

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has flown by! We are so proud of all our children's achievements across school. The learning environment in all classes is always so calm and purposeful! Walking around school fills us with pride, seeing consistently great learning attitudes and work of such high standard.

**Celebrating Difference**—Our week started with a whole school assembly with our PSHE theme at the heart. We discussed how important it is to understand differences in each other and how this should be celebrated. Through an active game, the children were finding out that others in the school may have things in common with them and they may not have even realised!



## 2. Celebrating Difference

Includes lessons on Similarity & Difference, Bullying, Stereotyping, Racism, Discrimination and Celebrating Differences and Individuality.

Have a great weekend!

## New Gates

You may have noticed that we have our new electronic gates installed, which will help keep our school even more safe and secure. A big thankyou to our school's trust (NPAT), who have kindly supported us with the payment. **The top pedestrian gates (both at the front and back of school, at the top of the hill) will be open at the beginning and end of the school day (until 4:30pm to allow pick up for clubs).** If you would like to enter school outside of these hours, just press the buzzer and our school office will kindly let you in. We are aware that they are not fully working yet but the engineers have been very efficient with helping us.



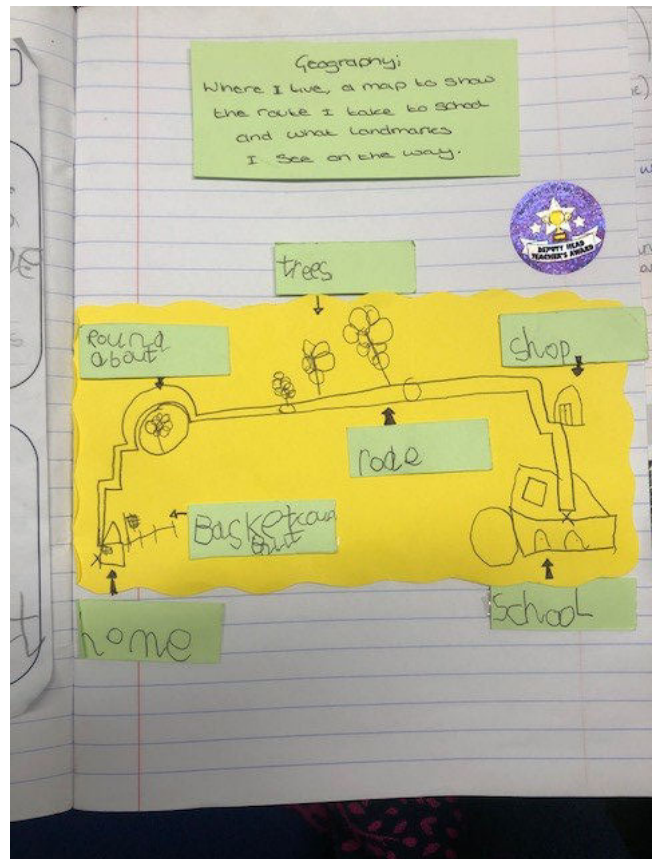
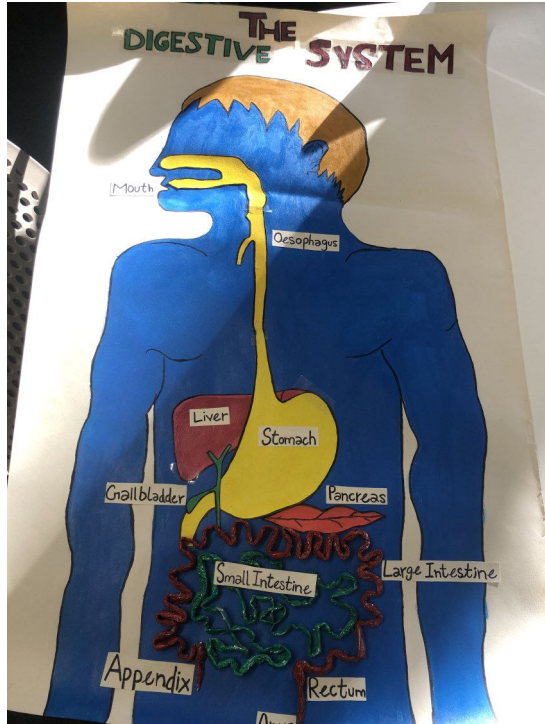
## Curriculum

**Year R**—have begun their new topic "people who help us." They have thoroughly enjoyed sharing pictures of people who help them at home and using these to prompt discussions during carpet times.

**Year 3**—have been really enjoying their new DT project of storybooks. They have been investigating how different pop up books work and had a great time evaluating their favourite ones.







## Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
Monday 20th November	Whole School	<b>Wear odd socks for our Anti-Bullying week</b>
Friday 1st December	Whole School	First Mufti Day to collect donations for Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 5th December	Year 5	Space Centre Trip <b>Leaving school 8:30am</b>
Tuesday 5th December	New Reception parents for Sep 2024	<b>Open evening tour for prospective parents for Reception September 2024.</b>
Thursday 7th December	Whole School	Christmas Jumper/ Christmas outfit day—raising money for 'Save the Children' (voted by parents)
Tuesday 12th December 3:30-5:30pm	Whole School	Mufti Day to collect donations for Christmas Fayre Christmas Fayre after school
Wednesday 13th December	YR-Y2	Nativity performance to parents
Wednesday 20th December 9am	Whole School led by Year 5	Christingle Service—Year 5 parents welcome

### Earrings and PE

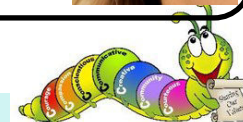
On PE days, please could earrings not be worn to school as children will need to remove these before the PE lesson starts. Stud earrings only please on other days; please keep hoop earrings at home.



### Messages from Mrs Llewelyn (our Family Support Worker and DSL)



- Coffee afternoon, with a theme around Young Carers but everyone welcome. Please contact the school office if you are interested, alternatively see Sam on the playground.
- Homework support sessions Wednesday after school 3:30pm 4:30pm—parents will need to stay with their children.



*Mrs. Turner—Deputy Headteacher*

*Mrs. Williams—Executive Headteacher*

**Friday 17th November 2023**

School Contact details: Tel – 01604 4011820



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.



### INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.



### REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.



### UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.



### A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.



### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.



## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.



### CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.



### SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.



### CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.



## Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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