

Next Week in School at a Glance

Monday 15	Tuesday 16	Wednesday 17	Thursday 18	Friday 19
* Lunch Menu week 1 * Christmas Dinner Menu/ Christmas Jumper (festive own clothes)	* 2.15 pm KS2 Christmas Performance (children welcome) - red writing ticket * 6.00 pm KS2 Christmas Performance (Adults/12+ only) - green writing ticket	*	*	* Party Day (festive own clothes) * 2.00 pm School closes for Holidays

Unique Individuals Learning Together

Mrs. Quigley's weekly message:

Our Reception and Key Stage 1 children treated us to a truly magical nativity this week! Their singing, speaking and dancing were absolutely perfect and really put us all in the festive spirit. A huge well done to everyone involved - what a fantastic start to our Christmas celebrations! Our Key Stage 2 pupils are working hard on their own performances and I know it will be just as lovely. I'm sure, like me, you can't wait to see them shine!

Thank you to everyone who has already bought raffle tickets. Our Head Boy and Head Girl, Joe and Zoe, have visited every class to share updates. They're planning to use the money raised to develop lunchtime provision even further. They currently have their top three ideas and will share the final choice next week after some careful consideration. They're also keen to work with our PFA, so keep an eye out for some exciting joint projects!

A big thank you to our Eco Team for organising the battery collection this term. We're delighted to announce that Year 2 were the winners! Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported the team's mission to help the planet.

Our House Captains have worked hard motivating their teams this term. It was a very close competition but in the end the Romans and Greeks were our overall winners! This just shows how hard our children work – not only in their learning but also in being kind, caring members of our school community. Well done everyone

Monday is Christmas Dinner Day! Children can wear a Christmas jumper or festive outfit – no need for school uniform. A huge thank you in advance to Carol, Sarah, Mags and all of our midday team for making this such a special experience.

Our school choir last night performed at the Santa Lucia event at Ikea. Mrs Oakes, Miss Harding and Mr Weibe were so impressed, as were the people enjoying a feast in the restaurant. Thank you choir for taking part and being such great role models for our school.

Next Friday is Party Day! Children may wear a party outfit of their choice. There will be games and dancing in the hall, plus treats in classrooms organised by class teams. After all the celebrations, school will finish at 2:00pm. Gates will open at 1:50 pm for pick-up at the usual spots.

Have a lovely weekend and I'll look forward to seeing you on Monday for our final week of the Autumn term! Mrs Quigley

Picture News

The Picture News topic for next week is ...

'What does kindness look like?'



This winter, a charity called Small Acts of Kindness has sourced, packed and distributed over 10,000 'Warm in Winter' gift bags across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. Each bag includes things to keep people warm, like blankets, socks and hot drinks. The project aims to bring comfort to elderly and vulnerable people in the colder months. It shows that small acts of kindness can make a big difference in someone's life.

Kindness doesn't have to be big. The smallest gesture can show someone they matter and make a difference: a thank you or a compliment.

Things to talk about at home:

- * Talk to someone at home about the campaign.
- * Can you think of a time someone was kind to you? How did it make you feel?
- * Do you believe helping others can make us feel happier too? Why?
- * What are some small acts of kindness we can do at home, at school or in our community?

Battery Collection Winners

Congratulations to Year 2, who overwhelmingly have collected the most batteries again last half term!

Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper Day

On Monday 15 December, it will be our Christmas Dinner Day, where our usual menu will be replaced by Carol's festive menu below. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers/clothes or festive outfits for this special occasion.



2.00 pm Finish on Friday 19 December

Just a reminder, as communicated in the Dates for the Diary at the beginning of the academic year, the end of the school day will be 2.00 pm on Friday 19 December.

Tickets for Christmas Performance

All tickets have now been distributed for the Christmas Performances. Entry for the KS2 performance is through the KS1 gate and they will open at 2.00 pm to start at 2.15 pm in the afternoon and at 5.45 pm to start at 6.00 pm for the evening. Please remember to bring your ticket on the day or you won't be able to come in until we know there is a vacant seat (you will be asked to wait at the gate until everyone has been admitted and will only be able to attend if there is a space).



Dance Competition

Congratulations to Grace T in Year 6 who performed in the Sarah Royle Studios in-house competition at the weekend. It was her first time performing at intermediate level and she was entered into 6 categories. She secured second place in commercial and did very well as she was performing with children older than herself.



Guinea Pig/Chicken Plea for Help

If anyone could help to check on our chickens and guinea pigs on the following dates, please could you let us know:

Thursday 25 December Wednesday 31 December Thursday 1 January





For these days, if you were able to visit once to just check that they all have food and water, that would be great - you wouldn't need to let the chickens out, and therefore wouldn't need to return to put them away later.

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help.

Santa Lucia Choir Performance at Ikea - Thursday 11 December

Yesterday evening, our Choir performed in Ikea. They took part in the Santa Lucia parade through the store and when they reached the restaurant, they sang Christmas music and some of the music they have been learning for upcoming events to the customers there.









Top Tips for Parents and Educators



Social media influencers are people who have established credibility in a specific industry and have the power to influence other people's decisions. Most commonly associated with YouTube and Instagram, 'influencers' will usually have a large number of followers and be viewed as authentic by their audience. It is for this reason that many influencers are often paid by big companies to promote their products in the hope of persuading their followers to purchase those goods.





