the opportunity to lead in class—supporting and challenging each other in their work.



Miss Cook's Class enjoyed a fabulous day at the Whitworth Art Gallery yesterday. The staff at the Art Gallery were very supportive and enabled our children to experience a fun day.

Each week we include in the Newsletter some items from the Class and School Twitter pages—please check Twitter and like Tweets by clicking on the heart icon 

MOMO

Earlier this week we alerted parents to a potentially dangerous and frightening aspect of online safety. We have had very positive feedback from parents thanking us for this information and also some requests for more information. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter for further advice regarding MOMO and you tube.

Parent Governor

We have 2 nominations for the parent governor vacancy on our Governing Board. Application are now closed and we will be sending home voting papers next week. The 2 candidates are Mrs K Mills and Mr C Lartey. They have each written a statement about themselves which will be included in the voting papers.

School Ties

It is part of our school uniform for pupils from Y1 upwards to wear a school tie during the winter months. We are aware that paying postage costs to buy a single tie from our uniform supplier is not ideal. We will be sending home an order form next week in case anyone wishes to purchase a new tie. We will arrange for them to be delivered directly to school.

Website: www.acrehall.trafford.sch.uk Twitter: @AcreHall

Star of the Week:

Nursery—Mrs Jones	Ella-Rose G
Reception— Miss Forlani	Wayne Junior III
Reception— Miss Breslin	Alec H
Year 1—Mr Brierley	Lucy T and Sophia M
Year 2—Miss Atherton	Amelia Bar
Year 2— Mrs Moore	Amiko
Year 3— Miss Roberts	Katie W
Year 3/4— Mrs Kan	Lennon
Year 4/ 5— Mr Stevenson	Yasmine H
Year 5—Miss Thake	Grace
Year 6—Mrs Edwards	Tom L
Mrs Griffin/ Mrs Schofield	Aroosh
Miss Cook	Tallulah
Mr Gillan	Jessica W
Music	KS2 Hameed A.
	Mrs Griffin's / Mrs Schofield's class for their class assembly performance.

Important Information and diary dates for next week: English Week

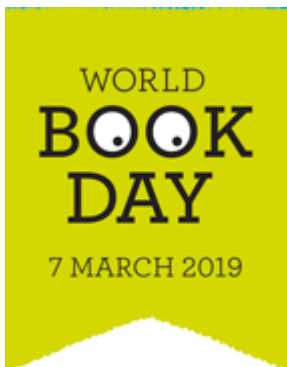
Monday	9am—10am Parent Drop In with Mrs Green
4th	
Tuesday 5th	3.30pm - Meeting for Y2 Parents in Miss Atherton's and Mrs Moore's classes
Wednesday	Class Assembly—Mrs Moore's Class: Parents of pupils in the class are welcome (9am start—please wait by the lobby doors)
6th	
Thursday	World Book Day—see overleaf for details
7th	
Friday	
8th	



Confirmation of Date – Y6 Winmarleigh Hall Meeting - 2nd April

On our yearly calendar – sent out in September – we had 2 dates for the y6 meeting about the residential visit to Winmarleigh Hall in May. We can now confirm that the meeting will take place on **Tuesday 2nd April**. The meeting will be an opportunity for pupils and parents to see a presentation about the visit and ask any questions.

World Book Day



Next Thursday – 7th March – is World Book Day.

The theme of the day will be **Sharing Stories** and we are asking that pupils bring their favourite stories to school to share.

Please note—dressing up as a character from a book is optional— however, we do not wish for families to incur additional expense for an outfit—as the theme is about sharing stories. Normal school uniform should be worn on Thursday—unless dressing up as a character from a book.

We have a £1 WBD voucher to give out to all our pupils. These will be sent home next Thursday. The vouchers can be exchanged in bookshops for the one of the 12 special World Book Day titles or used to pay towards any other book. Acre Hall will be holding a book fair from 12th to 15th March and will be happy for pupils to save their vouchers and use them towards the price of books on sale.



It's important to note that new challenges are arising on the internet all the time. We have created this guide to raise awareness of the issue and offer advice on helping parents to talk to their children about making safer decisions online. See also our '7 conversation starters' guide for more tips on better communication with your child.



