

## Your Weekly Newsletter

Issue 170 Week Ending Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March



**Spring Term Dates:** *more dates will be added I am sure so look out for the additional dates which will be in red.*

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March ~ 10:30-14:30 Carleton Green Go Green Launch. **27<sup>th</sup> April 2<sup>nd</sup> Carleton Green go Green ~ 10:30-13:00.**

Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> March ~ Clubs will start for five weeks.

Year Six go to Waterpark

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March ~ World Book Day – Donate a book for our library.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March ~ Last Choir Singing competition at The Marine Hall

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March ~ Celebration of Music at The Winter Gardens

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March ~ Choir Big Sing at Rossall

Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Clean up Britain Day.

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March ~ Mothers' Day PTFA afternoon 13:30. 14:30 or 15:30.

Year 3 and 4 Easter Productions will be taking place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> (14:00 and 18:00) and 3<sup>rd</sup> April (09:30)

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April ~ Open afternoon 14:30 – 15:30 for Families to share in our Fabulous Finish of the term's learning.

Sorry this newsletter did not go out on Friday.

*Thank you for your continued support in and out of school, Susan McGrath, Headteacher and Sapphire Murray, Deputy Headteacher.*

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### IMPORTANT INFORMATION – ONLINE SAFETY

It has come to our attention as I am sure it has to yours too, that an online “game” which encourages young people to harm themselves and, in some cases, even take their own lives has been reported in the UK for the first time. Momo, described as a WhatsApp “suicide challenge”, features an avatar of a woman with dark hair, pale skin and oversized eyes, who sends young people images and instructions on how to harm themselves and others. **As covered in a recent BBC News article**, charities say there have been no reports of anybody receiving messages or harming themselves as a result. They warn that media coverage has amplified a false scare story.

"News coverage of the momo challenge is prompting schools or the police to warn about the supposed risks posed by the momo challenge, which has in turn produced more news stories warning about the challenge," said the **Guardian media editor Jim Waterson**.

Earlier this week, versions of the momo story went viral on social media. They attracted hundreds of thousands of shares and resulted in newspaper articles reporting the tale. According to the false story, children are contacted on WhatsApp by an account claiming to be momo. They are supposedly encouraged to save the character as a contact and then asked to carry out challenges as well as being told not to tell other members of their family. **The UK Safer Internet Centre told the Guardian** that it was "fake news".

Several newspaper articles claim the momo challenge had been "linked" to the deaths of 130 teenagers in Russia. The reports have not been corroborated by the relevant authorities.

The image of momo is actually a photo of a sculpture by Japanese special-effects company Link Factory. According to pop-culture website **Know Your Meme**, it first gained attention in 2016. 'Urban legend' Fact-checking website **Snopes** warned that although the momo challenge was a hoax, the reports and warnings could still cause distress to children.

"The subject has generated rumours that in themselves can be cause for concern among children," wrote David Mikkelson on the site. Police in the UK have not reported any instances of children harming themselves due to the momo meme. The charity Samaritans said it was "not aware of any verified evidence in this country or beyond" linking the momo meme to self-harm. The NSPCC told the Guardian it had received more calls from newspapers than from concerned parents.

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### What should parents do?

Police have suggested that rather than focusing on the specific momo meme, parents could use the opportunity to educate children about internet safety, as well as having an open conversation about what children are accessing. "This is merely a current, attention-grabbing example of the minefield that is online communication for kids," wrote the Police Service of Northern Ireland, in a Facebook post. Broadcaster Andy Robertson, who creates videos online as Geek Dad, said in a podcast that parents should not "share warnings that perpetuate and mythologise the story". "A better focus is good positive advice for children, setting up technology appropriately and taking an interest in their online interactions," he said. To avoid causing unnecessary alarm, parents should also be careful about sharing news articles with other adults that perpetuate the myth.

As a school we are committed to providing our pupils with the life skills and tools to protect themselves and keep themselves safe in person and online. Therefore, on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February, Mrs Jones and Mrs Crooks (our trained Kids Safe teachers), led an assembly to remind our KS1 and KS2 children about how to keep themselves online and dismiss the rumours and reassure our children that the avatar cannot come to life and cause harm. We have asked that all playtime conversations about "Momo" cease as these conversations are causing some of our children to feel scared. We have also encouraged all our children to speak to their parents about any concerns they have regarding this matter. Please help your children to understand that these pop ups are not real and can't hurt anyone.

