



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

Stanley Crook Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 26th January 2024

Vol: 3 Issue: 3

Headteacher's Notices

Well done, TEAM Stanley Crook!

Lots going on in school this week, with the children continuing to achieve well across school!

Over recent weeks, several children have joined our popular school from other settings and it has been so pleasing to see how quickly these children have settled into life at Stanley Crook Primary School. I have been so proud of the efforts of children across school who have supported our newest pupils, as they get used to their new school and become acquainted with their new teachers and friends.

Applications for mid-year transfers to our school continue to flood in, with many families looking to choose Stanley Crook as the best place for their children to achieve their best outcomes. This is lovely news and reflects the excellent work of my staff team in ensuring that only the highest quality of education is provided to children who attend our school. Due to the size of school—and the already high number of pupils—it is sad that we simply cannot accommodate all applications for places but where possible, we will continue to do all that we can to support families.

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week



Thank you to Mrs Martin (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) and Mrs Kyle (Pupil Wellbeing Lead) for organising a special week of events in school to engage within Children's Mental Health Week.

Stanley Crook Primary School wants all children and young people, whoever they are and wherever they are in the world, to be able to say – and believe – 'My Voice Matters'.

This is the theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week, which will take place from 5th-11th February.

My Voice Matters is all about empowering children by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. When we feel empowered, this can have a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a stronger sense of community and improved self-esteem.

At Stanley Crook Primary School, we are a TEAM! We want children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to come together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing.

To raise awareness of this important week, we will be enjoying a non-uniform day in school on Friday 9th February – children can come to school dressed to EXPRESS YOURSELF!

We will also enjoy a range of fun & engaging activities throughout the week to promote awareness of the importance of good mental health, and to find out how we can keep our brains as healthy as our bodies!

For more information about CMHW, and for resources you can enjoy at home, please see:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's mental health (or your own), please don't hesitate to get in touch—school is here to help!

School Counsellor

Current services - which are designed to support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing – are severely stretched at present, leading to waiting times of years rather than weeks or months. This is resulting in some children and young people not receiving the support they need, when they need it most.

To provide the mental health support that many children require, I have organised for school to now offer private counselling sessions, delivered through a qualified Integrative Counsellor. These sessions will be provided to target children, judged by staff to be most in need of mental health support, and will enable these children to access the support they require—when they require it most—in order to make the most of their educational experiences and achieve their best academic and personal outcomes.

SEND Information Event

Please see the poster (below) for information on planned Special Educational Needs Events in our area.

Durham Youth Council

On Monday, school welcomed representatives from the Durham Youth Council, who delivered a whole-school assembly—and then met with our very own School Council—to discuss their role in County Durham decision making. The School Council also discussed their active role in the life of our school and the current work and projects they are engaged with. Great work, TEAM Stanley Crook.

Punctuality

I remind all parents/ carers of the need to ensure that their children are punctual for the start of each school day. The main reception SHOULD NOT be used by parents/ carers for drop off, unless by prior agreement, as this section of school is used to provide a safe entry for children with anxieties or other needs, as well as a route for Team Dahl children to get to their classroom.

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 can all be extremely proud of your efforts in class this week.

You have demonstrated excellent teamwork skills, always supporting one another and helping your friends.

Whenever I see members of Team Donaldson around school, I am amazed at your polite attitudes and confidence. It is clear to me that you all enjoy being in school, learning and having fun with your friends.

T.E.A.M.—Together Everyone Achieves More!

Well done, TEAM Donaldson. Be proud.

Mr C

Weekly T.E.A.M.

Attendance Champions

Team Donaldson	97.9%
Team Dahl	94.8%
Team Cowell	94.2%
Team Walliams	99.1%
Team Morpurgo	90.7%



Congratulations to
TEAM WALLIAMS

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 outstanding effort and hard work in our school!

Together Everyone Achieves More'

A Online Safety Guide on Children's Devices

Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. Therefore it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days – but there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent or carer, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

In this week's guide (below), you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as location settings, fake profiles and screen addiction.



SCHOOL
MEMBER



Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you're able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn't difficult to do, as you'll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.



2



PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES

You can set up restricted users on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu (look for a cog icon) and select the 'Users' option. Here you can add a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but first select 'Parental Controls' in the play store.

3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES

For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences/settings menu and within 'General' there is an option for 'Restrictions'. Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.



3



4

THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES

As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device in your home connected to the Internet: a games console, a media hub, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the Internet.



5



MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER

Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a 'safe search' setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the Internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for 'safe search'. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't be.

9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

6

REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS

Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook's introduction of facial recognition software.



7



DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE

Location software sounds useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to locate your child too. For safety, it's a good idea to disable location software on all devices or at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why these can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.

8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES

Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.



9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME

Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It's critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. Guidelines published by The Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health suggests it's more important to consider the 'context and content' of what the screen is being used for. Still, it is helpful to put limits on devices using 'Guided Access' functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.



Meet our expert

Emma Davis was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old, she's had vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.





Autism Central
For parents and carers

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Unique Abilities
Where every disability counts



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THE SENSORY



SENse Support
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MCT
DURHAM
PCF



Kingdom



TREE TOPS
Children's Occupational Therapy

INFORMATION EVENT



**Little
SENDsations**

SATURDAY 2ND MARCH
11AM - 2PM
THE BIG CLUB NEWTON Aycliffe DL5 5NU
HOSTED BY LITTLE SENDSATIONS



SEND
Empowering
Inclusive
Communities



Choice
WELLBEING SERVICE



SEND Friendly
North East

ALL PARENTS, CARERS AND FAMILIES WELCOME!

**WE HAVE BROUGHT TOGETHER SOME OF THE BEST
PEOPLE IN THE SEND BUSINESS TO SHOWCASE THE
SUPPORT, ADVICE AND ACTIVITIES THAT ARE AVAILABLE
FOR SEND CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.**



SENSES
WELLBEING
CENTRE



**Durham SEND
iass**



**Sensory
Processing
Disorder**
Parent Support Group
North East England



**ALL DISABILITIES
MATTER**



Pendragon
COMMUNITY TRUST



NESAT
North East SEND Action Team



SMART BRIGHT
TRAINING LTD



LITTLE TREASURES
Autism Charity



Pippa Jeffery Photography



**The Sensory Spot
C.I.C.**



DS/NE



**Durham County
carers support**



**SEN
The Support
Space**



RAINBOWS
Sensory Spaces Ltd



ASOS



**Unite
Club**



**The A
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HAYSTAX



P.A.N.D.A.S.