



School News

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No. 4

28th September 2023

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday, 29th September - Harvest Festival at 9.30am at St. Mary's Church, Eastry

Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us for our Harvest Festival which takes place at St. Mary's Church. Eastry, on Friday 29th September at 9.30am. As in previous years we will be collected for the Deal Area Foodbank. Contributions can be brought to the school any time during next week. The Foodbank would particularly welcome the following items and we thank you for your support;

Shopping list

Deal Area
foodbank

Priority

- * UHT milk
- * Tinned fruit
- * Tinned tomatoes
- * Tinned soup
- * Cooking sauces
- * Shampoo/shower gel
- * Household cleaning
- * Juice/squash
- * Puddings
- * Custard
- * Small coffee
- * Pot noodles
- * Ketchup
- * Sweets

Yes please

- ✓ Tinned potatoes
- ✓ Tinned vegetables
- ✓ Washing-up liquid
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Pot noodles
- ✓ Brown sauce

Not for now

- X Baked beans
- X Tinned meat
- X Tea/biscuits
- X Nappies
- X Cat/dog food
- X Sanitary products
- X Pasta
- X Spreads
- X Cereal
- X Toilet rolls
- X Toiletries

Thank you for donating food for Deal Area Foodbank

This year we expect to provide around 1,500 three-day food parcels for households in food crisis. We can only do this because of your support. Our shopping priorities are updated regularly on Facebook.

Collection bins at

Sainsbury's Deal, Coop Mill Hill, Coop Sandwich, Coop Aylesham, and at some other churches, schools, shops and charities

Deal Area Emergency Foodbank, registered as a charity in England and Wales no 1158590, www.dealarea.foodbank.org.uk 01304-728428.

Tuesday, 3rd October - Maths Workshop for Parents and Carers at 2.45pm in the School Hall

Miss Leishman, our Maths lead, warmly invites parents and carers to attend a Maths workshop on Tuesday, 3rd October. This workshop will give an overview of place value and the progression of how we teach the four calculations throughout the school. Practical examples and advice will be given on how you can support your child at home with their mathematical understanding in line with their current year group.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY CONT'D

Tuesday, 3rd October - Girl's McCarthy Cup Tournament away at St. Faith's, Ash Kick-off at 3.30pm

Please note that there will be no Girl's Football club on Tuesday as Miss Ward and some of the team are away at the above tournament.

Wednesday, 4th October - KS2 Alternative Sports Day

On Wednesday we have the first of our alternative sports days for children in Years 3 to 6. During the day children will have an opportunity to take part in archery, fencing, skateboarding and laser tag.

Thursday, 5th October - School Census

Thursday, 5th October is School Census day. As part of the Census the school is required to report how many children have a school meal on this day. This information directly effects how much funding the school receives and it makes a big difference to the school if this goes unclaimed. **We would be extremely grateful if you would encourage your child to have a school dinner on this day, thank you.** If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals do speak to a member of the office staff, all enquiries will be treated confidentially.

Friday, 6th October - Year 3 Class Worship at 9.00am in the School Hall

Parents, carers and family of children in Year 3 are invited to join us for their family worship.

PTFA News

Fireworks Night

Our annual Fireworks night will take place on Friday, 3rd November. This is an extremely popular event that is always well attended. **Please note there will not be a bonfire** but there will be a wonderful fireworks display, stalls and refreshments. **To help make this a success we rely on volunteers.** You may be able to help with preparing items beforehand, help with setting up, running a stall on the night, marshalling or helping to clear up after. If you think you can help in anyway we would love to hear from you, please use the form below. Tickets for the event will go on sale soon.

Jars with lids - We also require jars with lids for one of our stalls, these can be handed to the school office.

Poster Competition - Children brought home details of the poster competition last week. The winner, chosen by Mr Garvey, will not only see the poster used to advertise the event, but will also win a £10 amazon voucher. The deadline for entries is Monday, 2nd October.

