



# SOUTH WITHAM ACADEMY NEWS

What another busy week in school we have had! School is looking very Christmassy with tress and baubles everywhere. The children keep spotting Gary, our resident gingerbread man who keeps turning up around the place exciting everyone!

We were treated to a sports ambassador assembly this week with Dai Greene, former GB 400m hurdles European and World Champion! The children were thrilled to learn about his journey in athletics and how through determination, resilience and aspiratio, he made it to the very top.

Some of our year 5 and 6 children have been completing their bikeability programme. They have done remarkably well in these freezing conditions. The weather has certainly added an extra challenge to their lessons.

Next week continues to be busy with our whole school panto trip and KS1 nativity taking place. The children have been practising and perfecting their roles I can't wait to put on a great show!

Have a happy and safe weekend,

*Mr Atter*



### UPCOMING DIARY DATES

- Tues 12th** - PANTO day
- Weds 13th** - Afternoon Nativity
- Thurs 14th** - Evening Nativity
- Fri 15th** - Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day!
- Mon 18th** - Carols around the Tree 2pm

## Calling parents of reception 2024 children!

We are now taking bookings for school tours for our reception 2024 intake. If you know anyone with a child who turns 4 before August 31st 2023, then please pass on our website link where they can book a tour.

<https://www.south-witham.lincs.sch.uk/>



## HOUSE POINT TOTALS

BURGHLEY

BELTON

WOOLSTHORPE

12357

11533

12476





## Little Hedgehogs



This week in Little Hedgehogs we have been busy decorating the Christmas tree with tinsel, crackers and baubles. Thank you to one of our Little Hedgehogs for bringing in a special piece of silver tinsel that has gone at the very top of our tree! The children have been decorating a picture of a tree on the tray with different objects and we have started making our post box to go in the room for our Christmas cards.



## Woodlands



What a week we've had in Woodland Class! We have been so busy working on our Nativity this week the children have been super at remembering their lines. In Science we have been looking at healthy eating and what a balanced diet looks like.

We also had a very special visit this week from Dai Greene, former GB athlete to deliver an exciting assembly to the whole school. He told us all about what it's like to be an athlete and the children were super keen to ask lots of questions.

We have been working on writing postcards to the stickman this week, the children thought about the Stick Mans adventures, who he may send a postcard to and what he may write. They have made some amazing postcards we are very proud of them!

Our Nativity will be on Wednesday 13th December at 2:30pm and Thursday 14th December at 5:30pm for more information please visit the schools Facebook page for arrival times etc. We look forward to you coming to

watch!



## Badgers



Badger Class have been busy working hard indoors or battling the cold weather outside this week for Bikeability. We have continued with our working on multiples and factors and how they can help us with fractions. In English we have been editing our persuasive letters to bike shops and have applied our persuasive writing skills in our Geography work detailing the impact of transporting food into England from other countries such as South America. Our science learning about separating materials by sieving and filtering has seen us explore what happens when we pour a mixture of water, rice and marbles through sieves and colanders as well as investigation which filter papers act the quickest slowest. Great work this week Badgers!

## Otters



Otter Class have once again been really busy this week. We have been working hard on all of our times tables, and loved spotting all of the patterns and tricks in the 9s. In English, we are preparing to write an information text about the USA, and are busy finding out lots of facts. In computing, we have been coding, and made some racing snails move across the screen (some of us changed the snails to a more festive theme!). On Friday, we sang at the Village Hall for the Senior Citizens lunch, and sadly we also said goodbye to Zainab, who has moved to a new home and school. We wish her good luck, and we know she will be brilliant!



# PRIDE OF SOUTH WITHAM

# Always Club



## Readers of the Week!



# Attendance Super Stars!

**BADGERS**  
with  
**95%**  
again!

## The Wrap Club

In the wrap club this week the children have been very busy with super important jobs. We have finished our letters to Santa and have had the pleasure of decorating the big Christmas tree in the school hall, as well as preparing a festive table for our always club children. We have also been reading lots of Christmas stories following the adventures of Kevin and Katie carrot and enjoying some hot chocolate while playing some Christmas quizzes



Attendance is something we celebrate each week in our Celebration Assembly on a Friday. We are required to collate and update the attendance figures for the local authority each week. Going forward we will be monitoring attendance closely to ensure that we are hitting the targets given to the school by the DFE.



BIG Happy birthday to

★ Charlie R ★

who celebrated their birthday recently



Well done to these 3 that completed sports at the weekend.



# NEW CHILDCARE FUNDING AVAILABLE!

The government have recently released details of further funding available for early years childcare over the next few years. The chart below details new funding that will be available soon.

The first one will be 15 hours funding for 2 year olds of working parents from April 2024

If this applies to you, please contact the school offices and we can give you details of how to access the funding to secure a place for your child in Little Hedgehogs nursery from April.

## Support with childcare costs - the road ahead



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about DISNEY+

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience; these may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings', below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

### BINGE WATCHING

With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

### PHISHING EMAILS

Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

### ENCROACHING ADVERTS

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 6+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

### ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 6 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.

### TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

### 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.



### ADD PIN PROTECTION

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

### ENJOY AS A FAMILY

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.



Source: [https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp\\_article\\_content&sys\\_kb\\_id=ff68cdd3dbefc49860f3eac613961970](https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=ff68cdd3dbefc49860f3eac613961970) / [https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp\\_article\\_content&sys\\_kb\\_id=f53eb11dbd441d0301feb2ed3961936](https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=f53eb11dbd441d0301feb2ed3961936) / [https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp\\_article\\_content&sys\\_kb\\_id=9682efc6bda0ac5005ceadc13961917](https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=9682efc6bda0ac5005ceadc13961917) / <https://help.disneyplus.com/en-GB/article/disneyplus-en-us-scam-prevention#--text=Be%20wary%20of%20sites%20that%20ask%20password%20or%20billing%20details>



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