

# NEWSLETTER

## DIARY



#### **School Events**

Parent Consultations: 26th & 27th March

Bank Holiday: 29th March

Easter Holiday: 1st April—Friday 12th April

Children return to school: 15th April

Great Fire Of London Y2: 19th April

Romans Workshop Y3&4: 26th April

Y6 Cinema Trip: 17th May

**Mountfitchet Castle Y5: 13th June** 

Paradise Park Reception: 2nd July

Walton on Naze Y1 & Y2: 11th July

Walton On Naze Y3,4,5,& 6: 12th July



# A message from the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a great few weeks here at Kingsmoor with World Book Day celebrations, raising money for Comic Relief and Movie nights to name a few things. It was lovely to see our children and families supporting Comic Relief, we are still counting the final donations and we will let you know how much we have raised once we have the final figure.

A huge thank you to the PTA for organising two fun movie nights for our children. The children had a great time and in the process, the PTA raised £333.20 with all your support for our Academy. These funds are hugely appreciated and will go to good causes to improve the school experiences for our pupils.

A great day was had by all on World Book Day. It was wonderful to see so many children dressed as their favourite book characters. We had a day of fun reading activities and we are so pleased that one of our favourite authors, Michael Rosen, retweeted our day on his social media.

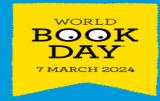
Mrs Demetriou will be holding our next SEND coffee morning on Monday 25th March. We hope to see lots of you there, spending time with parents and receiving information and support from our fabulous SENCo.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Parent Consultation sessions on Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th March. You should have all received your appointment times, please speak to the class teacher if you haven't received one.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a good Easter break when it arrives. The school will be closed on Friday 29th March as it is a Bank Holiday. The school is closed for the break from Monday 1st April—Friday 12th April. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 15th April.









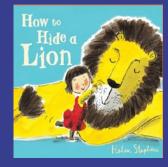


This World Book Day, The Children's Book show gave Kingsmoor the chance to see authors Helen Stephens & Michael Rosen, live online.

Award winning author and illustrator Helen Stephens shared with years 1 &2 her stories and talked about how she makes her work and draw live.

Years 3,4,5,& 6 watched Michael Rosen's Big 50 live from the New Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich. This very special show marked the 50th anniversary of the publication of Michael's first book for children, inspiring generations of children, teachers and families with his poetry and wit.







The Year 1 children had a great day as they discovered how one passionate nurse saved the lives of so many people in a fascinating Florence Nightingale workshop.













Children entered a competition run by Chartwells called Bee Ready for the Bees. Children had to design a colourful flower garden for bumblebees. The Nursery winner was Aron, the KS1 winner was Kacper in 2 Poland class and the KS2 winner was Aaya in 5 Greece class. We had some fabulous entries which are all displayed outside the kitchen. Well done to everybody who entered.

#### January - February 2024

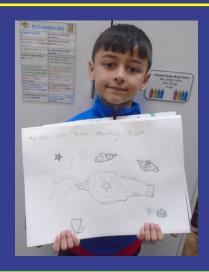
For this Art project we created a Greek pottery vase. This involved looking at various styles of Greek pottery vases and then designing our own one we would like to try and create using clay. Once we were happy with our designs we used Aquarelles to add colour. After, using air drying clay and the coil method, we created a vase. To achieve this, we used our fine motor skills, clay tools and manipulating techniques with the clay. Once our clay vases were dry we carefully painted them.



#### February 2023 – March 2023

During Spring term 2 we created a still life drawing of Fruit and Shells. To achieve this, we began focusing on various drawings and shading techniques, enabling us to build our self-confidence and self-esteem. Learning of these techniques encouraged us to analyse and observe each object carefully recognising the uniqueness of them, along with their light and dark details.





#### What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TIKTOK



TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under 16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't meanurally manifered and vetted.

#### DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filling lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

#### **CONTACT WITH STRANGERS**

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-lös (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app: it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or

#### **IN-APP SPENDING**

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a face birthdate.

#### **ADDICTIVE NATURE**

Like all social networking platforms, TikTok can be addictive: figures show that young people are investing increasing amounts of time in it. In the UK, children with TikTok spend an average of 102 minutes per day on the app, versus 53 minutes on YouTube. This compulsive repeated use can interfere with their sleep patterns – leading to irritability – and distract them from other activities.

#### TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

#### Advice for Parents & Carers

#### **ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING**

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TilkTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

#### **MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE**

RAME

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who green't on their friends list.

#### LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

#### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information — and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savy

#### READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

#### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previousl the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.









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### Safeguarding

#### **Information from the National College:**

The social media network formerly known as Twitter has undergone numerous alterations since its change of ownership and rebranding as X - and many of these recent developments have proved controversial. With any user now simply able to pay a fee for account verification, for example, the once-reliable 'blue tick' system has become largely meaningless.

It's just one of several changes that have set the social media giant on what many consider a concerning path in online safety terms. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide provides a run-down of the most significant tweaks made to X; their potential safeguarding implications; and how to help ensure young people minimise the risks while they continue to use the service.

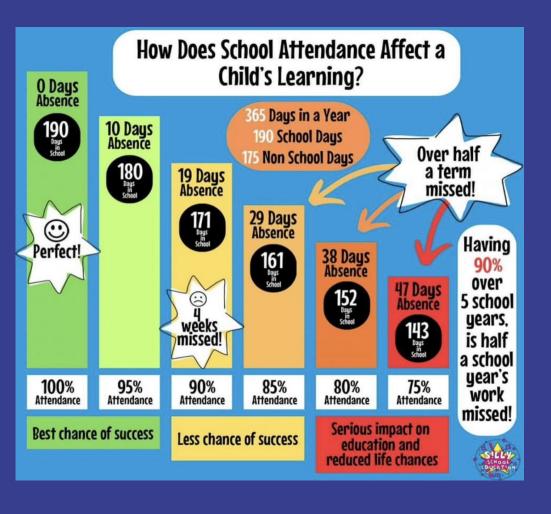
We remind our children to be SMART online



#### **Celebrating Fantastic Attendance**

WOW!! A huge well done to Year 1 Ghana class and Reception Spain class for both reaching 99% attendance rate during the week beginning 11th March, we are so proud of you!! We were also very impressed with Brazil class and Kenya class with 98% as well China, Japan, Australia and France class who all had 97% attendance. Congratulations to you all for such a fabulous effort, keep up the good work.

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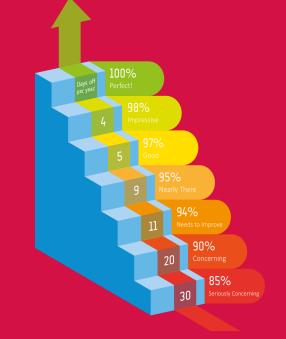


#### **ATTENDANCE**

Kingsmoor Academy prioritises attendance and punctuality. We aim to have attendance which meets and exceeds the national average.

We understand that children can be absent from school due to illness and medical appointments. Please remember to call the school office and report your child's absence to the attendance officer before 9.30am.

Punctuality is just as important as attendance. We have a 'soft start' from 8.40am where children can attend and complete some early morning work. Classroom doors close at 8.50am for registration.





#### **Celebrations at Kingsmoor Academy**



### Congratulations to the following children who have received Headteachers Awards since returning to school in the autumn and spring terms:

#### **Friday 2nd February**

1G Samual & Chukwuemeka

1I Eva & Ibran

2P Class

2E Isaac & Lucas

31 Harrison & Kaya

3/4B Emilia

4C Nafisa & Ariana

5G Alicja & Millie

5J Luca & Eriika

**6K Whole Class** 

6A Lexi & Siem

#### Friday 16th February

1G Arabella & Olivia

11 Emir & Cyrus

2P Kacper & Freddy

2E Aiyah & Malakai

31 Rares & Tilly-Rose

3/4B Emilie

4C Aoife & Edith

5G Boran & Veer

5J Elizabeth & Izzy

**6K Whole Class** 

6A Dylan & Anastazija

#### Friday 8th March

1G Arabella & Almira

11 Levi & Afran

2P Toby & Billy

2E Stefania & Daniela

31 Leticija & Jeorgee-Mai

3/4B Artur & Isra

4C Ellis & Izabella

5G Harley & Maison

5J Class

6K Malachi & Sara

6A Chloe & Razan

#### Friday 22th March

1G Rayan & Jakub

11 Hanna & Alexandra

2P Riley & River

**2E Whole Class** 

31 Molly—May & Abdullah

3/4B Somaya & Freddie

4C Charlie C & Noah

5G Daniel & Alysia

5J Class

6K Furkan & Martyna

6A Joe & Jacey