We have used this opportunity to also remind our KS1 and KS2 children about the age ratings on games and online apps as it appears some of



our children are using these which are not age inappropriate.

*Thank you for your continued support in and out of school, Susan McGrath, Headteacher and Sapphire Murray, Deputy Headteacher.*

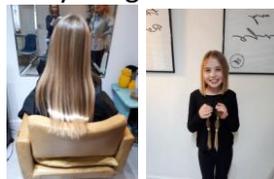
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Every year we work together to raise awareness and money for other's in need. This year we have selected Cancer Research and Brian House. As a way of personally supporting our chosen charity I have entered the Great North Run. If you see me in the local area red-faced in an attempt to get back up to a suitable fitness level, please cheer me on!

Ruby Langford has also shown a true commitment to supporting others by donating her hair to the Little Princess Trust.



Ruby looking incredibly pretty with her new hairstyle.

I am very proud to be able to share the success of one of our pupils in her own goal to succeed. Lily Johns' football team have got through to the Lancashire Cup final which will be at Chorley Football Club on March the 20<sup>th</sup> at 19:30 kick off. She would welcome the support of her friends.

We also have some fabulous artwork displayed at the Gallery, Blackpool and the Fylde College, University Centre. Our pupils have done remarkably well and we have some winners amongst them. The gazette will be covering this and we will include their story next week.

In our efforts to invest in healthy minds and hearts we are wanting to develop our outdoor learning spaces for the children to use all year round to learn, play and enjoy. We were so pleased that this Saturday's event was successful we will repeat over the coming terms. As part of a National big clean operation we are joining the 5.5 million Eco-Schools pupils in England and 20 million globally, to take part in the largest ever school litter pick on 22nd March, focusing on crisp packet litter.

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### Carleton Green Goes Green

**Please join us in our launch to place  
the community at the heart of  
Carleton Green**

**Refreshments  
provided!**

**Saturday 2nd March**

**11am—2pm**

We had a fabulous day on Saturday and have made massive inroads into developing our school grounds to harness a love of the outdoors for our children. I arrived at 9:30 to open up the school grounds to be met shortly afterwards by a team of enthusiastic helpers (parents, pupils staff and their families), and a very excited Mrs Hicks. Mrs Hicks has wanted to hold days like this for quite some time and after such a successful start we would like to repeat this every first Saturday of a half term 10:30-13:00. So, the next date to put in your diaries will be **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April**. We are incredibly grateful to those that joined us on Saturday and are already reaping the benefits of our hard work.



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Romeo forms part of our drive to help promote positive mental health in our school. His sheer presence in school has a calming influence but he is proving invaluable for children in assisting them in regulating their emotional responses as well. He also is used for rewarding children for their diligence when approaching their school work. We are thrilled to report that he has successfully met all the standards for being a Therapy School Dog. Romeo is still a puppy and is learning all the time. As such he is never unsupervised in our setting with Mr Powell and I working tirelessly to ensure he is learning good habits. Romeo is currently actively working towards the silver standards for dog obedience with the trainer coming into the school setting every week to support our work.

We are refreshing our library to instil a love of reading and this year would like our World Book Day celebrations to be totally about our school reading. We are therefore delaying our celebration of books until our library is built and so will not be dressing up this week as may be happening in other schools.

On Valentine's Day we heard of the exciting news that baby Harding had safely arrived. Georgia Rose Harding and Mum are doing very well and hopefully will be in school this week for a visit. We send them much love and congratulations to them all.

I just would like to end this week's newsletter with yet another posting concerned with parking. We ask that you show greater consideration for those that live in the vicinity of our school. I am shocked to see how gardens are becoming ruined along our neighbouring avenues by poor parking of our families. We equally request that our carpark is not used either as is continually the case. It is not pleasant to have to address this as we really do not like confrontation of any sort, but it is for the safety of the pupils that we ask that our carpark remain for staff use only. I have asked for some police presence over the coming weeks and there will be warnings given out if inconsiderate parking is witnessed.



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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Yellow Ducklings<br>100% with 0 lates | Brown Ducklings<br>99% with 6 lates | Parrots<br>99% with 2 lates                                   |
| Hérons<br>98% with 0 lates            | Robins<br>98% with 0 lates          | Owls<br>97% with 0 lates                                      |
| Kestrels<br>79% with 1 late           | Doves<br>96% with 3 lates           | Falcons<br>94% with 2 lates                                   |
| Hawks<br>94% with 2 lates             | Eagles<br>99% with 2 lates          | Well done to those for making it to school every day on time! |

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