Withycombe Raleigh **C** of **E** Primary **School**

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Mrs Emma Jones, Headteacher Withycombe Village Road Exmouth, Devon, EX8 3BA

Please ring us on: (01395) 263397 email: admin@wrpschool.org website: wrpschool.org

11th October 2024



News from your Headteacher

This week we sent out links for parents and carers to book a Parents' Evening appointment. If you did not receive a link or are having trouble booking an appointment, please contact the school office. These meetings will take place in your child's classroom. Please make a note of your appointment date and time as we are unable to send reminders. These meetings are an opportunity to talk with your child's teacher about how they have settled into their new class. We hope these meetings can be a two-way conversation and that this is an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have about your child's learning and time in school. It may be an opportunity to share information about your child's experiences at home that staff may not be aware of.

On Wednesday we welcomed the Public Health Team into school to administer the Flu Nasal Sprays. It was a very smooth operation with all of the children vaccinated by mid-afternoon. If your child was absent for this and you would like your child to receive the vaccine, there is a 'catch up clinic': For any parents who missed the consenting process and still wish your child/ren to have the flu vaccine, please call 01392 342678 and book into one of our community clinics to have the vaccination done. Anyone who has already completed a consent form and their child did not get the vaccine for any reason will automatically receive and email inviting them book into a community clinic.

At half term we say farewell to two much-loved Teaching Assistants:

Sue Williams has decided to leave her TA post at half term in order to pursue exciting opportunities using her amazing badminton coaching skills. Mrs Williams has worked with us for almost 23 years and has supported hundreds of children with their learning. Mrs Williams has always gone above and beyond for the children, determined in her aim to get children to make progress, especially with reading. Of course we can't forget all the children (and staff) Mrs Williams has administered first aid to! Mrs Williams' contributions to our school will be missed greatly. All the students she will be coaching are very lucky to have her – she has amazing credentials as a Gold Medal winner herself, and with her son playing for England at the last two Olympics!

Daniella Corser has secured a new position working with vulnerable adults. It has been wonderful having Mrs Corser as part of our team. Mrs Corser is an extremely caring, patient and kind person who is able to gain the trust of the children she works with very quickly. Mrs Corser has been a great part of our school team-generous with her time and always willing to do whatever she can for the children in her care so we know she will be brilliant in her new role, too.

We wish them both lots of luck in their new roles. We will miss them very much.

Continued...



Growing



Hearts

Minds







Collective Worship

This week in Collective Worship we have reflected on our school vision and values. Our school vision is: 'Growing Happy, Caring Hearts and Minds' This week we have focused on the value of Courage.

The Bible story we use to help us remember what Courage means is Daniel in the Lions' Den.



We're sometimes asked why we don't celebrate Halloween. Occasionally people even suggest that it has been *banned*, but simply, Christians don't hold the same beliefs about Halloween. As a Church school we don't celebrate this particular calendar event. You are of course free to celebrate Halloween in any way your family wishes! Some Christians have Bible readings based around *'Shine with His light'*, but we know many families will want to join in with Halloween fancy dress, and go trick or treating. As a school, all we ask is that you remind your children to be respectful.

If you choose to celebrate Halloween, make sure it is full of treats, and no nasty tricks!

Advice from Devon & Cornwall Police is: Be aware that not everyone celebrates Halloween, or wants people coming to their door. Some people, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, may get worried or even frightened if strangers are continually calling at their door during the evening.

Please respect those who don't want to take part in trick or treating. Stick to areas and people you know. People who welcome trick or treaters often put a pumpkin outside their house or in their window as a sign. If you visit the D&C Police website you'll find some posters to download – some which invite children to visit for Trick or Treating, and those for households who ask not to be visited.

I hope you have a lovely weekend Mrs. E Jones

Would you like to work with us?

Teaching Assistants x 2

Post 1: Hours: 17.5 hours p/w (mornings), 38 weeks p/a Fixed term contract to support a Year 3 child

Post 2: Hours: 30 hours p/w, 38 weeks p/a Fixed term to cover maternity leave, to support a Year 6 child.

Both posts: Pay £12.18 per hour Closing Date: 18th Oct 2024

Interview Date: 25th October 2024

Caretaker

Job Term: Permanent, Full Time, 37 hours p/w, 52 weeks p/a

Responsible for the maintenance, security, and management of services on our school site. The role requires you to be skilled in routine maintenance, to work on your own initiative, have good communication skills, and be well organised.

Salary Details: £12.80 per hour Closing Date: 14/10/2024 Interview Date: 17th October 2024

Catering Assistant

Hours: 10 hours p/w, 38 weeks p/a: 11.30am - 1.30pm weekdays.

Working alongside our Kitchen Manager you will be required to assist in the service of food and clearing after the service. Full training will be given so no previous experience is required, but some knowledge of the operation of a catering kitchen would be desirable.

Pay: £11.59 per hour Closing Date: 1st November 2024 Interview Date: 7th November 2024

More information and applications forms can be found at https://www.wrpschool.org/vacancies

Safeguarding: Internet safety

Parental Controls and Safety Settings – we're all aware that some/many primary-age children have their own phones, computers, and other devices, making it vitally important that parents (and educators) know how to fully protect them. Due to the prevalence of targeted adverts, age-inappropriate content, and other online safety concerns, it can sometimes feel overwhelming to keep on top of things!

