



# Altofts Junior School

## Newsletter w/e 21/3/25



Dear Parents/Carer

Finally the sun is shining so some children have enjoyed eating their packed lunch outside this week. Every day we are asked if they can eat outside so the majority clearly enjoy it. Some children do choose to eat their packed lunch inside. One of the lunch options is a grab bag with sandwich, fruit/vegetables and a desert so school dinners also have the option of eating outside.

I was fortunate to watch our Year 5 and 6 girls play football last night against another St John the Baptist School. They had an amazing win of 9-0 and they played showing sportsmanship, team work and support for each other. Watch out England Lionesses! Thank you to Mr Cowell for organising and thank you to the parents who came to support.

### **Fund raising**

Year 6 are working hard again to raise some money for their after SAT's treat. I hear an Easter Fair is being planned for the rest of school during the last week of term. This will take place in school time where each class will be available to visit to play some of the games they are organising. The Year 6 children will be in touch with further details.

### **Parents evenings**

These will take place on the first week back: Tuesday 22nd April and Wednesday 23rd April. Please look out for information on how to book an appointment next week.

### **Esafety**

I have included information on how to keep your child safe on TikTok. This is an app with an age restriction of 13+ but many of our children talk about using it and watching videos on it. We are becoming increasingly concerned about what the children are being exposed to. They have knowledge that they should only be having once they get to high school; the children are not mature enough to process what they are seeing and can therefore be damaging to them. The NSPCC have shared this quote as a way in to talk with your child about what they are doing/seeing online:-

*Ask your child to give you a demo of the app or show you their favourite account. You could even suggest creating a video together, like filming yourself taking part in a dance challenge. This can be a great way to show an interest in what your child is doing but also will help you talk to them about some of the risks and the different privacy settings available. NSPCC*

### **Diary dates**

We have been finalising dates for the diary as below. We will endeavour not to change a date unless it is in the best interest of the children eg weather.

20th March Year 5/6 girls football match (St John the Baptist)

21st March Red Nose Day

21st March Tag Rugby tournament

27th March Year 6 World War 2 theatre event in school

2nd April Visit to Parliament and the Royal Courts of Justice: Student council, JLT and House Captains

3rd April 8:45 SEND coffee morning

3rd April 10am Easter service at Church—parents welcome



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22nd April First day of Summer term

22nd April Earth Day

22nd April Parent's evening

223rd April Parent's evening

12th-16th May SATs week

22nd May Year 6 railway safety visit

23rd May Last day of half term—finish 3pm

2nd June First day back

3rd June Class 7 inspire 1pm

4th June Class 8 inspire 1pm

5th June Class 9 inspire 1pm

9th—11th June Year 6 Bikeability

16th—18th June Bikeability

18th June Class 9 Barley Hall

19th June Class 8 Barley Hall

26th June Summer Fair

2nd—4th July Year 6 London residential

9th July Transition day

10th July Year 3 and 4 sports day 9:30, Year 5 and 6 sports day 1pm

**Further dates will be added as events get planned in**

### **Reminders**

#### **House competition**

Our House Captains have been busy organising an Easter event. They would like children to decorate a **hard-boiled** egg at home in their house colour. Children can pay 50p to enter the competition and there will be winners from each house. There will be a separate competition if any child would like to make a vehicle to transport their egg. Again 50p to enter. The egg that travels the furthest without breaking will be the winner. Money will go towards events for the children.

#### **Red Nose Day Friday 21st March**

Link to donate <https://donation.comicrelief.com/cart/FV93BnQ5PYjcUGFHGMVOe>

#### **School dinners**

Increased price to £2.80

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Joanne Vickers

Headteacher



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# Keep your child safe on TikTok

## What is it?

A video-sharing app that's very popular with children and teenagers. Users can gain followers and watch other people's short-form video content or slideshows. Anyone can make and upload their own videos, which often include:

- Dance routines
- Lip-syncing to music
- Comedy sketches

There are also videos of news and world events – such as live footage of sports events, protests, natural disasters and world crises.

