

Value for this week

- Unity

This week's value is Unity. Congratulations to our Values Champions from last week and this week - Thomas, Isobel, Billy, Daniel, Hamish, Miley, Fred, Ollie, Alice, Ralph, Ella, Poppy, Russell and Alice!

Year 2

Wow what an amazing couple of weeks we have had in Year 2!

WELCOME

TO OUR NEWS

Last week as part of our fairy tales topic, we had a great time watching Pinocchio. The children really enjoyed it, they said...

'My favourite part was when the puppet master tried to chop Pinocchio's head off!' Matteo, 'I liked when Pinocchio's legs came off because they got burnt!' Edie, 'I enjoyed the shark scene when it was chasing Pinocchio.' Hugh, 'I enjoyed watching Pinocchio for the first time!' Darcey, 'I enjoyed going to the theatre.' said Harry.

We also enjoyed planning, selling and giving out popcorn at the interval as part of our fundraising. 'I loved getting popcorn at half time!' said Arlo. 'The popcorn was a treat!' Reuben, 'It was really good!' said Jacob.



This week linked to our science learning; we released our butterflies which we have watched grow. We have enjoyed observing the life cycle of a butterfly and loved holding the butterflies and watching them fly away.

'I really liked holding them, I have never held one before!' said Izzy. 'We made life cycle booklets in science to show what we learnt.' Chloe, 'It was funny when the chrysalis went really wiggly when Miss Peachey was putting them in their new home.' said Edie. 'Holding the butterflies on orange was my favourite part!' Harry, 'I liked watching them fly in their butterfly net.' Reuben and 'I helped to release them at the start of the day!' said Sophie.

Yesterday, we had a very different and exciting day where we spent the whole day in fancy dress. Daphne said, 'We did a 1km run around the field and playground to raise money for our outdoor learning classroom.' 'We have taken lots of pictures which are very funny!' said Edie. 'When Kit came in dressed in an inflatable dinosaur it was really funny!' said Darcey.



Year 2 have had an amazing year and I am incredibly proud of all of them!

Weekly Safeguarding Spotlight!

This week's safeguarding spotlight focuses on Amazon Alexa with advice for parents and educators to support awareness of the potential risks.

What parents & carers need to know about... AMAZON ALEXA

Alexa is an artificial intelligence (AI) software assistant created by Amazon in 2014 through which smartphone, tablet and smart device users can issue voice commands and ask questions in a range of languages by issuing the 'wake' or activation word Alexa. It can be accessed in several ways and is integrated into a growing number of 'smart' products including speakers, phones and clocks. Once viewed as expensive gimmicks, Alexa is now one of the most used voice assistants in the world.

Privacy concerns

By their nature, AI voice assistants involve the collection of large amounts of data. How this is stored and the uses to which it is put has aroused growing concern. Experts also worry about who has access to voice recordings, which in 2019 the company admitted sometimes included employees of Amazon and its commercial partners. There is also the more general anxiety that internet voice assistants might record private conversations and not only commands or questions.

Age-inappropriate content

Using Alexa as a speaker to play your favourite songs is one of the most popular uses for the device. However, without any parental controls in place, Alexa won't filter the lyrics so it's possible that children could hear something they shouldn't. Similarly, Alexa isn't always able to identify who or what age the person is who is issuing a voice command so if children ask a question which might not be age-appropriate, the chances are they're likely to get an age-inappropriate answer.

Insecure devices

The devices and their background services are another worry, which can have software vulnerabilities that make them insecure in complex ways. In 2020, for instance, researchers discovered that the services to which Echo products connect were insecure, potentially allowing hackers to access personal information such as voice conversations. In 2017, researchers were able to directly hack an Amazon Echo to send audio to attackers. Amazon has a good record of fixing security problems when they are discovered but it is never possible to find every problem.

Changing Tech Relationships

In a 2019 report published by the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation, concerns were raised on the disruptive effect that voice assistants and smart speakers, such as Alexa, were having on the way that children interact with technology. From building sentiment and forming relationships which could encourage them to overshare personal details, to a fear of consuming content driven by commercial algorithms and an inability to assess reliability, how Alexa operates could considerably change children's relationship with technology in both the short and long term.

