

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have been focusing on **celebrating differences** and **anti-bullying**. Across the week, children have been wearing odd socks and showing their individuality. We have revisited our anti-bullying policy (paper copy sent out today) and explored the important messages and acronyms we use as a school. Please talk to your children about these and see what they can remember.



STOP =  
Several  
Times  
On  
Purpose

Start  
Telling  
Other  
People

## Home Learning Changes

Spelling Shed 



Miss Walker-Collins and Miss Bick have been working with school council to re-launch our home learning. A huge part of pupil voice has been around celebrating individual progress and not just classes. We have updated our celebration boards in the school corridor, individuals will now be recognised in assembly and names will also feature on our newsletter page each week.

Home work club is now optional to encourage children to take ownership over their home learning. Each year group has a slot on a Tuesday!

## Curriculum

**Year 1**—This week year 1 took part in a smelling experiment. The children used their sense of smell to figure out the 4 secret ingredients I had covered up. They loved trying to identify the different smells. Orange was their favourite!

**Year 2**—have been planning their puppets, that they are going to make in DT. They have had experience with practising an over-stitch and Mrs Shields was very impressed with their perseverance.

**Year 4** —have been immersed in the DT unit of 'seasonal stockings'. I have been amazed at their sewing skills. They have designed patterns and letters, that they have sewn on to their stocking.

**Year 6**—In Computing, Year 6 have been learning about websites. We have been investigating the features of websites and what makes them interactive and engaging to different groups. Children have started designing websites of their choice this week.

# Spelling Shed



Willow



Chestnut



Maxim— Y4



Sophia — Y4



T'melia — Y3



Year 2



Year 6



Maxim— Y6

Most Time Played



Maxim — Y4  
Most Coins

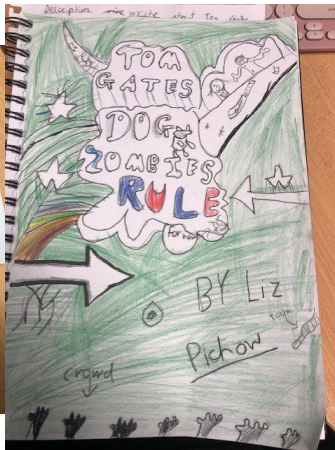


Stefan— Y6

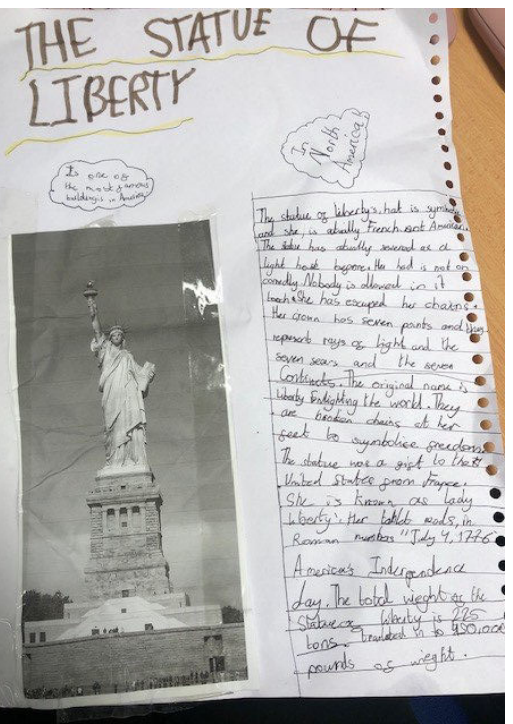
Most Time Played



Year 4 inspired by 'Tom Gates' books (David and Kobe)



Mariah—inspired by her Geography topic.



Paula—inspired by her DT sewing unit.



## Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
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	Open evening tour for prospective parents for Reception September 2024.
Thursday 7th December	Whole School	Christmas Jumper/ Christmas outfit day—raising money for 'Save the Children' (voted by parents)
Thursday 7th December 2023	YR, Y1 and Y2 parents	Christmas musical performance to parents, to celebrate our <b>'Good' outcome</b> . Mince pies will be available (Stone Circle)
Friday 8th December 2023	Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 parents	Christmas musical performance to parents, to celebrate our <b>'Good' outcome</b> . Mince pies will be available (Stone Circle and outside Y5 and Y6).
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 13th December	Whole School	<b>Dolce Christmas lunch—please order on the app</b>
Wednesday 20th December 9am	Whole School led by Year 5	Christingle Service—Year 5 parents welcome

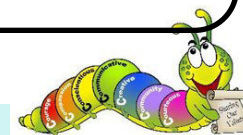
### School Gates

The two pedestrian gates, both at the front and back of school will be open every day before and after school. Please avoid using the car gate as cars will be coming and going and it is safer to use the walking gate.

