



*"Participate, excel, take pride!"*

## Newsletter and Diary Dates November 2022

### Children in Need – THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to Children in Need, either through buying merchandise, or contributions on the day. We raised an incredible **£371!!**

Well done also to all our fabulous children who dressed up on the day, and a special mention to all those who took part in Snarestone's Got Talent!



### Goodbye and thank you, Mr Phillips!

Our Premises Officer, Mr Phillips, will be retiring at the end of this month, at a mere 79 years young! We would like to say a huge thank you and happy retirement to Colin, who will be sorely missed.

However, we are delighted to have appointed Mr Flavell, who will be our new Premises Officer.

### Christmas Jumpers

You will notice on the diary dates that there are a number of days in December when children can wear their Christmas jumper to school. However, we appreciate that buying a new Christmas jumper each year isn't cheap, so if you have any old Christmas jumpers that are too small, we would really appreciate them being donated to the school so that we can offer them to other children. We are planning on having a Christmas jumper 'swap shop' in the hall after school on Friday 25 November – here children can bring their old jumper and swap it for a 'new' one!

### Cross Country

I am so proud of how well our runners have been performing at our cross country races. However, we would love to see more of our children giving it a go! These races are extremely inclusive and are open to all primary ages and abilities. The next races are as follows:

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January:** NWL races at Hugglescote Primary School, 10am start

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January:** Unity races at Woodstone Primary School, 10:30am start

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February:** NWL races at Measham CE Primary School, 10am start

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March:** Unity races at Snarestone Primary School, 10:30am start. *We will also be looking for volunteers to help us with this particular event as we are hosting – more details nearer the time!*



### Christmas Singing in Ashby

We are very excited to have been asked to perform some Christmas songs on stage at the Ashby Christmas Fair on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December (arrive by 11:45). All pupils are welcome to join us, and we will shortly be sending home a letter with a reply slip so that we have some idea of who will be attending.

We will be performing a number of festive songs until about 12:25. We are currently learning the songs in school, but if you would like some extra practice, the lyrics and vocal tracks have been uploaded onto the homepage of our website, [www.snarestoneprimary.org](http://www.snarestoneprimary.org)

Please could children dress festively with their Christmas jumper, hats, tinsel etc.!

### Christmas Party and Disco

FOSS are organising a Christmas Party and Disco on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

Further details will follow shortly.



## Diary Dates

Please find below diary dates that we currently have for the rest of this term (*new or updated information in red*):

NOVEMBER			
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	'Flu immunisations	morning	Years R-6
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	VIP assembly – parents welcome to attend	2:45	All parents
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas jumper 'swap shop' in the hall	3:30	All pupils/parents
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	FOSS Christmas wreath making	6:00-9:00	Parents
DECEMBER			
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Local author, Julie Neville, will be visiting us. She will also be selling signed copies of her book, <i>Escape from the Cattery</i> , after school.	pm	All pupils
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Christmas songs at the Ashby Christmas Fair (on stage at 12:10-12:25, but please arrive by 11:45). Children to wear Christmas jumpers/hats etc.	11:45 arrive by stage	All pupils
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	School post box opens for Christmas cards – please display the name and class clearly on the envelope		
5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas craft week in classes	various	Years R-6
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Swans Christmas production – performance to parents/family	2pm	Swans
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Forest School Day for whole school (Welly Wednesday)	all day	Years R-6
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Swans Christmas production – performance to parents/family	5:30pm	Swans
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Jolly Jumper Day – children may wear a Christmas jumper in return for a donation to Save the Children		
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Christingle assembly – unfortunately we are unable to accommodate parents for health and safety reasons. <i>Children will make Christingles earlier in the week and will need to bring in a large orange on the Monday of this week.</i>	9:15	Years R-6
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	VIP assembly – parents welcome to attend	2:45	All parents
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Trip to see Aladdin in Derby – please note that we will be late back to school on this day (between 4:30-5:00)	all day – late back	Years R-6
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas dinner day – children may wear Christmas jumpers, tinsel, hats etc.	lunch	Year R-6
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Jingle Jog around school grounds – all participants will receive a medal!	pm	Year R-6
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	FOSS Christmas party and disco – FOSS to send letter with further information shortly	after school, times tbc	Year R-6
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas carol service in St. Bartholomew's Church – all welcome	2pm start	All welcome to attend
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas jumpers to school for the last day of term!		
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY</b>		
JANUARY			
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Teacher training day		
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	School opens to pupils		
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Young Voices at Resorts World Arena, Birmingham – tickets and t-shirts will be given out in first week after Christmas	all day until late	Years 3-6
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Unity cross country races at Woodstone Primary School	10:30am start	Year R-6





As it was Anti-Bullying Week last month, our latest online safety information sheet is about online bullying.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING



Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health ... so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.



## 1. GET CONNECTED

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.

## 2. KEEP TALKING

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics you might want to revisit include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).

## 3. STAY VIGILANT

Observe your child while they're using technology and just after they've used it. Are they acting normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, jumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.

## 4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.

## 5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and upsetting for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism – even if they haven't dealt with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.

## FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

**Childline:** talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at [www.childline.org.uk/get-support/](http://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/)

**National Bullying Helpline:** counsellors are available on 0845 225 5787 or by visiting [www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html](http://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html)

**The NSPCC:** the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at [www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/) and can be reached on 0800 800 5000

## 6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent 'fighting their battles for them'. In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.

## 7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a particular app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.

## 8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

Protecting themselves online is the priority, of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people falling victim to cyberbullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.

## 9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.

## 10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

## 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.







## Term Dates 2023-24

### Autumn Term

<b>Teacher Days</b>	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> August / Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>August Bank Holiday</b>	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>School Opens to Pupils</b>	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Mid-Term Break</b>	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
<b>Schools Close</b>	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023

### Spring Term

<b>New Year Bank Holiday</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024
<b>Teacher Day</b>	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
<b>School Opens to Pupils</b>	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
<b>Mid-Term Break</b>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2024
<b>Schools Close</b>	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024

### Summer Term

<b>School Opens</b>	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
<b>May Day</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
<b>Mid-Term Break</b>	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
<b>Schools Close</b>	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2024