Parental controls - an optional setting on most devices and certain apps can make this job significantly easier — but a certain amount of knowledge is also required to use them effectively. An 8-page online safety guide produced by Vodaphone provides some useful information about activating and maintaining parental controls on devices. We'll put a copy of our school website Safeguarding page for you to come back to. You'll find other useful guides on this page too: https://www.wrpschool.org/onlinesafety

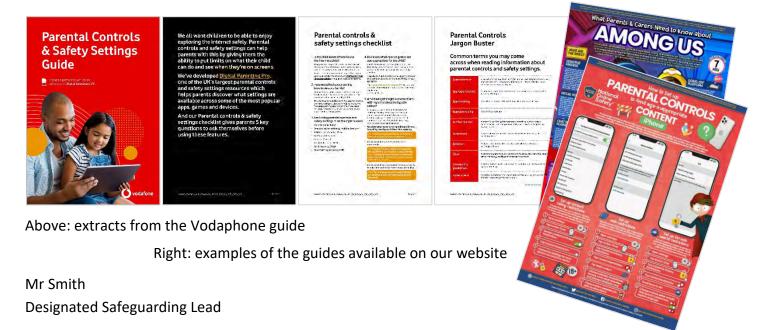
Routines and Boundaries - establishing a clear routine for younger children can also help to set clear boundaries about meaningful use of technology. It is important that regular check-ins are made with children while online to ensure that they are keeping safe.

It might well also be beneficial to check in with children after they've spent time on their devices to ensure their 'digital wellbeing'. Digital wellbeing is about how the internet and technology can make us feel. This includes recognising the impact being online can have on: children's emotions, their mental health and wellbeing, their friendships, and their physical health and wellbeing.

Technology and the internet should be there to positively enhance children's lives, rather than be a cause of distraction, worry or upset, but they need boundaries, routines and adult guidance to achieve this.

Further resources and information for keeping children safe online: https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/esafety-leaflets-resources/

Link to Vodaphone Guide: https://www.vodafone.co.uk/newscentre/app/uploads/2023/02/Parental-Controls-Safety-Settings-Guide.pdf



Happy Retirement Wishes!

It was a very emotional goodbye to Mrs Samson who has been such a well-loved colleague and TA to Withycombe's children over her 30-year career. We did our best to give her the send-off she deserved!



We might not have a throne, but the guest of honour was put in the hot seat!



We're so sorry to see Mrs Samson go, but she deserves to enjoy a brilliant Retirement!



A family affair - the Samson family have been a part of our school for generations.

A message from Mrs Howorth who also recently retired:

"A lovely big thank you to everyone in school. I have loved working with you and I'm going to miss you - mostly the children! My cards and presents are lovely, I'm going to buy a magnolia tree with the money to remember you!" Lorraine, MTA







We've had such a warm response to sharing our Amazon Wishlist - we can't thank you enough.
We've already received some donations too, for which we – and the children they'll benefit – are very grateful.

As suggested, we've added a link to the Home Connect page of the website to make it easier to click through to our Wishlist.

If you Wish to donate, you can find the WRPSchool list here: https://amzn.eu/8gwQ28s



Clement in Rabbit Class received his blue peter badge this week for creating an amazing poster of the life cycle of a butterfly!



Daisy has been awarded her 100m swimming badge! Well done Daisy – keep it up!



Olive raised money for Scope, for the 'inspired by the Bonds' story! Their just-giving page was closed so she took her donation to the store.

It's been a crab-hunting, starfish-finding, capsizing - and sailing the seas start to the sailing course!













Competition

Open to all children at WRPSchool We challenge you to come up with some designs to reflect our 3 rules:

Be Ready	Be Respectful	Be Safe
✓ Be on time ✓ Listen and look ✓ Have what you need	✓ Look after each other ✓ Look after our school ✓ Use appropriate language and tone ✓ Be role models	 ✓ No rough play or fighting ✓ Stay safe online ✓ Share worries with adults ✓ Walk in corridors

Task: draw a simple picture (or 'icon') that represents 1 or all of the rules.

Submit your entry on a piece of A4 paper to your class teacher by the closing date.

The winner/s will have your artwork used for posters and other displays around the school, and will be used on our website. They may be adopted slightly for practical use.

As well as having the pride of your designs being used in school, there will be a prize for winner/s. Here are some examples/ideas to get you thinking:

















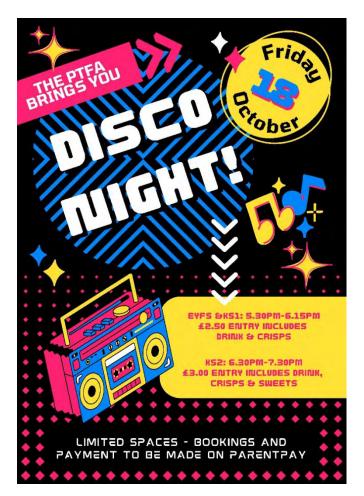
Competition Tips:

- Remember, the 3 rules are: Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe.
- ✓ Designs can include the words, or just pictures/icons and the words can be added later.
- ✓ Think about how they will look on signs around the school.
- ✓ The three pictures need to work together, and also separately.
- Please write your name and class on the back in pencil, ensuring that it doesn't show through and spoil the design!
- If you want to take part and don't have paper/colouring pens at home, please ask your teacher if you can borrow some at break/lunch time.

Competition closes on Monday 14th October 2024















We are pleased to share posters for local groups and organisations who provide services, or are holding events, that our children and their families may be interested in. This is at the discretion of the school.

If you would like us to share event information, please email admin@wrpschool.org.