### 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 23rd November 2023**

School Contact details: Tel – 01604 4011820



## Top Tips for Safer Online Shopping on

# BLACK FRIDAY AND CYBER MONDAY

Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become established as two of the year's biggest shopping events, giving consumers the opportunity to snap up a stash of stunning bargains. While this is generally good news, of course, the resultant retail frenzy can lead to people dropping their guard – especially online. In previous years, a seasonal surge in cyber-crime has seen schemes such as phishing emails and credit card scams being unleashed on unwary buyers. Our guide has some essential pointers on keeping your details – and your money – safe while you shop.

### ENSURE A SITE'S SECURE

Before inputting sensitive information (like your card details) into a website, check that the site's secure. The key thing is to look for a padlock symbol in the address bar and check that the URL begins with "https://" – the "s" indicates that the web address has been encrypted with an SSL certificate. Without that, any data entered on the site could be intercepted by criminal third parties.

### TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. Be especially wary if a site offering unbelievable discounts doesn't look professional (for example, if it's covered with pop-up adverts or it looks particularly outdated) – this often serves as a red flag that the seller might not be entirely trustworthy. Minimise risk by sticking with well-known, reputable retailers instead.

### REVIEW BANK STATEMENTS

Even if you've followed all our tips, it's probably worth checking your next bank statement for any unusual transactions. Criminals know that on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, lots of people make numerous purchases online: they're hoping that any stolen money will get lost in the crowd of other transactions. If you see a payment or payee you can't identify, raise it with your bank straight away.

### BEWARE OF SUSPICIOUS EMAILS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday often bring a significant spike in phishing emails, as criminals use the events' sense of urgency as cover for stealing personal information. Even if they look legitimate, be wary of emails requiring you to do something unusual or suspicious: providing your personal details in exchange for access to last-minute deals, for example, or clicking on a link to an unfamiliar site.

### CHECK IT'S THE REAL DEAL

It's not just cybercriminals you need to be wary of. Research has shown that some online retailers increase the price of certain items in the weeks before Black Friday and Cyber Monday – enabling them to then advertise "discounts" (which, in reality, have simply restored the cost to normal levels). Use an online price comparison tool to verify whether these "reductions" truly equate to a saving.

### MINIMISE MICROTRANSACTIONS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions extend to digital items as well as physical ones. Some gaming companies will offer discounts on in-app and in-game microtransactions such as loot boxes. If you're concerned about how much your child might spend on these upgrades, you can restrict their ability to make purchases (via their device's settings) or remove any linked payment methods.

### SET STURDY PASSWORDS

A strong, unique password is one of the most straightforward ways to protect yourself from cyber-crime. As most of us have multiple online shopping accounts, it can be tempting to use the same password for them all – but this puts your personal data at greater risk. You could try using a password manager to create a different, robust password for each online retailer that you visit.

### DITCH THE DEBIT CARD

Where possible, it's safest to shop online with a credit card (as opposed to a debit card) because it offers additional protection. If a purchase is made fraudulently on your credit card, there's a fair chance of your bank reimbursing you. Should criminals obtain your debit card details, however, they could empty your account in moments – and it can be difficult to recover your money.

### RESIST THE INFLUENCE

Recommendations from social media influencers are another thing to remain vigilant for on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. While many of these will be legitimate, remember that influencers are often paid to promote products – and to publicise deals that aren't quite as amazing as they might seem. Don't feel pressured into buying purely on their advice; look at everything with a critical eye.

### TAKE CARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media scammers are more active on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, as they know people are hunting for deals online. These scammers tend to concentrate on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, posting malicious links that can compromise shoppers' personal details. Other scammers, meanwhile, falsely advertise products in an attempt to trick users out of their hard-earned cash.

### 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.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday