



Altofts Junior School

Newsletter w/e 25/4/25



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to our final term of the year. Summer term is always a favourite for staff and the children due to the trips, events like sports day and preparing for their new class/school for September.

We had a great start to the week with our Earth Day and we thank Miss Lund for organising activities for children to participate in. Children planted seeds, went litter picking and completed a number of activities to help them understand how they can help to look after the planet we live in. Our Eco Warriors are active throughout the year: collecting recycling, turning off lights etc so it was a great opportunity for all of the children to be involved with eco activities.

Thank you to all parents for your attendance at our parent's evenings. Your support is crucial in your child's progress. It is an opportunity to find out how well your child is doing and if there are any areas to support them with.

SEND coffee morning Thursday 1st May at 8:30am

We welcome parents of children with any special needs to our coffee morning this week. It is a great opportunity to meet other parents and to support each other. Mrs Sheard and other staff will be on hand to chat and the focus is regulation. Mrs Sheard will share the strategies and language we use in school and also strategies to use at home. Please come and join us.

Every Child Should

This term we launch our Every Child Should curriculum in which each year group will complete a number of lessons/activities outside of the curriculum to develop those crucial life skills. Various stakeholders have had input to the activities and they cover things such as basic first aid, basic cooking/sewing skills, road safety and experiencing such as visiting a university in Year 6.

Esafety

This week I have attached information about the safe use of Whatsapp for children. Again it is an app rated 13+ but we know some of our children use it. Reminder that we no longer accept smart phones in the office with any social media on them. If you are thinking of purchasing a phone for your child, we encourage you to buy a 'brick' (non-smart) phone. They are much cheaper and safer for children!

Wishing everyone an enjoyable weekend.

Mrs Joanne Vickers



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Reminders

School dinners

Increased price to £2.80 from 22nd April

Belongings

Please label all belongings so we can get them back to their owner.

Volunteer speakers

Our RE curriculum aims to ensure that pupils know about and understand a range of religions: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism and Humanist communities. We are looking for visitors, who follow one of these religions, to come and talk to the children about their religion and to explain aspects of their religion eg festivals and places of worship. If you would be interested in talking to the children or know someone who is interested, please contact school via the office. The talks will really help to bring RE lessons to life.

Diary dates

7th-8th May Year 4 Nell Bank

12th-16th May SATs week

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

2nd June First day back

2nd June Class 1 and Class 3 Bagshaw Museum

3rd June Class 2 Bagshaw Museum

3rd June Mary Poppins evening theatre trip (Year 5 and Year 6)

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

20th June Class 7 Barley Hall

26th June Summer Fair

1st July Class 4 inspire afternoon

2nd July Class 5 inspire afternoon

3rd July Class 6 inspire afternoon

2nd-4th July Year 6 London residential

9th July Transition day

9th July Summer disco for Year 3,4 and 5

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.



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PARENT/CARER FACTSHEET

Keep your child safe on WhatsApp

What are the risks?

- › Bullying, particularly in group chats
- › Seeing content of a sexual nature, or showing violence and hatred
- › Settings that allow messages to disappear after 24 hours or 7 days. This could make it harder to track bullying, and your child might share things they wouldn't otherwise because they know it will disappear
- › Sharing their live location, particularly with people they don't know in person
- › Spam or hoax messages
- › Being exposed to strangers through group chats
- › Group chats encouraging self-harm

WhatsApp says the **minimum age** to use it is **13**, but younger children can still use it easily.

6 steps to help your child use WhatsApp safely

1. Keep their personal information and location private

By default, WhatsApp shows profile photos, status and when you last used it to all users.

Encourage your child to only share this information with their [contacts](#), and be careful about who they talk to on the app, as anyone could pretend to be a child online.

To check and change these settings:

- › On an iPhone, follow the instructions to change [privacy settings here](#)
- › On Android, follow the instructions to change [privacy settings here](#)

WhatsApp also has a feature that you can use to share your 'live location' with others. Tell your child to keep this turned off, or to only share their location with people they trust.

To check this:

- › On an iPhone, follow the instructions to change [live location settings here](#)
- › On Android, follow the instructions to change [live location settings here](#)



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2. Remind your child to be careful about what they share

It's easy to forward messages, photos and videos to others on WhatsApp. Even if your child sets a message to automatically disappear, or deletes it after sharing it, the person they send it to could still screenshot it, forward it to someone else, or save it.

So, before they share anything, tell them to ask themselves: "Would I want others to see what I'm about to send?"

3. Remind your child they can leave group chats

If they see something they're not comfortable with in a group chat or are in a chat with someone they don't know and are uncomfortable with, they should leave the group. To do this:

- On an iPhone, follow the instructions to [leave a WhatsApp group here](#)
- On Android, follow the instructions to [leave a WhatsApp group here](#)

4. Make sure your child knows how to report and block people

When they first receive a message from an unknown number, they'll have the option to report it.

If someone in your child's contacts is upsetting them or making them uncomfortable, they can report or block them at any point (WhatsApp won't tell the user they've been blocked/reported).

To do this:

- On an iPhone, follow the instructions to [block and report another user here](#)
- On Android, follow the instructions to [block and report another user here](#)

5. Encourage your child to watch out for spam and hoax messages

These can appear to come from contacts, as well as people they don't know. Tell your child to watch out for messages that:

- Ask them to tap on a link, or specifically to click on a link to activate a new feature
- Ask them to share personal information like bank account details, date of birth or passwords
- Ask them to forward the message
- Say they have to pay to use WhatsApp
- Have spelling or grammar errors

6. Tell our school about any bullying they experience

Look for signs they your child may be being bullied, like being afraid or reluctant to go to school, feeling nervous, losing confidence or becoming distressed and withdrawn, or losing sleep.



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ATTENDANCE MATTERS



This week's highest attendance goes to Class 8 with an attendance of 99.02%. Amazing attendance—very well done!