



# The Parkland Federation

Aim High, Work Hard, Dream Big

## Gracias! - Thank you in Spanish



28th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. Despite the very chilly weather lately, we have been busy working hard both inside the classroom and outside with our animals and preparing the school site for Spring. Our Breakfast club and After School Club, which is situated in the Dahl Studios (Infant playground building) has also been undergoing a makeover this term, both inside and out. We look forward to sharing the results of this with you very soon.

Our Year 3 outside area is also having a makeover at the moment. During the summer, a patio area was put down and raised beds that are now filled with lavender and tulip bulbs have been established. During the February break, we are hoping to have a canopy fitted so that this area mirrors Year 1 and Year 2 and aids transition between the two schools. Watch this space...

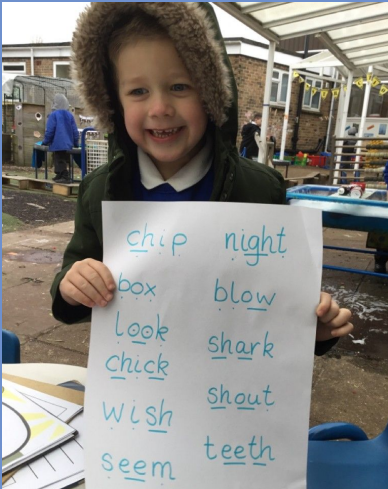
We are really looking forward to discussing your child with you at our Virtual Parent Consultations in the final week of term. Booking information was sent out last week, so do let us know if you require any support with this so that we can ensure you have an appointment.



**Thank you for your continued support**



## EYFS



Last week, we were learning about 'Little Red Riding Hood'. We had lots of discussions around healthy living and ways we can make healthy choices. The children made some wonderful shopping lists for Grandma, who was poorly. We've also been watching our runner beans begin to grow from last week!



This week we have been learning all about 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children have been acting out the story using the bridge in the EYFS garden, making story maps and designing their very own trolls. How exciting! We have been learning to order numbers to 10, finding the missing numbers and finding one more/less than a given number.

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - Scarlett and Charlie (Kerr) and Connor and Teddie (Inkpen). Also to our Dojo winners Ini and Alfie (Kerr) and Archie and Daniel (Inkpen).

## Year 1



Well, Year 1 have certainly been busy! On Monday we had our Amazing Arctic Day! It was a pretty n-ice day! The children came dressed up in their warmest clothes ready for a day of fun. We started the day by making our own passports. We then learnt about the Arctic, followed by some ice themed activities. The fun didn't stop there though as we boarded the plane, braved the turbulence and landed for some fun, wintery games. It was lucky we made it back in time for the end of the day after the 7 hour flight! Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - Arlo & Clara (Donaldson) Nya & Eliza (Shireen) and also to our Dojo winners Hunter & Bethany (Donaldson) & Mia & Lillie (Shireen)





## Year 2

Over the last couple of weeks in Year 2, the children have been demonstrating their amazing maths skills as we delve deeper into multiplication! Division is up next and sure to be a winner after how well the children have shown an understanding for grouping. In science, we have been learning all about the lifecycle of animals. Do ask your child what interesting facts they have found out.. Some of the key vocabulary we have covered so far are: **lifecycle, offspring, baby, adolescent, metamorphosis, adult and grow.** Keep an ear out for these words as our budding scientists share the wealth of knowledge that they are building up. NASA here we come! Congratulations to our Stars of the Week Lillie and Maddox (Santat) & Zoe and Amelia (Beaty) - also to our Dojo winners Flossy and James L (Santat) & Jesse and Remy (Beaty),



## Year 3

Over the last two weeks, our learning focus has been all about volcanoes. We now have a good understanding of how they are created and the effects of an eruption. In our writing we have used our learning to draft and publish a description of an erupting volcano! The children have done an amazing job of editing and working on presentation. In maths, we have been using our skills on multiplication and division to solve word problems using 2 step calculations. In art we have been designing our own volcano sculpture and this week have started to construct them using paper mache. We look forward to seeing the finished models. The children have loved being so creative and bringing their ideas to life! Congratulations to our stars of the week Zak & Poppy (Woodson) and Alfie & Logan (Harrison) - also to our dojo winners Abigail & Reggie (Woodson) and Florence & Archie (Harrison)





