



*Newsletter 10*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024*

Dear Parents, Carers and members of our school community,

It has been so lovely to spend time in the classes and on the playground over the last couple of weeks, seeing all the children enjoying their learning and playtimes. The new football goals, bought with some of the money raised with the ProStrike Soccer sponsorship, are now in regular use.

We are all glad to see the days starting to stretch now and look forward to some better weather and brighter days ahead.

**Library Opening**

We are very excited to announce that our school library is now opening after school three days per week. This will be from 3.30 to 3.45pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Children will be able to borrow two books at a time. Our Year 5 librarians have been working very hard behind the scenes making sure everything is ready to launch and we hope they will be well supported.

**World Religion Day**

There was such a lovely buzz throughout school for World Religion Day. We started the day with a launch worship and then each class focused on a different religion and looked at an important story and value linked to it. Mrs Green arranged some great activities for the children. Please keep an eye on our school Facebook page for some wonderful photos of the day which we will be able to share soon.

**Collective Worship – Perseverance.**

This half term we have been thinking about Perseverance in our worships and the children have been considering what this means to them. We've linked this to 'being the best we can be', sticking at things when they are hard, encouraging others and not giving up. We all agreed that perseverance sometimes means being willing to ask for help from others. We have also had visitors in from 'Open the Book' and this week our young leaders completed a fantastic worship introducing themselves to the school and encouraging all the children to care for our school playground equipment. For National Story Telling Week we have also shared stories and classes have visited each other to enjoy books together.

**Junior Road Safety Officers – Poster Competition.**

Our Junior Road Safety Officers were really pleased with all the entries to the poster competition. The winners will receive their prizes in our Celebration Worship today. Well done to Amelia, Orla and Robert!

**Measles**

As you may know, the UKHSA have declared the current measles outbreak a national incident. Measles is a highly infectious disease which can lead to very serious consequences. Yesterday, we circulated a bulletin for parents/carers from the Lincolnshire Health Protection Service. This contains important information about symptoms, vaccination and where to find further advice.

**World Book Day**

This year, World Book Day is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March and we are inviting all children to dress up as book characters to help us celebrate the day. The PTFA are organizing a preloved sale of costumes and further details of this will follow after half term. For any children who would prefer not to dress up, they are welcome to come to school in non-school uniform. Miss Footitt and the PTFA are working together on a sponsored reading event for all the children across school to engage in. This will be to fund new books for school. Further details will follow after half term.

**AI Chat Apps**

We have been asked to share the information below about AI Chat Apps with all parents. Whilst AI can be a really creative tool and has many benefits that will change how we use the internet, it is important that parents are aware that safety features are very inconsistent. It is recommended that any AI Chat Apps are checked by adults and monitored to avoid harmful content being seen by children and young people. Please see the fliers below for further detail.

Best wishes,

*Mrs Lucy Jackson, Headteacher*



### **Naming items**

Please ensure all items coming into school are clearly named. This helps us return items to the correct owner quickly if they get misplaced. As we move into the colder months, this will include hats, scarves and gloves 😊.

Many thanks for your help in this.



### **Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone.**

If you believe that a child may be a victim of neglect, abuse or cruelty call Children's safeguarding - 01522 782111 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm). This is Lincolnshire Children's Services who will take the information and log any details you wish to share.

### **Parking**

We ask all members of our school community to park with care and respect for our children and other road users.



### **Rule 243 of the Highway Code**

This rule in the Highway Code makes it very clear that we **must not** park near a school entrance, anywhere that would prevent access for the Emergency Services or on a bend. Please take care and make sure you follow the Highway Code.

### **Park and Stride**

The car parks at the playing field and social club are available for use for any parents to 'park and stride' each day. This may help with congestion and therefore help keep our children as safe as possible.

### **Key Dates for Spring Term 1**

#### **Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> February**

*Children's Mental Health Week*

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Y2 Workshop 'Dealing with Emotions'

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Safer Internet Day

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> – Y5 Workshop 'Positive Relationships'

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> – Last day before half term break

#### **Half Term – 12<sup>th</sup> February to 16<sup>th</sup> February**

#### **Week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> February**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - Return to school for Term 4

#### **Week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> – Stay Safe Partnership visits for Y4 and Y6.

#### **Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> March**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day

#### **Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> March**

*Science Week*

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Comic Relief (non-uniform)

#### **Week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Parent/Carer Consultation Evening

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Parent/Carer Consultation Evening

#### **Week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> March**

*Easter Enrichment Week*

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February – Last Day of Term

#### **Easter Break**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January to Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April inclusive

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April - First day of the Summer Term

Term dates can be found here –

[School term times – Lincolnshire County Council](#)

# AI Chatbots What is it ?

While online your children frequently encounter artificial intelligence (AI) in various forms. One increasingly common application is the AI chatbot, a computer program designed to simulate conversation with humans. They access information from across the internet and use it to generate responses that mimic human conversation. AI has a wide range of uses from providing information, engaging in conversations or assisting with problem solving. It's a powerful tool that offers exciting possibilities for children and young people, but like any tool, it also comes with potential dangers.