What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO INFLUENCERS'



AN UNREALISTIC PERCEPTION OF BODY IMAGE

Some of the most popular social media influencers often depict themselves as having the 'perfect body' and are paid to promote items such as health supplements or swimwear, which young people believe can help them achieve the same look. What is not always realised is that these images can be edited or filtered and aren't always a true-life representation. Your child may feel like this is what they need to look like and in some cases, become obsessed with their body image, which could contribute towards a lower self-esteem or even becoming depressed if they can't achieve the same look.



BECOMING UNREALISTIC ROLE MODELS

As children become more and more involved on social media and identify who their favourite people are to follow, they may come to see social media influencers as role models, particularly if they are attracted by the lifestyle they see online. This could lead them into developing potentially unrealistic expectations of life and in some cases, using their role models as an escape from reality, particularly if they feel like they're own life isn't very fulfilling.



ENCOURAGING BAD HABITS

Although many social media influencers will get paid to advertise brands and their products, they will also post their own material online too, usually depicting their daily life or an activity for example. This may have both desirable and undesirable consequences, with influencers able to inspire both good habits, such as healthy eating, exercise or kindness. However it may also encourage children to adopt bad habits, such as drinking, smoking, swearing or even criminal behaviour, particularly if these are seen to be endorsed by the influencer.



THE NEED TO HAVE EVERYTHING

Many social media influencers will take photos or videos of themselves wearing the latest fashion or jewellery which companies want them to promote. They may also be provided with the latest gadgests to promote or, if they are children, toys to play with in order to persuade their followers to purchase them. Many children will be keen to buy these items in order to keep up with the latest trends however if they get left behind, they could be made to feel inadequate or inferior by other children who do have them.



AUTHENTICITY OF ENDORSEMENTS

Social media influencers hold a lot of persuasion with their audience and are often looked up to by younger followers. Many children will see them as credible, authentic and trust what they see online. However, some influencers may not always believe in the product they are promoting and therefore can mislead their followers, abusing their level of confidence in them. Your child may therefore find themselves looking up to people who are disingenuous or who feign interest in activities that they themselves do not actually care about.











FOLLOW WHO THEY FOLLOW

A good way to see first-hand who may be influencing your child is to create your own social media account and follow the same people they do. This will give you a strong indication of what is shaping how your child behaves, what they like and what they are taking an interest in.



TALK ABOUT ROLE MODELS

Role models can play an important part of your child's life, particularly outside of the home. Talk to your child about who they look up to and why. Remind them that not everybody online is who they seem to be and if you do have concerns that your child is being negatively influenced, work with them in finding more positive alternatives.

BUILD THEIR SELF-ESTEEM

It's important that your child is aware of how unrealistic perceptions of life can be depicted on social media and that it is easy to be deceived. Discuss with your child how images can be heavily edited, cropped or manipulated to create artificial scenarios and that often the lifestyle that people display on social media isn't always realistic or in fact the truth.

DISCUSS REALISTIC VS UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

If you notice your child has suddenly taken a strong interest in the way they look, or you find they are a lot more body conscious, then it's a good idea to speak to them about why they feel that way. If they seem unhappy, try to build their self-esteem by talking to them and listening to their concerns, helping to build their confidence through praise and positivity. Remind them that looks aren't everything and not everything they see online is actually a true depiction of real life.



Social media influencers can be quite powerful individuals who hold a lot of persuasive power so it's important to encourage your child to think independently about everything they see and engage with online. Talk to them about the dangers of blindly following others and in keeping an open mind when viewing content. Teach them to always question people's motives online, especially when they see individuals are promoting a brand or product which they are likely to have been paid to advertise but may not necessarily personally endorse.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.







ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENT THINKING







Community Pages

Any items shared on these pages are for information only and are not endorsed or vetted by school.

Dear Parents, Guardians and Father Christmas/Santa,

Has your little elf asked for an e-scooter or e-bike for Christmas?

The following is basic information on where e-bikes and e-scooters can be used within the law.

We want to make sure your Christmas presents end up in a pile like

this...











	E-Scooter *	E-Bike (pedats)	E-motorbike (no pedals)
What is it?	Any scooter powered by a battery.	A bicycle powered by a 250w max battery with pedals to propel (15.5mph)	A battery powered motorbike, moped or bike with no pedals to propel.
Under 16 in public	No *	14+ only	No
In a public area	No *	Yes, if compliant	Yes if taxed and insured
On private land - with the landowners permission	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can I use it on cycle paths?	No	Yes	No
Can I use it on the pavement?	No *	No	No
Can I use it on the road?	No	Yes	Yes
is there a safety risk?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is there a fire risk?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Would it be seized?	Yes *	Yes, if not compliant	Yes if not taxed and insured
What can I get instead that is legal for public use?	Commuter or stunt scooter. These can be used in public areas such as parks, skate parks and pump tracks. Always wear safety equipment.	Consider a mountain bike. A great way to commute, offering independence and exercise, use in forests and on pump tracks. Always wear safety equipment and use a bike lock.	Age dependent, if over 14 then look at an e-bike, following our guidance and doing your own research. Head to a local private track for more information
Where can I use the legal scooter or bike?	Search for pump tracks to test your skill levels and look at skills training.	Local councils offer information online for the area and clubs for mountain biking and BMX.	Motorcross Clubs.

^{*}This does not include rental scheme e-scooters which are insured to be used by riders over 16 with a license. Refer to scheme

No one wants to seize anyone's presents!





Stay safe and legal









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https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/childrens-page/tpt-activity-packs/