## Year 4

During Science, the children have been learning about teeth. To find out the different functions of teeth, the children were treated to a range of foods such as a biscuit, some tiger bread and an apple. From this, the children not only had a tasty array of foods, but they were also able to identify how teeth work and each tooth's individual function - bon appetit! Year 4 has also been hard at work planting lots of bulbs around the school! They have worked hard and shown fantastic teamwork to make sure the school environment looks wonderfully welcoming - even the chickens loved it! Thank you to our wonderful gardeners for all their hard work!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week, Hollie & Bella (Blackman) Archie and Lily Fl (Walliams) - also to our Dojo winners, Joshua & Cody (Blackman) Phoebe E and Grayson (Walliams)



## Year 5

Our science focus for this term is materials.. We have been discovering their different properties and testing them. We were using loktronics to test if the material was an insulator or conductor of electricity.

As a class we have really enjoyed our Stop, Drop and Read time! We have been able to discover a variety of texts and share them with other children in the class whilst finding unusual places to read too!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - Phoenix & Riley (Wilson) Hanna and Mia (Zephaniah) also to our Dojo winners - Bezalel & Joey (Wilson) Evie and Brooke (Zephaniah)



## Year 6



Year 6 continue to enjoy their weekly 'samba' drumming sessions with Mr. Allardyce. This term they have learnt how to play South American drums and have learnt a new rhythm.

The children have also spent time researching lots of exciting facts about the Amazon and the animals that live there. They have found out that 10% of the world's animals species live in the Amazon rainforest despite it only covering 4% of the earth's surface - fascinating!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - Harlow and Dexter (Mian) Alfie (Rosen). Also to our Dojo winners Jacob K and Phoenix (Mian) and Mason (Rosen),

## This week's attendance:

Excellent attendance at school allows a child to have the best possible start in life. All pupils should aim for at least **97%** attendance in order to ensure they do not miss out on their education.

Inkpen Class (YR) 95%	Kerr Class (YR) 95%	Shireen Class (Y1) 93%
Donaldson Class (Y1) 93%	Santat Class (Y2) 93%	Beaty Class (Y2) 94%
Harrison Class (Y3) 95%	Woodson Class (Y3) 94%	Walliams Class (Y4) 92%
Blackman Class (Y4) 90%	Zephaniah Class (Y5) 93%	Wilson Class (Y5) 93%
Mian Class (Y6) 95%	Rosen Class (Y6) 91%	<b>The Highest Attendance Award goes to Inkpen, Kerr, Harrison and Mian</b>



## SCHOOL COUNCIL

### School Council Update



Our 'Citizen of the Fortnight' at the Juniors is **Logan in 5 Wilson class** for his positive attitude around the school and dedication to our School Council! Well done, Logan!

Our 'Citizen of the Fortnight' at the Infants is **Joe in Inkpen** for being a kind, happy and caring person! You are an all round superstar! Well done, Joe!



### Eco Committee Update

We have been very busy **planting** lots of bulbs around our school grounds recently. We cannot wait to see them grow into beautiful flowers during the Spring. We are also working hard to ensure that our school remains '**litter free**'. This is one of our actions for our Eco Award and is a cause close to our hearts. We really would appreciate your support to ensure that we achieve this goal. **Waste, Litter** and **School Grounds** are all areas we will be focussing in over the coming months.

Our **Eco tip** this fortnight is to consider **upcycling** old furniture where possible! A fresh lick of paint can work wonders on old bookcases, drawers and other pieces of furniture. It is also extremely rewarding to see your old pieces of furniture transform into something new!

We have our next **Eco committee meeting** in the last week of term and look forward to sharing more **ideas** and **initiatives** that are discussed.

Thank you in advance for your support.



