



SOUTH WITHAM ACADEMY NEWS

This week has been a very productive and busy week in school again! I am really impressed with the children's concentration when I walk around school. The learning in classrooms is really fantastic and the children are really keen to tell me what they have been doing.

The weather has really dropped in temperature outside this week so it is great to see the children wrapped up warm in with hats and gloves. These sometimes get misplaced but are quickly reunited with owners if they have names in, thank you to everyone for naming items!

I had the pleasure of taking a group of children to the indoor sportshall athletics this afternoon - they were amazing at representing our school and did so well. It is always a proud moment when we get recognised for great sportsmanship and behaviour.

I hope you have a lovely weekend,



UPCOMING DIARY DATES

24th Jan - Young Voices YR 6

19th Jan - YR 5/6 Sportshall Athletics comp

26th Jan - Basketball Finals at USSC

16th Feb - End of Term 3

26th Feb - Start of Term 4

24th - 26th April - Y5 Residential to Kingswood Activity Centre

We are looking to recruit parent / family helpers to come into school to listen to some readers. It is a lovely opportunity to get involved in school life and support our wonderful children.

If anyone feels they would like to offer some time, please contact Mrs Caucutt in the office and we will make arrangements to secure times and days.



HOUSE POINT TOTALS

BURGHLEY

BELTON

WOOLSTHORPE

3235

2838

3236





Little Hedgehogs



This week in Little Hedgehogs we have been looking at the book *The gingerbread man*. On Monday the children decorated a gingerbread biscuit for snack time, spreading the icing over the biscuit before putting sprinkles on it. We have painted our own gingerbread people by using the playdough people cutters and also using different sized tools and colours to decorate our pictures. Some of the Hedgehogs decorated their own cardboard gingerbread person and started looking at the different sizes big and small.



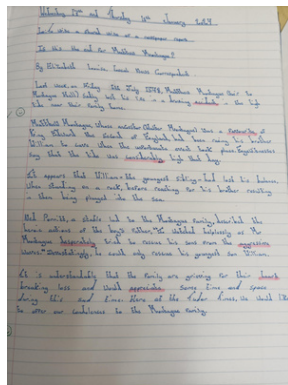
Woodlands



We have had a lovely week this week! All the children in woodland class have been super busy with their learning! The children have been super in maths and using lots of resources to learn in lots of different ways! In literacy we have been focussing on the text lost and found, the children have been drawing and describing characters from the story using adjectives, they have been amazing! In science we have been doing lots of outdoor learning – our focus this term is plants and the children have loved it. To finish off the week we did some DT where the children looked at structures and what they could do to make their structure stronger, we were very impressed with their thinking skills they loved exploring different structures and finding ways in which they could make theirs stronger.



Badgers



We have had a busy week learning in the Badger classroom. Everyone is much more competent on their fraction skills now: able to simplify, convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions as well as adding, subtraction, multiplying and dividing fractions. In English we have completed our shared write of a pretend Tudor newspaper article based on a drowning even in our class novel 'Treason'. In Science we have investigated the loss of mass when an item is burnt and where that mass goes. In History we have been learning about the events of the Spanish Armada: who was involved and what order the events happened.

Otters



This week has flown by again, with Otter class working hard! We have been thinking about our Victorian trip, and planning an explanation text about how they did their washing (no such thing as a machine in those days!). We have also learned some more about Queen Victoria herself, as well as developing our knowledge of the human body in Science by thinking about the function of the skeleton. In computing, we are learning to animate, and this week, created mini cartoons using the "onion skin" tool!



PRIDE OF SOUTH WITHAM



Always Club

YAY!



Readers of the Week!



Attendance Superstars
this week
goes to
Rabbits
AGAIN with
98%

CAREERS WEEK

Careers week is the first week in March and we would like to invite in anyone that would like to discuss their job with our classes.

Your job or career, can be anything. We would like you to give a talk to each class to explain what you do and how you got into the role. If you would like to volunteer for this, or know someone that would like to come in, please contact Mrs Caucutt in the office.

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.

Today we are saying goodbye and good luck to Abdullah and Noorudin. We wish them all the best for their future.



to Alex and Noah.
Noah is 7 today!
Happy birthday boys!





Year 5/6

Indoor Athletics Competition

This afternoon some of our children went to The Meres to take part in the Indoor Sportshall Athletics. They all did a brilliant job winning races and cheering everyone on. In the end we achieved 260 points which left us in 8th position out of 12. Well done team SWA.



SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though; they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos; this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

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.



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