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**Opening Hours**  
School - 8.45am - 3.15pm  
Office - 8.30am - 4pm  
Morning club - 8.15am  
Clubs 3.15pm - 4.30pm  
Pre-School: 8am - 4.30pm

## CHRISTMAS FLYER



Newsletter No. 14  
17th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a term! What a year! Historical, terrible, unprecedented...but also full of wonder, in many ways. The children have been absolutely superb since we re-opened in September: they are a credit to you, their parents. I never could have imagined how well they have accepted and adjusted to the new rules and changes to school life. We can all be very proud of them! The same can be said of the staff team, of course, who have shown resourcefulness, courage and determination to make each day the best it can be. They embody our school values: "We Care, We Aspire, We Belong." In these ways, light has come out of the darkness of this year.

I wish you all a calm, peaceful, healthy Christmas holiday and I look forward to welcoming you all back (fit and well) on the 5th January. Merry Christmas!

Mr R Stead



Happy Christmas  
from everyone at  
Milverton School



### Diary Dates

#### Forest School Wednesdays:

Class R 6th January  
Class 6 13th January  
Class 5 20th January  
Class 4 27th January  
Class 3 3rd February  
Class 2 19th February

#### Monday 4th January, 2021

Inset Day

#### Tuesday 5th January, 2021

School opens to pupils

#### Half Term Dates

15th to 19th February

House Points	Weekly Total	Half Term
London Plane	248	2118
Cork Oak	416	2902
Blue Cedar	319	2734
Horse Chestnut	426	2930



## OUTSTANDING LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Pre-School

*Nina* for her growing confidence at Pre-school.

*Rachel* for passing her Maths and doing an amazing job decorating the Pre-school!

Class R

*Miss Chiplin* and *Mrs Egerton* for being a fantastic support to the Class R team!

Class 1

*Whole of Class 1* for such a fantastic first term. You have all been absolutely incredible and made us so proud.

Class 2

*Bonnie* for working so hard with her writing this week.

Class 3

*Jacob* for his super story writing this week, and all of Class 3 for working hard throughout the whole term. Well done everyone!

Class 4

*Ava* for her excellent 'tale of fear'. It included all the techniques we have been learning about, was presented beautifully and it was really rather scary!

Class 5

*Philippa* for all her hard work this term and especially with the recent Year 5 assessments. Well done, Philippa.

Class 6

*Freya* for her fantastic progress and achievement in reading this term. Well done, Freya!  
*Emily* for showing a mature attitude and developed growth mindset in her learning. Well done, Emily!



On Wednesday Class 1 was blessed with the most fantastic, wild weather for Forest School. We opened our coats and tried to get the wind to carry us off

on an adventure, but luckily we were not successful as we went on to have a brilliant time here in Mil-

verton. We made helpful elves that we hope will help out at home over Christmas and enjoyed cosy Christmas stories around the campfire with a warming hot chocolate. Forest School wouldn't be Forest School without a game of '1, 2, 3 where are you?' and some time playing in the mud kitchen and on the swing. Thank you so much to Mr Wedderkopp for always keeping our spirits up and smiles on our faces, whatever the weather.

*Mrs Atterton*

Classes 5 and 6 had an end of term hockey tournament, organised by Miss Storey. There was lots of fantastic play, great teamwork and supportive cheering and the winners were Class 6. Both classes played extremely well. What a fun (and competitive) way to finish the term! Well done to both teams. The Team members were: Year 5: Orla, Ollie, Mia M, Sophie L, Anya and Toby Year 6: George, Verity, Sophie, Ben, Freya and Luca

*Miss Brown*



Class 4 were delighted with an early Christmas present from Harmonie and her mum. This year instead of giving presents Harmonie and her mum decided to adopt a rhino through the WWF for the class. Class 4 are passionate about wildlife and doing what they can to save endangered animals and help protect our world, so this gift was perfect. The children have decided to call the rhino Rio and are looking forward to updates from the WWF about their rhino. On behalf of all of Class 4 we'd like to say a massive thank you to Harmonie and her mum for such a kind, thoughtful and generous gift.

*Mrs Nicholls*

Class 6 had a Christmas-themed PE this morning. Here is the 'snowman relay'!



# The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

## FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come. Merry Christmas!



### 1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

### 2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

### 3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

### 4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

### 5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

### 6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

### 7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

### 8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

### 9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

### 10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

### 11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

### 12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