# Mental Health and Wellbeing Support



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HERE



We know that it's not always easy to stay positive when the weather is dull and cold and daylight hours are short. However, there are so many ways to embrace the season! Please click on the link for some ideas: [Embracing the Winter for Wellbeing](#)

[Young Minds](#) is a charity for children, young people and parents affected by mental health issues. They provide practical advice and tips on supporting your child - from how to encourage your child to open up about their feelings to dealing with mental health services. [Click here for the link to Young Minds](#)

[Holding space](#) is an Eastbourne based charity who aim to support parents, children and young adults who are struggling with their mental health and they can help instigate conversations around this topic. They also offer a safe place for families to come together. They hold weekly parent coffee mornings and walk and talk sessions as well as offering help and advice through telephone consultations and counselling. They also offer therapeutic interventions. [Click here for the link to Holding Space](#)



Don't forget to utilise the information on our school website regarding Health and Wellbeing, and if you have any ideas or suggestions around support we could offer, please do let us know. If you require any support or advice yourself about pastoral support, please contact Mrs Alison Das at [alison.das@swale.at](mailto:alison.das@swale.at)



## Big Garden Birdwatch This Weekend

We are blessed with incredible school grounds with lots of areas for birds to nest and utilise. We have spotted many different varieties of birds at school, including a Great Spotted Woodpecker who can be heard 'drumming' on trees, especially during the Spring. Woodpeckers tend to do this rather than sing like many other birds. Did you know, the cushioned head of a woodpecker enables it to hammer out a resonating beat on wood, striking the tree at a rate of up to twenty times per second? When a woodpecker sets about finding a tree on which to drum, it chooses a healthy, solid one where it can create the loudest possible sound. Luckily, we have lots of those at school!

[Join the Big Garden Birdwatch this weekend](#)



## Naming Uniform

We would like to remind everyone that items that come to school should be clearly labelled with your child's name. This means that if it is misplaced, we can reunite it with your child before the end of the day. We currently have two boxes of unnamed jumpers, cardigans, coats, water bottles, lunch boxes etc that can not be returned at present. One of our Rainbow Rules is to Look After Property - We will be reminding the children of this daily in school.

Standard Iron on



Gail Force



Willie Maykit



Olive Yew



Ed Venture

*Thank you*



## Latest Covid Cases - Update

We have continued to see a rise in Covid-19 cases amongst staff and pupils this week, so please be vigilant and ensure you are testing children using a lateral flow test if they are experiencing symptoms or if you have a positive family member in the home. The latest government guidance can be found using the links below::

[Latest guidance](#)

[Reduce the risk at home](#)



*Thank you*

## Scooters and Bikes in School

We LOVE that so many pupils are now walking to school or riding scooters and bicycles. These are all incredible options to support mental wellbeing, physical fitness AND the environment. Please remember the school rules that go with this:

- ★ When riding a bike to school, a helmet **MUST** be worn for safety reasons
- ★ Bikes and Scooters **must not** be ridden on school grounds. This will help keep everyone safe.



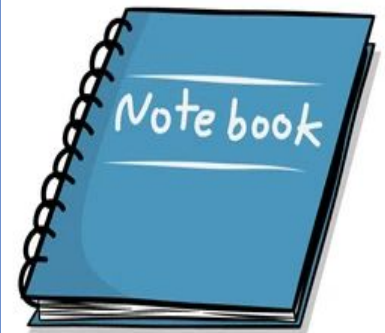
be safe.



# Important Dates and INFORMATION

## Diary Dates

4th February 2022	Numbers Day - Please come dressed as a digit
8th February 2022	Safer Internet Day
9th February 2022	Virtual Parent Consultations
10th February 2022	Virtual Parent Consultations
11th February 2022	Final day of Term 3 (Half Term Week - 14th - 18th February 2022)
21st February 2022	First day of Term 4
3rd March 2022	World Book Day - Book Character Mufti



Thank you!







## Courses For Parents and Carers at Crossland and Dudson

### **3rd Feb - 18:30 – 20:30 - Social Media for Business**

If you have your own business or use social media at work, this is the workshop for you. You will gain an overview of the commonly used platforms, understand how to create and post appealing content and understand how to track the effectiveness of your content.

### **7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th Feb - 09:30 – 12:30 - Maths and English Skills for Parents**

Would you like to feel more confident helping your child with their homework? This course covers the common terminology and methods used to teach English and maths in schools. You will also be given ideas for activities and resources that can be used at home to support your child's learning.