Momo is a sinister 'challenge' that has been around for some time. It has recently resurfaced and once again has come to the attention of schools and children across the country. Dubbed the 'suicide killer game', Momo has been heavily linked with apps such as Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube, and most recently (and most worryingly)... YouTube Kids. The scary doll-like figure reportedly sends graphic violent images, and asks users to partake in dangerous challenges like waking up at random hours and has even been associated with self-harm. It has been reported that the 'Momo' figure was originally created as a sculpture and featured in an art gallery in Tokyo and unrelated to the 'Momo' challenge we are hearing about in the media.



What parents need to know about

MOMO



CHILDREN'S VIDEOS BEING 'HIJACKED'

There have been recent reports that some seemingly innocent videos on YouTube and YouTube Kids (such as 'surprise eggs', unboxing videos and Minecraft videos) have been edited by unknown sources to include violence provoking and/or other inappropriate content. Even though YouTube monitor and remove videos that include inappropriate content, clips can be uploaded and viewed thousands of times before they get reported and removed. As a parent, it's difficult to spot these videos as the harmful content doesn't appear until partway through the video.

DISTRESSING FOR CHILDREN

Popular YouTubers and other accounts have been uploading reaction videos, showing their experience of the MOMO challenge. Some of the videos include a disclosure message warning that the content may be "inappropriate or offensive to some audiences" and that "viewer discretion is advised" but these videos are still easily accessed by clicking 'I understand and wish to proceed'. The image of the 'Momo' character can be deeply distressing to children and young people and it's important to note that it may slip through parental settings and filters.

SUGGESTED VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

Video apps such as YouTube include an 'up next' feature which automatically starts playing another video based on the video just watched. Due to YouTube's algorithm, users are shown 'suggested videos' that they may be interested in. The thumbnails used on suggested videos are purposefully created in a way to encourage viewers to click them. During our research, we found that when watching one Momo related video, we were shown countless other Momo themed videos and other scary content which would be age-inappropriate for children under 18.



National Online Safety

Top Tips for Parents

TELL THEM IT'S NOT REAL

Just like any urban legend or horror story, the concept can be quite frightening and distressing for young people. Whilst this may seem obvious, it's important for you to reiterate to your child that Momo is not a real person and cannot directly harm them! Also, tell your child to not go openly searching for this content online as it may only cause more distress.

BE PRESENT

It's important for you, as a parent or carer, to be present while your children are online. This will give you a greater understanding of what they are doing on their devices, as well as providing you with the opportunity to discuss, support and stop certain activities that your child may be involved in. As the nature of each task become progressively worse it's also important to recognise any changes in your child's behaviour.

TALK REGULARLY WITH YOUR CHILD

As well as monitoring your child's activity, it's important for you discuss it with them too. Not only will this give you an understanding of their online actions, but these honest and frequent conversations will encourage your child to feel confident to discuss issues and concerns they may have related to the online world.

DEVICE SETTINGS & PARENTAL CONTROLS

Ensure that you set up parental controls for your devices at home. This will help to restrict the types of content that your child can view, as well as help you to monitor their activity. In addition to this, it's vital that you are aware of your device and account settings to ensure your child's utmost safety. For example, on YouTube you can turn off 'suggested auto-play' on videos to stop your child from viewing content that they have not directly selected.

PEER PRESSURE

Trends and viral challenges can be tempting for children to take part in; no matter how dangerous or scary they seem. Make sure you talk to your child about how they shouldn't succumb to peer pressure and do anything they are not comfortable with, online or offline. If they are unsure, encourage them to talk to you or another trusted adult.

REAL OR HOAX?

As a parent it is natural to feel worried about certain things you see online that may be harmful to your child. However, not everything you see online is true. Check the validity of the source and be mindful of what you share as it may only cause more worry.

REPORT & BLOCK

You can't always rely on parental controls to block distressing or harmful material. People find ways around a platform's algorithm in order to share and promote this type of material. Due to this, we advise that you flag and report any material you deem to be inappropriate or harmful as soon as you come across it. You should also block the account/content to prevent your child from viewing it. Also encourage your child to record/screenshot any content they feel could be malicious to provide evidence in order to escalate the issue to the appropriate channels.

FURTHER SUPPORT

Speak to the safeguarding lead within your child's school should you have any concerns regarding your child's online activity or malicious content that could affect them.

If your child sees something distressing, it is important that they know where to go to seek help and who their trusted adults are. They could also contact Childline where a trained counsellor will listen to anything that's worrying them.

The Childline phone number is 0800 1111.



SOURCES:
<https://www.netfor.co.uk/news/world-news/lick-video-youtube-youtube-kids-14052165>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-47259622>