

15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



@WisGreenPrimary

## A Note from the Headteacher

I would like to send an enormous thank you to all our parents for your support during such a difficult and worrying time. I appreciate that some of you are juggling working from home or looking after young ones with trying to support one or more children with remote learning (not an enviable task!), whilst others are continuing with vital work that is critical to the coronavirus response, and I wanted you to know that we are here to help in any way we can. Please email or phone the office if you have any questions or concerns at all.

You will see from our remote learning information sheet (available on our website) that we have been instructed to provide three hours daily learning for Key Stage One children. The requirements for the end of Key Stage Two have now been increased to four hours. Whilst we are working hard to ensure that this is provided, we understand that, depending on your family circumstances and digital access at home, this may seem like a daunting task. Please be assured that we appreciate that not every child will be able to complete every lesson every day. Class teachers are happy to advise you if you are finding the workload difficult to maintain, so please do let them know.

Parents and teachers alike are having to familiarise themselves with our new online learning platform and we will continue to streamline our provision in order to make it as simple, straightforward and consistent as possible. This may mean us making slight changes to the format for some or all classes as we improve our knowledge and respond to your feedback and that of teachers. Please know that any changes made have been thoroughly considered and are for the benefit of children, parents and staff as we all continue on our steep learning curve. Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated!

## Critical Workers

The DfE's guidance clarifies critical workers as being '**parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response...parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.**'

**If you are able to access alternative child care during this period, rather than sending your child to school, please do so.**

**If anyone in the household is furloughed at any time by their employer, their child should also stay at home. If your circumstances change, please let us know.**

## Spotlight on Safeguarding

Miss Greenway, Deputy Headteacher

I just want to firstly say that you are doing an amazing job. It's not easy, juggling all your responsibilities and home schooling. We understand. You are all a part of this amazing community so please support each other. We will do everything we can to help you at this time.

We are all using technology far more and our children's safety is our top priority. Please take some time to look through the safety tips written by Net-aware and see if there are any safety changes you need to make <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/8-tips-for-keeping-your-kids-safe-online-during-lockdown/>

The NSPCC also has lots of information on Lockdown Life and can help if you are struggling with different aspects of lockdown. Please reach out if you need help.



# 10 Key messages to share with your child

However and wherever you have a conversation with your child, here are 10 top tips you can share to support them in staying safe online.

1. "You can always come to me if you need help." This is the most important thing to let your child know, and a way to give them confidence to speak to you when they need support.
2. "What would you do if this happened...?" Give your child strategies to deal with upsetting experiences online.
3. "Remember that not everyone is who they say they are online." Remind your child to always tell an adult if anyone they only know online makes them feel uncomfortable, or asks to meet up or share personal information or images.
4. "Keep your personal information safe, and other people's too." This includes full names, contact details, and real-time locations.
5. "Be respectful to others online." Remind them if it's not okay offline...
6. "Think before you post." Help your child to be aware that their online actions can have consequences for themselves and others.
7. "Remember to ask if it's okay." Asking for, and receiving permission from others online is important before sharing images, adding people into group chats, etc.
8. "Remember not everything is true online." Help your child to be a critical thinker to find accurate information.
9. "The things other people post online might not always show what their life is really like." Reassure your child that nobody's life is as perfect as it may seem online, and judging yourself against other's online lives isn't a fair comparison.
10. "Recognise how going online makes you feel and take a break when you need to." Your child may need support in doing this, such as timers and reminders.



## Wellbeing Worries

We have introduced a virtual 'talk box' for children working remotely at home, to replace our in-school 'time to talk' box. Please let your child(ren) know that they can message [talk@wisboroughgreenschool.org.uk](mailto:talk@wisboroughgreenschool.org.uk) if they have any worries or concerns about their schoolwork or if they are missing their friends or feeling lonely. Obviously we want them to share any concerns with you, as their parents or carers, but sometimes it can help to talk to someone else. If the worries are about technical issues or are work related, we should be able to solve these fairly quickly. These emails will be sent directly to Miss Greenway, our SENDCo/Wellbeing Lead and Mrs Butcher-Collier, our Learning Mentor, and will be entirely confidential.

## Twitter

We strongly recommend that you follow the school on Twitter [@WisGreenSchool](https://twitter.com/WisGreenSchool). Should any last minute changes occur, this is our quickest way of communicating urgent information to parents. Of course, we will still send a follow up email to all parents and carers, but this may take slightly longer. Thank you.

## Christmas Competition

It certainly seems like a distant memory now, but we would like to announce that Year 5 were the proud winners of our first Christmas Door Competition trophy. Congratulations Year 5! As well as making their own baubles, they included personal messages about what they were grateful for in 2020. Thank you to the PTA who kindly arranged the trophy and donated a £100 voucher to each class that took part.



## Wider Curriculum

**Competition time! Design your dream cycling jersey and win a Frog bike!** You will be able to enter the challenge from **4 January until 29 January 2021** – the winner will be chosen by judges from the Bikeability Trust and Frog Bikes teams. You can find a template to use here: <https://bikeability.org.uk/download/3786> – please be sure to make your design creative, fun and unique! <https://bikeability.org.uk/cycle-more/family-cycling/just-for-fun/>

Here is a series of short films to help families cycle more confidently together. Each film focuses on different stages of a cycling journey and features the four core functions used in Bikeability training: <https://bikeability.org.uk/cycle-more/family-cycling/essential-cycling-skills-for-families/>

The latest West Sussex Music “Music on the Menu” can be found on our [website](#).

To take part in a free Rhythm Master Zoom Class, including drumming, beatboxing and body beats, with Ollie, please visit our [website](#) for more information.

**Covid Hotline** – If you receive a positive Covid result for your child over the weekend or during the evening, please email [covid19@wisboroughgreenschool.org.uk](mailto:covid19@wisboroughgreenschool.org.uk) straight away.

## Important dates for your diary

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February – INSET Day**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term**

*Stay Safe and Take Care*