### **10th Feb - 18:30 – 20:30 - Microsoft for Work**

A great opportunity to upskill yourself and boost your productivity. This workshop will introduce you to the many different functions of Microsoft Office that can be used to keep you organised and connected. Typical topics covered include: Setting up and sharing calendars, scheduling Teams meetings, setting up reminders, creating an online form.

### **21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th Feb - 09:30 – 13:30 - Functional Skills ICT (Beginner)**

If you are looking to return to work or are looking to progress in your career, this is a great opportunity. ICT skills are in demand and are key to many job roles. This course will enable learners to work towards gaining a recognised City and Guilds qualification. Suitable for complete beginners and those with some ICT experience.

### **28th Feb, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th March - 09:30 – 13:30 - Functional Skills ICT (Intermediate)**

Suitable for learners with some experience of computers. This course will enable learners to work towards gaining a recognised City and Guilds qualification.

### **5th March - 10:00 – 12:00 - Microsoft for Work**

A great opportunity to upskill yourself and boost your productivity. This workshop will introduce you to the many different functions of Microsoft Office that can be used to keep you organised and connected. Typical topics covered include: Setting up and sharing calendars, scheduling Teams meetings, setting up reminders, creating an online form.

### **7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th March - 09:30 – 12:30 - Functional Skills Maths (All levels)**

Suitable for all levels. This course is taught in a small group, so it is ideal for nervous or anxious learners or those returning to the classroom after a number of years. Learners will work towards gaining a recognised City and Guilds qualification.

**All sessions will take place at Crossland and Dudson Training, 39 – 41 Upperton Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 1LN. Please call 01323 720072 or email [info@cdtraining.co.uk](mailto:info@cdtraining.co.uk) for more information or to book your place.**





# Crossland & Dudson Training



## February Workshops For Families at Crossland and Dudson

### **6th Feb - 10:00 – 12:00 Coding for Families**

Working together, parents and children will be introduced to the basics of coding. Working through a number of fun and engaging activities, children will understand what coding is, how and why it is used and use their coding knowledge to create their own animation. Suitable for 8+ years

### **14th Feb - 10:00 – 12:00 - Valentine Craft**

A valentine themed craft workshop. Children will make cards for loved ones, create decorations and much more. Suitable for 5 + years.

### **15th Feb - 10:00 – 12:00 - Puppet Making**

Using everyday craft materials, children create their own puppet and puppet show. All craft materials are provided. Suitable for 5+ years.

### **16th Feb - 10:00 – 12:00 - Spy School**

A must for any budding spies. Children will learn how to decipher and create a secret code, create their own invisible ink for their secret messages, make their own marshmallow shooter, create their own disguise and learn how to identify fingerprints. Suitable for 8+ years.

### **17th Feb - 10:00 – 12:00 - Coding for Families**

Working together, parents and children will be introduced to the basics of coding. Working through a number of fun and engaging activities, children will understand what coding is, how and why it is used and use their coding knowledge to create their own animation. Suitable for 8+ years.

### **18th Feb - 10:00 – 12:00 - Story Sacks**

Families will create a story sack to help bring their favourite book to life. Typical activities will include: Creating puppets and sequencing cards, decorating the story sack and reading stories aloud using props. Suitable for 5+ years.

**All sessions will take place at Crossland and Dudson Training, 39 – 41 Upperton Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 1LN. Please call 01323 720072 or email [info@cdtraining.co.uk](mailto:info@cdtraining.co.uk) for more information or to book your place.**



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# Let's Get Together



Everyone is welcome

Let's Get Together is a new community coffee morning that has been started as a place where anyone can come, find support and know that they don't have to feel alone.

**It's for everyone of all ages, genders, with children and without. Everyone is welcome.**

Our aim is to beat Loneliness and to point people in the right direction for the help they need. We may not be professionals but have a very wide range of personal experiences and are here to help and be the stepping stone to take that first step to finding professional help when you are ready.

**Let's Get Together meets:  
Thursday's, 10am-12pm at St Mary's Church Hall,  
69 Decoy Drive, BN226PP**

If you would like more information or cannot make it to the group please feel welcome to contact us directly using the email address below, or through our facebook page by scanning the QRCode

**[Lets.get.together@icloud.com](mailto:Lets.get.together@icloud.com)**





# 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 chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



### 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!

### Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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