

"Pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare is OUTSTANDING" (Ofsted, 2019)

Stanley Crook Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 20th January 2023

Vol: 3 Issue: 3

Headteacher's Notices

Following the closure of school last Friday due to a loss of power, as a result of damage caused to cables and overheads by strong winds, it has been good to get through this week without further incident. It is always incredibly frustrating when a decision has to be made to close school; however, I would like to thank parents/ carers for their continued support with these decisions when they are taken.

Weekly School Values—Resilience and Patience

Last week's School Value was 'Resilience', and during my whole-school assembly last week we all explored why resilience is such an important attribute to have in our own lives so that we can overcome challenge and 'bounce back' from set backs. We also explored how being resilient supports us to achieve our goals and best outcomes. I shared the story of Savannah the Swallow and her 3000 mile journey from Africa to Scotland to hatch her young and how she demonstrated remarkable resilience along the way!

We then looked at defining our 'Top Tips for Resilience' and came up with many ideas on different types of behaviours which would support us being/ becoming resilient.

Due to school being closed last Friday, we did not get an opportunity to hold our weekly Celebration Assembly and present one deserving child with the award for 'School Values Champion'. Instead, this was done during today's assembly, with the award for 'Resilience' going to Robyn!

This week's School Value was 'Patience' and it was Mrs Wilkinson's turn to launch the weekly value during her assembly on Monday.

As part of the assembly, children learned what patience is and why it is a good quality to have. Children also learned that patience is the ability to do something despite difficulty. It is also the ability to wait calmly without complaining or becoming annoyed. The children then thought more about why patience is important and with their friends completed a 'think, pair, share' activity to give their ideas.

Following nominations from each Team, the School Value Champion for 'Patience' is Maisie!

Well done to all children in school for continuing to try their best in school and for demonstrated such wonderful personal qualities and values!



Mini Police Scheme

Children in Year 5 continue to participate in the Mini Police programme, completing their second session on Monday.

Each Monday, our Year 5 children across Team Walliams and Team Morpurgo—alongside Miss Williams—will be participating in the Mini Police scheme, which will last for six weeks. During this time, the children will learn about policing in our communities, local community issues—such as anti-social behaviour, online safety and much, much more!

During the first two sessions, children have been introduced to the Mini Police programme and have reviewed what they will be learning about over the next six weeks. The children have also been given a very special Mini Police 'goody bag'!

Swimming

A reminder that children in Year 6 have begun their swimming / water safety tuition. Sessions are every Monday.

Safer Internet Day 2023 (Repeat)

This year, Internet Safety Day will be on Tuesday 7th February. The theme for this year's event is 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.

To highlight the important issues around online safety and to support parents/ carers with practical tips and advice, I will be hosting an Online Safety parent/ carer workshop/ presentation after school on Tuesday 7th February. Please contact the School Office on 01388762858 to reserve your place.

Children's Mental Health Week (6th—12th February 2023)

6 - 12 February 2023 is Children's Mental Health Week. The week is run by children's mental health charity Place2Be to raise awareness of the importance of children and young people's mental health. This year's theme is Let's Connect.

Let's Connect is about making meaningful connections, and for Children's Mental Health Week 2023, Place2Be is encouraging people to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways.

During the week, children will be participating in a range of learning activities, all focused on promoting positive mental health!



Stanley Crook Does Strictly Come Dancing

Everyone in school is very excited for this year's Stanley Crook Does Strictly Come Dancing competition! The planning and choreographing of routines is now well underway in each Team, as part of this half-term's PE focus on Dance. I know that the Glitter Ball trophy is going to be very hotly contested this year! The actual competition will take place in school on Friday 17th February. Good luck to all Teams! 'Keeeeeep Dancing!'

Thank you for your continued support

Mr D Christie—Headteacher

For the most up to date information about what is going on in our school including dates for your diaries, parental information and school performance information, please visit our website at:

<https://www.stanleycrook.durham.sch.uk>

Please scan your smartphone device over the QR code to be taken straight to our school website!



Headteacher's T.E.A.M. of the Week

Team of the Week this week is...Team Donaldson!

WOW! Well done, Team Donaldson!



You are my Team of the Week this week because I am so proud of how well every member of Team Donaldson is doing in school.

Your attitudes to learning are exemplary!

You are producing outstanding work to an exceptionally high standard, you have shown that you are responsible and brave enough to enjoy break times on the yard with children from other Teams and—when I see you around our school or in your class—you consistently demonstrate polite manners and outstanding attitudes to your learning!

You should all be very proud of your efforts! Keep up the great work!

Well done, Team Donaldson!

Mr C

Weekly T.E.A.M.