The age recommendation is **13 and above**, but it's easy for younger children to sign up too.

### What are the main things to watch out for?

Some of TikTok's popularity comes from videos of 'viral' challenges (i.e. when 1 person attempts a particular skill and then others make their own videos copying it).

Most of these challenges are harmless (for example, copying dance moves or bottle flipping) but some can be dangerous. For example:

Eating or drinking inedible substances, eating and drinking a far greater quantity of something than is recommended, or purposeful overdosing on common medicines (e.g. 'the TidePod challenge', 'the nutmeg challenge' and 'the Benadryl challenge')

Holding your breath or being choked until you pass out (the 'blackout challenge')

Challenges with sexualised content (e.g. the 'silhouette challenge' or 'foopah', which feature indirect nudity using mirrors, shadows or reflections to avoid content filters)

Other things to watch out for on TikTok include:

Search results on TikTok are based on a number of factors, including trending content and content a child has seen or interacted with in the past. If a child has accidentally clicked on unsuitable content, the search algorithms may drive more unsuitable content to their For You Page (their personal feed)

Sexual, violent, racist and/or homophobic content and other forms of hate speech can appear on your child's For You page. Watching the video and commenting, even if they comment negatively, can drive more related content to their feed

Content about eating disorders (known as 'pro-ana') and bullying

Advertising of products available through the TikTok Shop (TikTok's marketplace)

Under-16s can't send or receive private messages. But once users have made contact, for example through comments on videos, they could still switch to another app like Snapchat to chat privately and swap images and videos.



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### 7 steps to keep your child safe

#### 1. Use Family Pairing (also known as family safety mode)

This feature lets parents/carers control some settings on a child's account from their own phone, including screen time limits, muting notifications, filtering keywords and enabling Restricted Mode. You can also view your child's account activity, restrict search functions and limit who can discover your child's account.

You'll need to download TikTok and link your account to your child's. Once you've created a profile, follow the instructions from [TikTok Help Centre](#) to set up Family Pairing, linking your device and your child's.

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing>

#### 2. Keep their account set to private and limit profile information

Accounts for users aged 13 to 15 are set to private by default. This means that only approved 'followers' can see your child's videos.

If their account is public, their content becomes viewable on or off TikTok, may appear in search engines, and even news sites.

Even with a private account though, anyone can see your child's profile information. Tell them not to share personal information publicly, like their full name or where they go to school. Encourage your child to only accept 'follower' requests from people they know and trust.

To check your child's account is private, on their phone, simply [follow these instructions](#) provided by the TikTok Help Centre.

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/making-your-account-public-or-private>

If you have family pairing set up, you can check this using family pairing.

#### 3. Enable Restricted Mode so your child doesn't see inappropriate content

You can do this through the Family Pairing settings. Restricted Mode limits content containing mature and complex themes. Restricted Mode also disables going LIVE (live-streaming) from the account and gifting.

If you're not using Family Pairing, you can enable Restricted Mode by [following the instructions here](#) from TikTok Help Centre

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/restricted-mode>

#### 4. Consider setting a time limit on use

TikTok can be hard to put down – help your child rein in their use with a time limit.

You can do this through the Family Pairing settings, or on your child's phone by setting a daily screen time limit. You can do this by [following the instructions here](#). So long as your child is using the same account, this will apply across multiple devices.

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-information/screen-time>

#### 5. Restrict in-app purchases to block spending

TikTok has its own marketplace, TikTok Shop, which allows sellers to advertise and sell products to other users. Your child might also be tempted to support their favourite TikTok personalities by gifting TikTok Coins, an in-app currency paid for with real money.

The steps to prevent this will differ depending on your child's device.



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On **iPhone/iPad**, you can use Screen Time settings to disable in-app purchases by [following the instructions here](https://support.apple.com/en-gb/102470). <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/102470>

You can also restrict spending on your child's device with [Family Sharing](https://support.apple.com/en-gb/108380).

<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/108380>

On **Android** devices, you can enable purchase verification for any spending through Google Play. You can find further [instructions on this process](https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1626831) on the Google Play help page.

<https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1626831>

For children under 13 you can use the parental controls available through the Family Link app. You can find guidance on [how to set up Family Link](https://support.google.com/families/answer/7101025) here.

<https://support.google.com/families/answer/7101025>

Keep an eye on your bank statements to check your child isn't getting round the controls.

### **6. Check settings on interactions like duets, stitching, direct messages and comments**

Duets are where users reply to one person's video with another and then share it. The videos appear together, side by side. Users can also respond by 'stitching', where the original video is reposted and the response plays afterwards. This feature isn't available for users under 16 and set to friends only by default for users aged 16 and over.

Your child can also change settings for comments on their videos via the Privacy section, and for users aged 16 and over, change settings for who can send them direct messages, duet and stitch with them, and download their videos.

If you have Family Pairing set up, you can do this through the Family Pairing settings.

### **7. Make sure your child knows how to report content and users**

Filters aren't perfect, so make sure your child knows how to report harmful or upsetting content or users. Make sure you both know the rules too – TikTok bans nudity, sexually suggestive or explicit content, bullying, graphic content, misinformation, gambling, pro-anorexia content, dangerous activities and challenges and hate speech.

You can keep your child safe by showing them how to report or block unwanted or harmful content:

To **report an account**, [follow the instructions here](https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem/report-a-user) from the TikTok Help Centre.

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem/report-a-user>

To **report a video, comment, series, LIVE or other problem**: [follow the instructions](https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem/) from TikTok Help Centre:

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem/>

To **delete a follower**, [follow the instructions here](https://support.tiktok.com/en/using-tiktok/followers-and-following/removing-followers) from the TikTok Help Centre

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/using-tiktok/followers-and-following/removing-followers>

To **block users** altogether, [follow the instructions here](https://support.tiktok.com/en/using-tiktok/followers-and-following/blocking-the-users) from the TikTok Help Centre

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/using-tiktok/followers-and-following/blocking-the-users>

To **delete, mute, or filter messages, or block users from sending direct messages**: [follow the instructions provided](https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/direct-message) by the TikTok Help Centre

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/direct-message>



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## EASTER HOLIDAY SESSIONS



Complete  
Training 

# MINI MEDICS TRAINING

## First Aid Training for Children 3 Hour Course

This 3 hour course is a very basic introduction to First Aid and Defibrillation aimed at Children between the ages of 7 and 13 years.

The training is educational and practical, and instils the importance of helping someone in an emergency.

A range of subjects are covered including:

- ✓ What is First Aid?
- ✓ First Aid Kits
- ✓ Important things to know about First Aid
- ✓ DR ABC
- ✓ Resuscitation (CPR)
- ✓ Defibrillation
- ✓ Recovery Position
- ✓ Choking
- ✓ Asthma
- ✓ Wounds & Bleeding
- ✓ Shock



*Trainers are fully  
DBS checked*

**Cost £30 per child**

Book your places on our [Easter Holiday Sessions](#) by scanning the QR code above

Training is held at Somerset House,  
Sandal, Wakefield, WF2 7JE (next to Asda)





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## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

6 days or less  
absence per year  
**97% or above**  
**VERY GOOD**  
**THIS IS YOUR**  
**TARGET**

Between  
7 and 19 days  
absence per year  
**90% - 96%**  
**BELOW**  
**EXPECTATIONS**

More  
than 19 days  
absence per year  
**Under 90%**  
**POOR**  
**ATTENDANCE**

This week's highest attendance goes to Class 9 with an attendance of 98.42%. Amazing attendance—very well done!