INSKIP ST. PETER'S C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Learning, Loving and Living with Jesus

Keep your roots deep in Jesus Christ the Lord, build your lives on him

and always be thankful. *Colossians 2:7*

Compassion Friendship Respect Forgiveness Trust Thankfulness

Monday 17th January 2022

Changes to Government Guidelines

The rules around tests and self isolation have changed.

Pupils who have a positive LFD test are required to self isolate for 10 days . Individuals who have **tested negative on day 5 & 6** of their self-isolation period and **do not have a temperature** will be permitted to end their isolation and return to school on day 6.

Pupils with a positive LFD test are required to isolate as above but are **not required** to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Links to further guidance is available on the back sheet of this newsletter.
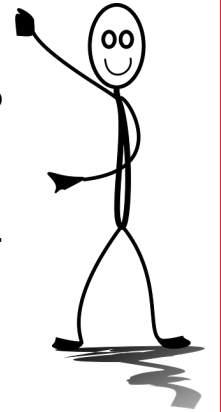
Non Uniform Day

This month's non uniform day will be held on **Friday 28th January** in exchange for a £1 donation your child can wear their own clothes all day at school. If your child normally does PE on this day, they may stay in their non uniform choice if its sporty otherwise just please send some joggers, trainers and a top into school with them for them to change into.


Traffic
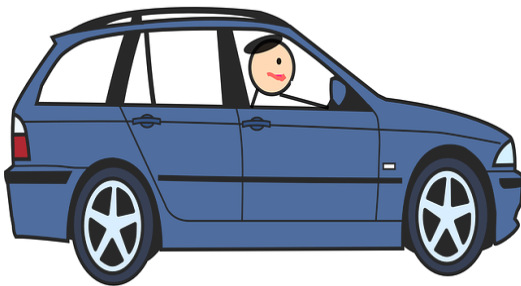
Sadly our school has received another complaint regards parents turning vehicles around at school drop off and collection times. Whilst we realise that it is a close and convenient place to turn around please could everyone **refrain from using the private driveway** across from school. Parents/carers are able to turn around at Inskip Baptist Chapel or a nearby street, depending on your direction of travel. We appreciate your support with this matter
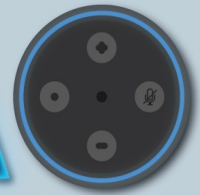

Our Curriculum

If you would like to find out more about the curriculum that your child is following in **Design and Technology** this term please take a look at our website https://www.inskip.lancs.sch.uk/learning/design-technology
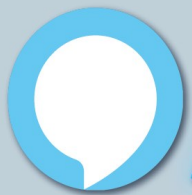
What parents & carers need to know about...

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 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.

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

..Sure...Switching on lights..

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.

National Online Safety®
NOS
#WakeUpWednesday

Safety Tips

Check privacy settings

PRIVATE

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. Existing 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 your 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.

10:00 AM 55°

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.

Dates for the diary:-

Friday 11th February	School Closes for Spring Half Term
Monday 21st February	School Reopens
Tuesday 1st March	Secondary School Places Confirmed
Friday 1st April	School Closes for Easter
Friday 15th April	Primary School Places Confirmed
Tuesday 19th April	School reopens

Clubs:-

Day	Time	Club
MONDAY 17th	8:00am	Breakfast Club
	3.30pm	**NO CLUB**
TUESDAY 18th	8:00am	Breakfast Club
	3:30pm	**Tennis with Simon Ardron**
WEDNESDAY 19th	8:00am	Breakfast Club
	3:30pm	**Multi-skills Sports Club with sports coach from Fleetwood Town**
THURSDSAY 20th	8:00am	Breakfast Club
	3:30pm	**Afterschool Games, Construction and Arts Club with Mrs Welsh**
FRIDAY 21st	8:00am	Breakfast Club
	3:30pm	**Multi-skills Sports Club with sports coach from Fleetwood Town**

Birthdays this week

Iain for 19th January

Reagan for 21st January

Sian for 21st January

Christian Values

Our Christian value theme this half term is **'Generosity'**.

Here's a way of exploring this theme at home.

A community flourishes when people plant trees under which they will never sit.
(A Greek proverb)

? When has your generosity served to help future generations?

Beavers

Due to having to change venue, **Catforth Beavers have started meeting in our school hall on a Thursday evening.** If you have a child aged between 6 years old and 8 and are interested in fthem joining, please contact Sonya Scott on 07764449209.

MPORTANT PLEASE READ

Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19

This change came into effect in England on Monday 17 January and applies to all positive cases, regardless of vaccination status.

People who are self-isolating with COVID-19 have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with an LFD test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be reported to NHS Test and Trace.

If the result of either test is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

The new rules also apply to people who are already isolating – so if someone was already isolating before Monday 17 January, they can take LFD tests on day 5 and 6 and if they are both negative and they have no temperature they can end their isolation.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation.

Further information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19 is available.