Attendance Champions

Team Donaldson	94.3%
Team Dahl	100%
Team Cowell	97.4%
Team Walliams	98.1%
Team Morpurgo	96.6%

Congratulations to

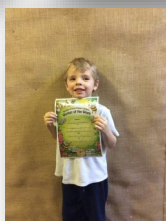
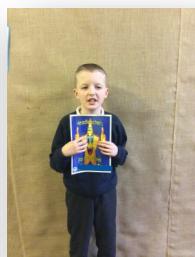
TEAM DAHL

This week's attendance trophy winners!



Children's Achievements in School!

Each week, one child is chosen as 'Headteacher's Star of the Week', 'School Values Champion' and 'Attendance Champion'. Staff also choose a pupil from each Team to be recognised for something special they have achieved during the week! This week's chosen children are:



Congratulations to all of our pupils for their effort and outstanding effort and hard work in our school!

Together Everyone Achieves More'

Online Safety - TOP TIPS

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about World of Warcraft

World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property.

It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandise and even a Hollywood movie adaptation ... but why are we still talking about it in 2023?

World of Warcraft's most recent iteration, Dragonflight, launched last November and marks the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host of lapsed players back to the game – as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

In the guide below, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as the potential for online addiction, in-game purchases and simulated violence.



SCHOOL
MEMBER



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OF WORLD WARCRAFT

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ALWAYS ONLINE

World of Warcraft is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Players create a character and head off on mythical quests to earn rewards and become more powerful. The game's environment is absolutely vast, and it can only be played online on PC or Mac – so there's a high probability of young Warcraft fans wanting to monopolise the family computer.

REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As is common with many MMORPGs, World of Warcraft's developers, Blizzard, release regular expansions for the game (usually every 18 months to two years). So although there's still plenty of content for young players to experience right now, there will almost inevitably be a requirement to continue buying future expansion packs, which tend to cost around £50.

IN-GAME PURCHASES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just like its genre contemporary Final Fantasy XIV, World of Warcraft requires a monthly subscription fee to play. It's currently £9.99 per month (although you can get it cheaper by signing up to a longer subscription). There are also many items which can be purchased from the in-game store that don't affect gameplay, but instead offer cosmetic alterations to a player's character.

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VOICE AND TEXT CHAT

Because World of Warcraft is played exclusively on PCs and Macs, it's easy for users to type out text messages if they aren't comfortable using voice chat. If you'll forgive the pun, that's a double-edged sword because – although there's less chance of them being harassed verbally – it puts young players at increased risk of being trolled or receiving spam through the in-game messaging function.

SIMULATED VIOLENCE

The fact that World of Warcraft is almost 20 years old means that even its most violent battles look slightly cartoonish compared with the level of authenticity in many more modern games. The exception tends to be Warcraft's in-game cutscenes: animated sections which move the plot onto the next stage. These offer more realistic visuals, but they still aren't overly gory or scary.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

World of Warcraft can trigger a powerful "just one more quest" mentality in players (especially young ones) as they rush to secure the next dopamine hit from levelling their character up or earning a new item or weapon. It's also a game that doesn't have a definite "end" because as soon as a player finishes levelling up one character, they can start afresh with another one.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MANAGE PLAYTIME

World of Warcraft can be an extremely enjoyable game to play with friends, but it's important that your child doesn't let their adventures crowd out school work, socialising or anything else they also enjoy. You could, for example, consider imposing playtime limits – such as a set number of hours to play Warcraft per week, or restricting it to particular days or just weekends.

MAKE IT A REWARD

If your child is excited about getting the next World of Warcraft expansion, you could consider using it as a reward for completing their weekly tasks (you could even call them "quests") like tidying their room or doing their homework. This will demonstrate that you're happy for them to play the game but will also help them to build good, productive habits, reinforcing that hard work earns rewards.

SIGN UP FOR THE FREE TRIAL

Warcraft's monthly subscription effectively "pays" for the regular new content, but there's also a sizeable free trial that lets new players explore the world of Azeroth without paying a penny. Players can play up until Level 20 for free, which is easily several hours' worth of gameplay. If your child does take this option, we'd suggest minimising in-game spending by not linking a bank card to their account.

REMEMBER THE AGE RATING

Due to mild violence and the occasional use of offensive language, World of Warcraft has been rated as appropriate for players aged 12 and over by PEGI (the Pan-European Game Information system, which gives games their age certificate). It isn't really suitable for anyone below that age, so you may potentially have to explain this reasoning to your younger children if they want to play it.

ADVENTURE TOGETHER

Warcraft can certainly be addictive, but playing it together is also a great way to spend time with your child. The game's focus on cooperative questing and battling enemies can make it feel like you've accomplished something as a team, and you'll also be in a prime position to spot any early signs of addiction. Just remember to apply gaming time limits to yourself as well as your young ones!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



**National
Online
Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday

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