



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

## Stanley Crook Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10th March 2023

Vol: 4 Issue: 2

### Headteacher's Notices

#### Stanley Crook does Strictly Come Dancing

Many, many congratulations to children and staff in Team Dahl on becoming the latest winners of Stanley Crook does Strictly Come Dancing!

Everyone in school agreed that this year's competition was the best yet, with the dance routines in all five teams being outstanding! Each routine was unique, with the children demonstrating excellent choreography and dance skills within their performances.

Scoring each dance was an extremely difficult decision for the three judges; however, there had to be a winner and with a top score of 29 out of 30, it was Team Dahl who were presented with the Glitter Ball Trophy for their dance routine to the Matilda The Musical track, 'Naughty'.

Congratulations to Team Dahl and children from every Team for their efforts in delivering such a high quality dance competition. Thank you also to the staff team for their planning and preparation to ensure each dance routine was delivered to such a high standard; and thank you to Mrs Wright, Miss Mason and Mrs Vasey for judging the competition. Not to forget our host, Mr Shaun, who again did a fantastic job presenting the competition!

The competition was recorded and I hope to produce a free DVD for families so that the show can be enjoyed at home with family!

Great work Team Stanley Crook.



#### National Education Union Strike Action

Further days of industrial action by members of the NEU have been announced for the 15th and 16th March. To confirm, school will be unaffected by these strikes and will be fully open.



#### Weekly School Values—MANNERS

In school this week, we have been focusing on the value, MANNERS.

This week, it was the turn of Mrs Martin to host our Monday morning 'Values Assembly' in which she provided the children with opportunities to explore the value of good manners, why they are so important and how we can demonstrate it in our day-to-day lives.

In each Team, one child received a nomination from their teachers. This nomination was based on a child who has best demonstrated good manners in class and around school during the week. Due to school being closed today, the overall School Values Champion for 'Manners' will be selected on Monday!

However, well done to all children for demonstrating so many examples of good manners in school this week!

#### Team Cowell Learning Showcase Assembly

To provide parents/ carers with a view of learning undertaken in class this half-term, children in Team Cowell will be presenting a special Learning Showcase Assembly on Thursday 30th March. This assembly is a perfect opportunity for parents/ carers to share and celebrate their achievements of their children, as we head into the Easter break. Information has been posted on the Team Cowell Class Story page on Class Dojo. I am sure the assembly will be outstanding!

#### Year 6 SATs Parent/ Child Meetings

Miss Williams will be meeting with children in Year 6—and their parents/ carers—over the next two weeks as part of school's preparation for end of Key Stage 2 assessments in May. Last year, Miss Williams trialled one-to-one parent/ child consultations and, following extremely positive feedback, has decided to stick with this more focused organisation for 'SAT's Meetings'. Thank you to parents/ carers of children in Year 6 for making appointments to meet with Miss Williams. I am sure that you will find the meetings—alongside your children—very useful and informative. Meetings begin on Tuesday 14th March and will run for two weeks.

#### Comic Relief 2023 (REMINDER)

Everyone in school will be celebrating COMIC RELIEF on Friday 17th March. For the day, children are invited to come into school dressed in Red to enjoy a day filled with fun and laughter!

We all believe that a just world, free from poverty is possible and Comic Relief provides much needed funds to those organisations closest to the issues so that they can plan and deliver the best solutions. That is why by raising as much as we can in school to support this charity, we will also be supporting with amazing projects that are working to tackle some of the biggest challenges society faces today. This year, school will not be selling Red Noses, as they are unsuitable for children under 7 years of age due to choking hazards. However, by coming to school on the 17th dressed in red and donating as much as possible (recommended £1 donation), we can all help in our small way! Please make any donations via ParentPay.

#### Mrs Graham Maternity Leave

As you may know, Mrs Graham is expecting the birth of her second child in April and begins her maternity leave on Monday 13th March. I am sure that you will join with me in wishing Mrs Graham well for a wonderful maternity leave filled with love, laughter and lots of joy with her new baby!

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 Morpurgo!

WOW! Well done, Team Morpurgo!

You continue to impress me with your positive attitudes to learning and commitment to ensuring that you achieve your best outcomes.

I have been extremely impressed by your efforts when engaging in learning projects and I thoroughly enjoyed visiting your Team this week, as you presented a range of your homework projects focused on World War II.

Not only that, but your engagement within other aspects of the curriculum—notably DT and Science—has been outstanding.

Continue to be focused, support one another and keep working towards your targets! You are an outstanding Team who are capable of achieving anything!

Well done, Team Morpurgo!!!