Rudolph Personalised Christmas Gifts

Further details about this gift idea, which has been very popular and well received the last two years we have run this, were emailed and sent home last week. **Orders need to be returned by 18th October 2023** and further copies are available from the school office.

Dates for your Diary

Friday, 20th October - Will be a non-uniform day in exchange for donations for the chocolate or bottle tombola's being held on Fireworks night.

Week Commencing, 27th November - Christmas Gift Shop open all week in the library from 12noon until 1pm, further details will follow nearer to the time.

Friday, 1st December - Christmas discos, further details to follow.

[illegible]

Child's Name	Year
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Contact Tel. No.	Email
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I am happy to help with the Fireworks night with the following;

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Parent's Support Group

All parents and carers are welcome to join us for our first Parent Support Group for this academic year on Friday, 13th October between 9am and 10.15am in the school library. If your child has family worship on this day you are welcome to join us after.

Applying for a place at Secondary School

Applications for a place at secondary for children in year 6 have now opened. Applications are made online at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>. The last day for applications is Tuesday, 31st October.

Christmas Card Competition from Whole School Meals

As well as the PTFA Fireworks poster competition and the Rudolph Christmas Gift Drawing, Whole School Meals are also running a Christmas Card Competition in partnership with their supplier, Q Catering. The competition has two age categories, KS1 and KS2. Winners will receive a book voucher for the school of £100 and a £50 book voucher for themselves. Entries should be on an A5 piece of paper (can be A4 folder in half) with a design for the front of a Christmas card. The closing date for entries is Thursday, 6th October and don't forget to add your child's name and school on the reverse. The winners will be presented with their prize by managing director of Q Catering, Steve Clarke.

INTERNET/ONLINE SAFETY SECTION

WhatsApp

WhatsApp has an age restriction of 16+ but we are aware that some parents allow younger children access. Please see the attached 'Need to Know' guide for parents to help them protect the whole family when using this app.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Menu

We have had many enquiries about the school menu. This can be viewed on the school website and includes dates so you know which week we are on. This can be found under the 'Parents' tab and 'School Meals' page.

Kind regards



Mr Neil Garvey
Interim Headteacher

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Week commencing 2.10.23

MONDAY	
Home Learning Club (3.30-4.00pm)	Yes
Creative Station (3.30-4.30pm)	Yes
TUESDAY	
Girl's Football (3.30-4.15pm)	NO
WEDNESDAY	
Singing Club (8.00 to 8.35am)	Yes
Multi-Sports Club (3.30 to 4.30pm)	Yes
THURSDAY	
Football Club (3.30-4.30pm)	Yes
FRIDAY	



Understanding your Child's Feelings and Behaviour Information Sessions



A bookable session providing a safe, supportive space for parents / carers of children aged 0-11 to chat with one of our Early Help Workers and learn new techniques, ideas and strategies to better understand and manage their child's feelings and behaviour.

Children are welcome to come along with you.

Book a 1-1 session with one of our Early Help Workers on the numbers below.

Wednesdays
1.00pm - 3.00pm
at Blossom
Children's Centre

Downs Primary School,
Owen Square, Deal, CT14 7TL

03000 411555

Thursdays
1.00pm - 2.30pm
at Buckland and Whitfield
Children's Centre

St Nicholas Church,
The Linces, Dover, CT16 2BN

03000 414941

Term time only.
Please call us to book your place.
For more information please call us
on the numbers above,
or email ddsc@kent.gov.uk.



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

...MSG ME...

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

AGE RESTRICTION
16+

In UK and Europe;
rest of the world 13+

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a 'Forwarded many times' label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

ONLINE

'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



...HEY OSCAR...



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://iaq.whatsapp.com/10770-8839582332> | https://iaq.whatsapp.com/36/005896189245/?helpref=he_innov | <https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-even-more-private> | <https://www.aura.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>



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