## Examples of Chatbots;



**ChatGBT**  
 Generates human-like responses to text-based conversations



**Replika**  
 An AI companion that is paired with a 3D avatar



**My AI**  
 My AI is a chatbot available on Snapchat



**HiAi**  
 HiAi allows users to create a character to talk to



**AI Friends**  
 Has pre set fictional characters for user to chat with



**WOMBO**  
 An app that makes pictures based on text prompts

## The dangers;

### Harmful and inappropriate content:

While AI Chatbots may seem intelligent they are not able to determine what information is good or bad. This can often result in responses that may be harmful or inappropriate for young people. Some apps try to get around this by creating rules and filters for the chatbots to follow. However, whilst investigating this issue we found that most available ai chat apps would jump to sexualised, toxic and abusive conversations with little input from the user, making them inappropriate for the given age rating.

### Misinformation and manipulation:

AI can be used to create deepfakes (a video of a person in which their face or body has been digitally altered) and generate realistic but fabricated content. Children may struggle to discern real from fake information, making them vulnerable to online manipulation and propaganda.

## The dangers continued;



### Connections and wellbeing:

AI Chatbots are designed to be a virtual friend, users can create fictional characters or create a persona from scratch. It is important to understand why children are seeking friendship in this way and if there is a need to seek further wellbeing support. We found that some of the AI apps merge AI and live chats in a way that was not overly clear. Making it possible for strangers to contact children undetected. It is essential to check for these features before giving children or young people access to these apps.

### Privacy and data collection:

Many AI apps collect your personal data, including children's online activity and interactions. This data can be used for target advertising, profiling, or even sold to third parties. AI should be treated as though it is a stranger, never sharing private and personal information. Be careful of adverts whilst most AI Chat apps are free to download these include popup adverts. We found that these adverts were often for live chat apps that were not age appropriate for the rating they were given.

## 5 tip for safe usage;



- 1. Know your tools:** Research the chatbot and test it out before letting your child use it, understanding its features, age appropriateness, and potential risks. Check to see what parental features they have. Remember many of the chatbots we used were inappropriate so it's important to explore first.
- 2. Open communication:** Talk openly about the risks, encouraging your child to share their experiences and ask questions about things that feel uncomfortable. Try to avoid judgment or dismissiveness that could put them off sharing.
- 3. Set boundaries:** Establish time limits and nonprivate spaces in the house for chatbot use, prioritizing real-world interactions and offline activities.
- 4. Fact-check together:** Teach your child critical thinking skills, encouraging them to double-check information shared by the chatbot through reliable sources.
- 5. Be the guide:** Explore chatbots together, demonstrating responsible online behaviour and showing how to interact respectfully and safely.

**Remember AI isn't all bad, however it is a new technology that requires adult supervision whilst the safety features catch up. AI even helped write some of this newsletter.**



To learn more about AI and all parents need to know, visit [InternetMatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org). A full range of step by step parental controls guides are also available.

For advice and support on young people's mental health and wellbeing check out Healthy Minds Lincolnshire for self help guides. You can also call the Here4You Line on 0800 234 6342 to speak directly to one of the practitioners who will talk through how you are feeling.



# NSPCC

## Online gaming and keeping children safe

**Do you know your whispers from your skins? Your Fortnite from your EA Sports FC 24?**

As part of the NSPCC Game Safe Festival, we're encouraging parents, carers and those working with children and families to have conversations about online gaming.

**GamCare will be sharing expert advice, and you'll hear directly from young people.**

**Our webinar will help you:**

- understand how young people game online.
- learn about tools and resources that support safe play.
- gain the knowledge you need to keep children safe.



**GAME SAFE  
FESTIVAL**

**7 February 2024, 7pm-8pm, via  
Zoom. Book your place via this link:  
[nspcc.org.uk/gamesafe/tickets](https://nspcc.org.uk/gamesafe/tickets)**

**EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR**

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