Mr C



## Weekly T.E.A.M.

### Attendance Champions

Team Donaldson	97.32%
<b>Team Dahl</b>	<b>98.71%</b>
Team Cowell	96.74%
Team Walliams	94.23%
Team Morpurgo	96.25%

Congratulations to

**TEAM DAHL**

This week's attendance trophy winners!



## Learning is FUN at Stanley Crook!

It has been a snow day for the children today, as a result of school being closed due to heavy snow in the local area!

Therefore, rather than our usual photographs of our Workers of the Week award winners, please enjoy a range of photos from across the team showing the wide range of learning which has been happening in school this week!



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

'Together Everyone Achieves More'

## ONLINE SAFETY

### What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Spotify

With around 60,000 songs added to its online library every day, Spotify is a vast treasure trove of audio dating from some 19th century recordings through to giants of the download age like The Weeknd and Ed Sheeran. Factor podcasts, audiobooks and videos into the mix, and the Swedish-based streaming platform quite literally offers something for everyone.

Not everything in Spotify's depths is universally suitable, however. The sheer mass of music and content on the platform mean that, naturally, not all of it is intended for younger listeners. With an audio chat service available and media reports of predatory activity, this week's guide highlights other aspects of Spotify which trusted adults ought to be in the loop about.

In the guide below you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as age-inappropriate lyrics, an audio chat function and recent reports of predatory activity.



SCHOOL  
MEMBER





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SPOTIFY

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Spotify is a digital music, podcast and video service which gives users access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. Since launching in 2008, Spotify has revolutionised the way music is listened to: it now offers the ability to manage and share more than 100 million tracks and five million podcast series, plus personalised recommendations, new release updates and the option to create collaborative playlists. As of February 2023, it is the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 489 million users globally.

## EXPLICIT LYRICS

As per Spotify's terms and conditions, people need to be at least 13 to use it. That said, the platform doesn't censor lyrics unless instructed to do so in the settings – so it's worth noting that young teenagers could still be exposed to age-inappropriate songs which contain explicit references to sexual behaviour, violence, discriminatory language and swearing.

## GROOMING TACTICS

Although Spotify doesn't come with dedicated chat functionality, concerns were raised in January 2023 after reports of an 11-year-old girl being coerced into sharing explicit pictures of herself on the platform. The case highlighted predators' tactics of sharing empty playlists with other users: their messages were being exchanged undetected through edited song titles and descriptions, bypassing security measures.

## OVERSHARING

Spotify provides a perfect way to play music, with the ability to connect to another device, such as a Bluetooth speaker or an in-car stereo. While this is a useful feature, it's also easy to forget your surroundings and inadvertently play content which isn't appropriate for all listeners (especially those under the age of 18), potentially causing alarm or distress.

## AGE-INAPPROPRIATE PODCASTS

Spotify's podcast community has grown exponentially and it's become a popular base for millions of users to listen to shows, stories, interviews and more – with content covering an array of topics. This includes some material which isn't suitable for minors, including audio which is obviously adult-themed, but can be just as easily accessed as everything else.

## ACCESS TO SPOTIFY LIVE

If your child has a Spotify account, they'll also be able to access the platform's audio-only chat service: Spotify Live. While it's a separate stand-alone app, Spotify Live allows people to listen to live discussions on the main Spotify platform and, more notably, lets users enter virtual rooms to chat with other users, opening up direct conversations with strangers and individuals who might not necessarily be there for the right reasons.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SWAP TO SPOTIFY KIDS

If you're concerned about what your child might hear while streaming music, Spotify Kids is a separate, ad-free service specifically designed for children aged 12 and under. It allows younger users to enjoy human-curated, child-friendly content (such as music and audiobooks) and is available to users with a Spotify Premium Family subscription – meaning that parents can view and manage the content their child listens to.

### TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

As with any platform, it's good practice to talk to your child about what they should be aware of when using Spotify. For instance, it's important they're aware never to share any personal information with strangers, and what they should do if they're exposed to inappropriate content. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear so that they feel comfortable raising any concerns with you.

### CENSOR EXPLICIT CONTENT

Regardless of what type of account your child uses to access Spotify, there is an option to turn off explicit content in the settings – greying out all songs marked with an 'E' tag. If your child has their own individual account, it's easier for them to turn it back on – whereas with a family plan, you're in control and your child can't alter the setting without knowing the password.

### KEEP AN EYE OUT

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Spotify or you've noticed they're being particularly secretive about how they're using it, encourage them to talk about what they're listening to. It's always prudent to show an interest in their online habits from the outset – so you're confident they're using apps and services in the right way, for the right reasons, and they're not being drawn into anything they shouldn't be.

## Meet Our Expert

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



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