Safety Tips

Check privacy settings

It's possible to delete Alexa's recordings either entirely, or for a given period, with the instruction "Alexa, delete everything I said." Alternatively, set up the Alexa account privacy settings for that account to delete recordings every three or 18 months. Editing recordings made using the Alexa app can be deleted via Settings > Alexa Privacy > Review Voice History. A final tweak is to turn off the setting that allows Amazon to 'use voice recordings to improve Amazon services.'

Control voice input

If privacy is paramount, one idea is to locate Echo devices in only one room rather than having several throughout the home. In addition, Alexa can be activated only when it is needed by manually turning off the microphone on Echo devices between use. Users can tell when Alexa is in listening mode as an indicator light should appear or an audible tone should sound.

Set pin code

Amazon account users can order items from the company using a voice command, for example "Alexa, buy some toilet paper." To counter accidental use or misuse and avoid racking up big bills, this can either be disabled or protected with a PIN code. (It should be noted that this is an audible PIN however, so is not as secure as a typed code).

Look out for 'Skills' apps

A big appeal of Alexa is that thousands of companies have created apps, which Amazon calls 'skills', that add useful capabilities, often integrations with other products or services. These are installed by asking Alexa to 'open/play/start' the skill. For example, a travel skill might be installed to check and automate checking train times and hotel bookings. However, it's important to remember that each of these might have a different privacy policy. A cautious approach is to install as few as possible, de-installing ones no longer in use.

Talk about technology

As more and more homes install voice assistants and smart speakers such as Alexa, it's a good idea to talk to children about safe use of technology. Talk to them about what Alexa can be used for, how useful it can be and how to use it properly. Use it together to begin with and discuss any concerns they might have. Always make sure that children know to never share any personal or sensitive information and that if they need to talk about anything, they should always speak to a trusted adult.

Meet our expert

John E. Dunn has edited and written for numerous computer and technology magazines since the early 1990s, most recently Which Computing, The Register, Forbes.com, Techworld, Computerworld and Naked Security. He is a specialist in online cybersecurity and cybercrime and their growing effect on education, young people and the public.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Private

18+

"Alexa...Switch on the lights please..."

..Sure..Switching on lights..

10:00 AM 55°

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Fundraising Fun

We would like to say a huge well done and thank you to all of our pupils, staff and parents for such an amazing fundraising week.

And thank you to Mr and Mrs Pickersgill from AP Partners Wealth Management and to Mr and Mrs Edwardson from Penfolds Estate Agency for their generous donations for new benches.



Transition to Secondary School

The Dedicated Schools Team would like to offer you the opportunity to attend a Supporting My Child with Their Transition to Secondary School workshop.

The workshops will cover subjects such as how the teenage brain develops and how this can influence behaviour and learning, healthy relationships, keeping young people safe, and understanding social media and online safety.

You will also receive an overview of the support and services available to pupils from the Dedicated Schools Team within secondary schools, as well as from other agencies.

Water Safety Reminder 💧

As the warm weather continues, please remind children and young people of the dangers of swimming in reservoirs, rivers, lakes and other unsupervised bodies of water. Although they may appear safe, open water can contain hidden hazards including cold water shock, strong currents, submerged obstacles, sudden drop-offs and harmful algae.



Summer Savings

Please follow [this link](#) for activity offers over the summer holidays, from West Sussex County Council.

Congratulations to the winner of this week's PTA Cake Raffle!

Key Dates

July

- Wednesday 15th 5:30pm - Year 5/6 End of Year Production
- Thursday 16th 9:15am - Year 5/6 End of Year Production
- Friday 17th - Open Afternoon
- Wednesday 22nd - Y6 Leavers Assembly & Whole School Picnic
- Wednesday 22nd - Last Day of Term 2.00pm Finish



For future diary dates, please visit our [website's school calendar](#). Thank you.